

District 6000 News



Rotary International,
District 6000, Iowa USA
Corliss H. Klaassen, Governor

SERVICE Above Self

– A Global Network of Community Volunteers – December/January/February 2005-06

Rotary's global connections

The girls at right, photographed by DGN 2009-10 Cal Litwiller in Janaury in the Township School of Methoda, India, are but two of the thousands of children and their families around the world whose lives are touched for the better by District 6000 Rotarians.

District 6000 Rotarians are building bridges of peace and friendship throughout the world. Some of the international travel, as well as clubs' community service projects, are featured in this issue of District 6000 News, including: the Litwillers' trip to India; the life in Kano, Nigeria of a Rotarian from Washington; a Youth Exchange student's eye-opening experience in France; the Iowa Miles of Smiles Team's trip to Guatemala to perform cleft lip-cleft palate repairs; a Boone Rotarian's polio eradication work in Niger; and preparations of 70 people for District 6000's fourth annual Project Teams' work in Xicotepec, Mexico.



April 27-29, West Des Moines:

District Conference: 'Rotary Bridging Iowa'

By DG Corliss Klaassen/Chariton

As we prepare for our FIRST District Conference in the second century of Rotary, we have many exciting things planned for you. Jeanne and I hope you will come and celebrate with us on April 27-29 at the Sheraton Hotel in West Des Moines. Our Conference chair, AG Lloyd Hill, and his committee have a very educational and fun filled weekend planned.

The Rotary Club of Johnston will host a Golf Outing on Thursday afternoon at the Beaver Creek Golf Course followed by a Barbecue in the evening at the Johnston Historical Barn that is open to everyone. For the details and to register for these events see the District website www.rotary6000.org

Have you been to the Gulf Coast area after Hurricane Katrina? Assistant Governor Don O'Bryan from District 6840 in the Slidell, Louisiana area lost his home and is currently working full time with Rotary to organize and



Corliss
Klaassen
District Governor

coordinate the relief efforts in that area. He will be speaking on Friday morning about how life was before, during and after the disaster. Don will also tell us what Rotary is doing and plans to do to help the victims in that area. We are working with Don and others in the area to establish a good relationship and to identify projects for the best use of our Katrina relief funds. Jeanne and I would like to thank the Rotarians and "Friends of Rotary" for their contribution to Katrina relief. We have a total of \$88,665.28 for projects in the area. See page 17 of this newsletter for the list of club and "Friends of Rotary" contributions.

At one of the plenary sessions on Saturday you will hear a presentation by both the Inbound and Outbound Group Study Exchange Teams. Our Outbound team, led by Rotarian Russ Hill from the Des Moines AM Club, is visiting Rotarians in District 3810 located in the Philippines. The Outbound Team left from Des Moines on Feb. 24 and will return on March 24. The Inbound team will be here visiting Rotarians from April 8th to May

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Home Hospitality at District Conference

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8th.

What better way to enjoy Rotary friendship and fellowship than in the homes of Rotarians? The Des Moines area Rotarians have graciously invited us into their homes on Friday evening for Home Hospitality. Be sure to sign up for this enjoyable event on the registration form.

We have many kind and generous Rotarians in District 6000 that give to The Rotary Foundation. There will be a special breakfast in the honor of all Major Donors, Bequest and Paul Harris Society Members on Saturday. District 6650's Centennial Governor Meena Patel, born in India and a naturalized citizen of the USA will be the special speaker for the breakfast. Meena has been residing in the USA for over 30 years. This year she traveled in India's most remote places for almost two months to see what impact our dollars are making on the lives of the poor and destitute. Meena's District 6650 is working with PDG Bill Tubbs and the World Community Service Committee on Tsunami Relief efforts.

Nigeria, India, Pakistan, and Afghanistan are now the only countries considered endemic for the wild poliovirus. On Feb. 1, 2006 Egypt was officially declared polio-free and all the cases in Niger were determined to be the result of imported polio cases. The need and importance of National Immunization Days (NID) is urgent to win the war against polio. The District 6000 Executive Committee voted to give \$9,000 of the District Designated Funds to help fund the PolioPlus Partners program. We have had many volunteers from our District participate in NIDs to India and Africa. Nicki Klein, from Lincoln, Neb., will be speaking on Friday at the Conference of her experiences as a NID volunteer in India.

District 6000's first World Peace Scholar, Wendi Boxx, will be the keynote speaker for the Saturday luncheon. Wendi is studying in Tokyo, Japan at the International Christian University. She will be speaking on her experience in Japan as a World Peace Scholar. Wendi graduated from Ottumwa High School, has



worked in the Iowa State Capitol as a senate page, has been a former Youth Exchange student to Brazil, is a University of Iowa graduate, has worked in Washington D.C. at the White House as an intern and was in the U.S. Peace Corps in Romania for three years.

You won't want to miss the Special talents of the Youth Exchange and their annual flag ceremony on Saturday. Our previous Ambassadorial Scholars will have presentations and also students from the Interact and Rotaract Clubs will be speaking on their work trip to Xicotepec.

The Best of Broadway, courtesy of Hy-Vee, Inc. is the entertainment planned for Saturday's black-tie optional evening. Travel down memory lane as some of The Des Moines Playhouse's singing sensations deliver your favorite show tunes from "Chicago," "Oklahoma," "The Phantom of the Opera" and even current hits like "Wicked." But it's so much more than great music. These singers also take you behind the scenes on opening night, sharing delightfully funny stories from Broadway as well as their own experiences.

Members of the 2006 National Special Olympics games com

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A Group Study Exchange team from D-6000 departed Feb. 24 for District 3810, Philippines. Follow the team's progress at <http://www.manila-moments.blogspot.com> and meet team members and the inbound team from the Philippines at District Conference. Outbound team members (l-r): Russ Hill, team leader, Des Moines AM; Dawn Wilson, sponsored by the West Des Moines Rotary; Elizabeth Wildenberg-deHernandez of West Branch, sponsored Iowa City Noon Rotary; Cindy Feldman of Des Moines, sponsored by West Des Moines Rotary; and David Remund of Windsor Heights, sponsored by West Des Moines Rotary.

Meet Wendi Boxx, a Rotary Foundation Peace Scholar at the International Christian University in Japan, at District Conference.

Conference chair: excited about lineup

By AG Lloyd Hill/Northwest Des Moines
District Conference Chair

District Governor Corliss Klaassen has announced a great line-up for District 6000 Conference to be held in West Des Moines, April 27-29, 2006. The Sheraton Hotel will be the headquarters for the weekend.

A best-ball Golf outing will start the activities on Thursday, April 27. The outing is open to all Rotarians! The event will be held at Beaver Creek Golf Course, just outside Des Moines in Grimes, IA. It is about 5 minutes from I-35 and I-80 exit 127. The cost for 18 holes and a cart is only \$39 per golfer. Great prizes await the winning groups.

Following the Golf outing, there will be an Early Bird Mixer, hosted by the Rotary Club of Johnston, at the new Johnston Historical Barn, just off exit 131, on I-35 and I-80 in Johnston. Dinner, refreshments and all the mixings for only \$20 per person.

Friday morning, April 28, the club President-Elects will be hosted by 06-07 District Governor Elect Del Bluhm at a breakfast at the Sheraton. Past District Governors and this year's Assistant Governors will join Governor Klaassen in a joint meeting with the President-Elects.

The opening Plenary Session will feature the Rotary International representative to our conference, PDG George Omiros, from District 7330 in Pennsylvania. Following PDG Omiros, we will have a presentation about the devastation of hurricane Katrina by Assistant Governor Don O'Bryan from District 6840, Louisiana and Mississippi. AG O'Bryan will tell about Rotary's role in disaster relief.

Friday's All Club Luncheon will feature an outstanding speaker of national prominence. We cannot release the name at this time, but it is someone that all Rotarians will be delighted to hear from.

The activities for Friday will also include presentations from Special Olympics, Iowa M.O.S.T., FAMSCO/Xicotepec and much more.

A relaxing evening with Des Moines Area Rotarians will cap the opening day activities, with Home Hospitality by local Rotarians hosting those from out of town. This is always a highlight of the conference.

The Saturday opening Plenary Session will be a presentation by the District's World Community Service committee, highlighting Rotary's involvement throughout India. On hand to assist will be PDG Meena Patel from Ohio's District 6650. Governor Patel spent two months in India looking at the impact of Rotary's contributions to various communities.

District 6000's Youth Exchange program is one of the best in all of Rotary. Over 35 exchange students will be involved with presentations about their home country. Musical highlights by an outstanding pianist, vocalist and native dance will be presented.

Capping the weekend will be the Governor's Dinner on Saturday evening. Rotary International representative PDG George Omiros will conclude the Conference with a "state of Rotary" address. Governor Klaassen and Governor Elect Bluhm will exchange gavels and declare the 2005-2006 Rotary year a success.



RI Presidential Rep George Omiros and his wife, Sophia.

President's Rep named

Past District Governor George J. Omiros of Uniontown, PA will be the official representative of President Carl Wilhelm-Stenhammer at District 6000 Conference.

PDG Omiros joined Rotary in District 7330 in southwestern Pennsylvania in 1979 when he became a member of the Rotary Club of Uniontown, PA and served as Club President in 1988-89. From 1992-1994, PDG George was a member of the Rotary Club of Pittsburgh, PA, and in 1995 he joined the Rotary Club of Uniontown-Chestnut Ridge where he serves as Foundation and Fundraising Chair.

PDG George served as District Governor in 2003-2004 under RI President Majiyagbe as District 7330 working to "Lend a Hand" to the community, the region and the world. PDG George is credited with developing in his District strong philanthropic giving programs, public image campaigns and inaugurating Strategic Planning. In District 7330, PDG George currently serves as chair of the Strategic Planning Retreat, Leadership Development and Permanent Fund Chair, and serves as the Public Image Zone Coordinator for RI Zone 28.

PDG George serves as the National Director of Federated Campaigns for The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society in New York and Executive Director of The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society for the Western PA and West Virginia Chapter, a position he has held since 1988. A 28 year nonprofit development professional, he is a Certified Fund Raising Executive and Certified Association Executive. He was honored as the 1990 Outstanding Fund Raising Executive by the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP). He is a founding member of AFP Chapter in Pittsburgh and has served several years on the National Board.

PDG George is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh and a master's program at Central Michigan University. He and his wife, Sophia, reside in Uniontown and have two children: Christopher, a senior and Alicia, a freshman, both at Penn State University. PDG George, his wife Sophia and their two children are multiple Paul Harris Fellows, and PDG George and Sophia are Benefactors and Members of the Bequest Society of The Rotary Foundation, and inaugural members of the Paul Harris Society.

In 2001, he received the highest lay honor bestowed by the Greek Orthodox Church worldwide when he was inducted as an Archon in the Order of Knights of St. Andrew the Apostle by the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America and the Ecumenical Patriarchate of the Greek Eastern Orthodox Church in Istanbul.

Conference goals: fun, fellowship, service

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mittee will be present at the Conference to give us an update and answer any questions you may have.

The hearts and eyes of the nation will be on Iowa for the first-ever Special Olympics National Games to be held in Ames. I have asked for your support of this most spectacular sporting and humanitarian event in the history of our state. With \$50,000, District 6000 will be the exclusive sponsor of the awards presentations. We hope you have already had a program or scheduled a program on the Special Olympics. If not, be sure to contact Special Olympics chair Susan Herrick at (515) 298-1536. The Special Olympics Committee has done an extraordinary job of presenting programs to the clubs and creating awareness of this great program for the physically and mentally challenged.

We currently have \$28,060 committed from 22 clubs and five individuals. We have two Gold Sponsors (\$50 per member from Johnston and North Scott) and two Silver Sponsors (\$25 each from Waukee and Chariton). We have 41 clubs that haven't made a commitment yet. See the updated list of club and individual commitments on page 5. The 2006 Special Olympics National Games, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) organization and funds paid to the organization are tax deductible. Individual contributions can be made as well. Please contact me by March 15th with your financial commitment. We not only need financial support but volunteers as well. We can all be proud to be a Rotarian of District 6000 when we support this once in a lifetime opportunity.

District 6000 has yet to reach the goal of an average of \$100 per member to the Annual Programs Fund of The Rotary Foundation. Last year we had 25 clubs who reached the average of \$100 per member goal that was the "Every Rotarian Every Year" (EREY) goal. Please check page 16 to see how much your club has contributed through December, which is the halfway mark of the Rotary year. Rotary is in the business of "Changing Lives" for the better and with your contribution of \$100 or more per member per year we can then change many more lives. With just a small increase in each of our giving to the Annual Programs Fund of The Rotary Foundation the "Miracle of Rotary" can reach out to many more of the less fortunate.

This year's District Quilt will have Special "Service Projects" from each club. There will be a raffle drawing at the District Conference with the proceeds from it to be determined at that time. The Iowa City Downtown club's Jeremy Richardson is chairing this project.

Jeanne and my goals for the District Conference are to have fun and good fellowship along with showing the many ways Rotarians have helped those less fortunate. We want to show how Rotarians are changing lives by continuing to fight the war on Polio, serving meals to the hungry, helping out in natural disasters and running orphanages for children who have no home. We also want to show what Rotarians are doing to help the mentally challenged, the illiterate, the blind, along with drilling water wells and doing cleft lip and palate surgeries and much more by SERVICE Above Self.

Speaker: 'Empowering women is key in Third World'

"Educating and empowering women is the key to resolving problems of the Third World!" says DG 2004-05 Meena Patel (D-6650, Ohio), whom Rotarians will meet at District Conference, April 27-29 in West Des Moines.

She is a naturalized U.S. citizen, having resided in the USA for over 30 years. She was born and brought up in Mumbai, India, a city of 16 million people today.

By profession Meena is an ear, nose and throat surgeon, practiced in Dover, Ohio for 23 years. She has been a member of the Rotary Club of Dover for 16 years. She chaired the Rotary Youth Exchange Program, World Community Service and Public Relations in District 6650 and was that district's Centennial District Governor.

In the fall of 2005 Meena traveled in India's remote places for almost two months, to see what impact our dollar is making on the lives of poor and destitute! She says the experience was gratifying, and would make we Rotarians very proud of our organization.

She is the Strategic Foundation Advisor for Zone 28, working with districts 6600, 6630 and 6650, and is Area Coordinator for Zone 28 for the Rotarian Action Group for Population and Development (RFPD).

Last year Meena undertook seven Matching Grants in India, Zambia and in Haiti. This year she will complete five large Matching Grants in the Dominican Republic, India, Sri Lanka and possibly Tanzania, focusing on hospital needs, literacy, water management and empowering women in the Third World.



PDG Meena Patel

P.E.T.S., Assembly March 31-April 1

The meeting that has been described as the most important meeting in Rotary – the annual President-Elect Training Seminar (P.E.T.S.) – will be Friday, March 31 at the Sodexo DMACC Conference Center in Newton. Registration starts at 2:00 and the program starts at 3:00. Governor-Elect Del Bluhm will introduce the 2006-07 theme of President-Elect Bill Boyd of New Zealand, and the District Training Committee, co-chaired by AG Craig Hertel of Jefferson and Karin Franklin of Iowa City, will present information for incoming presidents.

The annual District Assembly/PETS Day Two will be the next day at the same location. It is a training and work session for all club officers and leaders to plan, refresh and build friendships. There will be a short business meeting at which the district budget for 2006-07 will be presented for approval. The keynote speaker is PDG Dave Groner of D-6360 in Dowagiac, Mich., who is one of the leading volunteers and authorities on the global quest to eradicate polio.

Both events are free but reservations are needed and can be made at the district Web site: www.rotary6000.org. Agendas for P.E.T.S. and Assembly are posted there, as well.

Rooms at the adjacent HomeRidge Inn and Suites, 208 W. 4th St. North, Newton, can be reserved by calling (877) 868-5069. Mention Rotary to get the price of \$65. A block will be held until March 17th.

District 6000 lends a hand for first National Special Olympics

Ames will host games July 1-8; Clubs', Rotarians' help needed

By Susan Herrick/Boone

The first ever Special Olympics USA National Games that will be held in Ames, Iowa, on July 1-8 will bring more than 50,000 people to Ames this summer.

District 6000 has the opportunity to be highly visible in this celebration of the human spirit. The world watched the Olympic Games in Torino, Italy, in the past weeks and, although we saw some superior athletic performances, we also saw egos flare and tempers get away from many athletes.

Those of us who are familiar with the wonderful work of the Special Olympics know that these Games can be one of the most uplifting events of the year and that egos are not at the center.

District 6000 has set a goal of \$50,000 to provide all of the awards for the athletes participating in the Special Olympics USA National Games.

District Governor Corliss Klaassen has asked for our support for this most spectacular sporting and humanitarian event in the history of Iowa.

With \$50,000, Rotary District 6000 will be the exclusive sponsor of the awards presentations. All clubs who contribute will be recognized on signs at each awards station. Clubs with \$50 per capita will be Gold Sponsors, \$25-49 will be Silver Sponsors and \$10-24 will be Bronze Sponsors.

Through the end of February, we were more than half way there with contributions from 21 of our 63 clubs plus five individuals. This is quite an accomplishment since we have raised these pledges from less than half of the District 6000 clubs in less than two months' time.

However, we are under a deadline. We need to submit our pledges to District Governor Corliss Klaassen by March 15. Pledges may come from District 6000 clubs or from individuals. Please see the form attached to be used for submitting your pledge.

Additionally the Special Olympics USA National Games will need 10,000 volunteers to help run all aspects of the games. Competition venues will be in athletics, aquatics, basketball, bocce,

bowling, golf, gymnastics, power lifting, soccer, softball, tennis, volleyball, and motor activities training program (MATP).

Volunteer positions are open in general volunteer, hospitality, sports-related, sign-in tables, traffic control and more. People can now volunteer online by visiting the national games Web site at www.2006nationalgames.org.

In relation to the games will be the Cessna Airlift. On July 1, 400 Citation jets will carry more than 2,500 athletes and coaches into the Des Moines International Airport. A jet is expected to take off and land every 2.5 minutes over a 12-hour period, making it the largest peacetime airlift in the world. The planes will use the UPS and FedEx fields, and retired flight attendants will donate their time during the event.

A torch run will start in Chicago and end in Ames with welcome events in 88 Iowa counties.

With a Fourth of July fireworks spectacular and the Ames City Fourth of July parade plus the Olympics Village that incorporates exhibits, displays and entertainment, Ames, Iowa, and the first ever Special Olympics USA National Games will be the center of national attention.

Rotarians in District 6000 now have the opportunity to meet the challenge of these Games. To have the name of Rotary highly visible in this celebration is well within the scope of what Rotarians are trying to achieve in our world.



SPECIAL OLYMPICS DONATIONS/ COMMITMENTS THRU FEB. 28

Club/Members	Per Capita	Contribution
Albia (41)	\$ 10.00	\$ 410.00
Ames (274)	18.25	5,000.00
Ankeny (68)	22.06	1,500.00
Bloomfield (14)	10.71	150.00
Chariton (50)	25.00	1,250.00
Clinton (124)	5.48	680.00
Decatur County (18)	10.00	180.00
East Polk County (43)	23.26	1,000.00
Fairfield (70)	20.00	1,400.00
Iowa City AM (54)	9.26	500.00
Johnston (35)	50.00	1,800.00
Kalona (43)	4.65	200.00
Knoxville (64)	7.81	500.00
Muscatine (144)	3.47	500.00
Nevada (64)	10.00	640.00
North Scott (102)	50.00	5,100.00
Ottumwa (110)	15.00	1,650.00
Tipton (32)	15.63	500.00
Washington (68)	10.00	680.00
Waukee (50)	25.00	1,250.00
West Liberty (38)	15.00	570.00
Del & Georgia Bluhm, Ames		500.00
Robert M. & Janice Anderson, Ames		500.00
Jim & Dee Vickery, Des Moines		100.00
Corliss & Jeanne Klaassen, Chariton		500.00
Anonymous Donation		1,000.00
		\$28,060.00



'Let me win, but if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt.'

- Special Olympics motto



Thirty-eight at work day: Lending a hand for FAMSCO

Thirty-eight Rotarians and friends of Rotary lent their hands at the FAMSCO warehouse in Iowa City to prepare goods for shipment to Guatemala on a sunny Jan. 7 morning. "It was by far the best attendance we've had at a work day," said FAMSCO president Jim Peterson. Volunteers included: Ted Pacha, Arleigh Clemens, Gary Pacha, Dick Gibson, Bob Cremer, Bob Crane, Sandy Siebert and Bill Olin (Iowa City); Tom Mott and Bob Main (Newton); Tom Novak, Nancy Pacha, John Ockenfels, Jim Petersen,

Ron Wright, Joan Garrity and Liz Nichols (Iowa City AM); Don Hampton, Bob Guilford and Blair Lawson (Indianola); Ernie and Nancy Harms (Ottumwa), Herb and Janice Wilson (Coralville-North Corridor), Bart, Ellen and Zoe Shank (Dallas Center); Lisa Campbell and Nick Snepel (Grimes); Dave Reiff and his wife (Fairfield); Priyanka Rao (Rotaract); Sandy and Eric Pickup and Paul Nichols (Iowa City Downtown); two Iowa City Interactors; and Bill and Linda Tubbs (North Scott).

FAMSCO receives breathing units from North Scott

The Davenport Fire Department recently received a \$325,000 Homeland Security grant to buy 80 Self-Contained Breathing Apparatuses (SCBA) – the tanks that allow firefighters to enter buildings and fight fires from within.

The question then became what to do with eighty 13-year-old units that have serviceable life remaining even though they don't meet the new U.S. government standards.

Chief Bart Howard found the answer with a visit to the Rotary Club of North Scott last fall. At that meeting, Davenport Rotarian Brock Earnhardt, who is a director of the Rotary District 6000 FAMSCO (Fire & Medical Supply Co.) explained how FAMSCO accepts donations of usable materials and puts them to use in Third World countries.

Since its beginnings 15 years ago, FAMSCO has delivered 75 vehicles and 300 tons of supplies to villages in Mexico and seven Central American countries where Iowa Rotarians have established personal relationships with the recipients. Rotarians in the villages take care of the supplies and vehicles and put them to good use. Often, they are the only firetrucks, buses, ambulances or fire and medical supplies the villages have ever had.

Howard and fellow firefighter Scott Bowman announced their donation on Feb. 24. Davenport Rotarian Brock Earnhardt, who is a director of FAMSCO, said this will be the first time villages will have had breathing apparatuses, which enable firefighters to fight fires from the inside of buildings rather than just spray water on the structure from the outside.



To the delight of Davenport firefighters Scott Bowman and Bart Howard, Rotarian Carol Earnhardt (l) "models" a Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus while Rotarian Linda Frederiksen watches.

The units will be transported to the FAMSCO warehouse at Iowa City, awaiting delivery to their eventual recipients.

FAMSCO is a 501(c)(3) Iowa corporation founded by Iowa Rotarians. Tax-deductible contributions for FAMSCO's work in Central America, or for Katrina Relief, may be sent to treasurer Dick Kennedy, 1811 North Dubuque Rd., Iowa City, IA 52245.

Seventy team members off to Mexico

This is the fourth consecutive year that a Project Team or Teams from D6000 will have gone to Xicotepec, Mexico to work on Rotary projects there. Seventy Project Team members will travel in two groups: March 11-19 and March 18-26

Project Teams members include: Rotarians from clubs of Iowa City, Iowa City AM, Coralville-N Corridor, Muscatine, Ankeny, Northwest Des Moines, Ames, Newton and Washington), a Drake Rotaractor; Interactors from Ankeny, Iowa City High School, Iowa City West High School and Muscatine; and other high school and college students sponsored by the Rotary Clubs of Davenport, Pella and Cedar Rapids Sunrise. There will also be a team of five from the University of Iowa School of Engineering, as well as faculty from the U of I School of Education and the U of I School of Pharmacy.

There will be mix a projects, including work on the Red Cross, the Vicente Guerrero Telesecondary School, the Rotary Club Primary School, the Cruz Azul Center and the Casa Hogar Victoria Orphanage, as well as health screenings for the children.

Rotarians and youth on both sides of the border are eagerly anticipating this year's visit to Xicotepec by Iowans. Some of the youth who are going to Xicotepec will be making presentations on their

experiences at the District Conference in April and the team has been asked to submit reports for District 6000 News. You can follow the teams at <http://www.xicoproject.org>.



Xicotepec Rotarians arranged for roof repairs at the Cento Cruz Azul, with funds from District 6000. Cruz Azul is the "home away from home" for D-6000 project teams.

Ankeny sends ambulance to Xicotepec

By Sandy Sanderson/Managing Editor

Ankeny Press-Citizen

The Ankeny Rotary Club is sending a 1991 ambulance to Xicotepec, Mexico.

By American standards, the unit isn't much. To the residents of Xicotepec, it's a brilliant, shiny gift that will save lives.

The hands-across-the-border project began with a chance meeting on an airplane.

A Rotary district governor was sitting on a commercial plan flight and struck up a conversation with his companion seated besides him. Turned out the companion was a member of the Rotary in Xicotepec and they began visiting.

The Xicotepec Rotary has 17 members, all active and supportive of international projects. That meeting led to a presentation at the Ankeny Rotary, with its 73 members.

Deanna Zinno, an Ankeny attorney and Rotary member, became involved with the international project with Xicotepec.

"I've been there three consecutive years. It's a city about the size of Ankeny, some 35,000 residents. It's located in a mountainous area 3.5 hours northeast of Mexico City. With the help of engineering students from Iowa State University and adults, we've been working on creating a water treatment plant," she says.

"University of Iowa students have been conducting training sessions with residents on how to purify water for personal use.

"Their water source is streams and these are highly polluted,"

Zinno says.

During her trips, Zinno took photographs to share with the Ankeny Rotary. One shot showed the ancient, dilapidated city ambulance.

"It was an old square van," says Dean Lange, owner of Lange Tire and Rotary member. "I knew right away we could do better than that."

The Ankeny club approved \$1,500 towards the purchase of an ambulance. A retired vehicle from Alexander was found.

"Because of the bad roads around Xicotepec, the ambulance had to bet up with dual tires. Because of the altitude, the ambulance had to be equipped with a diesel engine so it could idle," Lange says.

"We cleaned the vehicle and made sure all the lights and accessories were working."

The requirements have taken the cost to about \$5,000. Just the cost of filling the fuel tank is about \$70.

The unit is now sitting in front of Lange Tire at 801 E. First St. It will be driven to Laredo, Texas, in March and delivered to an Xicotepec Rotary Club member who will drive it to its new home.

"They have requested rescue mountain gear, such as ropes, if we can find some. We could also use any ambulance supplies that are available," Lange says.

* * *

Zinno hopes to see the ambulance in service at Xicotepec when she returns in March 2006. Ankeny Rotarians have also helped sponsor an elementary school and an orphanage in Xicotepec.

"There are about 60 children in the orphanage," she says. "Orphans are typically there until they are 18 years old. In many ways, their living conditions and education are better than children with parents and certainly better than those children living on the streets."



Deanna Zinno
Xicotepec, 2004

Knoxville Rotarians name award for Dr. George Andrew

By Harv Sprafka/Knoxville
Rotary Club President

Last July, when I took office and during the program in which I outlined my goals and objectives for 2005-2006, I started my power-point presentation with a quote by the legendary football coach, Vince Lombardi:

Winning is not a sometime thing; it's an all time thing. You don't win once in a while, you don't do things right once in a while, you do them right all the time. Winning is habit. Unfortunately, so is losing.

Lombardi's voice was stilled in 1970 when he died of intestinal cancer. A few months later, the Houston Rotary Club established the Lombardi Trophy, which is awarded annually in December to an outstanding lineman or linebacker in the collegiate ranks. Two weeks ago, A. J. Hawk of the Ohio State Buckeyes was awarded the Lombardi Trophy.

Within a year of his death, Lombardi received additional honors. He was inducted into the National Football League (NFL) Hall of Fame at Canton, Ohio. (Typically, a player or coach must be away from the game for at least five years before he is considered for induction into the Hall of Fame). And the Super Bowl Trophy, which is awarded to the winning team, was renamed the Lombardi Trophy. As a result, Coach Vince Lombardi has two trophies (one college and one pro) that honor his name and legacy.

Upon learning the story about the college trophy, I thought if the Houston, Texas Rotary Club can name a trophy for a non-club member that exhibited excellence, we should establish and name an award after one of our own that has selflessly practiced Rotary values. I brought the proposal to the Club's Executive Board and asked that the *Service Above Self* Award be named after Dr. George H. Andrew. I'm grateful the Executive Board concurred.



Knoxville Rotary Club president Harv Sprafka (l) presented the club's first "Service Above Self Award" to Will Prather on Dec. 21. The award is named for Dr. George H. Andrew.

Dr. George H. Andrew

Whenever I read or hear the Lombardi quote that I just recited, I often think of Dr. Andrew; for he is a WINNER . . . and DOES THINGS RIGHT all the time.

George truly personifies Rotary's motto, *SERVICE ABOVE SELF*. He has selflessly and generously shared his time, talents and treasurer with our club for 54 years, as well as his profession, our community, and his church – here at St. Anthony's. The projects, boards and commissions that he has served or spearheaded are many, too numerous to mention at this time.

Nevertheless, I want you to know, George, that we respect and admire you, and we thank you for all that you've done and do . . . and we proudly inaugurate the Club's *SERVICE ABOVE SELF* Award in your name. We're a richer people because of your presence and service . . . your friends and fellow Rotarians *salute you!*

Will Prather

Last month, I met with Past President Kevin Crawford at his office to select the first recipient of the Dr. George H. Andrew

KNOXVILLE/continued on p. 9

Muscatine, students 'rotate': 'Paul Harris would be proud'

By Scott Natvig/Muscatine
Rotary Club President

As part of a new initiative by its Vocational Awareness Committee, the Muscatine Rotary Club recently took a road trip to



Interact students from Muscatine High School joined the Muscatine Rotary Club during a vocational day at Muscatine Foods Corporation.

Muscatine Foods Corporation. Since we had "rotated" our club meeting location and because the program centered on vocational topics, committee chair and emcee Melanie Alexander drew parallels with Paul Harris and Rotary's early years in Chicago.

Representatives of Muscatine Foods Corporation, including Company President and Rotarian Gage Kent, offered their unique perspective of worldwide markets served by their associated companies. Special invitees included fifteen Interact students and ten at risk middle school students. Many program segments targeted the students, including career opportunities, the value of a good work ethic, desirable character traits in the workplace, etc.

The middle school students are pictured (previous page). This meeting, sort of a throw back to 1905, proved very educational for our members and also provided a large measure of career inspiration to the students. We hope to "rotate" to a second vocational location later this year.



The Ottumwa Rotary Club's barbecue assembly line prepares 5,000 chicken halves in less than three hours.



Bob Thomas of the Odyssey of Ottumwa Rotary Club and Alta lend a hand for the Ottumwa Rotary Club.

More than chicken feed at Ottumwa!

By Nancy Harms/Ottumwa
Rotary Club President

This has been a very busy fall for the Rotary Club of Ottumwa. It began with dictionaries being distributed to 432 children in the 3rd grade of schools in the Ottumwa School District. The Annual Chicken Barbeque was the next event at the end of September in an effort to help to kick off Octberfest in the City of Bridges and maintain a tradition that has been in existence for greater than 25 years.

About the time that the 5,000 or so chicken halves were devoured, the tables wiped and returned, we found ourselves selling basketball tournament tickets for an annual classic rotary Club-Sponsored tournament at Indian Hills Community College. The IHCC Warriors have a new coach this year and a strong team, and they proved a worthy opponent for the teams from Maryland, Kansas and Wyoming and, since that tournament they have continued undefeated. The Rotary club received \$3,000 for our efforts, and will put that with the profit of \$18,000 made at our barbecue for community projects, especially the support of Ottumwa's new Cancer Center.

Service Above Self at Knoxville

KNOXVILLE

continued from p. 8

Service Above Self Award. It was not a difficult task. It is with great pleasure that I ask Will Prather to step forward and be recognized. I believe the inscription on the plaque that George has given you, says it best:

For Outstanding Leadership and Dedication to the Ideals of Rotary!

As we all know, the main objective of Rotary is SERVICE: Club Service, Vocational Service, Community Service, and International Service.

Will, you've met the Rotary objective many times over and always in an exemplary manner. Congratulations . . . and on behalf of the Knoxville Rotary Club, THANK YOU!

Besides making money, the Rotary Foundation Centurion Club of Ottumwa has been busy supporting the reading program at James Elementary School. During this school year there will be 85 children who will benefit from having Rotarians sit and read with them each week. This is about the same number as we had last year, and everyone, both student and Rotarian, appear to gain a great deal from the experience.

The club supported the Chamber of Commerce with their "Nights in Lights" project. There are many displays, one of which is Rotary sponsored, with a variety of themes and objects. Shivering Rotarians were out in force guiding car loads of excited friends, neighbors and relatives through the park with their children.

Voted No. 1, Rotary was honored by *The Ottumwa Courier* with the coveted award, Reader's Choice as "Favorite Civic Club." Our visual image in the community will continue with the Centennial project, a tiled floor design in the recreation area of the Bridgeview Civic Center, which is presently under construction.

The final project of the winter and 2005 was the ringing of the bells for the Salvation Army. For five days Rotarians were decked out in Christmas attire and spirit in order to help less fortunate receive the gift of the season. Many of us look forward to this opportunity, knowing that once again Rotarians in Ottumwa are living the theme of Service above Self.

New meeting place at Newton

Dear Rotarians,

The Newton Noon Rotary Club will be conducting their Tuesday noon meetings at DMAAC effective 1/3/2006, at least for 3 months and possibly through June due to some changes in availability of Newton Country Club for the winter months. DMAAC is located at 600 N. 2nd Ave. West in Newton. We'd like to extend an invitation to come and share Rotary fellowship with us there. Thanks,

-s- Bruce Curtis, Newton Rotary Club President



Bettendorf Rotary past presidents Decker Ploehn (above) and Scott Tunnicliffe announce winners in 'Run with Carl'. President Frank Mitvasky (r) presents awards to the winners.



'Run with Carl' raises \$39,000 in Bettendorf

By Fred Anderson/Bettendorf

Thanks in part to the efforts of the Bettendorf Rotary Club, a record 1,247 runners, walkers and skate racers worked up a sweat during this city's 11th annual Run with Carl on Labor Day 2005 to help raise money for college scholarships and promote the sport of running.

The 2005 event saw participation by a record 704 5-kilometer runners, 396 5-mile runners, 121 1-mile fun runners and 25 participants in the 5-mile skate race.

Bettendorf Rotary Club took over the role of title sponsor of the event in 2005. In addition to making donations, 21 Rotarians helped with preparations for the event, 26 were involved during race day, and 11 members put up and took down signs along the race route. Financial support was provided by other Rotary clubs in the Quad Cities, as well.

The athletes, sponsors and donors raised more than \$39,000 for the Carl D. Schillig Memorial Fund. That fund underwrites eight scholarships annually for graduates of Bettendorf and Pleasant Valley high schools, both in Bettendorf, and makes donations to other organizations in which Schillig was active.

Current scholarship recipients attend the University of Iowa, Iowa State University (two students each), Central College, St. Ambrose University, Simpson College and the University of Michigan.

The other groups receiving memorial fund donations are the Bettendorf Swim Club, 16th Iowa Civil War Re-enactors, Corn Belt Running Club of the Quad Cities, Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, Bettendorf, and the Bettendorf Police Explorers Post No. 9611.

Staged through the streets of Bettendorf, Run with Carl has established itself as a Labor Day tradition in the Quad Cities. The event and the not-for-profit memorial fund commemorate the life of Carl Schillig, who was a 15-year-old Pleasant Valley student when he died Sept. 17, 1994, in a car-pedestrian accident while participating in a Civil War reenactment in the Village of East Davenport.

Run with Carl began on Labor Day 1995, the primary income

for the memorial fund. The first scholarship was awarded in 1998 to a graduate of Pleasant Valley High School. In 2002, scholarship awards also were extended to Bettendorf High School graduates. Each student receives \$1,000 each year he or she makes normal progress at college, for a maximum of four years.

Carl was active in community, church and school activities, participating in the sports of track, cross country and swimming. Scholarships are awarded to similarly well-rounded students who have the ability to succeed in college and rank in the approximate middle one-third of their graduating class.

The 12th annual Run with Carl will step off on Labor Day, Sept. 4, 2006.

Fred Anderson is a freelance writer in Bettendorf, Iowa, and media relations committee chairman of the Bettendorf Rotary Club.

Katrina relief:

'Service exemplifies what Rotary is about'

Rev. Richard Pokora, past president of the Rotary Club of the Iowa Quad Cities, reports that Col. Duane Gapinski, who is a member of the Rotary Club of the Iowa Quad Cities, was called to New Orleans immediately following the disaster of Hurricane Katrina to restore the pumps that were eventually used to pump flood waters from the city. Col Gapinski is commanding officer of the Corps of Engineers District based in Rock Island, Ill.

During his time in New Orleans, he was interviewed frequently to discuss the progress he and the corps made to clear the city of flood waters. "Duane's service to the New Orleans community exemplifies what Rotary is all about," said Pokora.

Col. Gapinski was featured in the *Quad City Times*. The link to the article is: <http://www.qctimes.net/articles/2006/01/30/news/local/doc43ddb65744f9a242746872.txt>

Des Moines AM:

School dedicates Life-Long Learning Center in honor of Rotary club

From Kay Myers/Executive Secretary

Rotary Club of Des Moines AM

On Friday, Feb. 6, the Rotary Club of Des Moines A.M. (DMAM) met at Capitol View Elementary School on the East Side of Des Moines. Members were delighted as a huge wooden sign was unveiled. It said "Rotary Club of Des Moines A.M. Life-long Learning Center." What a thrill!

The DMAM Life-Long Learning Center at Capitol View is intended to close the achievement gap for students, parents and the community members of the Capitol View neighborhood. Some of its major objectives for parents and children are :

- Provision of literacy training for competent and advanced reading levels;
- Provision of math skills for problem solving, budgeting and check book balancing;
- Provision of Tae Kwan Do instruction for children to develop respect and self discipline.
- Provision of training for job seeking skills.
- Provision of computer training.

Our club adopted this Eastside school in 2002. Capitol View has an enrollment of 611 students, Pre-K – 5th grades. Ninety per cent of the students at Capitol View Elementary School receive free or reduced price lunches. Nearly half of the student population are minorities: 10.5 percent African American, 4.4 percent Asian, and 30.8 percent are Hispanic.

Due to this high level of ethnic mix, the percent of students enrolled in English as a Second Language is nearly 24 percent, twice the percentage in the district. Nineteen percent of the students are in special education classes, nearly 7 percent more than the district percentage.

Yet, an amazing statistic is that the daily attendance at Capitol View School is 95.8 percent, one-tenth of a per cent *higher* than the district average! As one can quickly see, Capitol View School is a unique place with unique needs.

Since the beginning of the partnership, DMAM has:

- Annually sponsored all-school picnics for parents and students.
- In 2003, arranged with Meredith Publishing to deliver magazines of interest to parents.
- Donated more than 72 books to date to the school library in honor of DMAM weekly meeting speakers.
- In 2004, donated, prepared and fitted 500 bicycle helmets for Capitol View students.
- Since 2002, supported teachers and students through more than 40 members volunteering their time every week to tutor or mentor students. One member even helped a class write a song.
- Sponsored a Rotary Centennial poster contest in 2004, recognizing and providing certificates at school assembly to every student who entered. One of the students won the district contest.
- Beginning in 2002, made donations through individual mem-



Students at Capitol View School in Des Moines dedicated the school's Life-Long Learning Center in honor of the Des Moines AM Rotary Club.

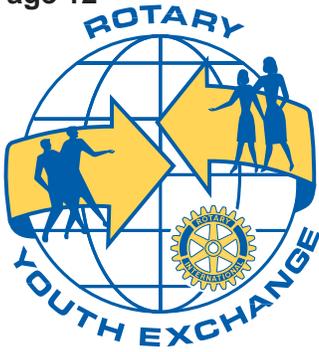
bers of items such as study carrels, washing machine, encyclopedia set, adult and children's clothing.

- Donated 120 dictionaries for every student in the fourth grade.
- Collected "Tools for School" so that students will have the paper, notebooks, and utensils to help them learn.
- Secured more than \$17,000 for the school: \$1,000 from Wal-Mart (2003); \$1,500 from Wal-Mart (2005); \$2,550 for bicycle helmets (2004); \$7,660 including matching funds from The Rotary Foundation for a life long learning center (2005); \$5,000 secured by a DMAM member from Weyerhaeuser for the learning center (2005).

The activities of the DMAM members at Capitol View are varied. Some are long term and ongoing projects; some are one-time-only experiences. Whether tutoring students every week or helping with a picnic, whichever projects in which the member chooses to participate, the experience is one of fulfillment of Rotary goals as well as the member's personal satisfaction.



The Rotary Club of Keokuk sponsored Gateway projects to beautify entrances to the community.



Faces of Rotary Youth Exchange District 6000, Iowa

**'If every 17-year
Youth Exchange student**

– Karl Wilhelm Stenhammar

District 6000 has sent and



Maria Biain of Argentina (Winterset), Carlos Lopes of Brazil (Burlington),
Florencia Diaz of Argentina (Waukee).



Teegan Rolfe of Australia (Bloomfield), Vasu
of Germany (Mt. Pleasant), Victoria Hoffmeister



Pitchaya Piyachan of Thailand (Pella), Adelaide Subtil of France (Grinnell),
Mathilde Keusch of France (Grinnell), Carla Mala of Ecuador (Indianola).



Lucas Paes of Brazil (Manning), Johan Christenson of Sweden (Tipton),
Edgar Zorrilla of Mexico (West Des Moines).



Marc Henri Renard of France (North Scott),
Scherberich of France (Knoxville), Martin Ser

Youth Exchange Iowa, 2005-06

...old spent a year as a Rotary
...udent, there would be no wars.'

...mmar, Sweden, Rotary International President, 2005-06

...received more than 400 students since 1965



Rachel Vasconcellos of Brazil (Fairfield),
Heloisa Ruas of Brazil (Corydon).



...ndhra Bhardwaj of India (Nevada), Annika Wilzeck
...ter of Germany (Wellman).



Lika Sul Khanishvili of Georgia (Decatur County), Lucas Assis of Brazil
(Nevada), Eva Baldwin outbound to Brazil (Decatur County).



...tt), Matthieu LeVege of France (Clinton), Louis
...van of France (Newton).



Ludovica Ghisalberti of Italy (North Scott), Oana Petre of Romania
(Boone), Rachel Vasconcellos of Brazil (Fairfield),

Exploring the Heart of India

D-6000 Rotarians build relationships; get first-hand look at projects

By DGN Cal Litwiller/Mt. Pleasant

Chair, D-6000 World Community Service

Rotarians Bill Ashton of Davenport and Rachel and Cal Litwiller of Mt. Pleasant spent the last two weeks of January in the Madras and Bombay areas of India.

Our time spent in India had several purposes. We were able to spend time with some wonderful Rotarians, enlarging the circle of acquaintances in the Rotary family. We were also able to visit numerous projects that Rotarians are doing in India as well as talking with them about possible future projects.

We are very impressed with the vision and energy that Rotarians have in India. No project seems to be too big for them to undertake. When they see a need they seem to find a way to make things happen so they can meet this need and help the less privileged in their communities. They live in a country that has a huge population problem, and all of the poverty problems that go along with over-population, but are doing their best to “Make a Difference” in the communities where they live. Rotarians in India have been and continue to be involved in numerous grants both large and small.

We were able to see grants that involve the following:

1. Providing desks for schools, so students do not have to sit on the floor. We saw schools that have classrooms of 50-60 students with one teacher with the students sitting on the hard concrete. Providing desks for these students will give the students a classroom environment that will be more comfortable and productive for the students.

2. Providing a library and laboratory in a school so students can pursue their education through level 12, making it possible for them to continue their education in the universities. Without a library and laboratory available, students cannot continue in their education beyond level 10. Students have to complete level 12 to be able to qualify for study in the universities, and in India, as in any country, education is the secret to improving their state in life. Rotarians Litwiller and Ashton were able to participate in the ribbon cutting and dedication of the “Gary Pacha Laboratory” in a school of 2,000-plus students in the city of Surat.

3. Providing water purification units in schools, nursing homes and mortuaries, where they mourn their dead for 13 days. Having safe drinking water is a very big issue in India. When people have safe water it improves their quality of life from many aspects, including health, being able to keep a job, to providing for their family.

4. Providing hospitals and clinics for their communities. Rotarians are providing hospitals for eye surgeries, mainly cataracts, general hospital care, dental clinics, diabetic clinics, hearing clinics, etc. Rotarians build and maintain hospitals that provide these services for their communities.



DGN Cal Litwiller (r) and Rachel reaching out to help children in a slum.



Rachel and Cal Litwiller (l) and Bill Ashton in front of the sign at the 3-H housing project at Methoda. The \$284,000 project of Davenport Rotary, District 6000, District 3060 and The Rotary Foundation, rebuilt an entire village.

5. Providing nutritious food for the children of a slum. Proper nutrition is the secret for staying healthy, and either Rotarians or other trained personnel go to a particular slum every evening and provide healthy food for the children of this slum in their town.

6. Providing a ventilator to a nursery and a laser for eye surgery for a hospital. The doctor told us that he was losing numer

Clubs can support grants

INDIA

continued from p. 14

ous infants before he got the ventilator, and now he is able to save many that he was losing before.

7. Providing low cost housing for slum dwellers. Rotarians are building 105 low cost houses for the people that live in a slum in their town, so these people can improve their living conditions.

8. Providing an ambulance to a community for use in their hospitals and clinics. We were able to see traditional ambulances the are associated with hospitals, and ambulances that serve as dental and eye clinics.

9. Renovating a dam to provide water for a town, or building a water tower and water treatment facility for another town.

One of the highlights of the time in India was visiting the Township of Metoda, which is a 3-H grant project that District 6000 coordinated with the Rojkot Midtown Rotary club. Following the earthquake of 2001 District 6000 and District 3060 with the coordination of the Rojkot Midtown Rotary Club completed a 3-H grant that provided 175 low cost houses for the people of Metoda Township. These people lost their housing as a result of the earthquake, and would have been relegated to very poor houses of bamboo, canvas or corrugated steel, if Rotarians would not have provided housing for them. These living conditions would have required their children to work so they would be able to live from one day to another.

We were able to visit some of the houses that were built and have tea with the people who live there. In the years following the building of the town, a school and a medical clinic have been built to better serve the people. We were able to see the excitement that the children have as a result of being able to go to school and further their education, as well as the hope in their future that the families have because of the improved housing that they are able to enjoy. This is a shining example of where Rotary, and District 6000, has been able to "Make a Difference" in the lives of a group of people in India.

We returned to Iowa with a suitcase full of gifts from the Rotarians in India as well as a briefcase full of potential Matching Grants that District 6000 can work on with the Rotarians in India. If we decide to fund these grants we will be partnering with some wonderful Rotarians who truly have the vision of Rotary, and will be able to continue to make a difference in the lives of the impoverished and less privileged in India. These potential grants range from providing an X-Ray machine to a hospital, low cost housing for slum dwellers, developing a blood bank, desks and water treatment facilities for schools, libraries and laboratories for schools that serve the poor in an industrial town, to mention a few of the potential projects that District 6000 can work on with the Rotarians in India.

The World Community Service – Matching Grant Committee would like to encourage each club in District 6000 to become involved in funding a matching grant some place in the world and truly "Make a Difference" in the lives of those who are not as privileged as we are. If your club does not feel that they can fund a grant alone we would like to encourage you to partner with another club to make a matching grant possible. Contact any of the members of the WCS Matching Grant committee for information on possible grants that your club can become involved with.



Ambassador Ken Quinn (l) and PDG Steve Thorpe (second from right) announce the World Food Prize Dinner, which will be April 8 in Cedar Falls.

Rotarians invited to World Food Prize Dinner

District Governor Corliss Klaassen invites Rotarians to the Third Annual Hoover-Wallace Dinner, an event aimed at honoring Iowa's humanitarian leaders. It will be held April 8 at the Park Place Event Centre in Cedar Falls.

The focus of the dinner will be to celebrate the legacy of John Deere, a firm with humble beginnings which today is a worldwide corporation, doing business in more than 160 countries. The company helped the American Midwest become the world's most productive agricultural area in history. With 11 major operations in Iowa, including several in Waterloo, John Deere plays a vital role in the lives of countless Iowans.

Mr. Robert W. Lane, chairman and chief executive officer of Deere & Company, will be the special guest of honor and keynote speaker. Honorary co-chairs will be Iowa Gov. Tom Vilsack, Senators Charles Grassley and Tom Harkin, and former Iowa Governors Robert Ray and Terry Branstad.

The Hoover-Wallace Dinner was established in 2004 by Ambassador Kenneth M. Quinn, President of The World Food Prize Foundation, to recognize Iowa's humanitarian leaders and honor Iowa's humanitarian heritage.

This theme is exemplified by the humanitarian achievements of two Iowans: former President Herbert Hoover and former Vice President Henry Wallace.

The first Hoover-Wallace Dinner was held in Cedar Rapids in April 2004. It celebrated the 90th birthday of Nobel Peace Prize Laureate and Iowa native Dr. Norman E. Borlaug, the man credited with saving one billion lives as the "Father of the Green Revolution." The Second Annual Hoover-Wallace Dinner, in Des Moines in March 2005, honored Gov. Robert Ray and Vice President Water Mondale for rescuing hundreds of thousands of refugees following the Vietnam War.

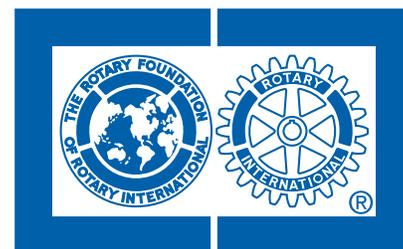
All proceeds from the dinner support The World Food Prize Foundation's Borlaug-Ruan International Internship Program, which sends Iowa high school students on eight-week, all-expense-paid assignments to work with renowned scientists at leading international agricultural research institutes in Asia, Africa and Latin America.

Tickets for the 2006 Hoover-Wallace Dinner are \$125 per person or \$1,000 to reserve a table of eight. Tickets can be ordered by calling 1 (800) 682-8976 or by printing and mailing the order form available at www.worldfoodprize.org.

Foundation six-month check-up:

What must your club do to reach its goal?

CLUB (Members/6-05)	(1) '05-'06 Goal	(2) Thru 12-31-05	(3) % of Goal	(4) Per capita
Adel (26)	\$ 2,600	0	0	\$ 0
Albia (41)	2,000	477	24	11.63
Ames Morning (72)	7,300	5,830	80	80.97
Ames (273)	34,417	19,203	56	70.34
Ankeny (72)	7,100	4,690	66	65.14
Atlantic (61)	3,000	1,750	58	28.69
Bettendorf (76)	8,000	5,700	71	75.00
Bloomfield (14)	500	0	0	0
Boone (71)	7,400	3,675	50	51.76
Burlington (104)	4,000	6,708	168	64.50
Carroll (59)	7,000	2,968	42	50.31
Centerville (53)	2,000	0	0	0
Chariton (56)	5,500	50	1	0.89
Clinton (124)	7,650	4,475	59	36.09
Coon Rapids (25)	2,400	0	0	0
Coralville-North Corridor (47)	7,965	7,250	91	154.26
Corning (59)	1,600	1,700	106	28.81
Corydon (20)	460	0	0	0
Creston (32)	1,700	0	0	0
Dallas Center (26)	2,000	2,000	100	76.92
Davenport (184)	10,000	6,924	69	37.63
Decatur County (19)	2,000	0	0	0
Des Moines AM (143)	15,000	10,125	68	70.80
Des Moines (372)	34,000	6,350	19	17.07
East Polk County (43)	4,200	25	1	0.58
Fairfield (71)	7,000	3,100	44	43.66
Fort Madison (46)	2,450	0	0	0
Grinnell (38)	2,590	625	24	16.45
Indianola (48)	5,000	0	0	0
Iowa City A.M. (55)	8,262	4,482	54	81.49
Iowa City Downtown (21)	2,100	1,537	73	73.21
Iowa City (311)	24,720	11,470	46	36.88
Iowa Quad-Cities (54)	1,500	781	52	14.46
Jefferson (57)	5,800	0	0	0
Johnston (36)	3,600	1,750	49	48.61
Kalona (43)	3,000	1,500	50	34.88
Keokuk (90)	6,000	0	0	0
Keosauqua (29)	2,900	1,320	46	45.50
Knoxville (65)	6,400	75	1	1.15
Lenox (35)	1,800	2,350	131	67.15
Manning (20)	1,900	500	26	25.00
Marengo (10)	500	400	80	40.00
Marshalltown (191)	14,250	5,438	38	28.47
Mount Pleasant Noon (34)	3,300	2,330	71	68.53
Mt. Pleasant (31)	2,800	750	27	24.19
Muscatine (144)	17,640	9,354	53	64.96
Nevada (65)	6,400	0	0	0
Newton (91)	10,450	8,270	79	90.88
North Scott (102)	10,500	3,248	31	31.84
Northwest Des Moines (76)	11,874	6,930	58	91.18
Odyssey of Ottumwa (11)	400	0	0	0
Osceola (40)	1,225	0	0	0
Oskaloosa (57)	1,530	0	0	0
Ottumwa (108)	10,800	12,500	116	115.74
Pella (43)	4,200	0	0	0
Perry (32)	2,325	75	3	2.34
Tipton (30)	2,720	2,125	78	70.83
Washington (68)	6,800	4,125	61	60.66
Waukee (50)	3,700	1,525	41	30.50
Wellman (33)	3,300	1,095	33	33.18
West Des Moines (87)	13,175	3,825	29	43.97
West Liberty (36)	6,800	4,810	71	133.61
Winterset (32)	1,280	0	0	0
Total	\$400,693	\$186,189	46	\$41.70



Paul Harris Society grows; room for more!

By DG Corliss Klaassen/Chariton

District 6000 has 24 charter members to the Paul Harris Society (PHS) and we now have eight new members this year. (see p. 17). I have asked that all PHS members recruit others to become Paul Harris Society Members by pledging \$1,000 per year to the Annual Programs Fund of The Rotary Foundation. We know there are many more Rotarians in District 6000 who have both the interest and the means to become Society members, but simply have not been asked.

Jeanne and I are members of the Paul Harris Society because we believe in all the good works that Rotary does and also what we in District 6000 accomplish. We also know that our District has yet to achieve the \$100 per member Annual Fund contribution that is the goal of the Every Rotarian Every Year effort of The Rotary Foundation.

People respond to solicitations for two reasons: if they have the intent to support the institution, and if they have the means. You were invited to join the Paul Harris Society and now we wish you to extend that invitation to another Rotarian. If we can attain 100 Society members in District 6000, the goal of supporting the Annual Programs Fund of The Rotary Foundation at \$100 per member, or \$450,000 per year, can be realized, both now and in the coming years.

To become a Paul Harris Society Member, contact me at (641) 774-2478 or District Administrator Jerri Uitermarkt at (877) 976-8279 and I will see that they are added to the list of Society members.

Rotary is in the business of changing lives, and District 6000 is doing that on many fronts. Your contributions are vital to all that we do each and every year. Please assure our success by asking someone to become a Paul Harris Society member.



The Rotary Club of Burlington installed this handicap accessible park in their community with the help of a District Simplified Grant.



Outbound Rotary Youth Exchange students from District 6000 for 2006-07 at the Winter Youth Exchange Retreat in January in Indianola (front, l-r): Kiran Stallone (Fairfield), Amanda Hembry (Tipton), Ellen Shank (Dallas Center), Eleni Cade (Des Moines), Ann Trimble (Leon), Cindy Meyer (Manning). Back: Spencer Blair (Muscatine), Nathan Farmer (Pella), Luke Goddard (Muscatine), Chance Dubuque (Fairfield), Joey Faux (Winterset), Ashleigh Rader (Winterset) and Joe Kerner (Knoxville).

\$88,665 raised for Katrina aid

District Governor Corliss Klaassen reports that more than \$88,000 has been contributed to District 6000 FAMSCO for relief of Hurricane Katrina. Thanks to the clubs listed below!

Tax deductible contributions are still welcome and may still be sent to: FAMSCO Hurricane Katrina Relief, c/o Dick Kennedy, 1811 North Dubuque Rd., Iowa City, IA 52245.

Adel	\$400.00
Albia	\$600.00
Ames	\$2,395.00
Ames AM	\$2,678.00
Atlantic	\$996.00
Bettendorf	\$2,425.00
Bloomfield	\$200.00
Burlington	\$8,050.00
Chariton	\$800.00
Clinton	\$661.00
Coralville NC	\$200.00
Dallas Center	\$1,092.00
Davenport	\$2,850.00
Des Moines	\$4,063.50
East Polk	\$200.00
Fairfield	\$4,681.00
Ft. Madison	\$25.00
Grinnell	\$78.00
Iowa City	\$11,168.07
Iowa City AM	\$3,574.35
Iowa City Downtown	\$50.00
Indianola	\$2,395.00
Jefferson	\$600.00
Kalona	\$100.00
Keokuk	\$1,390.00
Keosauqua	\$1,070.00
Knoxville	\$1,187.00
Lenox	\$350.00
Marshalltown	\$2,500.00
Mt. Pleasant	\$900.00
Mt. Pleasant Noon	\$700.00
Muscatine	\$6,436.36
Nevada	\$300.00
Newton	\$225.00
North Scott	\$6,417.00
NW Des Moines	\$4,580.00
Osceola	\$445.00
Oskaloosa	\$1,000.00
Ottumwa	\$1,677.00
Pella	\$753.00
Tipton	\$1,730.00
Washington	\$200.00
Waukee	\$960.00
Wellman	\$1,026.00
West Des Moines	\$50.00
West Liberty	\$2,100.00
Winterset	\$810.00
Friends of Rotary	\$875.00
Total Collected for Katrina Relief	\$88,665.28

D-6000 Paul Harris Society

NEW PAUL HARRIS SOCIETY MEMBERS IN 2005-06:

Bill/Ann Ashton, Davenport
 Marvin Hartwig, Coralville-North Corridor
 Doug/Melody Huette, Iowa City AM
 Darrell/Sharon Limkeman, Ottumwa
 Steven F./Karen Laughlin, Coralville-No. Corridor
 Lloyd/Trudy Hill, Northwest Des Moines
 Nancy/Jeff Stroburg, Jefferson
 Richard/Grace Young, Iowa City

Phyllis Miller, Decatur County
 Bill Oglesby, Coralville-North Corridor
 Jim Peterson, Iowa City AM
 Bob Rudman, Ames
 David Suntken, Ames
 Bill/Linda Tubbs, North Scott
 Don Wandling, Ames
 Herb Wilson, Coralville-North Corridor
 Janice Wilson, Coralville-North Corridor
 Margaret Wilson, Ames

CHARTER MEMBERS:

Robert (Bob) Anderson, Ames
 Del/Georgia Bluhm, Ames
 Roger/Pat Borup, Wellman
 Tom Brooke, West Liberty
 George Christensen, Ames
 John/Linda Dasher, Ames
 Dave Dickson, Ames
 Mary Gibbons, Ames
 Don/Doris Goering, Ames
 Conrad Gregg, West Liberty
 Paul/Phoebe Hellwege, Boone
 Corliss/Jeanne Klaassen, Chariton
 Bill Koellner, West Liberty
 Loring Miller, Decatur County



Bill Ashton (l) receives a Paul Harris Society ribbon for his Rotary pin from District Foundation chair PDG Don Goering.

LIFE IN KANO

Washington Rotarian spent 17 years in Jonathan Majiyagbe's club

By Emory VanGerpen

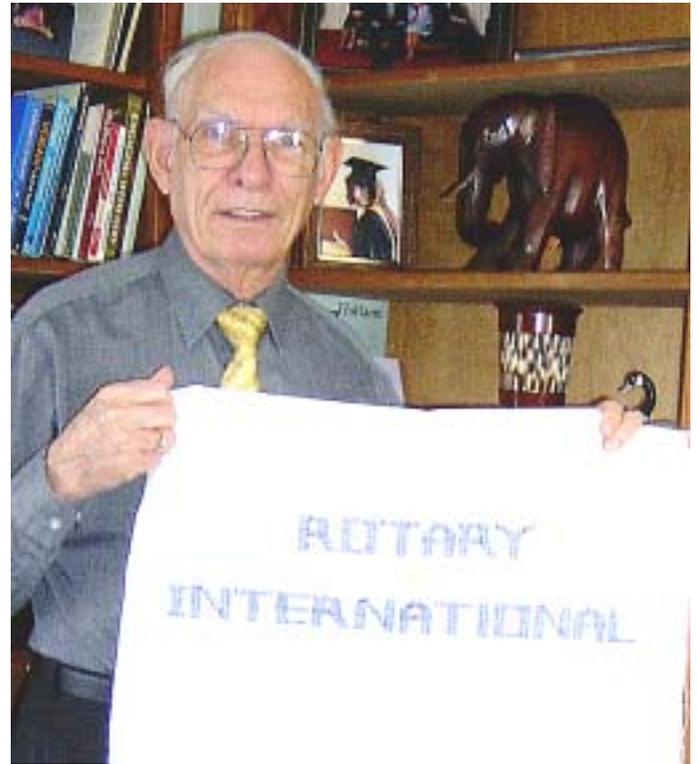
Rotary Club of Washington

As a career missionary to Nigeria, I had occasionally spoken at Rotary clubs here in the states. But I was a little surprised in Nigeria when my friend in whose home I was staying on this business trip – another clergyman – invited me to be his guest at his club in the coastal city of Port Harcourt. It was an evening meeting in a major hotel. The military governor of the state at that time – a top officer in the Nigerian Navy, and very high in Nigeria's military and political power was a member of that club. I was impressed. Thoughts of becoming a Rotarian myself entered my mind.

My work as a church consultant, however, had us based in Kano, an ancient African city of a million people on the southern edge of the Sahara Desert, some 700 miles north of Port Harcourt. On various occasions I had been invited by Jon Majiyagbe, a leading member of St. George's Anglican Church in Kano, to preach in his congregation.

Knowing that Mr. Majiyagbe was also an active Rotarian, I suggested that I would like to know more about Rotary in Kano. He replied, "Meet me Monday night at eight o'clock in the lobby of Central Hotel." That was the start of 17 years of Rotary service in Kano. I consider it a great honor that Jon Majiyagbe, who climbed to the highest ranks of Rotary International as its president, was the man who was my sponsor back in 1978, two years before he became district governor of the (then) District 912.

For the first four weeks in Rotary, I was somebody's guest. It may have taken me that long to decide to commit to weekly meetings and make-up visits, in view of my fairly heavy travel schedule. But it was also a rule of the club that one had to be present for at least four meetings before an application for membership was even considered. Not a bad policy either, as I look back. It sorted out those who were serious from those who would simply like to add Rotary Club membership as a line in their curricula vitae. And, in such a large city where oftentimes members saw each other only at weekly meetings, if often took several weeks to become acquaint-



Emory VanGerpen is holding one of his farewell gifts from the Rotary Club of Kano, Nigeria in 1995. It is a Nigerian spun and woven cotton table runner about 5-feet long, and into which are woven the words "Rotary International".

About the author . . .

Emory VanGerpen was a 17-year member of the Rotary Club of Kano, Nigeria. He was then a three-year member of the Iowa Great Lakes Rotary Club (Spirit Lake), and has been a member of the Rotary Club of Washington for a little more than a year.

Emory and his wife, Phyllis, are both Paul Harris Fellows. He was born on a farm at Buffalo Center, Iowa, and graduated from high school in Belmond, Iowa. He is an ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church, where he served 43 years in mission work in Nigeria, and six years as pastor of a church in Sioux City.

Emory and Phyllis have five children, all of whom grew up in Nigeria, but are now in their own professions. Now at age 78, he is retired in Washington.

ed with potential Rotarians.

Rotary Club of Kano was a unique club. Though the second oldest club in Nigeria (by only a few weeks), it always called itself "The Premier Club," probably because in its early years in the 1960s it was more lively than the first club in Lagos, the then capitol city some 800 miles away. Kano having an international airport, it was not uncommon to have three or four visiting Rotarians from European cities joining its 35-40 members each week. The club had far more banners from around the world in its cupboard than it could conveniently hold. About half of our membership were expatriates from all over the world. I was the only American.

Rotary club activities

The "Premier Club" was an active club. It keeps up with the usual Rotary functions and programs. For PolioPlus, we provided transportation for medical teams. We hosted Group Study Exchanges quite often. We sponsored Rotoractors. Meetings were

KANO

continued on p. 13

Full, formal evening Rotary meetings

KANO

continued from p. 12

always lively.

Because our meetings were in the evening, they tended to be relaxed, even though the dress code was suit and tie for expatriates and full flowing robe for nationals. Before women were admitted to Rotary, we had a “wives’ night” two or three times a year – a nice switch from what sometimes looked like a men’s club. Because of our wide ethnic diversity, several times a year there was an “international night” when we met at a member’s home, also bringing our spouses. If, for example, the host was a Rotarian of German background, the meal would likely be schnitzels accompanied by appropriate music, followed by a movie or something German. Perhaps the German Rotarian would round up his fellow Germans in the city and do a dance or some other cultural thing. The Italian Rotarian treated us to pasta, the Green to Greek cuisine, and the Dutch Rotarian who managed the KLM airlines always had a grand spread of cheeses and herring – and each nationality accompanied by appropriate display of culture. Even Nigerians within the club came from three major ethnic/tribal groups, each with its own distinctive variety of food and cultural dances.

There were also the gala occasions on President’s Night, or when the district governor made his annual visit. The club then met at a major restaurant about 8 p.m. A typical four-hour evening, all laid out in a 32-page, souvenir booklet complete with sponsored advertising, started with the formal arrival of a specially invited Guest of Honor. After some minor preliminaries, the outgoing officer made his speech listing the club’s accomplishments. Around 9 p.m. dinner is served. Awards are given next and recognitions made. About 10 p.m. the Guest of Honor gives his speech. Then comes the investiture of the incoming president. There’s a formal toast to the new officer, after which the new president gives his speech outlining his hopes for the ensuing year. When he has finished, still another guest speaker gives a talk. About 11:15 p.m. dancing starts, accompanied by boom-box music, but after a while is interrupted by a raffle draw. Finally, at nearly midnight another Rotary toast and some words of thanks for the evening. Those wishing to do so can still dance.

Return to Nigeria three years ago

When Phyllis (my wife) and I visited Nigeria three years ago, I wanted to drop in on my club again. It happened to be another party! That very night was the 70th birthday celebration of a Nigerian Rotarian, a long-time member of the club. He was entertaining the whole club, club members’ spouses as well as some of his friends, at the best Chinese restaurant in the city. Plenty of food, adulation, and fellowship! Indeed, Rotary is fellowship!

Every month or so the club’s program was a “Job Night” when a club member gave a very informative talk on the nature of his/her profession, explaining its usefulness to Nigerian society, as well as its benefits and challenges. If he/she was the CEO of a company the talk was about the challenges in manufacturing and marketing the company’s product in the Nigerian economy. Once or twice a year the evening meeting became a noon luncheon, and we would go out to a factory for a tour.

Only a few of the club’s projects were “hands on” projects. Once we painted some buildings at a local Waif’s home. At an-

other time when the Nigerian government was promoting the planting of trees, club members also went out to plant trees which, in this writer’s opinion, was more of a symbolic gesture than practical. Kano has a hot, dry climate, and without regular watering for several months, chances of the trees surviving was minimal.

In honor of Jon Majiyagbe who at the time was past director, the club financed a clinic, partially equipped it, and handed it over to the local government of that area. On another occasion, when some Rotary Clubs in India sent teams of medical people to do volunteer work in rural areas of Nigeria, the Rotary Club of Kano provided transportation, as it did for the Polio Plus campaign.

Safety amidst anti-American tension

My most memorable event of the Kano Rotary Club came at the time the USA was involved in Kuwait a decade or so ago. Kano city’s population is predominantly Muslim. Some extremist Muslim groups were putting full-page, anti-American ads in the daily newspapers. The attack on Kuwait was the chief topic on Nigerian television newscasts. After several days of anti-American rhetoric with tension running high and my wife and I keeping a low profile, four officers of our club (both Muslims and Christians) made a surprise visit to our house one evening. They came to see how we were handling all the threatening language, and to express their sorrow about that kind of ignorant, anti-American propaganda going on. And more importantly, knowing the imminent possibility of our being physically attacked, to let us know that if we needed any help to call on any of them and they would do their best to protect us, and even sneak us out of the country if necessary. For us, the Rotary Club of Kano never had a prouder moment!

CENTER for
CITIZEN INITIATIVES



Rotary clubs host Russians

Eight clubs in District 6000 will host delegations of Russians during 2005-06 in the Productivity Enhancement Program. PEP is sponsored by the Center for Citizen Initiatives, with support of the U.S. and Russian State Departments. Teams consist of 11 delegates, a team leader and translator. They live with Rotarians and receive vocational training that has been called “The Marshall Plan for Russia.”

The Rotary Clubs of Bettendorf, Davenport, Iowa Quad Cities and North Scott will host a delegation of private medical clinic managers April 5-22. The Rotary Clubs of Indianola and Ankeny will host a delegation of supermarket managers April 13-30, and the Rotary Clubs of Clinton (D-6000) and Monticello (D-5970) will host a delegation of plastics manufacturers April 13-29.

The Rotary Club of Marshalltown hosted a delegation of small construction contractors last fall.

For information about PEP, call CCI San Francisco, (888) 729-7071, or PDG Bill Tubbs, (563) 285-8111.

FRENCH CONNECTION:

Youth Exchange recalls the past; builds bridges for future

By Mary Tharp/Indianola

Outbound Rotary Youth Exchange student

Saturday, February 04, 2006, 9:42 a.m..

Subject: Reality.

Today pretty much made up for me not going to Italy. I went to a ceremony for a pilot whose plane crashed down about 10 minutes from here at the beginning of World War II. First of all, it was at a beautiful French farm; they are nothing like Iowa farms. Secondly, the house was beautifully French country.

I got there and was invited for the lunch. I said yes. Over about the next 45 minutes, I began to experience a part of history that we only think of in movies – and it's nothing like the movies. In came the last living survivor from the crash. He was about 19 at the time. He was a normal Joe. He came with his wife and family.

Also there was the family of one of the other survivors who passed away three years ago. I got to meet them all. Then came the man who found the plane and the survivors – who were all badly wounded – he walked straight to Joe, the survivor, and they embraced. It was a very touching moment. Another lady who was there was 20 at the time and lived about 30 minutes from here. She was part of the French underground when the Germans were in France. I'll talk more about her later.

We went out to the monument which has plane propellers with a French and American flag. They did a short ceremony, telling the story of how the plane had crashed and how it was the first mission of that certain troupe. Most life expectancies were three months with this pilot troupe but they never lacked volunteers. The French said this showed how dedicated the Americans were to helping France win their freedom, and that they appreciated it very much and would never forget it. They said that Joe was a hero. Afterwards they played the American and French national anthems. It was very nice.

Then after an appetizer it was time for the lunch. Only 17 people were there out of the many who were at the ceremony. I had no idea I was invited to such a special occasion. A bit later (which still means lunch in France) a Senator Colonel who was there told a story of his experience in the war. He said that he and Joe had much in common, though coming from places very different and very far apart. They both loved their countries. They were also both pilots who crashed on their first mission. He then went on to talk about the fact that there was a little get together in Yorktown this year to mark 225 years after the battle of Yorktown, where without the French we wouldn't have won the Revolutionary War. General LaFayette, who was very important to us in that war, joined the army at 20. All in all, it showed the long history that our country has with France. It showed that when you actually remember the past, politics aren't enough to make you forget the friendship and recognition the citizens of the two countries have for each other.



Rotary Youth Exchange student Mary Tharp of Indianola visiting Gverney, France with a friend named Chloe.

‘When you actually remember the past, politics aren't enough to make you forget the friendship and recognition the citizens of the two countries have for each other.’ – Mary Tharp, Youth Exchange

The man who owns the farm then got up. He said that anytime they could, all of the family was welcome to France and they would give them anything they needed. The translator afterwards added: we have little homes, but big hearts. He then told the story of the lady I mentioned earlier. Again, she was twenty, and she helped hide American pilots and help them escape to freedom. In total she helped 70 pilots. The thing that makes this extraordinary is that the Germans were occupying France at the time. There were even Germans living in a part of her house as she was helping these Americans. It turns out many French women risked concentrations camps and just plain getting shot by doing the same thing.

Earlier, during the ceremony, a man told me, "The French don't forget what the Americans did for them." And as I thought about that, I realized, the most we hear of problems between America and France are mainly between new generations who have no idea of the intensely real history, or it's just politics that cause us to look no farther than the latest headline.

Afterwards, though I was on the verge of tears, I went up to Joe. I said, "You know, there are lots of bad sentiments between these two countries. But I think it's because we forget the history we have with each other. I just want you to know that I won't forget what you've done here and I'll do my best to pass your story on. Thank you." Yes, I was crying when I said that. I told him I was proud of what he had done, and I thanked him for letting me experience it with him. He told me that I have the right idea. He, too, sees the bad feelings we have for each other. But he said, "You know, I come here and these people break their backs trying to show us hospitality, and it's hospitality like none of us have ever seen before." So this is me, passing on a little piece of the history of a few people because it is truly incredible what they did so early in their lives, with such risks. Thank you very much for taking the time to read this. It means a lot to me and I really appreciate it.

District News in brief

Obituary: It is with deep sadness that Rotarians of District 6000 observe the death of Phoebe Hellwege, 94, the wife of District Governor Paul Hellwege (1954-55) of Boone, on Feb. 13. Phoebe was a faithful participant in District Rotary events for more than half a century. She was featured with Paul in our Centennial District Directory for their long years of service. Paul and Phoebe met when he was a law student at the University of Iowa. They were married in 1939. The Hellweges lived together independently until January when Phoebe moved to hospice care. Phoebe attended District Conferences with Paul throughout his 59 years in Rotary. To celebrate Rotary's Centennial, she wrote the words to a song, "Go Tell" to the tune of "Go Tell It On the Mountain," that is posted at our district Web site.



Phoebe Hellwege

Play: The Davenport Rotary Club and Entertainment Events Inc. are presenting the hilarious audience participation play "Late Nite Catechism" on Friday, March 10 at 8:00 p.m. at the Galvin Fine Arts Center located on the campus of St. Ambrose. Reserved seats are \$35.00, which includes a Gourmet Dessert and coffee following the play. Call the Galvin Fine Arts ticket office at (563) 333-6251 for your tickets.

AG Training: Assistant governors for 2006-07 will receive training from Gov.-Elect Del Bluhm in sessions at the Sodexo Marriott Conference Center in Newton on Friday evening, March 24 and Saturday, March 25.

Meeting Place: The new meeting place for the Rotary Club of Marengo is the Marengo Memorial Hospital, Thursday noons.

Northland Breakfast: The Northland Breakfast, for Rotarians from the upper Midwest USA and southern Canada who attend the RI Convention June 11-14 in Copenhagen, Denmark and Malmo, Sweden, will be Sunday, June 11 at the Marriott Hotel in Copenhagen. Doors open at 7:30 a.m. Breakfast at 8:00. Please send your check payable to "RI 27/28" for \$35 per ticket to Ed Schulz at 1095 S. Main St., Plymouth, MI 48170. Questions? DickGalitz@att.net or call (630) 420-7658.

Literacy: President Harv Sprafka reports that the Rotary Club of Knoxville is among those who completed a successful Student Dictionary project this year. To order the dictionaries, which cost \$1.45 a copy, delivered, contact The Dictionary Project, (843) 388-8375. Information: www.dictionaryproject.org.

Hizzoner:

Name the District 6000 Rotarian who was elected mayor of his 26,000-population city in November 2005. Free Rotary pin to the first with the right answer. Reply to Governor Corliss Klaassen: (641) 774-2478, or corliss@iowatelecom.net.

Federal Funding: D-6000 Disaster Relief chair Keith Mattke of North Scott shares this information from Therese Lyons, director of the USDA's Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives. She has the resource, "Federal Funds for Organizations That Help Those in Need." This on-line grants catalog will help you find federal grant opportunities suitable for faith-based and community organizations. To view the list of more than 150 programs, click on: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/government/fbci/grants-catalog-index.html>. Questions? fbci@usda.gov.

Did You See? The Service Above Self of members of the District 6000 Family of Rotary is in the March issue of The Rotarian: PDG Ray Muston's son Chip and granddaughter, Sophie, for their work in Xicotepec, Mexico; and Fairfield Rotarian Linda Stallone, for her friendships with Rotarians in Australia.

Rock for Relief: The Rotary Club of Burlington, in conjunction with the Red Cross, sponsored "Katrina Rock for Relief," which featured music, food, cars, an auction and fireworks on Sept. 16 and attracted huge crowds. More than \$22,000 was raised.

Interact: From the Iowa City AM Rotary Club newsletter we learn that City High Interact in Iowa City raised \$2,500, which was matched by The Rotary Foundation to \$5,000. Through the magic of multiplication of The Rotary Foundation, it was matched again to \$10,000, which will buy school supplies for a school in Uganda.

PolioPlus Partners: The District 6000 Executive Committee approved the transfer of \$2.00 per member of the district's Rotary Foundation District Designated Fund (\$9,000) for PolioPlus Partners, in response to an appeal from polio eradication leaders.

Scholars: Ambassadorial Scholar applications for 2007-08 are due by April 30. Questions? Contact D-6000 Scholars chair, Jeff Bremer, (515) 440-7064. E-mail:

Peace Centers: For the second consecutive year, District 6000 has assigned \$12,500 of our Rotary Foundation DDF (District Designated Fund) in support of the Rotary International Centers for Peace and Conflict Resolution. For information about scholarship applications, contact Jeff Bremer: jeffbremer@mchsi.com.

Youth Exchange: Steps are underway for District 6000 to comply with the new RI Policy on Protection of Children in Youth Exchange. This includes changing our status from a 501C4 Organization to a 501C4 corporation, providing liability insurance, and adopting a policy in accordance with Rotary International that includes background checks of adults with whom students will interact.

Public Relations: PDG Bill Tubbs accepted President-Elect Bill Boyd's invitation to represent the Rotary clubs of North America on the Rotary International Public Relations Resource Group. Prior to the first meeting on April 5-6 in Evanston, Bill asks clubs to share their best public relations projects. Send them to: P.O. Box 223, Eldridge, IA 52748; or e-mail: btubbs@northscottpress.com.

Share Your News: Assistant governors and club presidents: Please submit news of your clubs' activities for District 6000 News. Send word files and .jpg photos to: btubbs@northscottpress.com. Deadline for the next issue: May 19.

Polio: Boone Rotarian renders drops of life

From the Boone News-Republican

Kriss Philips recently returned from a trip to Niger where he administered polio inoculation serum to more than 100 youths as part of a Rotary International group.

"I helped inoculate over 100 youngsters," Philips said. "I probably did 100 drops and helped on about double that."

Philips arrived in Niger on Nov. 8 and departed Nov. 19. Nov. 10 was National Immunization Day, which was the day set aside for the majority of the inoculations.

He recently returned from a trip to Colorado to spend time with his grandchildren.

Asked what made the biggest impact on him, Philips said, "the little children, the people we inoculated were (age) 5 and under. Most of them were very curious about us. Some were even frightened at first. As a grandfather of kids that age, it was heart-warming to be doing something for those young people. I felt good about what I was doing and felt I made a difference."

Philips has been on one other Rotary International trip. The last was to India a few years ago.

"Some of that was hands-on and we got involved in a lot of tourism," Philips said. "This one was definitely more hands-on."

Philips was one of 18 North Americans on the trip.

Usually with a partner, someone would administer the polio inoculation serum and the other would mark their finger with a magic marker. The magic marker is used to designate the child as being inoculated.

"In this instance, we went into their homes," Philips said. "We were in their homes or at least in the yard outside their home."

Philips made the decision to go on the trip because it is "truly the humanitarian thing to do. Polio needs to be stamped out. It doesn't have any socioeconomic boundaries."



Kriss Philips

He traveled with an interpreter who spoke French and some of the native tribal languages. "The people were very curious and very cooperative," he said, "I felt like we made a difference...I was in a group with a medical doctor from Illinois. I have a lot of confidence in what he said. He thought this area would be polio free in the very near future because of what we were doing."

That doctor had been on similar trips and is well-versed in polio eradication, Philips said. During the trip, Philips and four others rented a car and drove 400 miles into the interior of Niger in a more remote area.

"We were on television and interviewed for the newspaper, which I don't mind because it was drawing attention to what we were doing," he said.

It was an 11-hour trip and, as their driver and guide were Muslims, they stopped on three occasions for prayer. Both men were devout, which the group respected, Philips said. "We would go into villages and, as a Christian, it was a little different experience for me to see the Muslims in their prayer activity," Philips said.

They took Polaroid and digital pictures of some of the people along the way. "I don't think the adults as well as the youngsters had seen a picture of themselves," Philips said.

Philips said the desert climate was an interesting experience. The temperature got up to 115 degrees. It would cool off at night to about 65.

"The heat just exhausts you," Philips said. "And all of our travels from house to house we walked through the sand. It's sort of like walking up hill both ways. We did it from about 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. By 1 p.m. on, we were just exhausted."

Philips said he will likely go on more Rotary International trips, but he hopes that there will eventually be no need.

"I hope within seven or eight years they will have polio eradicated," Philips said. Kristi Young can be reached at kris.young@newsrepublican.com

Miles of Smiles team travels to Guatemala

By PDG Gary Pacha/Iowa City

Iowa Miles of Smiles Team, team leader

Excitement is mounting as we continue to make final plans for our Feb. 25-March 5 trip to Huehuetenango, Guatemala, and District 6000's first trip of our very own surgical team to correct cleft lip/palates for free in the indigenous Mayan population in this poor Western Guatemalan town. Iowa MOST (Miles of Smiles Team) mission statement has us committed to three trips in the next five years.

Many on the team, and others not going have contributed a great deal of time and resources to make this trip a reality. Many on this trip went with us in April/May of 2003 to San Salvador, El Salvador, and are "itching" to go again. The difference this time is in that we were then associated with Rotaplast, and now we have our own District initiative. Our MOST group was born out of a desire to make an enduring relationship with one community, and get to know the Rotarians and others living there. This was not possible working with Rotaplast, so we have created our own group.

Last minute details have been somewhat difficult, as we have forwarded all of our supplies and donations via container ship, and are

even at this writing anxiously awaiting the container clearing Guatemalan customs. We are hopeful that all will be well, thanks to our networking with old friends through FAMSCO, and new friends developed on advance trips to Huehuetenango in January and September of 2005. Upon return, we hope to have a great story to share with Rotarians of D6000, and that in turn will generate the donations of money, materials and personnel to go back and do more good in that community in the years ahead.

* * *

Team members included: Surgeons Dr. John Canady and Dr. Drew Dillman; nurses Pat Wehrle, Helen Rittenmeyer, Mary Yoder, Deb Strike, B.J. Wagner and Paula Francis; anesthesiologists Judy Dillman, Dawn Dillman and Dan Woodward; biomedical engineer/quartermaster Rick Borchard, pediatricians Pete Wallace and Rachel Tellez, dentists Dr. Bill Olin and Dr. Bill LaVelle; pediatric otolaryngologist James Brooks; team leader PDG Gary Pacha; translator Nancy Pacha; photo journalist Pat Schnack; records clerk Jim Down; pediatric ward assistant Nancy Harms; recovery room assistant Karin Franklin; and general assistant John Gross.

Committee seeks nominations for Governor 2008-09

**By PDG Dale Belknap/
NW Des Moines**

Chair, Nominating Committee

The District 6000 Nominating Committee is seeking nominations for District Governor Nominee 2008-2009. Sheila Tipton, a member of the Rotary Club of Des Moines, has recently resigned from that position.

The club presidents have received the information for completing the process of nominating a member of their respective clubs. The deadline for receipt of nominations is March 17. The committee will interview the candidates in early April.

The selected nominee will be working closely with Diana Reed, District Governor Nominee 2007-2008, and Cal Litwiller, District Governor Nominee 2009-2010. Diana is a member of the Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines and Cal is a member of the Rotary Club of Mt. Pleasant Evening.

Mike Ruby fills in as Assistant Governor

District Governor Klaassen announces that Mike Ruby has kindly agreed to fill in temporarily as Assistant Governor while Sarah Simpson is recuperating.



Mike Ruby

Mike is a member of the Muscatine Rotary Club and served as their Centennial President in 2004-05. Mike's contact information is listed below. Mike Ruby, 311 Myrtle Ln., Muscatine, IA 52761-2760; B) 563-288-3566; H) 563-264-5417; F) 563-262-8477; E) mikenjoanne@machlink.com

Mike will work with the Rotary Clubs of Muscatine, North Scott, Tipton and West Liberty.

* * *

Sarah Simpson is convalescing from a stroke. Cards can be sent to her at: Sarah Simpson, Davenport Good Samaritan Center, 700 Waverly Rd., Davenport, IA 52804.

2005-06 CLUB ATTENDANCE PERCENT AND RANK NOVEMBER, 2005 - JANUARY, 2006

CLUB	NOVEMBER		DECEMBER		JANUARY	
	Percent	Rank	Percent	Rank	Percent	Rank
Adel	69.00%	21	62.00%	35	72.00%	18
Albia	61.00%	39	54.00%	46	57.00%	38
Ames	63.80%	33	57.88%	40	63.32%	31
Ames Morning	53.43%	50	54.23%	44	55.77%	41
Ankeny	70.00%	20	75.00%	17	68.00%	25
Atlantic	68.00%	23	68.75%	26		
Bettendorf	79.71%	9	78.70%	11	86.15%	5
Bloomfield	65.00%	32				
Boone	60.36%	42	81.70%	7	66.03%	28
Burlington	85.30%	6	84.50%	5	84.00%	6
Carroll			54.43%	43		
Centerville	62.80%	36				
Chariton	57.00%	45	52.00%	50		
Clinton	55.64%	48	61.71%	36	66.04%	27
Coon Rapids	66.00%	30				
Coralville-North Corridor	90.00%	4	65.00%	32	91.00%	3
Corning	68.96%	22	87.35%	4	69.83%	22
Corydon						
Creston	52.00%	51	52.00%	51		
Dallas Center						
Davenport	55.18%	49	54.17%	45	56.45%	39
Decatur County	71.00%	17	65.00%	33	67.00%	26
Des Moines	67.27%	25	71.58%	23	70.39%	19
Des Moines A.M.	72.00%	14	81.00%	8		
East Polk County	63.00%	35				
Fairfield	58.82%	44	58.64%	39	69.75%	23
Fort Madison	59.00%	43	80.00%	10	58.00%	37
Grinnell						
Indianola	71.88%	16	74.36%	19	73.10%	16
Iowa City			42.00%	52	62.00%	34
Iowa City A.M.	72.00%	15	67.00%	29	69.00%	24
Iowa City Downtown						
Iowa Quad-Cities	67.82%	24	59.95%	37	63.94%	30
Jefferson	77.00%	10				
Johnston	73.53%	12	73.53%	21	70.29%	20
Kalona	82.83%	8	80.86%	9	81.12%	9
Keokuk	50.17%	52	52.40%	48	52.58%	42
Keosauqua	56.00%	46	56.90%	41	62.70%	33
Knoxville	70.40%	19	65.00%	34		
Lenox			71.00%	24		
Manning	86.00%	5	72.00%	22	79.00%	11
Marengo	67.00%	26	70.20%	25	73.25%	15
Marshalltown	62.16%	37	67.16%	28	56.04%	40
Mount Pleasant Noon					62.90%	32
Mt. Pleasant	73.00%	13	78.00%	13	84.00%	7
Muscatine			52.26%	49	48.60%	43
Nevada	66.91%	28	66.91%	30	74.16%	14
Newton	71.00%	18	77.00%	15	73.00%	17
North Scott	83.75%	7	82.65%	6	81.75%	8
Northwest Des Moines	90.70%	3	88.20%	3	91.50%	2
Odyssey Rotary Ottumwa	67.00%	27	75.00%	18	75.00%	13
Osceola	63.39%	34	76.79%	16	70.24%	21
Oskaloosa	60.90%	40	56.25%	42		
Ottumwa	60.80%	41	66.00%	31	61.30%	36
Pella	75.00%	11	78.00%	14	81.00%	10
Perry	62.00%	38			62.00%	35
Tipton	66.78%	29	78.18%	12	75.50%	12
Washington	56.00%	47	53.00%	47	64.00%	29
Waukee			73.55%	20		
Wellman	94.70%	2	94.53%	1	98.38%	1
West Des Moines			58.80%	38		
West Liberty	66.00%	31	68.00%	27		
Winterset	94.78%	1	90.07%	2	88.33%	4

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District 6000 News will be published four times a year, in August, November, February and May, as a supplement to monthly electronic communications. District 6000 News is mailed to District 6000 club presidents, assistant governors, past and future district governors and committee chairs. It is posted in PDF format with the pictures in color at our district website, www.rotary6000.org. We encourage and urge you to share your copies with club leaders and Rotarians in your clubs and to use it as a resource for club newsletters and in any way possible for the advancement of Rotary. Clubs are invited and encouraged to submit news to editor Bill Tubbs at the above address.

Letters:

Bill:

I just scrolled through the newsletter and found myself thinking how good and thorough the newsletter was. I thought "I feel like I'm reading a newspaper!" Then, I realized you produced this, and that's exactly what you do for a living!!! Why should we not expect it from you. It would be like, in an earlier time, questioning Col. Sanders on whether he could cook chicken. It's great! Thanks for sharing it with me.

– John Lewis, Rotary Club of Des Moines

Greetings from Germany:

Dear friends, since five weeks I'm back again in Germany after my second GSE-trip for this year (to Japan). But I still remember the great time in Iowa and the hospitality I got from all of you! And I'm always glad to receive mails and news from some of you. Winter season slowly starts in our region; we have first snow mixed into the rain. I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy new Year. Best regards from Kappeln/Germany.

-s- Werner Pauls, D-1890, Germany
2004-05 GSE team leader to D-6000



SERVICE Above Self Club leaders' checklist

- Register your 2006-07 president for the D-6000 President-Elect Training Seminar (P.E.T.S.), March 31 at Newton. You are encouraged to register your 2007-08 president and other future presidents, as well. Register online at www.rotary6000.org.
- Register club officers, committee chairs and interested Rotarians for the District 6000 Assembly, April 1 at Newton. Register at www.rotary6000.org.
- Submit your application for RI President Carl-Wilhelm Stenhammer's Presidential Citation to DG Corliss Klaassen on or before March 31.
- Encourage club members to register for District 6000 Conference, April 27-29 at West Des Moines. Register online at www.rotary6000.org.
- Check your club's progress toward your 2005-06 Rotary Foundation Goal and implement plans to meet or exceed that goal, including inviting members to join the District 6000 Paul Harris Society.
- Submit your Club Goal for 2006-07 giving to the Annual Programs Fund of The Rotary Foundation to District Foundation Chair PDG Don Goering.
- Submit your club pledge in support of National Special Olympics by March 15 and encourage club members to volunteer for the July 1-8 games in Ames.
- Encourage club members to pre-register by March 31 for the June 11-14 Rotary International Convention in Copenhagen, Denmark and Malma, Sweden.
- Invite club members and partners to register for the Hoover-Wallace dinner, April 8 at Waterloo.
- Submit news of your club for the next issue of District 6000 News to btubbs@northscottpress.com.

District 6000 Membership

What are you doing to keep our membership strong?

CLUB	Jan '96	Jan '01	Jan '02	Jan '03	Jan '04	Jan '05	Jan '06	1-year	5-year	10-year	10-yr pct
Adel	30	29	27	22	24	26	30	+ 4	+ 1	0	0%
Albia	21	32	33	34	35	40	37	- 3	+ 5	+ 16	+ 76.2%
Ames	240	258	253	260	262	268	271	+ 3	+ 13	+ 31	+ 13.9%
Ames AM	46	57	58	67	69	70	65	- 5	+ 8	+ 19	+ 41.3%
Ankeny	59	53	45	57	64	71	69	- 2	+ 16	+ 10	+ 16.9%
Atlantic	72	62	60	56	63	57	60	- 3	- 2	- 12	- 16.7%
Bettendorf	98	85	91	92	90	80	85	+ 5	0	- 13	- 13.2%
Bloomfield	13	12	13	11	13	14	11	- 1	- 1	- 2	- 15.4%
Boone	49	63	71	71	70	73	69	- 4	+ 6	+ 20	+ 40.8%
Burlington	86	104	108	108	111	104	99	- 5	- 5	+ 13	+ 15.1%
Carroll	59	61	64	61	61	60	57	- 3	- 4	- 2	- 3.4%
Centerville	52	55	50	46	53	57	53	- 4	- 2	+ 1	- 1.9%
Chariton	64	61	66	59	56	56	50	- 6	- 11	- 14	- 21.9%
Clinton	129	126	120	122	127	125	121	- 4	- 5	- 8	- 6.2%
Coon Rapids	15	24	22	24	24	24	25	+ 1	+ 1	+ 10	+ 66.7%
Coralville-NC	0	56	48	44	45	41	44	+ 3	- 12	+ 44	+ 100.0%
Corning	61	63	61	57	57	55	59	+ 4	- 4	- 2	- 3.3%
Corydon	14	30	23	23	26	23	21	- 2	- 9	+ 7	+ 50.0%
Creston	44	26	24	33	35	31	29	- 2	+ 3	- 15	- 34.1%
Dallas Center	29	31	30	29	28	27	25	- 2	- 6	- 4	- 13.8%
Davenport	269	213	215	220	210	195	172	- 23	- 41	- 97	- 36.1%
Decatur County	15	18	23	17	19	16	19	+ 3	+ 1	+ 4	+ 26.7%
Des Moines	380	373	383	383	385	375	368	- 7	- 5	- 12	- 3.2%
Des Moines AM	79	118	128	134	148	146	143	- 3	+ 25	+ 64	+ 81.0%
East Polk Co.	40	30	35	35	40	43	47	+ 4	+ 17	+ 7	+ 17.5%
Fairfield	64	62	70	74	76	72	68	- 4	+ 6	+ 4	+ 6.3%
Fort Madison	56	52	53	46	46	49	48	- 1	- 4	- 8	- 14.2%
Grinnell	49	34	34	37	33	38	36	- 2	+ 2	- 13	- 26.5%
Indianola	63	58	54	49	49	51	51	0	- 7	- 12	- 19.0%
Iowa City	299	281	275	273	289	313	311	- 2	+ 30	+ 12	+ 4.0%
Iowa City D'ntown	0	0	0	0	0	21	23	+ 2	+ 23	+ 23	+ 100.0%
Iowa City AM	82	66	61	59	55	54	55	+ 1	- 11	- 27	- 32.9%
Iowa Quad-Cities	51	41	37	41	43	48	55	+ 7	+ 14	+ 4	+ 7.8%
Jefferson	71	70	68	60	57	56	57	+ 1	- 13	- 14	- 19.7%
Johnston	0	33	29	31	31	33	37	+ 4	+ 4	+ 37	+ 100.0%
Kalona	39	38	39	38	38	41	43	+ 2	+ 5	+ 4	+ 10.3%
Keokuk	89	93	84	89	96	90	90	0	- 3	+ 1	+ 1.1%
Keosauqua	25	26	30	33	31	28	27	- 1	+ 1	+ 2	+ 8.0%
Knoxville	70	63	68	70	66	62	65	+ 3	+ 2	- 5	- 7.1%
Lenox	40	38	38	35	37	36	33	- 3	- 5	- 7	- 17.5%
Manning	33	33	32	30	27	18	18	0	- 15	- 15	- 45.4%
Marengo	14	14	13	12	12	12	12	0	- 2	- 2	- 14.3%
Marshalltown	192	183	181	199	192	190	190	0	+ 7	- 2	- 1.0%
Mt. Pleasant	31	27	29	34	31	31	30	- 1	+ 3	+ 1	+ 3.2%
Mt. Pleasant Noon	36	39	37	35	36	32	35	+ 3	- 4	- 1	- 2.8%
Muscatine	145	146	142	142	139	150	144	- 6	- 2	- 1	- 0.1%
Nevada	55	63	62	67	68	66	63	- 3	0	+ 8	+ 14.5%
Newton	111	99	111	111	102	95	93	- 2	- 6	- 18	- 16.2%
North Scott	68	88	89	94	102	99	102	+ 3	+ 14	+ 34	+ 50.0%
NW Des Moines	83	67	78	87	82	83	70	- 13	+ 3	- 13	- 15.6%
Odyssey Ottumwa	0	0	0	10	23	21	12	- 9	+ 12	+ 12	+ 100.0%
Osceola	48	47	41	40	42	38	39	+ 1	- 12	- 9	- 18.8%
Oskaloosa	56	70	70	60	55	53	57	+ 4	- 13	+ 1	+ 1.8%
Ottumwa	153	124	116	119	111	107	109	+ 2	- 15	- 44	- 28.8%
Pella	39	41	38	42	46	44	46	+ 2	+ 5	+ 7	+ 17.9%
Perry	31	33	33	40	34	38	30	- 8	- 3	- 1	- 3.2%
Tipton	46	34	32	32	33	31	27	- 4	- 7	- 19	- 41.3%
Washington	59	65	62	56	63	66	69	+ 3	+ 4	+ 10	+ 16.9%
Waukee	0	37	41	37	43	48	48	0	+ 11	+ 48	+ 100.0%
Wellman	33	33	33	34	36	34	32	- 2	- 1	- 1	- 3.0%
West Des Moines	91	100	89	88	84	85	79	- 6	- 21	- 12	- 13.2%
West Liberty	34	38	38	43	42	34	34	0	- 4	0	0%
Winterset	39	45	36	39	37	32	30	- 2	- 15	- 9	- 30.0%
Total	4,389	4,421	4,394	4,451	4,502	4,476	4,397	- 79	- 24	+ 8	+ 0.002%