



*Fabulous Fourth Footnotes*  
*January 2012*

DISTRICT IV

*Russell Wiigs*  
*President*



# *Fabulous Fourth Footnotes*

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Editor: judyfisher\_son@yahoo.com

January 2012

## *President Russell Wiigs*

Welcome to 2012!

A New Year is a time to reflect on what has happened in the past year and to think about how to improve or change things for the coming year. Some of us may have made some personal New Year's resolutions. How about your lodge? Has it made resolutions too? That is what making plans or goals for the coming year are — our Lodge Resolutions.



2012 is a convention year. In June, District IV meets in Edmonton. In August, Sons of Norway International meets in Fargo. Plans are well underway for both conventions. Lodges have already started to receive information. Soon we will be sending in the necessary materials to register for these events. It is the responsibility of each lodge to ensure they send a delegate to the District Convention. Yes, there is a cost to attend these conventions, but the rewards are worth it. Does your lodge offer some assistance for their delegates? Delegates have an opportunity to meet and share ideas with lodges across our District. A lot can be learned about how other lodges do things. Lots of information will be exchanged among the delegates. Every one of our lodges is an integral part of Sons of Norway and District IV. We all can learn from our experiences at these conventions. Hopefully some buses will be used to get delegates to the convention in Edmonton. This is a local project and I hope you work with neighbouring lodges to get these buses organized.

Often we hear local lodges have a lack of leaders. Well, they have leaders but the leaders are not willing or able to make changes that will attract new members. This is our biggest challenge! How do we attract new members and, more importantly, how do we **keep** these new members? As part of the mission of Sons of Norway, the January Viking magazine talks about how to become more efficient leaders. There is a feature article on the International Convention and the 'Innovative Leadership Conference' that precedes it. President Dan Rude's January message encourages all members to attend this preconvention conference. You do not have to be a delegate for this. Fargo is in our District and I hope and encourage members of our District to attend this preconvention conference.

With conventions coming up, have you considered running for an office at the District level? The offices of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Publicity/Cultural Director are filled at each convention. Several of the current officers will stand for another term. So if you have an interest, please consider assisting Sons of Norway at the District level. Also, Zone Directors will be needed in Zone 1 (four year term), Zone 2 (two year term), Zone 5 (four year term) and Zone 6 (four year term).



## *Vice President Martha Elliott*

Since the last Fabulous Fourth Newsletter, the flooded homes in Minot are in the process of being rebuilt. Some of the homeowners have moved and just left their homes, and most just have their homes gutted with all the flooded debris from the home, taken to landfills. Many wonder if they are going to be considered in the 'flood zone'. Lots of questions are asked every day. Over 11,000 flood victims are wondering about what is their next step.

District memberships are in. In Zone 1, there were two lodges, Devils Lake and Manfred, that had a gain of membership in the last year. There were two lodges, Fairdale and Maddock, that stayed even, and the other three lodges lost members.

In Zone 2, there were no lodges that gained members and two lodges stayed even. They were Abercrombie and Valley City. The other five lodges lost members.

In Zone 3, no lodges had a gain of membership. There were two lodges that stayed even, Watford City and Bottineau. The other nine lodges lost members.

In Zone 4, there were six lodges, Calgary, Grande Prairie, North Battleford, Red Deer, Saskatoon and Lethbridge, that gained members. Two lodges, Claresholm and Millet, stayed the same. The other four lodges lost members.

In Zone 5, there was one lodge that gained new members and that was Lewistown. One lodge stayed even and that was Miles City. The other five lodges lost members.

In Zone 6, there were five lodges that gained members and they were Kalispell, both of the Missoula lodges, Polson and Hamilton. One lodge stayed the same, Bozeman. The other five lodges lost members.

There were 6,580 members of District IV in 2010 and there were 6,370 members in 2011 for a loss of 210 members. There were 50,697 members in Sons of Norway in 2010 and 48,316 in 2011. All 8 districts of Sons of Norway had a loss of membership.

What do we do as lodge officers to get new memberships? What do we do to have the current members retain their membership? We keep getting new members but we lose members also. We must keep asking people to join Sons of Norway. We have many cultural programs to offer to the members in addition to the sports medal programs, socials, meetings, folk dancing and the list goes on. Just ask people to join and encourage them to become involved in your local lodge.

## *Sons of Norway Winter Games*

The Annual Canadian Winter Games will be held in North Battleford, Sask. On February 24, 25, and 26th. Bowling, Walking, Norwegian Whist and Tile Rummy are just a few of the activities planned.

The fee is \$75 per person. This includes the sports venues, Friday evening social, Saturday banquet, dance and program, and Sunday breakfast. If interested in attending the Sports Week-end, contact a lodge member from North Battleford. It should be a great week-end.

## *The Mission of Sons of Norway:*

The mission of Sons of Norway is to promote and preserve the heritage and culture of Norway, to celebrate our relationship with other Nordic countries, and provide quality insurance and financial products to its members.



## Secretary Nordy Riley

As you all know this is a convention year. The District IV Convention will be held in Edmonton, Alberta on June 14-15, 2012 hosted by the Solglyt Lodge 4-143. The theme for the convention is **"Remember our Past, Celebrate our Future"**. It will be held at the Ramada Hotel & Conference Center in Edmonton. Solglyt has already sent out the first informative communication to the lodges, which you should have received by now. As you know, a convention is a lot of work and it takes many people to make it a success. Plan to attend as Solglyt Lodge has been working very hard on the convention and they are very organized. They have a lot of things planned.

I am busy working on the delegate letters with the information as to how many delegates each lodge can send to the convention. Those of you who will be attending from North Dakota and Montana will need passports or pass cards, (that is if you want to get back into the USA after convention). In the last newsletter, I included information about getting a passport. In most cities you can go to your Post Office and they will help you with getting your passport either renewed or getting a new one. **PLEASE DO NOT CONTACT THE SOLGLYT LODGE ABOUT YOUR PASSPORT AS THEY CANNOT HELP YOU WITH THIS.** If you have any questions you can contact me at : [nordyrl@earthlink.net](mailto:nordyrl@earthlink.net)

By the time this newsletter reaches you, I will have mailed the Convention 2012 information to the lodges. It will include the following:

- . Delegate and Alternate Delegate forms
- . Application for 2012 convention Bid
- . District IV Board of Officers/Directors Positions and Duties
- . 2012 District IV Convention Lodge Deadline Dates
- . Minutes of the District Lodge Meeting Convention 2010 held in Missoula, Montana June 2010 will not be included in the mailing. You will be able to go to the District website [www.sofn-district4.com](http://www.sofn-district4.com) and read them. The minutes will have the corrections from the District IV Fall Board meeting in October 2010.

Remember, please be sure to elect your Convention Delegates and Alternate Delegates at your February meeting and return the list to me by March 1, 2012.

I will not be running for re-election for District IV Secretary. I am at the term limit for this position. Therefore, if you have someone in your lodge who would be interested and you know they would do a good job, please encourage them to run for District IV Secretary.

Also I would like to communicate to you a few items of importance for the next few months.

**Lodge Achievement Forms** (formerly Lodge of the Year) are due to your Zone Director by March 1, 2012. Remember to fill out the form as it is written.

The IRS forms **990s** MUST be filled out (for keeping our not-for-profit status).

The **D-63** should have already been sent, with the list of officers for this next year, to the home office. The complete list of officers needs to be reported every year. The home office sends the list to me so I can print the District IV Phone Directory 2012.

The **D-17** report is the financial statement the lodge treasurer completes and your audit committee reviews. Send this report directly to the home office by March 1. You DO NOT need to send them to me.

Elect Lodge Delegates and send to the District Secretary by March 1.

District IV Academic Scholarship Applications are sent to the District Vice President by March 1.

District IV Cultural Scholarship Applications send to the District Cultural / Publicity Director by April 1.



## *Treasurer Karen Huck*

With the New Year comes installations of officers. If you are a new Treasurer taking over, remember that an audit of the lodge finances needs to be done in February. This is so that the **D17 report** can be completed and submitted to the Home Office by March 1, 2012.

Although tax returns must be filed with the IRS by May 15th, 2012, for year end of December 31, 2011, they can be filed at anytime after the year. Any lodge receiving receipts of \$50,000 or less can fill out a **990N** postcard. This is a simple form that you fill out on the [irs.gov](http://irs.gov) website.

When filling out signature cards at the bank, it's always best to have more than the minimum required. For example if your checks take two signatures be sure and have at least 3 on your signatures. This way, if someone is called out of town for an extended period of time, business can go on as usual. Also, as a volunteer organization that changes officers, one does not need to have an address printed on the checks.

I have decided to not rerun for District Treasurer. A new Treasurer will be elected at the convention in Edmonton in June. I have enjoyed this position for the last 6 years. Getting to meet lodge officers and travel to board meetings has been a rewarding experience.

## *District IV Website*

As many of you know our District IV website has not been updated for quite some time. We have been looking for a new volunteer webmaster to keep this up for the District.

I have volunteered to learn the program and to keep the website up to date. My first goal is to update the information so that it is current and have it online by the end of January. After that I will look at additions and "extra bells and whistles" as I learn more about the Dreamweaver program.

If you have any suggestions or input, please let me know at [dkhuck@aol.com](mailto:dkhuck@aol.com).

## *Subfrim*

I hope all of you saved your stamps from the many Christmas letters that you received this past holiday. Remember these stamps are sent to Norway to be sold to support the handicapped children.

Since convention is in Edmonton this year, **DO NOT BRING THEM** to convention. They can be sent to Carrol Juven, 1008 24th Ave. S., Fargo, ND 58103 or can be dropped off at Kringen Lodge in Fargo at any time.

## *Dues Increase*

Remember, as of January 1st, 2012 dues will be increased by \$1.00 for all members and that amount will show up on renewal notices. Remind your membership committee members and post it in your local newsletters. Whenever you sign up a new member the price is \$1.00 more than it was last year.



## *Cultural / Publicity Judy Fisher*

As I prepare this newsletter, my mind is spinning. I have received the evaluations from the lodges on how they spent their money from the Cultural Grant they received last year. I am also receiving the Applications for Cultural Grants for 2012. It is amazing the many ways the lodges find to use the money to guarantee and enhance the future of the Norwegian culture. The next generations will be pleased that the traditions have been handed down to them.

I have also been corresponding with the convention committee in Edmonton. We are going to have some new and exciting Cultural Skill classes with opportunities to earn your pins. This also promises to be a great year for competitions of Cultural Skills. Be sure to complete your items and bring them for the judging. This part of the convention has had much conversation on how to make it better for more people.

## *Viking-District IV*

Please send your inter-lodge or district events months in advance. Material gets sent in **three months** in advance of your event. In February, I will send the page for May!

I am sure that each of the lodges has someone on the **younger side**, who is a big help to your lodge. Maybe this person has taken on an office or has been very active with a particular activity. Perhaps this person has achieved recognition outside of lodge activity but is a working member of your lodge. Talk to your friends and see who you can come up with. This is what the PROFILE section of our Viking District IV page is all about. Some months I have no one for this section and I know these people exist. There is a form online to fill out, or email me [judyfisher\\_son@yahoo.com](mailto:judyfisher_son@yahoo.com). Yes, I need a quality picture to go with the write up.

I ask that each lodge send in a picture at least every other month. It needs to be a high quality picture of an activity or a small group of people. Try to show us something your lodge does that may give other lodges ideas for new programs. Watch your backgrounds and be close enough to show faces clearly.

## *Folk Dance Workshop*

The Annual Folk Dance Workshop will be held March 22 and 23 in Fargo, ND and is hosted by the Fargo Folk Dancers. Information will be emailed soon. Contact someone in the Fargo Lodge if you want more information. Otherwise, contact Martha Elliott or myself, Judy Fisher.

## *Mission Statement of the District IV Lodge*

The mission of the District IV lodge is to assist local lodges in promoting and preserving an appreciation of the heritage and culture of Norway and our relationship with other Nordic countries for people of all ages.



## *Zone 1 Bonnie Jacob - Forseth*

Trollfjorden Language and Cultural Camp will be celebrating their ten year Anniversary from June 7th-10th, 2012. The camp is held at the Metigoshe Retreat Center, Bottineau, North Dakota. Come by yourself or a family to experience your Norwegian heritage first hand. The camp is open to all District IV Sons of Norway members, their children, and grandchildren ages eight and older. Instructors will teach three levels of Norwegian Language, ethnic cooking, wood carving, chip carving, yam carving, rosemaling, hardanger (embroidery), knitting, needle felting and numerous small crafts. Folk dancing, folk singing and Norwegian games are also interesting activities.

Youth should begin earning extra money for buying items at our Butikk (gift shop) which is open for an hour daily to purchase t-shirts, Norwegian souvenirs such as egg cups, mugs, candy and cookies. This Butikk is not a money maker for the camp, but it is a fun time to see many Norwegian products to buy.

Upon arrival at camp, each camper may chose a Norwegian name which is burned on a wooden name tag to be worn around the neck. Each morning before breakfast, the campers may go for a morning walk before flag raising. When walking through the wooded area, campers may look for hidden trolls on the trees. In the evening, sitting around the fire, roasting marshmallows and singing songs is fine entertainment for all.

Due to the increase of food prices, the Board of Directors has agreed to increase the registration fees \$5.00 for youth and adults. The youth fees will be \$90.00 and the adult fee will be \$140.00. This fee includes instructional materials, meals, and accommodations.

An extra \$15.00 for a trailer hook up is available Registration deadline is May 15, 2012.

Our camp usually has had around seventy participants. Occasionally, there is an upgraded Theme Room available for \$30.00 a night per person. Otherwise, bunks are provided.

Meals are prepared and served by the kitchen staff who has an excellent reputation of delicious and great looking meals! Donated lefse from Montana is served twice a day, and is a highlight of the camp! Campers take turns assisting with the clean-up and dishwashing which helps cut the cost of the camp. The menus are written in Norwegian on the white board. They are read and discussed each meal as to familiarize us with food words.

A cultural center has been established with Norwegian games, puzzles, videos, books and artifacts. The campers enjoy these fun and educational things to review during their free time.

We sometimes have special guests helping with skits and costumes. It is our hope that each member of Sons of Norway in District IV is able to attend camp at least once, to confirm its purpose in preserving the Norwegian heritage to its youth.

Congratulations to District IV on a well organized Trollfjorden Language and Cultural Camp for ten years. We thank the District IV for their funding, for the Draxten scholarships, and lodge donations which keeps us going. We thank the former Board of Directors members and volunteers. We thank Kari Mahle, former Camp Director, and Sonna Anderson our present Camp Director for good organizing. This camp should go forever for the educational purpose for the Sons of Norway members.

### *District IV Goal:*

Goal #1: Net increase in adult and juvenile membership by 3%.

Goal #2: 75% of lodges to have a membership dinner or event.

Goal #3: Reduce voluntary leaving.

Goal #4: Support the International Goals

Do your individual lodge goals reflect the District IV goals? If they do, then we are all working toward the same end. TEAMWORK!



## *Zone 2 Carrol Juven*

Kringen Lodge #25 Fargo will sponsor a bus to the District Four Convention in Edmonton, Alberta, June 14-16th, 2012. The cost per person is \$160 plus \$99 plus tax per night for two nights hotel (double occupancy) in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan during travel to and from the convention, June 12 and 18, 2012. Lodging at the convention in Edmonton is NOT included in this price. The route will begin in Fargo and travel through Grand Forks, Minot and cross the border in Portal.

Remember, a passport or pass card is now required for travel into and out of Canada. For more information, phone 1-800-343-0093.

The 2012 International Convention will be held in Fargo, August 23-25th, 2012. The Leadership Conference will be held August 22-23, 2012, in the same location as the Convention, with events occurring at the Ramada Plaza Suites and Conference Center in Fargo, and Kringen Klub, Lodge 25, Fargo, North Dakota. The Convention registration fee is \$252, and the Leadership Conference fee is \$100 per person. The non-delegate cost is determined by event, with non-delegates and guests able to choose which events they wish to include.

Special entertainment from Norway as well as the Kringen Kor and Kringen Accordion Orchestra will Perform. The Kringen Youth Group will be on hand to participate in the opening ceremonies. Area lodges are asked to help serve Norwegian treats at each of the four coffee breaks.

There are blocks of rooms at both the Ramada Plaza Suites, and the adjacent Expressway Suites. The event price for a room at either location is \$99 plus tax per room, per night.

Details of events, entertainment and accommodations will be sent to each lodge within the next thirty days.

All lodges that wish to have an ad in the convention program book should email Carrol Juven at [carrol@juventours.com](mailto:carrol@juventours.com), or phone us at their earliest opportunity at 1-800-343-0093. You can also send requests to us at P. O. Box 1777, Fargo ND 58107-1777.

## *2012 International Convention and Leadership Conference*

Based on member research, we learned there was great interest in an event that would be of a wider interest, help strengthen the leadership skills of members and, above all, be open to all members. In response, Sons of Norway is excited to present this new event on August 22 and 23 as part of the International Convention.

During the day and a half conference attendees will learn leadership, communication and creativity skills that will benefit them in their roles as Sons of Norway members as well as their professional lives. This is going to be a great event and Sons of Norway hopes you'll consider joining us in Fargo for the first ever Innovative Leadership Conference. To learn more about the event, and get an application, visit [www.sonsofnorway2012.com](http://www.sonsofnorway2012.com) or call 612-821-4623.

This is new and exciting for members, officers, delegates and friends. Our goal is to make every member excited and informed.

SHARE your passions for Norway with others!  
SHARE the information you receive in the VIKING magazine and the, VIKING E Post, the RECRUITMENT & RETENTION publications and the lodge newsletters and all the other information that Sons of Norway has to offer.



## *Zone 3 Carol Nelson*

We have said farewell to 2011 by filing the D63 Report of Elections December 15th, and hello 2012.

January began with installation of newly elected officers for 2012. Some Zone Directors are planning seminars / workshops to assist Lodge officers as they begin their leadership positions for 2012. A leadership workshop for Zone 3 Lodge Officers is being planned for February 25, 2012, with plans to hold it at Thor Lodge in Minot 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM. So mark the date on your calendars, watch for more information, and make your plans to attend. This is an opportunity for you to meet with other officers, share, encourage, support and network.

The Sons of Norway has many resources for us to utilize as we plan for 2012. International and District correspondence provides some, but more and more information is available at [www.sofn.com](http://www.sofn.com) and [www.sofn-district-4.com](http://www.sofn-district-4.com). IS YOUR LODGE RECEIVING THE FABULOUS FOURTH FOOTNOTES?

The International Sons of Norway Helping Hands to Children Grants are due February 1st. A complete audit of lodge finances and submission of the D17 Financial Report is done in February for submission to International by March 1st. 2012 is an even year so every lodge is electing their delegates for our 2012 District Convention in Edmonton, AB Canada. U.S. delegates require a Passport or Pass card. Tubfrim stamps will NOT be taken to Edmonton, but handled in the U.S. Most importantly, every lodge is completing their Lodge Achievement (formerly LOY) reports and Family Lodge Achievement (formerly FLOY) reports for 2011, then sending them to their Zone Directors by March 1st. District IV Adopt a School Activity Reports are due to Zone 3 Director by March 15th for Spring District Board Meeting. A Central Lodge Meeting is also scheduled in March.

End of the year reports provide an opportunity to determine the results of past year planning and information to use in planning SMART Goals for 2012. Remember our #1 goal is MEMBERSHIP. EVERY ACTIVITY should be a MEMBERSHIP ACTIVITY. Tusen Takk to each one for all your work for SONS of NORWAY.

Contact me at [carolnelson@min.midco.net](mailto:carolnelson@min.midco.net) or 701-228-3586 for assistance.

## *Zone 6 Jerry Swenson*

Bjørnetann Language and Cultural Camp is now confirmed for July 5-7, 2012, at the Lions camp just west of Red Lodge. Bjørnetann (Beartooth) camp is a wonderful opportunity to practice language skills, woodcarving, rosemaling, hardanger, folk dances, needle work, lefse making and just having fun! We have many grandparent / grandchildren groups, Moms, Dads and kids, singles, you name it. So set aside these dates and bring the kids and grand-kids for a "culture refresher" this summer. Kids grow up fast and camp will be a highlight of their year.

There are Draxton Scholarships available for the youth and many lodges help support their campers financially. Fees are \$135 for adults and \$110 for youth. **If registered before June 1 deduct \$25 from each registration.** The fee for non-members is \$185, with \$40 being refunded if they join Sons of Norway during the camp session.



## *Zone 4 Roger Bruce*

Not much has happened since my last report in October, 2011. We have had great weather since then with very little snow and above average temperatures. We barely had a white Christmas so it is a good thing that Santa flies with his reindeer and sleigh.

We have had meetings with our convention committee and feel that things are falling into place. Entertainment and costs have been decided with mail outs to follow to lodges and District in January, 2012.

I was to visit Camrose Lodge to see what is happening but feel a good development is occurring. Ingrid, a professor at the Augustana University in Camrose who teaches Scandinavian, has joined the lodge and in January wants to work on some ideas for membership. The members of Camrose are excited about this so I have postponed my visit until January or February at their request.

One of Solglyt's long time Sons of Norway members, Astrid Hope, died in December at the age of 94. She was a very dedicated and active member until her sudden death and the Solglyt Lodge will miss her very much. She devoted much time to Trollhaugen and the Birkibeiner and was always willing to display all of her Norwegian artifacts at any event.

I am at present, trying to get Lodges to do their Evaluations and Grant request forms and am slowly getting them in.

We will see all of you in June, 2012.

## *Zone 5 Carol O'Dell*

### **Editor's Note:**

We offer our sincere condolences to Carol on the death of her mother. Carol wishes to thank all the Sons of Norway members who attended the funeral, sent notes, brought food, sent cards and continue to offer prayers for her and the family.

At this point, she is working with applications for Cultural Grants. I have excused her from writing an article this month. I believe she has enough to deal with this week.

She does want to remind you that in February you will be electing your delegates and alternates to convention. She wants you to consider people who will attend all meetings, take notes and report back to their lodges about the business that was conducted.

## *Adopt a School*

Please continue with the Adopt a School program in your local school system. We can only do as the schools allow us, but any Norwegian heritage we can share is good. Do what you can in your school. We can make a difference.



## *International Director Elaine Nelson*

Greetings to all officers and members of District IV. We are already into the year of 2012. This is convention Year, District Convention will be held in Edmonton, Canada. Your lodge will be receiving information from the Host Lodge at Edmonton and our District Secretary will be sending out information to you soon.

I encourage your lodge to send delegates and visitors. This is an important event in our District. We meet Brothers and Sisters from different lodges in our District. We transact the business of the district and election of officers for two years is held. Consider being a member of the District Board. It is a unique and rewarding experience.

Kringen Lodge will be the host for the International Convention in August. Your lodge will be receiving information soon and advertising for the convention booklet. It will be a great experience for District Four Delegates and visitors to have the International Convention in our District.

I wish to say "Tusen Takk" to Edmonton for hosting the District Convention and to Fargo for hosting the International Convention. I know these lodges will do a great job.

Just a reminder, if you have children or grand-children attending college, to check on the website of Sons of Norway- [www.sofn.com](http://www.sofn.com). Click under "Foundation", then click under "Scholarships". You will see the different scholarships that are available. I encourage members to apply.

Remember to look on the website for up-coming information on the 2012 International Convention. Receive and Retain members in your lodge! Thanks to all officers and members for your dedication in 2011. We need to work together in 2012 to increase membership.

If I can be of any assistance, please let me know. [enelcna@cableone.net](mailto:enelcna@cableone.net) or 701-364-0834 and cell 1-701-537-3250

## *Sons of Norway Foundation in Canada by Tore Pettersen, President*

Sons of Norway Foundation, an outreach program of Sons of Norway, was established in Minneapolis, MN in 1966. Canadian members and lodges supported this concept, however they could not take advantage of the tax receipt system.

Now, there is a sister organization to the original Sons of Norway Foundation at SON Headquarters. Voting Memberships were awarded to District 4 and 7 Lodges and the International Directorships of District 4 and 7. It must be noted the "representatives" of those voting memberships must be Canadian residents.

The Sons of Norway Foundation in Canada continues to offer support to Canadian residents in the following categories: Post Secondary Scholarships, Oslo International Summer School program, The Tormod Rekdal Cultural Bursary, Joy Knutsvik Memorial Bursary for Folkehøgskole, The Humanitarian Financial Support Fund, Lysne Rosemaling Bursary, and Bjarne and Karel Thorshaug Bursary for Norwegian Studies.

Sons of Norway Foundation in Canada is constituted as a Charitable Organization by Letters Patent issued by the Federal Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs and is administered under rules set by Revenue Canada in respect to charitable giving and tax receipts for donations.

More will be published in the upcoming History of District IV book.



# *District IV Board of Directors*

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