

# Denny Skinner, District Governor, 2003-2004



Lend a Hand

## Here's the "SKINNY" on District 6000



### A Message from the Governor...

Dear Family of Rotary,

A new year is starting in Rotary's Service around the world. The last year of the first 100 years that Rotary has provided humanitarian and educational needs. It has been a century of service.

We embark on a new era that all of us can be proud of - Fulfilling Our Promise to Eradicate Polio. Rotarians across the globe and friends of Rotarians surpassed the \$80,000,000.00 goal. Through cash and pledges over \$88,500,000.00 was raised to fulfill our promise. Our District alone raised over \$730,000.000. The children of the world thank you.

This year, 2003-2004, we usher in an action theme of LEND A HAND. We will look at what Rotarians do, not what they talk about doing.

Four major emphases accompany this theme.

Family of Rotary  
Poverty Alleviation  
Health Concerns  
Literacy and Education

Consider these throughout this year in your projects, goals and objectives.

Whether you are reaching to those in your community or a community half way across the globe, personal involvement has always been fundamental to Rotarian service.

Our Past President, Bhichai Rattakul said, "I have been a Rotarian for 45 years, and I know that no one experiences the true magic of Rotary without personal involvement in service".

*Become personally involved* this year with "The Family of Rotary". Help create a committee of caring that will develop a whole new way of involving families. Become personally involved with a new international project. A project your club has not done in the past 3 years or has never done.

*Become personally involved* in the District Conference Celebration. I am personally inviting all of you. Encourage your new members and your leadership team to attend the 2004 District Conference.

*Continue your support* to the Foundation to reach our worldwide goal of "Every Rotarian Every Year" by 2005. When you see or hear of the "good" the Foundation has done these past 50 years, you will want to help. You can do this by increasing your giving to the Annual Fund to \$90.85.

*Support the formation* of a District office and a half time District Administrator to be better informed and to inform.

*All of us need to propose one new quality member.* Let's achieve a 3% net increase in new members District wide, add diversity to our ranks, start 2 new Interact or Rotaract clubs, and extend Rotary to 2 new communities.

We are 4,500 members strong (and growing). We can do this.

And so my friends, I challenge all of you. Once we dream of a world where all people live in dignity, where poverty and sickness is alleviated, and where illiteracy will no longer be a silent disaster, act on our theme. **LEND A HAND** and when you do, you will become personally involved in the magic of what is Rotary. Make a conscious effort to do it everyday. At the end of the day, in quiet reflection, let us ask what we've done, not what we've thought about doing. Think of it, 4500 Rotarians lending a hand every day for 365 days. That is 1,642,500 acts of reaching out. The world will be a better, safer, more peaceful place.

Kathy and I are looking forward to meeting all of you when we start our club visits in July. Driving through the countryside of Iowa and into your communities in the summer and fall, is a great benefit of this opportunity.



Lend a Hand

In Rotary's Service  
to Lend a Hand,

**Denny Skinner**  
Governor  
2003-2004

## District 6000 News...

# JULY IS LITERACY MONTH

By Carolyn Jons, Literacy Committee  
Chair

**Your Club Can Gain  
Visibility and Make a  
Difference . . .**

**Early Literacy, a  
Gateway to Success  
in School and Life**

Iowa Rotarians are gaining a reputation for promoting literacy. Rotary District 6000 supported Christie Vilsack's Stories 2000 program. We sponsored Baby Talk training for 24 Iowa professionals who work with young families. We created a packet of Tip Sheets and a web site to help local clubs with literacy initiatives. Many of our clubs have adopted a literacy project, such as reading to elementary-aged students or giving books to children. We are proud of these accomplishments, and this year we are proposing a way we can all work together to get significant results.

**Rotarians + Physicians +  
Parents = Early Literacy**

During 2003-04, District 6000 clubs are invited to "Lend a Hand" to this new literacy project. It is designed to reach all young parents and influence them to start nurturing their children's language and literacy skills in the critical early years. Rotarians will invite primary care physicians who serve families in their area to be partners. Rotarians will provide them with materials about early literacy and handouts to be given to parents. Rotarians may donate books for

physicians to give to babies and toddlers at check-ups. Rotarians and their families may also offer to read to young children in physicians' reception areas.

Physicians will screen for language and literacy development during children's regular check-ups, especially in the first 3 years. Physicians will tell parents how important it is to start talking and reading daily with their children from the time they are babies. They may reinforce this message by giving children books and promoting reading in their reception area. Parents, as their child's first teachers, will daily cuddle their babies while talking and reading aloud, so that babies link books with what they love most – their parents' voices and closeness.

The District 6000 Literacy Committee and Ames Morning Rotary Club will develop the following items and make these things available to clubs:

- Information about early literacy to be offered to physicians
- Sample handouts for parents
- Sources for purchasing good quality board books
- Training materials for a volunteer reader program

If you have questions, or if your club would like to schedule a program on early literacy, please contact Carolyn Jons by email at [ccjons@aol.com](mailto:ccjons@aol.com) or by phone at 515-292-9685. Members of the District Literacy Committee may be able to present at one of your meetings.

## Rotary at the State Fair

By John Lewis  
Iowa State Fair  
Committee Chair

With about a million Iowans visiting the Iowa State Fair, Rotary needs to have a presence there, and this August it will have one. DG Dennis Skinner has selected as a major objective that of sharing the Rotary story in such a setting. To help do that, Rotary will have a booth in the air-conditioned Varied Industries Building across from the Grandstand.

Operating in three-hour shifts of two person teams, Rotarians will staff the booth on all eleven days of the Fair, August 7-17, and will use that "window" to share information on Rotary projects, both in Iowa and throughout the world, and to welcome visitors in making contributions to important efforts such as Polio Plus. DG Denny said, "By devoting three hours to Rotary, there will still be plenty of time to visit the other parts of the Fair."

DG Denny has asked John Lewis of the Des Moines noon club to chair the planning committee and to assure the necessary arrangements for equipping the booth and also for scheduling Rotarians to be on hand to operate it for the full eleven days of the Fair. Several Rotarians have already volunteered to be on hand in the booth, and many of them have suggested they will invite their spouse to join them in that effort, which is certainly approved and encouraged.

Members who want to assist can contact John Lewis at 515-225-3487 or at [jmlinc@netins.net](mailto:jmlinc@netins.net)

## District 6000 News....

# Brisbane Rotary International Convention

**By Denny Skinner, District Governor**

Some 30 District 6000 Rotarians and their spouses, partners, and families converged in Brisbane, Australia for the 2003 Rotary International Convention on June 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup>. It was the first for some and one of many for others. The hospitality by the Aussies, the old and new friends you meet, the entertainment, and the Rotary information breakouts all made the experience a memorable one.

The highlight was the long awaited announcement if Rotarians met the challenge to raise \$80,000,000.00. A magnificent media presentation began with President Bhichai Rattakul and Foundation Chair Glenn Kinross reading the donations by PEFC Zones. Donations totaled \$34,000,000.00 before the North American Zone amount was given. With \$54,000,000.00 coming in from North America, we surpassed the goal by over \$8,000,000.00. The hall erupted with joy and cheer. I wish you all could have seen it.

District 6000 had their traditional Breakfast and fellowship. PDG Ken and Jo Noble brought the host family they were staying with. Most of us were close enough to make the 7AM start time, but a couple of very enthusiastic Rotarians from Iowa City were out at the Gold Coast and made it for the last 30 minutes. No fault of there own; traffic, pickup truck, farmer, and animal parts; I really didn't get it all straight so I will stop with that.

We are glad they showed up though. Everyone had a good time.

There are some pictures taken by many during the convention.



Here is just one of the group!

## District Simplified Grant

### District Simplified Grant

**By Corliss Klaassen, DSG, Chair**

The Trustees of The Rotary Foundation (TRF) restructured the Grant Program as of July 1, 2003 to three categories; matching grants, individual grants and District Simplified Grants (DSG).

The District Simplified Grants will allow districts to use a percentage of District Designated Funds (DDF) at their own discretion for international humanitarian projects that improves the lives of the economically disadvantaged and/or can be used in our own local communities in District 6000 for various humanitarian projects.

The clubs need to apply for District Simplified Grants between July 1, 2003 and March 31, 2004 for funds

to be used the following year. If your request is approved those funds would be available in July of 2004.

Contributions made by Club Members to The Rotary Foundation such as Paul Harris Sustaining members, goes into The Rotary Foundation Annual Fund. The funds are invested for three years and then fifty percent (50%) of the donations are returned to the District as District Designated Funds (DDF). The DDF supports such programs as the District Simplified Grants (DSG), Ambassadorial Scholars, Matching Grants, or an extra Group Study Exchange team.

All clubs will need to be thinking about what projects they want to apply for in the next fiscal year. Applications will need to be sent in before March 31, 2004 for the District Simplified Grant to be used the following fiscal year of 2004-2005.

For more information or grant applications log onto [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org) or [grants@rotaryintl.org](mailto:grants@rotaryintl.org).

*Your  
Monthly  
Newsletter*

**By Nancy Pacha, Newsletter Committee, Chair**

Communication is essential in order to assist clubs to perform at their peak. A resource to inform and to be informed about what we are doing to make all of our Rotary dreams a reality in District 6000 is the monthly newsletter.

To know what the District Governor has in mind for us, read Governor Denny's monthly communiqué. He will keep us updated and share his perspectives with us.

## District 6000 News...

Each month different district committee chairs will share what is happening in their committees. Find out what projects are in the works and how your club can benefit by them and become involved with district-wide activity.

Another monthly highlight will be articles by each club to show how its members are enriching the lives of others through their projects. Be ready to feature your club's pursuit of "Service Above Self" by telling the rest of us what you are doing. This is a chance to recognize your hard work and to share good ideas.

The newsletter will be posted on the District 6000 web site at [www.rotary6000.org](http://www.rotary6000.org) on the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. It is a great tool to let everyone know what is happening. It just needs to be read. So encourage your club members to read along with you and perhaps print a couple of hard copies to share at your club meetings for members who may not have on-line capability.

Let's educate ourselves and educate each other through active use of the monthly newsletter!

### ROTARY WORLD MOURNS DEATH OF ADE MAJIYAGBE

Ade Majiyagbe, wife of RI President-elect Jonathan Majiyagbe, died on 6 June 2003 in England, having suffered a stroke a few weeks earlier. Known and loved throughout the Rotary world for her warmth, good humor, and dedication to Rotary, Ade was very active in Inner Wheel in her homeland of Nigeria and served on the organization's international board of directors. An insurance claims adjuster by profession, she also sang in her church choir and enjoyed sewing and fashion design. She is also survived by her son, John. Ade Majiyagbe was a familiar presence with her husband at RI conventions, the International

Assembly, and other meetings. Leading the spouses' session at the 2003 International Assembly, she reinforced her husband's message of addressing the world's most pressing problems, saying: "As privileged people and spouses of Rotarians who are known for humanitarian services, we must team up to give back to society what society gave us. We must Lend a Hand in helping to clothe the naked; Lend a Hand in feeding the poor; Lend a Hand in healing the sick; Lend a Hand in caring for the aged and comforting the bereaved." "Together with her husband, Ade Majiyagbe served and represented Rotary with devotion and faith," said Gay Maloney, who served as her aide during the 2002-03 Rotary year. "Most of all, I witnessed her commitment to serve those less fortunate throughout the world. Because of her beautiful spirit and selfless nature, she inspired me and all others who had the privilege of knowing her."

The funeral will be held Friday, 13 June, at 11:30 am at St. Andrew's Church, Bathune Rd., Stoke Newington, London N16 England. Rotarians may send condolences to [President-elect Majiyagbe](#) in care of the President's Office at RI World Headquarters. Memorial contributions in honor of Ade Majiyagbe can be made to "Ade's Hope Fund for the Education of Women and Children," c/o The Rotary Foundation, P.O. Box 75133, Chicago, IL 60675-5133, USA.

## OTHER... "NEED TO KNOWS"

Here's some information regarding ZONE...at the 2004 Rotary International Convention, a Director is to be elected from the membership of clubs in Zone 27.

This Director will serve on the Board of Directors of Rotary International in 2005-2007.

If your clubs decides to submit the name of a qualified Rotarian for consideration by the nominating committee for Director in your Zone, the club MUST limit itself to submitting the information requested on the Official Suggestion Form.

***This suggestion form must be in the hands of the convener of the nominating committee no later than September 1, 2003.***

All presidents should have received this form at PETS. If you did not, please find one at [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org).

The 2003-2004 District 6000 Directories should be going out in the mail this week. Please look for it on-line at [www.rotary6000.org](http://www.rotary6000.org) also.



Lend a Hand