

DO YOU WEAR YOUR ROTARY PIN EVERY DAY?

By Arnold R. Grahl

Rotary International News -- 10 February 2010



Luanne Triolo was several weeks into a challenge to wear her Rotary pin for 60 days straight when she realized she had missed a day.

So the 2009-10 president of the Rotary Club of Carol Stream, Illinois, USA, started all over again to meet the challenge William Ferreira, governor of District 6440, had set before all his club presidents.

"You get used to it. It's something that is really good to do," says Triolo. "Different pins do catch people's eye in different ways."

Many Rotarians are serious about wearing their Rotary pins. Eugene Beil, past governor of District 6950 (Florida, USA) and a member of the Rotary Club of Hudson, tapped into that dedication recently when he started a discussion thread on [RI's official LinkedIn group](#), asking Rotarians whether they wear their pins every day or just for meetings. The discussion has prompted more than 190 comments.

"I am happy with the feedback," Beil says. "I feel strongly about the value of wearing the pin every day. Whether you are at the grocery store, at work, or anywhere, you never know when a stranger is going to notice and you have an opportunity to explain Rotary to them."

Tony Quinn, governor of District 1200 (England), notes on the LinkedIn thread that Rotarians agree to wear their pins at all times when they are inducted.

"Remember what Past RI President Bob Barth had to say," Quinn notes. "He said that a Rotary pin should say this about the wearer: 'You can rely on me, I am dependable, I am reliable, I give more than I take, and I am available.' I can't think of a better reason to wear it at all time."

Many shapes and sizes

Triolo says her favorite Rotary pin depicts several women with their arms raised in the air, with the Rotary emblem on the side, available through the vendor Russell-Hampton. She says she likes to look for new pins at presidents-elect training seminars, club officer trainings, and district conferences. "There are even magnetic ones for people who don't want to stick a pin through their clothing."

Claudiu Presecan, a member of the Rotary Club of Cluj-Napoca Cetatuie, Romania, notes that Rotary was forbidden in his country during the 50 years of communist rule. "It's a pin we can wear now in Romania too. I guess only when you are forced to stop wearing it you realize its true significance."

Daniel Romanchik, a member of the Rotary Club of Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA, says the LinkedIn discussion has convinced him to wear his pin more often. He is particularly drawn to RI theme pins.

Lisa Hunter, president of the Rotaract Club of Maidenhead, Berkshire, England, says she always wears her Rotaract pin with pride. "Like many others, I keep a variety of different pins in my bag so I always have the right one to suit the occasion," she says.



The Four Way Flasher

Rotary Club of MeadowRidge Newsletter

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February is World Understanding Month



INVOCATION

Feb. 16	Brett Paskar	Feb. 23	Ken Paterson
Mar. 2	David Rempel	March 9	David Riddell

TODAY'S PROGRAM: Jody Gordon - Rotary Scholarship Program

NEXT WEEK'S PROGRAM: Gene Vickers - Membership

CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT 5050 EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
March 9		New Members Meeting	
April 10	7:00 pm	Wine Festival	Rotunda – Thomas Haney S.S.
May 14-16		District 5050 Conference	Tulalip Resort Casino, USA
June 20-23		Rotary International Convention	Montreal

50 / 50 draw - Jackpot at \$581.50 + 1/2 of today's sales, 34 cards left, Jackpot on "Queen of Hearts" only!

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Guests - Cheryl Power (MKRF), Brian (friend of Jen's)

Marco announced

- Montreal Convention, 150 people from District 5050 attending. GSE – next going to Ireland.
- District conference, May 14-16 in Tulalip Casino.
- RYLA – Feb 27th deadline.
- Checkout the Peace Arch Journal – lot's of Shelterbox Coverage.
- Reminder to check out the Red Dot program.

Installation of new member – Terenzio Calzuolo – welcomed by all members.



Brian Hutchinson
– Firefighters without borders - spoke about training in El Salvador, Guatamala. Spoke about seeing Shelterbox tents in action after Hurricane Ida – came to receive his cheque we presented.



Brian Bekar – Rotary Foundation – Is a place where we can pool our money so as to make a bigger impact rather than individually or as a club. If a disaster strikes, the Foundation can step in. We all donate when we pay our dues. It is the largest private Foundation in the world.

David Riddell – Rotary Foundation – February is World Understanding Month – December is Foundation month. After Rotary was established in 1917 the first donation was \$26.50 US. To date \$2.1 billion has been donated. The first 15 years only raised \$5000. After the death of Paul Harris in 1947, contributions began pouring in to Rotary International and the Paul Harris Memorial Fund was created to build the Foundation.

In 2007-08 total contributions were 245.7 million – total awards were \$208 million.

- 2424 matching grants
- 227 volunteer service grants
- 56 Peace Fellows
- 673 Ambassadorial scholars
- 25 University Teachers
- 565 GSE Teams

If everyone of the 1.2 million Rotarians contributed just \$2 per weeks, in one year the Foundation could raise almost \$125 million.

David concluded his report by asking “Without the Foundation would we truly be Rotary International? Yes, I think so, because of the conventions, the worldwide network, the ability to do projects abroad, Shelterbox,

Rotoplast etc. But would we be as effective? Clearly not. No PolioPlus, no 3H grants, limited GSE opportunities. It's \$2.00 per week.”

Marco encouraged us all to look at different ways to donate.

Jennifer told us all that Brian brought back a lot of El Salvador coffee and will donate one today - \$15/bag – email her if interested.

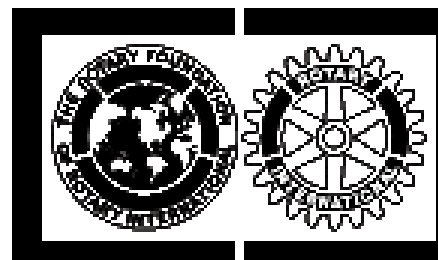
Brian Hutchinson won the 50/50. Drew for coffee – Marco.

Ineke announced 1800 Shelterboxes to Haiti – total now is 7000 on the ground.

Submitted by Terry Becker

CHANGE THE WORLD WITH US\$2 A WEEK AND HELP EXCEED THE FOUNDATION'S GOALS

Rotary International News -- 11 February 2010



Through the Annual Programs Fund, which is the primary source of funding for Rotary Foundation programs, Rotarians help make the world a better place.

For the 2008-09 Rotary year, approximately 313,000 Rotarians participated in the [Every Rotarian, Every Year](#) initiative, which funds the Annual Programs Fund. About 242,000 of those contributors are [Rotary Foundation Sustaining Members](#) contributing \$100 or more a year.

As of 1 July, the start of the Rotary year, to 31 December, about \$40.4 million has been raised toward the Foundation's \$96 million goal.

If every one of the 1.2 million Rotarians contributed just \$2 a week, in one year the Foundation could raise almost \$125 million.

That's money that goes back to Rotarians in the form of scholarships and grants for projects that bring hope and make a difference in the lives of countless people. Rotarians have used grant money to bring sight to those blinded by cataracts, bought wheelchairs for those who could not use their legs, gave clean water to those made sick by contaminated water, and opened up new worlds by helping people learn to read.

Be a part of changing the world and help The Rotary Foundation exceed its goals. [Contribute now](#) .