Rotary

District 6000 News

Rotary International, District 6000, Iowa USA

Loring Miller, Governor

– A Global Network of Community Volunteers –

Third Quarter (January-February-March 2016)

Be a gift to the world

Come, celebrate Rotary's contributions

By DG Loring Miller/Decatur County

I believe it is a mission of Rotary to provide humanitarian service to the world community and provide a forum through which we share diverse cultures. In the process, Rotary is truly a "gift to the world."

Each Rotarian through his or her involvement with Foundation projects and fulfilling community needs is a part of that process. They are contributing to world peace and understanding and they are also a "gift to the world" through membership.

Loring Miller
District Governor

We will celebrate contributions from this district in support of that Rotary mission, at the Rotary District 6000 Conference March 31 and April 1-2, at the Airport Holiday Inn in Des Moines.

You will witness great projects developed from clubs in this district. Take this opportunity to experience the benefits of Rotary beyond local boundaries. You can register for a single day or for full conference events by accessing the District 6000 website, www.rotary6000.org.

Your attendance promises to be a highlight of your Rotary year.

Thursday, March 31: A social reception with heavy appetizers and cash bar will be held from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. at the Botanical Gardens in Des Moines. This will be a great opportunity to meet friends and develop Rotary relationships. The Botanical Garden is a jewel of Iowa and a great environment in which to escape from the winter blues.

Friday, April 1: The conference will open with flag ceremonies honoring our disabled veterans and exchange students from around the world.

The opening plenary session will feature Rotary International President Ravi Ravindran's Representative Don Mebus. Don was elected to serve as a member of

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Ann Lee Hussey

Jennifer Jones

Clubfoot repair: Iowa's gift to the world

Dr. Ignacio Ponseti was a Spanish immigrant and orthopaedic doctor at the University of Iowa who developed a low-cost, non-surgical method of repairing clubfoot deformity. The Ponseti Method was initially discredited, but has more recently been embraced. Iowa Rotarians are leading the way to train doctors world-wide so that no child will live a life with clubfoot disability. In 2015, our efforts to create a Rotarian Action Group (RAG) to promote the Ponseti Method were successful. PDG John Ockenfels of District 6000 and PDG Jill Olsen of District 5970 are on the RAG4CLUBFOOT committee. PDG Olsen explains:

By PDG Jill Olsen/D-5970
RAG4clubfoot Committee

Clubfoot occurs in one in 750 live births in every country in the world. This translates to about 200,000 children born with the clubfoot disability worldwide. In the previous issue of *District 6000 News* you learned about the good work being done by Dr. Jose Morcuende and his colleagues at Ponseti International Association at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics. The article also briefed the members of District 5970 and District 6000 about the work of the Rotarian Action Group for Clubfoot (RAG4CLUBFOOT). This article will take you deeper into the importance and function of our RAG.

Dr. Ignacio Ponseti (1914-2009)

The RI Board of Directors decided to officially recognize RAG4CLUBFOOT during its meeting in October 2015. The RAG serves as the voice and the point of contact for all potential projects related to

CLUBFOOT/continued on p. 4

Be a gift to the world

District Conference at a glance

Thursday, March 31 - Saturday, April 2
Holiday Inn Des Moines
Airport Conference Center

District Governor Loring Miller
Rotary Club of Decatur County, Conference Chairs:
Peggy Geiger, Linda Chastain, Mary Ellen Stanley

THURSDAY, MARCH 31
5:30-8:00 p.m.: Social at the Botanical Gardens in Des Moines.

FRIDAY, APRIL 1
Morning Highlights
- Conference registration, 8 a.m.-noon.
- Welcome and Opening Ceremony, 10 a.m.
- Des Moines Mayor Cownie.
- RI President's Rep Don & Carolyn Mebus, Texas, USA.

Noon Highlights
- Rotary Youth Exchange Flag Presentation, 11:40 a.m.
- Keynote Speaker: Dr. Paino, "Generation Y".

Afternoon Highlights
- Panel on Ponseti Clubfoot Correction Method, 2:00 p.m.
- House of Friendship, 2:00-5:30 p.m.
- Rotary Fellowship Event/Wine Tasting, 4:00-5:30 p.m.

Evening Highlights
- Dinner: Keynote Speaker RI Representative Don Mebus, 6:00 p.m.
- Do You Know Who? in Hospitality Room A, 8:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 2
Morning Highlights
- Conference Registration, 7:00 a.m.-Noon.
- Conference Breakfast, 7:35-8:25 a.m.
- Peace Scholar Special Presentation, 8:30 a.m.
- Panel on Youth Programs, 9:00 a.m.
- Ping Pong Ball DROP, 10:25 a.m.
- Memorial Service, 10:45 a.m.
- Jefferson Highway Presentation, 11:10 a.m.

Noon Highlights
- Lunch. Keynote Speaker RI Director Jennifer Jones.

Afternoon Highlights
- Awards Presentations, Governor's and Presidential Citations, 2:00 p.m.
- Foundation Report, 3:10 p.m.
- Paul Hellwege Guardian of Integrity Awards, 3:30 p.m.

Evening Highlights
- Dinner, Keynote Speaker Polio Survivor Ann Lee Hussey, 6:00 p.m.
- Live Auction of Handmade Quilt, 7:15 p.m.
- Closing, "Let There Be Peace on Earth," 7:30 p.m.
- A Beatles Tribute by ZEF.

Be a 'Gift to Yourself': Attend District Conference

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the Rotary international Board of Directors for the term 2006-2008. He and Carolyn have just been selected to serve as aides to Rotary International President-Elect Ian and Juliet Riseley from Australia.

The luncheon speaker will be Dr. Troy Paino, president of Truman State University in Kirksville, Mo. Dr. Paino has written several books addressing how to find common ground between the "Baby Boomer Generation" and "Generation Y" to collectively provide service to the world community.

During the afternoon events, you will learn about great humanitarian projects currently active in this district, view the House of Friendship, and enjoy fellowship with wonderful Rotarians from throughout the district.

The day is rounded off with a wonderful dinner and cash bar in the ballroom and a message from Rotary International Representative Don Mebus, followed by fellowship in the hospitality room.

Cilia María Ruiz-Paz
Peace Scholar

Saturday, April 2: Saturday's eye-opening events start with a breakfast buffet in the courtyard of the hotel.

The second plenary session will focus on youth service and how we can introduce Rotary to the millennial generations. Peace scholar Cilia María Ruiz-Paz will address attendees via SKYPE. Lyell Henry, Jefferson Highway historian, will report research for his soon to be published book about the historic roadway.

The Ping-Pong Ball Drop promises to be a fun event to generate money, the proceeds of which will fund provider training for the Ponseti clubfoot repair method. Members from all over the district have purchased balls for $5 each. If your ball lands in the appropriate cup, you will win $1,000. A bonus of 1,000 Paul Harris Points will also be transferred to your account if you are registered for the conference. Second place will be awarded $500 and a 500-point bonus if registered. Third place is $250 and the possibility of a 250-point transfer.

Rotary International Director Jennifer Jones from Windsor, Ontario, Canada, will be the keynote speaker after lunch. Jennifer has been chosen to be the Rotary International Vice President during the 2016-2017 Rotary year. Her electrifying personality and delivery will ignite your Rotary Spirit.

During the afternoon we will celebrate the many great achievements of District 6000 clubs and Rotarians.

The evening will be topped off by a black tie optional plated dinner and live auction of a king-sized quilt handcrafted by Deb Ockenfels, with proceeds to support Iowa MOST. The speaker will be Ann Lee Hussey from Maine. Ann is a polio survivor and is often requested to speak on the subject worldwide. Her message is powerful and will make us all proud to be involved in the long-fought polio battle.

After dinner we will dance into the evening to music provided by the David McGahuey Band honoring the memory of the Beatles.

Be a "Gift to Yourself" by attending the 2016 Rotary District 6000 Conference April 1-2.

This quilt will be auctioned at District Conference, but you do not have to be in attendance to bid.

Quilt auction will raise funds for Iowa M.O.S.T.

The quilt sewn and donated for this year's District Conference in Des Moines will be auctioned on the evening of Saturday, April 2. This batik fabric quilt is 100" square, king-size, and features hibiscus blossoms in the main border. The money raised by the quilt will benefit Iowa MOST in their mission of repairing cleft lips and palates for children in Guatemala.

We're trying something new this year by making it possible for people who aren't able to attend conference to still be able to bid on the quilt. The details aren't worked out completely yet, but if you're interested in participating or would like additional photos, please email me at crabbyo@hotmail.com.

– Deb Ockenfels

Learn about projects, 'connect for good' at District Conference

The Rotary Club of Ames invites Rotarians to the District Conference to see their display about their successful water project in Tanzania. Their display will be one of many at the House of Friendship where Rotarian leaders can exchange ideas before they take action.

Provided by Mary Wells

District Training Assembly set

DGE Chris Knapp encourages Rotarians to mark our calendars to attend the District Training Assembly on Saturday, April 16, at the Newton DMACC campus. This training is especially for incoming club officers and board members. but is open to every Rotarian. Attendance is free but registration is requested at www.rotayr6000.org.

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RAG4CLUBFOOT is poised to move forward

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the provision of Ponseti Method training and treatment of clubfoot.

Support for the RAG depends on memberships. DGE Chris Knapp in District 6000 (southern Iowa) and DGE Jim Coloff in District 5970 (northern Iowa) have become charter members of RAG4CLUBFOOT, demonstrating their support of this Rotarian Action Group.

Their support, like yours, is critical to the success of our work. Currently you can purchase an annual membership for $25, or become a charter member for $100. Both are renewable annually for a cost of $25. The RAG needs funding in order to market, connect, and offer technical support to training teams as they create their project grant applications. To become a member, please go to our website: www.rag4clubfoot.org.

Three entities are frequently mentioned with regard to the RAG initiative. It is important to understand each of their functions as we move forward with this important work.

1) **RAG4CLUBFOOT**: The mission of this RAG is to support activities to assure timely treatment and appropriate care for children born with clubfoot deformity worldwide. This RAG was created and approved by Rotary International to provide assistance and support to Rotary clubs, districts, and multi-districts in planning and implementing programs for training doctors in the Ponseti method of treating children diagnosed with clubfoot. The RAG functions to recruit and identify partners to provide these training opportunities. Currently there are six Rotary districts involved as partners in the RAG4CLUBFOOT. They are Districts 6000 and 5970 (Iowa); 5240 (California); 5950 (Minnesota); 5020 (Canada); and 9640 (Australia). Districts around the world can initiate grants for braces as needed or required.

2) **Ponseti International Association (PIA)** will identify the doctors and trainers who will travel to other countries to teach local physicians how to use the Ponseti method. The Ponseti method employs non-surgical techniques and is the recognized standard for correcting clubfoot. Developed by Dr. Ignacio V. Ponseti of the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, this treatment is especially useful in treating children in countries where access to hospitals is difficult or impossible. Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) are already in place between the RAG4CLUBFOOT and PIA articulating that PIA will provide the training expertise in all our outreach activities.

District 6000 DGN Mike Ruby of Muscatine and District 5970 DGE Jim Coloff of Cedar Falls in District 5970 will provide future leadership for clubfoot repair. Photos by Bill Tubbs

PDG Jill Olsen of Marion in District 5970 and John Ockenfels of Iowa City AM in District 6000 will the RAG4clubfoot.

3) **Vocational Training Teams** are currently the best vehicle to deliver the training. Teams can be funded by Rotary district grants and global grants. Our Vocational Training Teams involve a group of professionals affiliated with PIA along with other Rotarians and non-Rotarians. Currently, there are two VTTs with Iowa "hosts" being proposed: Cedar Valley Club in D-5970 is identified as the host international club of a VTT Ponseti Method training in Mexico, and D-6000 is identified as the host international district of a VTT Ponseti Method training in Brazil.

The two graphics (see insert) further explain the functions of the RAG4CLUBFOOT. The first depicts the clearinghouse function of the RAG (e.g., promoting contact between Ponseti Method providers and clubs/district; assistance with writing Ponseti Method training grants, identification of qualified trainers and Ponseti Method providers, etc.). The second graphic shows the three responsibilities of our RAG: 1) Awareness and advocacy; 2) Global clearinghouse for clubfoot projects; and 3) Leadership.

RAG4CLUBFOOT is poised to move forward. PDG John Ockenfels (6000) and PDG Jill Olsen (5970) have accepted the invitation from PDG Herb Wilson with the approval of the Board to lead our RAG. We both are committed to stay the course to make the RAG4CLUBFOOT a world force in promoting the treatment of clubfoot. Our team, together with your commitment, will truly make us Iowa's gift to the children of the world.

For more information visit www.rag4clubfoot.org. You can also fill out the Contact Us page on the website or you can directly email us at info@rag4clubfoot.org.

To schedule a speaker for your club, please contact Tomeka Petersen at info@rag4clubfoot.org.

Rotary | RAG4CLUBFOOT

Presenting certificates to Herb and Janice Wilson were TRF Trustee Paul Netzel and RI President-Elect John Germ.

Herb Wilson, accompanied by Janice, addressed Rotary International leaders at RI Headquarters in Evanston.

A celebration of The Rotary Foundation

By PDG Bill Tubbs/North Scott

March 8 was a day for District 6000 Rotarians to celebrate the longtime, significant support of The Rotary Foundation by PDG Herb Wilson, his wife, Janice, and family. That was the day the Wilsons were formally inducted into the Arch Klumph Society at Rotary International headquarters in Evanston, Ill.

The Arch Klumph Society recognizes donors of $250,000 and more. Four families of the Wilsons were so honored: Herb and Janice, Charles and Phyllis, Steve Wilson and Mirja Lepisto-Wilson, and Amy and David Nicholson.

Addressing world leaders of Rotary in a short acceptance speech, Herb Wilson said, "We don't give money away. We invest where it can to do the most good." He praised the strength and credibility of The Rotary Foundation and lifted up three programs: Polio, Peace and Ponseti.

"Thirteen million children haven't had polio because of Rotary," Wilson said. Peace, he added, is Rotary's second great legacy through the Peace Centers. Lastly, he lifted up the Ponseti clubfoot repair project that originated in Iowa and of which Wilson himself has become a leading advocate. "We're going to train 4,000 doctors around the world ... This (ceremony) is frosting on the cake. That (RAG4clubfoot and service) is what it's all about," he said.

Son Charles "Chas" Wilson, speaking on behalf of Herb and Janice's children, quoted the Gospel of Luke: "To whom much is given, much is required." He said he was inspired by his parents and praised Rotary for its "boots on the ground" to fulfill its promises.

The Wilsons (l-r): Chas, Amy Nicholson, Herb and Janice, Steve Wilson and Mirja Lepisto-Wilson.
Photos by Bill Tubbs

Iowa Rotarians on hand to celebrate with the Wilsons included PDG John and Deb Ockenfels, PDG Don and Doris Goering, DGN Mike and JoAnne Ruby, DGE Chris and Vernette Knapp, PDG Gary and Nancy Pacha, DG Loring and Phyllis Miller, PDG Jacque Andrew, PDG Bill Tubbs, and PDG Jill Olsen (D5970). (Nancy Pacha and Jill Olsen are behind others in the picture.)

DGE Chris Knapp (r) with Rotary Foundation Trustee Bryn Styles of Barrie, Ontario, Canada. Photos by Bill Tubbs

RI Zone 28-29 Director Jennifer Jones of Windsor, Ontario, Canada (c), was hosted by DGN Mike Ruby and Jo Anne.

NC PETS a success!

Nearly 350 incoming club presidents and leaders from Districts 5950, 5960, 5970 and 6000 in Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin came together for North Central Presidents-Elect Training March 11-12 in Rochester, Minn. It was the biggest NCPETS attendance ever!

District 6000 incoming assistant governors received training on Thursday and were joined Thursday evening through Saturday by incoming presidents.

The District 6000 sessions on Friday and Saturday were led by DGE Chris Knapp and district trainer John Schultz, with training by DG Loring Miller, DGN Mike Ruby, PDG Jacque Andrew, PE Peggy Geiger, PDG Terry Geiger, PDG John Ockenfels and PDG Bill Tubbs. The annual business meeting convened by DG Loring Miller, during which Tom Narak of the Rotary Club of West Des Moines was elected District Governor Designee for 2018-19, and PEs approved the district budget of $136,275 for 2016-17 with dues remaining at $30.

Presidents-elect were grouped with PEs from all districts by club size in sessions on The Rotary Foundation, public image and membership. Facilitators from District 6000 were DG Loring Miller, PDG John Ockenfels and DGN Mike Ruby.

Keynote speakers for plenaries were RI Director Jennifer Jones of Windsor, Ontario, Canada, Rotary Foundation Trustee Bryn Styles of Barrie, Ontario, Canada, and Past RI Director John Smarge of Naples, Fla.

PDG Jacque Andrew of District 6000 was vice chair of NCPETS. DGE Chris Knapp of Iowa City AM was a board member, and DGN Mike Ruby of Muscatine was an ex-officio board member. DG Miller was the announcer at plenaries, DGN Ruby shared a "Rotary Moment," and PDG Bill Tubbs was the official photographer.

A one-hour webinar was offered on Feb. 2 for incoming club presidents to receive a brief overview of their responsibilities prior to attending NC PETS.

Presidents-Elect of 48 District 6000 clubs were registered for the training. Congratulations to the PEs of 29 clubs who were present for all sessions, including Saturday's District 6000 wrap-up: Decatur County, Coralville-North Corridor, Iowa City, Iowa City AM, Iowa City Downtown, Ames Morning, Nevada, Perry, Fairfield, Washington, Kalona, Wellman, Jefferson, Clinton, West Liberty, Davenport, Grinnell, Marshalltown, Newton, Dallas Center, Waukee, Des Moines, Des Moines AM, Indianola, Northwest Des Moines, West Des Moines, Bloomfield, Atlantic and Creston.

John Smarge of Naples, Fla., who is past chair of the RI Executive Committee, addressed PEs on, "What You Won't Learn In Breakout Sessions!"

General Chair of NCPETS was Chuck Berg of Minnesota. Team members included District 5970 PDG Jill Olsen (l) of Marion, Iowa, and District 6000 PDG Jacque Andrew of Jefferson. Jacque will be general chair of NCPETS on March 9-11, 2017, at Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa.

DGE Chris Knapp and Vernette met the District 6000 class of club presidents for 2016-17 at North Central Presidents-Elect Training (P.E.T.S.), March 11-12 at Rochester, Minn. The incoming club presidents are pictured. Can you find your club's president-elect? Photo by Bill Tubbs

District 6000 club presidents for 2016-17

DISTRICT 6000
2016-17 Club Presidents:

Adel ..... Van VanBuren
Albia..... Janis Aldridge
Ames ..... Austin Woodin
Ames Morning ..... Robert Anderson
Ankeny..... Carmen Davis
Atlantic..... Kate Olson
Bettendorf..... Jonna Schuler
Bloomfield..... Karoleen Hammel
Boone ..... Troy Thompson
Burlington ..... David Miller
Carroll ..... Dennis Molitor
Centerville..... Brian Hargrave
Chariton ..... Kristen Milledge
Clinton ..... James Bruhn
Coon Rapids..... Jon Heydon
Coralville-North Corridor..... Shane Hendricks
Corning..... Denny Villhauer
Corydon..... Jenna Lain
Creston..... Byron Day
Dallas Center..... Sue Brenton
Davenport..... Brian Wright
Decatur County..... Peggy Geiger
Des Moines..... David Busiek
Des Moines AM ..... Christine Korte
East Polk County..... Darrell Hanson
Fairfield..... Adam Plagge
Fort Madison..... Matt Lafrenz
Greater Des Moines ..... Rob Oxenford
Grinnell ..... Dennis Reilly
Indianola ..... Laura Drees
Iowa City..... Usha Balakrishnan
Iowa City AM..... Deb Dunkhase
Iowa City Downtown ..... Kimberly Schillig
Iowa Quad Cities ..... Lisa Arndt
Jefferson..... David Jaskey
Johnston..... David Campbell
Kalona ..... Mitch Swartzentruber
Keokuk..... Katherine Gabel
Keosauqua ..... Kara McEntee
Knoxville ..... Maureen Miller
Lenox..... David Walter
Manning..... John O'Brien
Marengo ..... Patrick Fleming
Marshalltown ..... William Fitzgerald
Mount Pleasant Noon ..... Holly Jones
Mount Pleasant..... Sara Leblanc
Muscatine ..... Judi Holdorfl
Nevada ..... Jack O'Leary
Newton ..... Gerald Sawin
North Scott..... Jeff Helms
Northwest Des Moines ... Brenda Auxier-Mailey
Osceola ..... Steve Gilbert
Oskaloosa..... Amy Meyer
Ottumwa ..... Stephen Banyas
Pella..... Bob Zylstra
Perry ..... Kevin Vidergar
Tipton..... Brad Goetz
Washington..... Cheryl Kurtz
Waukee ..... Matt Olson
Wellman..... Chuck Miller
West Des Moines ..... Amy Fetters
West Liberty..... Marian Hart
West Polk ..... Mark Watson
Winterset ..... Heather Riley

Assistant Governor team training held at Rochester

Assistant District Governor Training on March 10 at Rochester, Minn., (the day before P.E.T.S.), was attended by, front (l-r): Alka Khanolkar (Keokuk), AG team leader PDG Susan Herrick (Boone), DGE Chris Knapp (Iowa City AM), Mary Ellen Stanley (Decatur County), and Linda Chastain (Decatur County). Row 2: Bob Maurer (Pella), Erna Morain (Waukee), Libby Goodman (Clinton), Bonnie Lowry (Marshalltown), Peggy Doerge (Iowa City AM), and Bob Freeman (Wellman). Row 3: Tom Downs (East Polk), Chris Nelson (West Des Moines), Bill Reece (Ottumwa), Steve Dakin (Boone), and Gary Loss (Davenport). Photo by Jacque Andrew

53 spend spring break in Xicotepec, Mexico

International Service: 14 years and counting!

By Jim Peterson/Iowa City AM
Xicotepec Project Chair

The 53 members of the 2016 Xicotepec Project Team filled out paperwork, renewed passports, met with one another and corresponded with Rotarians and others in Xicotepec, Mexico, all in preparation for the March 12-20 trip to Xicotepec, a city of about 40,000 located about three hours northeast of Mexico City in the Northern Sierra of the Mexican state of Puebla.

2016 was the 14th consecutive year in which a D6000 Project Team has gone to Xicotepec to assist the Rotary Club of Xicotepec in carrying out community service projects there. As in past years, many of the projects have education and/or health care as their focus.

Some of the projects that participants worked on this year were:

• Installing water purification systems in two large rural primary schools;

• Helping with construction of a dining area for students at a primary school;

• Improving a playground area and installing equipment and games at a special needs school;

• Deworming children in numerous preschools and primary schools (by U of I pharmacy students);

• Providing and installing a cistern at a rural preschool;

• Installing playground equipment for children at a non-profit that assists women and children with cancer;

• Painting and improving a covered outdoor multi-use area at a rural school;

• Continuing and expanding a dental hygiene program for school children (by U of I dental students);

• Improvements at a secondary school library in the village of Mecatlán.

The makeup of the project team in 2016 was: 28 University of Iowa students and faculty, eight Interactors, 11 Rotarians, four family members of Rotarians, and two others. Including the 2016 team, more than 900 project team members will have participated in the Xicotepec Project since the first team went to Xicotepec in 2003.

Xicotepec Rotarians have also been busy in the last few weeks. Some of the preparations included:

• Chartering buses and vans to transport the team to and from Mexico City and around the Xicotepec area during the week;

• Reserving the Centro Cruz Azul, the facility where all youth participants are lodged and where all members of the project team eat three meals each day;

• Hiring a kitchen and cleaning staff to cook meals for the project team and take care of daily cleaning at the Centro Cruz Azul;

• Purchasing materials for projects and beginning work on some projects so that they can be finished during the week that Iowa visitors are in Xicotepec;

• Notifying schools, obtaining permission to deworm, obtaining lists of students from each school and putting together a week-long deworming schedule;

• Collecting a list of shoe sizes for about 50 children at an orphanage who will receive new shoes, purchased by Nancy and Jeff Stroburg of Virginia, and presented by the project team;

• Making plans to lodge Iowa Rotarians and family members in the homes of Xicotepec Rotarians.

Much of the intensive preparation undertaken by Xicotepec Rotarians (and also their wives, members of Inner Wheel, Rotaractors, Interactors, Futuractors) and their families is to ensure that their guests from Iowa will feel both welcome and comfortable during their stay.

If you are interested in finding out more about the Xicotepec Project or how to contribute to the project, please visit xicoproject.org.

Xicotepec Team Members

Students

1. Katherine Agey, F, Career Leadership Academy Certificate,Iowa City, Iowa.
2. Patrick Brambert, M, Dentistry, Iowa City, Iowa.
3. Sophia Chen, F, Dentistry, Iowa City, Iowa,
4. Patrick Clancy, M, Dentistry, Iowa City, Iowa.
5, Courtney Converse, F, Pharmacy, Iowa City, Iowa.
6, Carolyn Duong, F, Dentistry, Coralville,Iowa.
7, Yessica Escutia Ponce De Leon, F, Dentistry, Coralville, Iowa.
8, Jennifer Feingold, F, Dentistry, Iowa City, Iowa.
9. Charlotte Holland, F, Career Leadership Academy Certificate, Iowa City, Iowa.
10. Gina Johnson, F, Career Leadership Academy Certificate, Iowa City, Iowa.
11. Lacy Laughton, F, Career Leadership Academy Certificate, Iowa City, Iowa.
12. Jacob Levy, M, Liberal Arts and Sciences, Iowa City, Iowa.
13. Sean Mcgivern, M, Dentistry, Iowa City, Iowa.
14. Emra Mustedanagic, F, Career Leadership Academy Certificate, Iowa City, Iowa.
15. Isabella Newcomer, F, Dentistry, Iowa City, Iowa.
16. Hoang Nguyen, F, Pharmacy, Iowa City, Iowa.
17. Kristen Peterson, F, Pharmacy, Coralville,Iowa.
18. Lydia Rodriguez, F, Dentistry, Coralville, Iowa.
19. Kierra Rogers, F, Career Leadership Academy Certificate, Iowa City, Iowa.
20. Katherine Rotz, F, Career Leadership Academy Certificate, Downers Grove, Illinois.
21. Ryan Rucker, M, Dentistry, Coralville,Iowa.
22. Holly Steger, F, Dentistry, Iowa City, Iowa.
23. Madelin Swenson, F, Dentistry, Iowa City, Iowa.
24. Alyssa Vosecky, F, Pharmacy, Coralville, Iowa.

University of Iowa Professors:

25. Loyce Arthur, F, Liberal Arts and Sciences, Coralville, Iowa.
26. Chris Catney, F, Pharmacy, Iowa City, Iowa.
27. Steven, Levy, M, Dentistry, Iowa City, Iowa.
28. Stacy Narcotta-Welp, F, U of I Faculty, Career Leadership Academy, Iowa City, Iowa.

Rotarians

29. Thomas Narak, M, Rotarian, West Des Moines, Iowa.
30. Jim Peterson, M, Rotarian, Iowa City, Iowa.
31. Mike O'Leary, M, Rotarian, Riverside, Iowa.
32. Bradley Baldes, M, Rotarian, Coralville, Iowa.
33. Janice Baldes, F, Rotarian, Coralville, Iowa.
34. Thomas George, M, Rotarian, Windsor Heights, Iowa.
35. Keith Hobson, M, Rotarian, Nevada, Iowa.
36. Bob Main, M, Rotarian, Newton, Iowa.
37. Thomas Mott, M, Rotarian, Newton, Iowa.
38. Phil Peterson, M, Rotarian, Iowa City, Iowa.
39. Nancy Stroburg, F, Rotarian, Midlothian, Virginia.

Interactors

40. Kasey Baller, F, Interactor, North Liberty, Iowa.
41. Kelsey Baller, F, Interactor, North Liberty, Iowa.
42. Autumn Moen, F, Interactor, Iowa City, Iowa.
43. Max Otoadese, M, Interactor, Iowa City, Iowa.
44. Claire Rutherford, F, Interactor, Iowa City, Iowa.
45. Kenna Short, F, Interactor, North Liberty, Iowa.
46. Addy Smith, F, Interactor, Iowa City, Iowa.
47. Isabelle Teduits, F, Interactor, Iowa City, Iowa.

Families of Rotarians

48. Rylie Baldes, F, child of Brad Baldes, Iowa City Noon, Coralville, .
49. Carson Baldes, M, child of Brad Baldes, Iowa City Noon, Coralville, Iowa.
50. Thomas Narak, M, son of Tom Narak, West Des Moines, Kent, Washington.
51. Carol Narak, F, wife of Tom Narak, West Des Moines, West Des Moines, Iowa.

Others

52. Trisha Hinke, F, Des Moines University, studying to be a P. A., Des Moines, Iowa.
53. Ann Schwemm, F, Pharmacy, University of Washington, Seattle.

Jody Braverman of Iowa City (c) is pictured with RLI training leaders on St. Thomas, VI (l-r): Delma Madura of Tortola, BVI, Randy Rawiszer (RLI Sunshine Division Chair) of Deltona, Fla., Jody Braverman, Anthony Clarke of Tortola, BVI, and Randy Lewis (RLI District 7020 Chair) of Tortola, BVI.

Iowa City Rotarian finds RLI training while vacationing

By Jody Braverman/Iowa City

While vacationing in January on St. Thomas, VI, I attended a Rotary make-up meeting at the Rotary Club of St. Thomas Sunrise and learned of the scheduled training program of Rotary Leadership Institute, Sunrise Division.

I attended RLI Part I in Iowa last October but could not attend Parts II and III in Iowa City in February because I was returning on that date from Rotary's National Immunization Day (NID - polio immunization program) in India.

The RLI training took place on Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 16-17, at the Montessori School and Peter Gruber International Academy, St. Thomas, VI, which was a 10-minute walk from Secret Harbor Resort where I was staying. Others in attendance included members from the five Rotary clubs in St. Thomas, St. Juan, and St. Croix, plus a member of E-Club of the Caribbean, a Rotaractor, and a member of Inner Wheel.

Xicotepec 2016 project team members at a pre-trip meeting conducted by Rotarians Tom Narak (West Des Moines) and Jim Peterson (Iowa City AM). Provided by Jim Peterson

Rotarians received Rotary Leadership Institute training Dec. 10-14 on a Caribbean cruise. Graduates of RLI are denoted with an asterik. Back: D5650 *Marv and *Kim Konz. District 6000 couples (l-r): *Todd and Joyce Wheeler (Des Moines), *PDG Terry and *Peggy Geiger, *PDG John and *Deb Ockenfels, *John and *Rebekah Schultz, *DGE Chris and *Vernette Knapp, *DG Loring and *Phyllis Miller, and DGN *Mike and Jo Anne Ruby.

Rotarians 'cruise' through leadership training

By Peggy Geiger/Decatur County

Embarking on the Royal Caribbean Cruise Ship Independence of the Seas out of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., Dec. 10-14 for an RLI (Rotary Leadership Institute) training was not only a learning experience for attendees, but a whole LOT OF ROTARY FUN.

Rotarians from the Homeland RLI Division (D5650 and D6000) attended the RLI Conference sponsored by the Sunshine Division. The training sessions, entertainment, and fellowship were among the activities to be enjoyed by all while CRUISIN to Cozumel, Mexico.

Future Dates for RLI sessions in the Heartland are: April 23 (D5650, Omaha Dundee Presbyterian Church); June 11 (District 6000); July 9 (District 5650); Sept. 3 (District 6000); and Oct. 15 (District 5650).

$80,300 raised since 2009

Rotarians put their 'Energy' into raising funds for PolioPlus

By Ed Arnold/Northwest Des Moines

Since 2009, Des Moines area Rotary clubs have partnered with the Iowa Energy D-League basketball team to raise local funds for Rotary's polio eradication effort.

The 2016 game on Saturday, Feb. 6 against the Canton Charge featured NBA quality halftime entertainment by the Russian Bar Trio – an incredible balancing act! Audible gasps were heard during the show as the woman gymnast did triple flips and twists from a flexible bar, with no safety net below. Unbelievable!

The game was very exciting for three quarters as the Energy built a lead before going ice cold, eventually losing the game in the final minutes.

For polio eradication efforts, this was the best year yet. The 1,430 tickets sold by Rotarians, plus the 50/50 raffle and contributions at the game, resulted in over $12,800 raised.

So, after eight years, the Des Moines area Rotary clubs have raised $80,300, enough to immunize approximately 140,000 children. Participating clubs this year included: Ankeny, Ankeny Evening, Boone, Decatur County, Des Moines AM, Des Moines, East Polk, Greater Des Moines, Johnston, Northwest, Perry, Waukee, West Des Moines and West Polk County.

Three years ago the Waukee club purchased a traveling trophy named the Arnold Cup, which is awarded to the Rotary club selling the most tickets per member. The West Polk Club, selling nearly 16 tickets per member, won the trophy for the third consecutive year. More information about the Polio Eradication efforts can be found on the website; www.polioeradication.org.

The 2016 PolioPlus Iowa Energy Committee with a $12,800 check for polio eradication (l-r): Steve Quirk (Des Moines AM), Kyle Davy (Iowa Energy), Ed Arnold (Northwest Des Moines), John Burgus (West Des Moines), Devon Boyer (Waukee), and Tom Downs (East Polk). Not pictured: Vernette Riley (Perry), Sherri Pike (Des Moines), Luke Vogel (West Polk), Tyler Phelps (Greater Des Moines), Bill Levay (Johnston), and Mike Wunn (Johnston).

Northwest Des Moines Rotarian Doyle Sanders and Maggie with the contribution buckets and raffle tickets.

Waukee Rotarians raised $2,240 for PolioPlus by selling 98 tickets and receiving $1,455 in cash contributions.

NID: A 'life-changing experience'

Keokuk Rotarians administer 'drops of life' in India

By Lori Conn/Keokuk

This past Feb. 12-22, I, along with fellow Keokuk Rotarian Alka Khanolkar, took part in India's National Immunizations Days (NID). This was my first experience of a Rotary International event beyond my club and district events. I was told beforehand that this experience would change my life forever.

This prediction could not have truer!

Alka and I were part of a group traveling with Howard Tours, a travel company owned by RI Director Brad Howard. This was Howard Tours' 28th India NID, and their experience was very evident. It was chock full of shopping trips, tourist stops, Rotary meetings, Rotary projects, and of course, immunizations. It seemed we had just met a group of strangers in the hotel lobby and the next day we were saying good-bye to our new best friends. I still cannot believe how fast those 10 days went by.

Our travels included the cities of Delhi, Agra, and Jaipur, with many stops in between. Our immunization activities took place in the city of Mehwat, approximately a 1-hour drive from our hotel in New Delhi. We attended Rotary club meetings in each of these cities, including three different meetings in Delhi. The Rotarians I met are simply amazing.

The trip was not free of anxieties, however. Originally scheduled to go into a mostly Hindu community to do immunizations, we were informed the day prior that we had been asked to instead go into in the city of Mehwat, in the state of Haryana, a city with a growing Muslim population.

The first morning of the NID, we split into teams of four. Alka and I were paired with husband and wife Rotarians from Innisfail, AB, Canada. We traveled by cab to the outskirts of Mehwat, where local medical officials had a small building set up for parents to bring their children to be immunized. As we got close to Mehwat, we passed through several large groups, mostly men, who were out in the intersections. They seemed to be agitated and we could sense the tension.

Keokuk Rotarians Lori Conn (in hat, on left) and Alka Khanolkar (in hat, on right) participated in polio National Immunization Days in India in February.

POLIO/continued on next page

Polio: D6000 Rotarian who have gone

In the last issue we asked if names were missing from the list of D6000 Rotarians who have paricipated in polio NIDs. Names have been added. If there are others, contact PDG Susan Herrick: s.herrick@mchsi.com .Thanks, all!

Adel
WIlma Mitchell, Nigeria, 2011

Ankeny
Gary Welch, Nigeria, 2008
Pat Timmons, India, 2011

Boone
Kris Phillips, India, 2004
Kris Phillips, Niger, 2005
Susan Herrick, Niger, 2006

Burlington
Renee Ianarelli, India, 2002

Chariton
Corliss Klaassen, India, 2004
Jeanne Klaassen, India, 2004
Corliss Klaassen, Nigeria, 2007
Jeanne Klaassen, Nigeria, 2007

Davenport
Dudley Hansen, India, 2000
Becky Eiting, India, 2000
Dan Foley, India, 2000, 2002
Bill Ashton, India, 2000
Bill Ashton, India, 2006
Maggie Delaney, Nigeria, 2010
Brock Earnhardt, Nigeria, 2010

Decatur County
Jack DePond, India, 2000
Loring Miller, India, 2000
Phyllis Miller, India, 2000
Loring Miller, Nigeria, 2007
Terry Geiger, Nigeria, 2010

Grinnell
Joann Becker, Benin, 2009

Indianola
Jennifer Pfeifer-Malaney, Nigeria, 2008

Iowa City
Ray Muston, India, 2000
Gary Pacha, India, 2000
Herb Wilson, India, 2002
Janice Wilson, India, 2002

Iowa City AM
Nancy Pacha, India, 2000
John Ockenfels, India, 2002
Pat Schnack, India, 2010

Jefferson
Henry Alliger, India, 2000
Anne Schwarzkopf, India, 2000
Jacque Andrew, India, 2013

Keokuk
Tony Conn, India, 2012
Lori Conn, India, 2016
Alla Khanolkar, India, 2016

Newton (now Rockford, Ill)
Jim Nelson, Nigeria, 2008

North Scott
Bill Tubbs, Nigeria, 2007
Bill Tubbs, India, 2012
John Maxwell, India, 2013

Northwest Des Moines
Diana Reed, Nigeria, 2007

Osceola
Julia Jenkins, Nigeria, 2008

Washington
Don Patterson, Nigeria, 2010

Wellman
Roger Borup, India, 2002
Roger Borup, Nigeria, 2007

West Liberty
Jo Noble, Mexico, 1991
Ken Noble, Mexico, 1991
Jo Noble, Philippines, 1993
Ken Noble, Philippines, 1993
Jo Noble, Mexico, 1994
Ken Noble, Mexico, 1994
Ken Noble, India, 1998

Extraordinary dedication to eradicate polio

POLIO/continued

When we arrived at our assigned location, we were greeted by curious villagers, some who had never seen a westerner before. Some children were frightened while others had smiles so big it immediately became evident how much it meant to them that we were there. They had an abundant amount of questions for us. One girl asked me if I slept in a bed. We sang songs then ended up in the middle of the street teaching them the Hokie Pokie!

Alka was the first to administer these precious drops to a baby around 5-months old. I immediately teared up. These children have so many needs, it's overwhelming to think we had just played a part in keeping this child from a crippling disease. Throughout the day, parents continued to bring their children, and each of us had opportunities to share this experience.

As the day progressed, we could sense that the situation was changing and tension was building. The clinic staff warned us to not go outside alone. At the end of the day, we got into our waiting taxi to return to Delhi. On the way out of town we observed that the earlier large groups of men had grown into one large mass. It was evident they were angry about something. We wondered if it was an anti-vaccine or anti- American demonstration. Our cab driver knew enough to quickly exit the area and got us back to the safety of the hotel. It was not till we tuned in the news that we learned that the demonstration was aimed at the government, and was over government jobs. Unfortunately, the demonstration turned into a riot, as buildings were set afire and groups turned on each other.

'I immediately teared up. These children have so many needs, it's overwhelming to think we had just played a part in keeping this child from a crippling disease ... I am honored to have had the chance to get to know what I now call my India family and the honor to have personally participated in Rotary's No. 1 priority.'

– Lori Conn, Keokuk

Twelve people were killed that afternoon and nearly 200 injured.

Concerned for our own safety, many of our group spent much of that night watching news reports, as we were scheduled to return to that same area the next day for door-to-door visits. Overnight, 2,000 federal troops were deployed and government officials met with leaders from the community. An agreement was reached, and just as quickly as the situation flared up, everything was back to normal. Such is life in India. The next morning 40 sleepy-eyed Rotarians boarded into their taxis and headed back to Mehwat to finish the job.

During my trip to India, I met some extraordinary people. I am honored to have had the chance to get to know what I now call my India family and the honor to have personally participated in Rotary's No. 1 priority. My only regret is that I had not done this earlier in my life. I am already looking forward to my next Rotary trip!

World Polio Day ...

The Iowa City area Rotary clubs hosted a viewing of the livestream World Polio Day event on Friday night, Oct. 23 at the Mercy Medical Plaza. Despite sparse attendance late on a Friday afternoon, Rotarians from the Rotary Club of Iowa City and Iowa City AM Rotary gathered with non-members to eat healthful snacks and watch the live video from New York City. Celebrity presenters included actresses Mia Farrow, Kristin Bell, Archie Panjabi, Shira Lazar, model Heidi Klum, Grammy-winning singer Angelique Kidjo, Rotary General Secretary John Hewko, professional wrestler John Cena and World Health Organization officials. We learned the latest news in our combined efforts to rid the world of this debilitating and sometimes fatal disease. Thank you to Margaret Reese of the Rotary Club of Iowa City for coordinating this event.

Provided by Jody Braverman

Funds released for polio eradication; case counts fall in endemic countries

On March 7, Rotary announced that it has released $35 million in new grants to support the global effort to eradicate polio. The funds will build on last year's historic achievement of stopping transmission of the wild poliovirus in Nigeria and all of Africa. Just two countries reported wild polio cases in 2015: Afghanistan and Pakistan. Rotary's funds will go toward efforts to end the disease in those countries and seven others.

* * *

The United States Congress approved a total of $228 million for the 2016 federal budget to support the global effort to eradicate polio. The funding represents a $10-million increase over the level of funding approved in fiscal year 2015. Rotary's Polio Eradication Advocacy Task Force for the United States leads our efforts to inform the U.S. government and other funding sources of the urgency and benefits of supporting the Global Polio Eradication Initiative.

* * *

As of March 16, the World Health Organization had reported six cases of polio thus far in 2016; five in Pakistan and one in Afghanistan. Those are the only two remaining endemic countries. The count is down from 17 on the same date in 2015. But, as long as the wild polio virus is alive anywhere, it can spread everywhere. Rotary and its partners are determined to "Fulfill Our Promise" to eradicate the disease so that no child will have to live with the crippling, and life-threatening disease. Soon, we pray, the next case will be the last case!

– Bill Tubbs

RYLA reaches maximum capacity

By PDG Gary Welch/Ankeny
D-6000 RYLA Conference Chair

It is hard to believe that RYLA has reached the maximum capacity of 240 so quickly, but that is due to your phenomenal support of the Conference. Every club in District 6000 has either sent students or committed to send students.

RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) is a life-changing leadership training program for young men and women where leadership skills, self-discovery and principles are learned, developed and enhanced in an atmosphere of trust and respect. The six-day (overnight) RYLA Conference will be held at Grinnell College in Grinnell, Iowa, from 3:00 p.m. Sunday, July 17, to noon Friday, July 22. Keep in mind that we now have a limit of 240 students for 2016 and would suggest selecting your students early.

Student Information and Student Selection

• It is suggested that you visit with the high school counselors and/or principal to discuss RYLA and have them help with the selection process.

• Please make sure the selected sophomores and juniors understand and agree that they must be present for the entire conference.

• It is also suggested that you select at least 1-2 alternates, in case selected students are unable to attend. We understand that sickness, injuries or family emergency may interfere with attendance, therefore, your need for alternates.

• It is suggested that the students selected demonstrate the following characteristics:

o Leadership potential;
o Ability to participate in groups;
o Awareness of current events;
o Good communication skills;
o Good study skills (average or above);
o Ability to work with others;
o History of community service;
o We are looking for the "diamond in the rough."

Please note that final student selection is up to the individual club.

Suggestions for recruiting students

Most students will be unaware of the world class opportunity to gain new leadership skills, self-discovery and confidence, so you will have to work diligently to recruit students.

You are limited only by your imagination. Some ideas to consider are:

1. Newspaper articles in the local newspaper.
2. Use local radio and television to provide public service announcements.
3. Place posters in public and school library, churches and grocery stores, etc. (Download the flyer at IowaRYLA.org.)
4. Provide a short article for the school district newsletter.
5. Direct conversations with high school principal and counselors.
6. Social media: Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and Blogs.
7. Present to other local service clubs.
8. Use returning RYLA students to help recruit

Application Process, Registration and Fee Deadline:

• The student application is now available at IowaRYLA.org. The students must: 1) Complete the application online; and 2) Submit their completed application with parent and student signatures for consideration to the closest Rotary club.

• Make sure that your RYLA representative has signed the applications and returned it to the RYLA registrar. The deadline for student applications to the local Rotary club is April 30.

• The application will be removed from the website on May 1.

• We will need the final applications of your selected students by May 15. Please send the completed applications with all signatures to: David Kutter, registrar, at Registrar@IowaRYLA.org, or mail it to: 3905 Belden Ct. NE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52402-2552.

• The club must send a nonrefundable check of $450 for the number of slots requested no later than March 15, made out to "Iowa RYLA Rotary District" with "RYLA" in the memo section. The check is to be sent to: John Last, 324 29th St., SW, Mason City, Iowa 50401-6512. If you are unable to fill your slot, you will be given credit for the following year.

• We have to give Grinnell College a final count by June 17, and no credit will be given to the club after that date.

Expectations

• The local Rotary club is responsible to make sure that the student has transportation. In most cases, the parents will transport.

• The student must follow the Code of Conduct, and if they break the "Unacceptable Behavior" list the student's parents will be notified, and the student will be sent home immediately. We will attempt to notify the club, if you have a contact person identified with a phone number on the application.

• After they attend RYLA, students are required to provide a presentation to your Rotary club, tell their friends and to help you recruit students for the following year.

• The returning RYLA students are a great resource to help with your Rotary projects. Please continue to mentor and engage the students and their families in Rotary.

Volunteer and Visitor Opportunity

• Rotarian volunteers are needed to make RYLA a success. A Rotarian is paired with a counselor, who leads a team of students at RYLA. There is no cost to the Rotarian volunteer, as lodging and meals are provided, along with a RYLA shirt. If you want to be a Rotarian volunteer, the application will be online at IowaRYLA.org by March 1.

• There will be a background check for each volunteer as required by Rotary International policy. Rotary International provides liability insurance.

• The Rotarian volunteers must attend a one-day required training session on Saturday, June 18, from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. at Grinnell College. The Rotarian volunteer also must be available from 10 a.m. Saturday, July 16, to Friday evening, July 22, for the six-day RYLA Leadership Conference.

• We welcome visitors who want to observe RYLA, but we will need to know in advance that you are coming so we can make arrangements. If you would like to visit, you will need to contact the RYLA chair, Gary Welch, at gwelch3002@msn.com. If you are there during a meal, we will provide it at no cost to you as appreciation for your interest in RYLA.

• If you would like a presentation to your club to explain the RYLA Leadership Conference, contact PDG Gary Welch at gwelch3002@msn.com or (515) 419-3707.

Thank you for your interest and support of youth.

MILES OF SMILES: Our Gift to the World

Rotary team performs cleft lip-cleft palate repairs in Guatemala

By Deb Dunkhase/Iowa City AM
Iowa Miles Of Smiles Team Leader

YOU are changing the lives of children!

For the past eleven years, YOU and other generous Rotarians just like you have made it possible for the Iowa MOST project to positively impact the lives of hundreds of Guatemalan children. These children had little chance of good health, an education, or acceptance by their community. Because of your support for Iowa MOST, these same kids are now facing each day with great hope for a better future and a bright happy smile on their beautiful, healthy faces.

This year, thanks to the financial support of numerous District 6000 Rotary clubs, 42 team members from Iowa, other states across the U.S., and the Netherlands traveled to Huehuetenango, Guatemala, to perform cleft lip and palate surgeries with Iowa MOST, Feb. 4-14.

Each day people ask me why Guatemala has so many children with cleft palate. In the U.S., approximately 6,800 babies are born with cleft defects each year. In this country, babies receive surgeries within the first 12 to 18 months to repair the birth defects, enabling these children to grow up healthy and well-adjusted.

In Guatemala, one in every 600 children are born with cleft defects. The stats are not so different than children born in this country. What makes cleft defects such a tremendous problem in Guatemala is poverty. More than 75 percent of the national population in Guatemala live below the poverty line. The extent of poverty is most severe among the rural and indigenous populations. About 93 percent of the Guatemalan indigenous population are living in poverty and 91 percent in extreme poverty.

The extreme poverty of so many Guatemalan families makes it impossible for children to get the surgeries needed to change their lives. Guatemalan children born with cleft lip or palate or both are unable to nurse, and because their families can't afford formula or even have access to it; these children begin to starve. Kids born with cleft often have the additional problems of speaking clearly, ear infections that lead to loss of hearing, and severe dental problems.

Rotarians from the Rotary Club of Iowa City heard the cry for help from Guatemalan children 12 years ago. They heard the stories of children not only suffering from severe health problems, but also about how these children were ostracized from their villages and not allowed to go to school. Rotarians became part of the solution with our Service Above Self way of life by organizing the Iowa Miles of Smiles Team (MOST) dedicated to providing surgical assistance to Guatemalan children born with cleft birth defects.

This year's mission reached children like 14-year-old Roxelio who had never been allowed to go to school a day in his life because of his cleft defects. This young man touched all of our hearts deeply when after waking up from the surgery that will change his life for-

continued on next page

The smile on this girl's face says Thank You, Rotary!

Iowa MOST 2016 Team at Zaculeu Mayan Ruins for a Rotary picnic lunch: Paco Fernández (in-country logistics), Dr. John Canady-MOST Medical Team Leader/Cleft Surgeon, Chris & Vernette Knapp – District 6000 Governor Elect and Spouse, Huehuetenango Rotarians Dr. Carlos Solorsono and Dr. Oscar Marroquin.

Alejandro, pre surgery

Alejandro, post-surgery, with Rotarian Brad Langguth (r).

Iowa MOST
Miles of Smiles Team

ever, Roxelio's very first question was, "When can I go to school?"

The entire team fell in love with little Sara who was abandoned by her parents at birth because of her severe cleft issues. Sara's grandmother has taken care of her these four years, but Sara's life has been limited to one room. Sara rarely sees other people and has an extreme fear of human contact. After her surgery, Sara's grandmother wept at the new life that she was seeing bloom in front of her eyes.

This year's mission also included repeat visits from dozens of last year's cleft patients who needed small revisions to their surgeries or additional dental work. It was miraculous to see how incredibly healthy and happy these children had become in just one short year. Young Alejandro had major cleft surgery in 2015 as you can see in his pre- and post-surgical photos.

We were all simply thrilled to see what a healthy, happy toddler Alejandro has turned into in 2016. This is what Rotary is all about: Service Above Self.

Please consider supporting District 6000's 2017 Iowa MOST mission with a personal donation to www.iowamost.org or by advocating for your Rotary club to designate a specific dollar amount per member when paying your annual dues. Every dollar makes a real difference in Rotary Serving Humanity in 2017.

The entire team fell in love with Sara.

With his lip repaired, Roxelio can go to school.

Iowa Miles Of Smiles Team members

Brian Andrews
Steven Aquilino
Keith Barkalow
Nienke Berkhoudt
John Canady
Frank Canady
Donna Dolezal
Deborah Dunkhase
Psyche Dunkhase
Martine Dunnwald
Karla Garibay
Bill Gates
Oscar Gomez
Krasimira Hristov
Daniel Jorgensen
Reinhard Juraschek
Deborah Kacmarynski
Kim Kallin
Sandra Kessler
Christopher Knapp
Vernette Knapp
Brad Langguth
Christopher Larson
Griselle Manzano
Kelly Moore
Amber Morris
Martin Mueller
Meredith Parsons
Susie Poulton
Nika Rajbar
Brant Rustwick
Cheryl Schild
Elizabeth Stutzman
David Swanson
Peter Wallace
Patricia Wehrle
Lindsay Weinschenk
Colleen Wolpert
Ross Zbar
Kaitlyn Zenner
Ruben Zuniga

A group of Marshalltown Rotarians and prospective members enjoy social time at the historic Orpheum Theater. The venue recently played host to the club's "16 in '16" membership event.

Marshalltown hosts member event at historic Orpheum Theater

By Curt Hoff/Marshalltown
Club Public Relations Chair

The Rotary Club of Marshalltown recently hosted a prospective member reception at the Orpheum Theater. The membership committee of Bettie Bolar, Val Ruff, Kris Naughton, Richard Graves and Katie Mullaney picked the theme, "Rotary on Stage: 16 in '16," with a goal of garnering 16 new memberships.

During weekly meetings in January, Mullaney challenged members to bring a prospective member they felt would fit into the Rotary Four-Way Test. "Come One, Bring All" was the message on the email invitation to membership.

Co-chair Bolar thinks the evening was a success, saying everyone who attended had a great time. "It was an opportunity for current members to socialize with each other as well as prospective new members, many of whom left with application forms," she said.

Hors d'oeuvres, soda, and adult beverages were enjoyed by a nice sized crowd in the gallery and exhibit space which celebrates Iowans in entertainment. Built in 1948, the Orpheum was the first theater built after World War II by the RKO company. The complex is part of the League of Historic American Theaters. It was the perfect venue to show the recently produced video celebrating the club's 100th anniversary. The short film clip was up on the big screen in a continuous loop for people to take in throughout the evening.

Rotary's Core Values

- Fun and Fellowship
- Integrity
- Service
- Diversity
- Leadership Development

Membership can grow if you have a plan and welcome minorities

By Bill Koellner/West Liberty

Every Rotary year, the president of Rotary International establishes goals that both strengthen Rotary and your club. Activities include growing your membership, developing sustainable service projects, giving to The Rotary Foundation, and building awareness of Rotary in your community.

Growing membership in a Rotary club has been difficult since Rotary year 2007-08. From the mid-80's to 2007, District 6000, formerly District 600, had a steady membership of about 4,400 to 4,500. District membership began the 2015-16 year at 3,854, and a snapshot on Feb. 1, membership is 3,888.

While the District dropped about 600 members since 2007, which accounts for about a 14 percent loss in Rotary membership, many clubs have lost more than 14 percent, while others have gained in membership.

Every club is looking for a methodology to increase members, or looking for success stories in gaining members. For several years, I served as the District Membership Chair, and at training events, the typical response by theme to those who attended would be to tell club members, to "Just Ask."

This year, Rotary Club of West Liberty Membership Chair Ken Donnelly did just that. The following is a short, but successful method the club used in increasing the membership by 16 percent, or seven new members. The membership on July 1 was 43, and now the membership is 50, the highest since 1952, when there was only one service club in West Liberty.

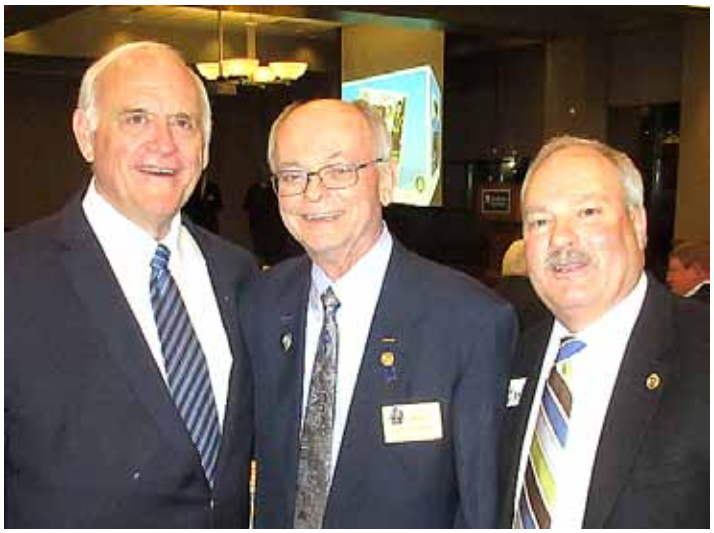
A short history of West Liberty's population and Rotary club membership is shown in the table below:

Year	Population	Population Hispanic	Population Non-Hispanic	Rotary Members
1924	1,836	12	1,824	24
1952	1,854	12	1,842	50
1968	2,300	40	2,260	38
2000	3,330	1,366	1,964	36
2016	3,736	2,080	1,756	50

In July, Donnelly asked each Rotarian to provide three potential names for membership. Twenty-six Rotarians offered 81 names, 47 men and 34 women, which included 13 minority members. Each candidate was sent a letter and told they would be visited by a Rotary member. Some members took candidates to coffee, dinner, or invited them to their homes. From the initial visits, 19 men and 16 women were interested. Of the 35 who were interested, 11 were minorities. The candidates were invited to a special Rotary dinner to further discuss what Rotary is doing, internationally, in Iowa and locally. Follow-up by Rotarians was made on each candidate to determine if they were still interested.

There were four men and three women who wanted to join immediately, and three men and two women who will join in one or two years. A special induction ceremony was held for all new members, and partners, along with the West Liberty membership.

The success of gaining these new members, is that the campaign was for only 60 days, with weekly emphasis at all meetings with who of the 81 potential members responded with an interest to attend a information dinner. There was follow-up weekly by Rotarians talking to potential members. So Just Ask!



The Feb. 25 Rotary Membership Day in the Quad Cities featured (l-r): Keynote speaker Rotarian and Davenport Mayor Frank Klipsch, District 6420 District Governor Jim Nelson of Rockford, Ill. (formerly of Newton), and Bettendorf Rotarian Decker Ploehn. Photos by Bill Tubbs

Quad-Cities Rotary Membership Day organizer AG Gary Loss of Davenport (r), with Rotary Club of Rock Island president John Phillips and Alan Anderson of the Rotary Club of Moline. Seventy-five Rotarians and 50 prospective members met at the Rogalski Center of St. Amrose University.

125 attend membership event in Quad Cities

By AG Gary Loss/Davenport

Ten Rotary clubs in the Quad-Cities joined together on Feb. 25 to host an event designed to inform prospective Rotarians what Rotary service is all about. Over the past five months, representatives from the six clubs in the Illinois Quad-Cities (District 6420) and the four clubs in the Iowa Quad-Cities (District 6000) have been planning an evening that allowed Rotarians to invite guests to learn about Rotary in an informal setting (free beer and appetizers).

Over 50 guests, aka prospective Rotarians, joined about 75 Rotarians at the Rogalski Center on the St Ambrose University Campus. With the theme of "Service for Success," Davenport Mayor Frank Klipsch, from the Rotary Club of Davenport, was the keynote speaker and shared his perspectives on the values of service. Representatives of each of the nine clubs then shared hi-lights of service projects they sponsor both locally and internationally. Bettendorf Rotarian Decker Ploehn served as emcee.

The primary goal of the planning committee for the event from the start was to inform others of the great things Rotary does. We realized this goal was accomplished when many of the guests were overheard saying, "I know I want to join Rotary, now I just need to decide which club to join."

Another benefit of planning for the event was that Rotarians got to meet Rotarians from other clubs and learn what the other clubs are doing in the Quad-Cities. The Assistant Governors (Gary Loss of District 6000 in Iowa and Cathy Edwards of District 6420 in Illinois) helped to organize the planning meetings, but the work of putting the event together was accomplished mostly by the younger members of the Rotary clubs.

Participating clubs included Davenport, Bettendorf, Iowa Quad Cities and North Scott from District 6000, and Rock Island, Moline, East Moline, Milan, Illinois Quad Cities and Twin Rivers Rotary After Hours from District 6420.

Corning Rotarians honored

The Rotary Club of Corning celebrated another year of service above self Monday evening, Dec. 7, at the Happy Hollow Country Club. As part of the annual Christmas celebration, four special awards were presented to members. **Becky Rike** received a Presidential Citation for over 20 years of service as Rotary treasurer. **Jack Cruise** was honored for his many years of dedication to Rotary. Jack is retiring from Rotary. **Phil Morris** was recipient of the Rotarian of the Year award. He volunteered to chair the Roadside Cleanup project and is involved in many other projects throughout the year. **Brian Peterson** took high honors received the annual Paul Harris Award. He is continually serving the community and in Rotary on the Public Relations Committee, chairing the annual Conservation Award committee, helping with our Rotarian Lunch at the Adams County Fair and so many more activities. Brian joins an elite list of community leaders and past Paul Harris Fellow recipients. The Rotary Club of Corning Rotary will donate $1,000 in Brian's name to The Rotary Foundation. *– Submitted by Beth Waddle*

Honored Corning Rotarians (l-r): Brian Peterson, Jack Cruise, Becky Rike and Phil Morris.

Iguazú falls (left) was the "touristy" part of the trip. The group met with three Rotary clubs during its visit to Argentina and Paraguay: Asunción Catedral (Paraguay), Formosa 9 de julio (Argentina), and Asunción (Paraguay). As usual in the Rotary world, the hospitality was outstanding and the fellowship was enjoyed by all. More pictures are on the opposite page.

Grant provides water to Paraguayan village

By Jim Peterson/Iowa City AM

A water project benefiting an indigenous community in Paraguay was the first D6000 grant application to be approved by the Rotary Foundation under its new Global Grant system. In June 2015, five D6000 Rotarians and one spouse traveled to Paraguay to visit the completed project and celebrate with the host sponsor club, the Rotary Club of Encarnación.

The group was also able to visit two other clubs in District 4845, which straddles the Argentina-Paraguay border. It is the former district of Rotarian María Concepción ("Nenu") Piragine, who is from Corrientes, in northern Argentina, and who belonged to Rotary clubs in Corrientes and Formosa for 12 years before relocating to Iowa City a few years ago and joining the Iowa City AM Rotary Club.

Nenu's connections in her former district helped to locate a willing project partner through PDG Víctor Báez of the Encarnación (Paraguay) Rotary Club. The project proposed by the club was to drill a new well with an electric pump, install a water tower and distribution lines, men's and women's bathrooms and showers, a communal kitchen and a laundry area, all in the indigenous village of Guaviramí, which is in a rural area within the municipality of Trinidad, Paraguay.

Prior to completion of the project, the 150 village residents, over half of whom are children, had a single shallow well from which water was retrieved with a bucket. Laundry was done in a nearby muddy stream. Bathrooms were rudimentary or non-existent.

The Rotary Club of Encarnación worked with the village leaders and the municipality of Trinidad to arrange for improved access to the village (including a bridge over the stream) as well as extending electric lines to the village for operating the new well. The club also supervised the project and publicized it to local electronic and print media.

The Encarnación were extremely gracious and hospitable, accompanying their guests Guaviramí to inspect the project, showing and explaining the various aspects of the project and the changes that have occurred in the village as a result of the project. The site visit was followed by an elegant lunch at a beautiful restaurant owned by the daughter of Víctor Báez. In the evening the Iowans were the guests of honor a celebratory asado of meats roasted for hours over an open fire accompanied by salads, desserts and good wine.

The Guaviramí water project's international sponsor was the Rotary Club of of Iowa City AM and additional financial support for the project came from the Iowa City, Tipton and Marshalltown clubs. In all, D6000 clubs contributed $4,356, with another $13,109 in DDF coming from the two districts, all matched by $15,285 from The Rotary Foundation, for a project total of $32,750.

The project application was submitted in late February 2014, approved by TRF in June and funded in late September. Once funds were received by the Encarnación club, the project was promptly completed and inaugurated in early 2015. Invitations were issued to D6000 Rotarians to attend the inauguration, but it was not until June that a group that included Nenu, Brock Earnhardt (Rotary Club of Davenport), PDG Cal Litwiller and Rachel (Rotary Club of Mount Pleasant) and Jim Peterson (Rotary Club of Iowa City AM) and Beth were able to go.

While in the "neighborhood," the group attended meetings with two other Rotary clubs, visited Nenu's family home in Corrientes, and made various touristic excursions, most notably to the Falls of Iguazú.

Visiting a completed Rotary humanitarian project is both humbling and gratifying. The needs of the villagers, their gratitude for the help they received, the impressive stewardship of the Paraguayan Rotarians and their thanks and hospitality – these are moving and memorable. The experience of sharing – with fellow Rotarians from another country and culture – the satisfaction of completing a successful project that would never have happened without Rotary helped make the group's trip to Paraguay and Argentina an unforgettable experience.

I am sure I speak for the entire group when I say we are extremely grateful for all of the clubs and individuals who made this experience possible by their support of the project and The Rotary Foundation.

Iowa City AM Rotarian Nenu Piragine with the mayor of Encarnación, Paraguay's third-largest city.

Brock Earnhardt with sign publicizing project. The building has men's and women's bathrooms and a laundry area that were done as part of the project.

How laundry was done before this project.

Rotary

More pictures of Paraguayan Global Grant project

Water tower installed as part of the project in Guaviramí

This old well in Guaviramí was replaced by a new, deeper well with an electric pump.

Guaviramí residents pose in the new laundry area constructed as part of the project. Bathrooms are on either side of the laundry area.

A 'ReSpectacle' project ...

The 60-member Rotary Club of Iowa City AM collected 140 pairs of glasses in just two weeks' time. The glasses are all collected and sent to the ReSpectacle volunteers (https://saving-sight.org/eyeglass-recycling-program) who sort and give them out. This is a project that Rotary leaders (e.g. the new governor and spouse) could advocate for in advance of a visit and then bring them back to Iowa City for collection (does not cost anyone anything but would be powerful).

Provided by Mark Patton

District 6000 Family of Rotary!

This is a true three-generation "Family of Rotary" in District 6000 (l-r): Joe Stopulos, Rotary Club of Des Moines AM; Jim Stopulos (grandfather), Rotary Club of Davenport (for over 50 years!); and Pat Stopulos (uncle), Rotary Club of Bettendorf.

Coralville Rotarians volunteered for their annual "Judy's Jammie's" project, standing (l-r): Judy Joyce, Shane Hendricks, Steve Laughlin, Bryan Stolz, Nick Kaeding, Jeff Koeppel, Judy Meyer, Vicki Struzynski-Olson, Mark Sandvig and club president Keith Jones. Sitting: Phil Shive and Michele Brandstatter. Provided by Vicki Struzynski-Olson

'Judy's Jammies' project benefits violence victims

The Rotary Club of Coralville North Corridor recently completed its annual "Judy's Jammies" pajama collection to benefit the Domestic Violence Intervention Program (DVIP). Each year, Coralville Rotarians accept donations and raise funds to purchase pajamas for residents of DVIP, many of whom arrive literally with just the clothes on their backs.

The project, begun in 2010 by Judy Meyer of Iowa City, aims to provide a measure of comfort and stability in the midst of a crisis situation. "It's not something that's necessarily top of mind when you think about people in crisis seeking a safe environment, but it's a real need and this is just one way we can help improve quality of life in a difficult time," Meyer said.

Coralville Rotarians accept donations of both brand new pajamas and funds for their purchase throughout the year. Judy's Jammies collections formally take place from Thanksgiving through January. For more information or to contribute, contact Judy at: agrijudym@hotmail.com .

'Trivia' for scholarships ...

The Rotary Club of Albia Rotary earned $2,700 with a trivia pursuit program. The monies went to local scholarships.

Provided by Tony Humeston

Supplies for South Sudan ...

Marshalltown Rotarians teamed up with area businesses and churches to deliver life-saving supplies to South Sudan. While Santa was loading his sleigh, a group of volunteers was loading up three water well drilling rigs into containers in Marshalltown. These rigs, and as much equipment and supplies that would fit, will soon be on a months-long journey to South Sudan. Donated funds, volunteer expertise, and the combined energy of many have kept this six-year project going. Help along the way ranged from Rotary International to the three native South Sudanese living in Omaha who helped the Marshalltown crew pack containers.

Provided by Curt Hoff

Second to Nunn ...

Iowa State House Rep. Zach Nunn (District 30, which includes East Polk Rotary areas) visited the Rotary Club of East Polk on Jan. 6 and shared his views on the important issues facing the state legislature this coming session. Rep. Nunn is pictured here with club president Corinne Lambert and president-elect Darrell Hanson (who is also a former Iowa State legislator from the Delaware County area).

Provided by Tom Downs

Manning Rotary home tour raises funds for Ponseti clubfoot repair

Manning Rotarian John O'Brien and his wife, Chris, along with their poodle, Calis, and Soren, their golden retriever, opened their home to visitors during the Rotary Club of Manning's fourth annual Holiday Tour of Homes. Held in December of 2015, a diverse group of living quarters were open for viewing, including three homes and two apartments in Manning, and a home located in the nearby town of Templeton. Proceeds from the tour were distributed in part to the District 6000 Ponseti project dealing with the treatment of clubfoot deformity, as well as local club undertakings.

Provided by Jean Behrens

Avenues of Service

Rotary

- *Club*
- *Community*
- *Vocational*
- *World*
- *Youth*

Decatur County club celebrates 90 years

The Rotary Club of Decatur County celebrated its 90th birthday on Jan. 30 and sent this release to local news media:

Rotary International is an international service organization whose stated human rights purpose is to bring together business and professional leaders in order to provide humanitarian services, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and to advance goodwill and peace around the world. It is a secular organization open to all people regardless of race, color, creed, religion, gender, or political preference. There are 34,282 member clubs worldwide; 1.2 million individuals called Rotarians have joined these clubs.

Rotarians usually gather weekly for breakfast, lunch, or dinner to fulfill their first guiding principle to develop friendships as an opportunity for service. "It is the duty of all Rotarians," states their Manual of Procedure, "outside their clubs, to be active as individuals in as many legally constituted groups and organizations as possible to promote, not only in words but through exemplary dedication, awareness of the dignity of all people and the respect of the consequent human rights of the individual." The Rotarian's primary motto is "Service Above Self"; its secondary motto is "One profits most who serves best."

Celebrating 90 years of Decatur County Rotary and 111 years of Rotary International on Jan. 30 were (l-r): President-Elect Peggy Geiger, District Governor Loring Miller, PDG Terry Geiger, Janene Boswell, Sean Saxton, Bill Morain, Beth Saxton, Phil Metcalf, President Nominee Kolten Hewlett, Greg Crocker, President Sue Kelly, Chet Redman, Youth Exchange student Petra Kolembusova, Jack DePond, Mary Ellen Stanley, Mary Ruth Horn, Chris Coffelt, Gail Duerr, and Ethan Pitt.

Provided by Peggy Geiger

Sixty coats for Manning kids ...

The Rotary Club of Manning wanted to assure no child or adult in the surrounding area was without a warm winter coat this cold winter season. Rotarians, through participation in the District 6000 coats project, and along with club and personal monetary contributions, made available 60 coats in a variety of sizes youth through adult. Pictured are Rotarians Brian Irlbeck, Dr. Scott Bowker and Deb Ranniger with a few of the coats distributed through the IKM Manning School system and also made available at the local Food Pantry. This is the second year the Rotary Club of Manning has participated in the District 6000 coat project.

Provided by Jean Behrens

Valentines for veterans ...

The Clear Creek Amana High School Student Assistance Team/Rotary Interact Club participated in a "Valentines for Veterans" day at the Veteran's Administration Hospital in Iowa City on Saturday, Feb. 13. The students delivered Valentines to the veterans who were hospitalized over the holiday weekend. SAT/Interact focuses on community volunteerism, developing leadership skills, personal integrity and respect for others. The Rotary Club of Coralville-North Corridor sponsors the Interact Club at Clear Creek Amana. Pictured (l-r): Tate Thomsen, Michael Eckhardt, Jackie Fairholm, Alissa Schwarting, David Goldsmith, Daniel Goldsmith, U.S. Rep. Dave Loebsack, Emily Gerot, Clair Austin and Sarah Johnson.

CCA School District Photo provided by Vicki Struzynski-Olson

Clinton Mayor Mark Vulich presented past culb president Libby Goodman with a Progress Award.

Million-dollar lodge project underway

By Jennifer Graf/Clinton
Club Publicity Co-Chair

The Rotary Club of Clinton is busy with our million-dollar Eagle Point Park Lodge project!

Taking on the total refurbishment of this historic, beloved landmark was the goal of our 100-year celebration. Russell Construction has kept things moving along even through the unforeseen "opportunities" (as Rotarian Dee Willoughby describes it) of septic systems, roofing, beams and fireplace securing needs happen. We are taking care of everything as it arises!

This is a fantastic project that has interest coming from all over the country. Our "Buy a Brick" project closed out March 1. This was an opportunity to have your engraved name on a brick located in the freshly landscaped entrance.

Clinton Rotary's Masquerde fundraiser will be April 29.

We would also like to remind folks in District 6000 of our upcoming 8th annual charity auction to be held on April 29th. Our theme is MASQUERADE. It is "The" charity event of the year. Join us for a night of fun and fellowship while donning an appropriate mask and supporting the many great works our club undertakes.

Representatives from the Rotary Club of Clinton, the city of Clinton and Russell Construction broke ground on the $1 million Eagle Point Lodge renovation project on Dec. 14. The historic lodge, built during the Great Depression, overlooks the Upper Mississippi River at its widest point.

Renovations are underway to give the lodge at Eagle Point Park in Clinton new life for the next 100 years!

Dee Willoughby, Clinton Rotarian, discusses the Eagle Point Park Lodge renovations project.

IS PEACE POSSIBLE?

Rotary's relationships: A gift to the world

Peace cannot be kept by force; it can only be achieved by understanding.

– Albert Einstein

By PDG Bill Tubbs/North Scott
Editor, District 6000 News

Linda and I escaped the Iowa winter and the negativism of the Iowa caucus campaign for four precious days in January in southern California and surrounded ourselves with peacemakers at one of the most extraordinary events I've ever attended – and I've been to hundreds of Rotary conferences over the years.

"I have to admit, I'm glad that I went," confessed Linda, the reluctant traveler, en route home. For Linda, her preferred travel is visits to the grandkids in Urbandale, Iowa, and Middleton, Wis.

This, however, was different. There were no fewer than 150 world-class speakers and presenters from 31 countries among the 1,500 attendees. The event was open to all Rotarians. You didn't have to be a club or district leader. More Rotarians need to take advantage of opportunities like this. It is a huge benefit of your membership!

To say it was inspiring would be an understatement.

Here, our airwaves, answering machines and mailboxes have been consumed with "Be afraid!" "Be afraid!" "Be afraid!" We're going to carpetbomb the enemy and keep the infidels out, the policians say.

There, the message was "Be informed!" "Be informed!" "Be informed!"

Dr. Henry Oster (l), who spent four years of his boyhood imprisoned at the Nazi death camps in Auschwitz and Buchenwald, and Dr. Bernd Wollschlaeger (r), the son of a German murderer, met for the first time and shared an emotional embrace at the Rotary World Peace Conference in Ontario, Calif., on Jan. 16. In reaction to learning of his father's activities at the death camps, Dr. Wollschlaeger became a citizen of Israel and converted to Judaism. Today, he is a medical doctor in Miami, Fla.
Photo by Bill Tubbs

Words matter

Our big takeaway: Words matter. Information trumps fear. Always has. Always will. The first step toward peace is thus a desire to understand one another. People who break bread together don't drop bombs on each other.

That is the essential message of Rotary and all the other service organizations. Our mission is aligned with groups like the Peace Corps, the United Nations, the Carter Center, the Nobel Peace Prize Commitee, the Rotary Peace Centers, and dozens of others, all of whom were present. I could fill the page with "selfies" of Linda and me with the leaders of these organizations whom we met and exchanged cards with, but that would beg the point.

My task as a writer, then, is to share enough to whet your appetite so that you, too, will want to reach out for peace. You don't need to travel abroad, or even to California. Peace starts in our own back yards when we speak out for understanding where there is disharmony, food security where there is hunger, health care where there is disease, education where there is illiteracy, conservation where there is environmental harm, and sustainable development where there is poverty.

A reality moment from WWII

Speaking out can be risky, but is necessary, said Dr. Bernd Wollschlaeger, whose message of transformation was compelling. His father was a highly decorated WWII tank commander who received the Silver Cross for valor from Hitler, but Bernd knew little about the war or his dad's involvement in it until years later when his son asked questions about who his grandfather was. "There is nothing to learn about that war," Bernd was told as a child. "Teachers told us that the Nazis took over Germany and then disappeared. That was it," he said.

It was only after the 1972 Olympic Village bombing in Germany when the headline read, "Jews Killed In Germany – AGAIN," that questions began to be asked. Confronted with this new information, Bernd's dad declared, "Whatever they told you about the so-called Holocaust is a lie!"

"My dad denied any involvement in the Holocaust, but he was at the death camps," Bernd said. "When I confronted him about it, he said it had to happen. 'We had to clean out the riff-raff in the East.' That was the last involvement I had with my dad. I cannot sit at the same table as a murderer who celebrates Christmas in the name of Christ."

Bernd emigrated to Israel. "I was drawn by a woman," he said. There, he learned the truth about the Holocaust in which 6 million Jews were incinerated in ovens or gunned down in cold blood. "In 1986, against the wishes of the rabbis, I went through the hard process to become a Jew. I learned Hebrew. I gave up my German citizenship and became an Israeli." In a more lighthearted remark, he added, "It involved surgery."

Years passed and Bernd couldn't talk about the Holocaust until he was forced to share the story at his son's school. "It lifted the weight off my shoulders," he said, to come out of the shadows.

Today, Dr. Bernd Wollschlaeger is an ambassador for truth who challenges us to speak out. "Words of hatred that are used to whip up fear, if left unchallenged, shape our character and lead to actions that include violence and war. It all starts with words. We cannot be silent!"

That was a powerful message, but the most powerful moment was yet to come. Before Dr. Wollschlaeger could leave the rostrum after receiving a standing ovation, the Peace Conference convener, Rudy Westervelt, asked that if Henry Oster was present, would he please come forward.

continued on next page

PEACE: Words matter; When you see something, say something!

Slowly, the 87-year-old Oster proceeded to the rostrum, tears welling in his eyes, and in a reality moment that not even Oprah Winfrey could have scripted, embraced Dr. Wollschlaeger. Oster, we learned, spent four years, from 1941-45, enslaved in the Nazi death camps at Auschwitz and Buchenwald. Somehow he managed to survive, and today he is a retired medical doctor who is a speaker at the Museum of Tolerance in Los Angeles.

The two had never met. It was surreal, and I interviewed both just moments after the emotional connection. Henry echoed Bernd's warning about words. "Be aware of how easily people can be persuaded to commit genocide if nobody speaks up against it!" Oster is author of the book, "The Kindness of the Hangman."

Dr. Wollschlaeger, whose book is entitled "A German Life: Against All Odds, Change Is Possible," commented on the discourse in the political campaign that is engulfing us now. "I resist throwing people in the same bucket and then beating on the bucket," he said, in a specific reference to the Muslim- and immigrant-bashing in the campaign. We need to work with the reasonable people of any religion or sect to counter the radicals, he said. His true life story reinforces the message in ways that I could not, but it was just one of many extraordinary takeaways from the Rotary World Peace Conference:

Syrian refugee crisis and other connections

• Another "surprise" connection occurred at the conference when Hideko Tamura met Jiro Kawastuma for the first time. Both were children in **Hiroshima** and survived when the first atomic bomb was dropped. I took a picture of Hideko with a tree that sprouted from the ashes and was dedicated to peace.

• Another compelling story from WWII was told by **Barbara Winton,** the daughter of the late Sir Nicholas Winton of London, who died in 2014 at age 104. In an act of derring-do, not unlike Oscar Shindler of "Shindler's List" fame, he organized the rescue of endangered, mostly Jewish, children from Czechoslovakia in 1939. The BBC produced a documentary in 2009 in which Sir Winton, to his surprise, found himself seated with descendants of the 669 children. It was absolutely breathtaking! Today, 6,000 people are alive because of this one man's courage and ingenuity.

• We were among the first to view a gut-wrenching 40-minute documentary of the **Syrian Refugee Crisis** produced by Syrian-American filmmaker Elias Matar who saw 35,000 cross national borders in the night in just one week. The crisis has already cost the world $10 billion. "It is not just a Syrian crisis, it is a global crisis. We need to understand the simple difference between 'immigrant' and 'refugee.' We are all connected. It could be us." The U.S. annually receives 75-80,000 refugees (from all countries). Turkey has received 2 million from Syria, and Germany and Lebanon, 1 million each.

• **Peace Corps** director Carrie Hessler-Radelet said the clearest path to peace is one person reaching out to another without regard to religion or culture. "The best way to learn not to be afraid is by being fearless for the sake of working to do good things for humanity." The Peace Corps has 7,000 volunteers in 60 countries working in education, health, agriculture, and youth and community development.

• **Carter Center** director Mary Peters pointed out that peace is prized in the scriptures of all major religions. The Carter Center monitors social media to map potential events and works with Muslim clerics to de-escalate conflict. "A large number of unattached young men is a risk factor for conflict."

• **Father Greg Boyle** runs Homeboy Industries, "the largest gang intervention program on Planet Earth," in Los Angeles. Rival gang members are put to work in the same projects and they become friends. "We need to obliterate the notion that there is no kinship (between people)," he said.

• **Galina Aron of St. Petersburg, Russia,** works at **NASA** in Houston and is the translator for the American and Russian astronauts. "The space station where 160 scientific experiments have been going for 15 years is proof that our countries can do business together." She quoted astronaut Scott Kelly: "We are one crew. It doesn't matter if the others are Russians. We are citizens of the planet."

• On three occasions, I worked with **Sharon Tennison,** the director of the **Center for Citizen Initiatives,** based in San Francisco, to bring teams of 13 Russian emerging business entrepreneurs to the Quad Cities for 23 days each time (1998, 2002 and 2006) in a program called the Productivity Enhancement Program, hosted by local Rotary clubs. The object of the program, which was a huge success, was to make friends and show the Russians how to run businesses. I have kept in touch with Sharon since, always by email, so it was a pleasant surprise to meet her for the first time. The PEP program was defunded, but, she insists, "personal exchanges are needed now more than ever."

• **United Nations Foundation** director Gillian Sorensen said 4 million have died in the last 15 years of armed conflicts, and half are children. Thirty armed conflicts are under way now, mostly ethnic, tribal and civil wars. "Democracy can't be imposed, but needs to come from the ground up ... Every baby is born innocent and ready for love ... The world is fueled by the sale of arms for huge profits: we need to 'name and shame' those who profit from war." The world budget for defense is 25 times that of development. "Where is the Nelson Mandela of the Mideast? Of Africa? Why is there such a deficit of leadership when we need it most?"

• **Australian Steve Killea** founded the Institute for Economics and Peace, a think tank that publishes a "Global Peace Index," ranking 162 countries according to their relative states of peace. The U.S. ranks well but is not in the top 10. The criteria include: Well functioning government; equitable distribution of resources; free flow of information; good relations with neighbors; high levels of human capital; acceptance of the rights of others; low levels of corruption; and sound business environment.

• Former Congressman and California Attorney General **Dan Longren** gave a heartbreaking talk on **human trafficking** and urged us to "make sure there is an awareness program in your community." Ditto for combatting homegrown terrorists who are influenced by websites that tell vulnerable people how to "make a bomb in the kitchen of your mom," said Longren, echoing the message I've heard from Homeland Security expert Steffan Nass of Donahue: "If you see something, say something!"

• Actress **Sharon Stone** (who says Rotarians are stuffy?) – in one of the best attended speeches, talked about happiness as a discipline, and how she suggests that we can become peaceful, compassionate and understanding of others.

• **Claes Nobel,** the patriarch of the Nobel Peace Prize family, was one of the kindest people I have met, and **Barbara Gaughen-Muller,** who worked for peace with her late husband, Robert, who was Assistant General Secretary of the United Nations for 40 years, is a new good friend.

• The conference wrapped up with a tribute to the 50 first responders who stayed calm and restored order during the Dec. 2 terrorist massacre at nearby **San Bernardino.** We shook their hands and our words seemed to go a long way when we said, "Thank you for your service." Ditto to the Hometown Heroes right here in Scott County. Your service and professionalism is noticed and appreciated. You, too, are peacemakers.

So I hope you can see why it was a welcome change to escape the nastiness of Iowa caucus politics and engage hope and peace, if only for three days.

The challenge for each of us is to take advantage of these opportunities in Rotary – and remember, WORDS MATTER!

Bettendorf awards Lobsterfest grants

By Fred Anderson/Bettendorf
Club Publicity Chair

The Charitable Giving Board of Rotary Club of Bettendorf awarded $22,500 to 12 not-for-profit projects that serve the Quad City community. Checks were presented at a special meeting on Jan. 27.

This is the seventh year event proceeds from the annual Bettendorf Rotary Lobsterfest at Rivermont Collegiate create the fund for the Bettendorf Rotary Charitable Giving Board grants.

"We received 39 requests for an amount totaling $81,849 this cycle," said Jeff Hassel, chair of the Charitable Giving Board. "The club was able to fund 12 requests totaling $22,500, or 28 percent of the total amount requested. We hope our next Lobsterfest on June 11th enables us to reach an even higher level of support for 2016."

Bettendorf Rotary also presents $7,000 in scholarships to graduates pursuing higher education. These awards are chosen by the participating educational institutions: Bettendorf and Pleasant Valley high schools, Rivermont Collegiate and Scott Community College.

The following are the 13 grants that the Bettendorf Rotary Charitable Giving Board selected and had approved by the Bettendorf Rotary Club's Executive Board for funding in 2015:

Asbury Methodist Church, Garden Ministry, $2,500: The Garden Ministry began in the Spring of 2002 as an outreach ministry of Asbury United Methodist Church. Its mission was to provide fresh vegetables to those individuals who did not have access to them. The ministry is answering God's call in Isiah 58:10 "to feed the hungry."

Bettendorf Public Library, Outdoor Chess at the Library, $2,500: The goal is to have fabricated and installed steel, ADA-accessible chess tables outside at the Bettendorf Public Library.Tables will be installed outside at Dewey's Card and at Faye's Field. Also to include 10 chess sets available for patrons to check out for outside use or in house use during School Chess Club activities.

Boy Scouts of America, Kittan (Scott County) Day Camp, $1,500: This five-day camp provides boys in 1st-5th grades with meaningful learning and leadership experiences that are presented in a controlled and safe environment.

Child Abuse Council, Stewards of Children: Child Sexual Abuse Prevention, $1,500: The Child Abuse Council is seeking funding for workbooks and program supplies to provide Stewards of Children sexual abuse prevention programming to Quad Cities adults.

Edwards Congregational United Church of Christ, Blessings in a Backpack, $2,500: This is a program whereby Edwards coordinates with Eisenhower Elementary in Davenport to provide healthy snacks over the weekend for economically disadvantaged children.

FROG: Fluent Reading Our Goal, Expansion of kindergarten resources, $500: Summer volunteer tutoring for children who have completed kindergarten. Will have leveled reading books and educational games to supplement current donated used materials.

From Cover to Cover, Snuggle Up and Read Campaign, $2,000: Promoting literacy among children at-risk in the Quad Cities through book and blanket donations to kindergarteners and free book and literacy programs at Monroe Elementary.

Twelve non-profit Quad-City organizations received a total of $22,500 in grants from the Bettendorf Rotary on Jan. 27. Representatives of those groups are, seated (l-r): J.D. Englehardt, Illowa Boy Scouts; Connor LaBorde, The Center; Angie Kendall, QC Child Abuse Council, and Cole Bowermaster, Scott County Family Y; standing: Christina Kitchen and Gina Schlicksup, Cover-to-Cover; Ami Wells, Bettendorf Public Library Foundation; Dee Hillyer, Edwards Congregational Church; Tom McDermott, Illowa Boy Scouts; Jane Steinke, Fluent Reading Our Goal (FROG); Kristen Van Heiningen, Edwards Congregational; Estella Novak, FROG; Pennie Kellengerger, The Center; Lindsey Hornbaker, Child Abuse Council; Joyce Klopp, Hope at the BRICK House; Michelle Hughes, GiGi's Playhouse; Dave Phillips, Asbury Methodist Garden Ministry, and Rusty Boruff, The 180 Zone.
Photo by Bill Tubbs

GiGi's Playhouse Quad Cities, LLC, GiGi's Playhouse Literacy Tutoring Program, $2,500: The GiGi's Playhouse literacy program provides one-on-one tutoring and customized materials tailored to the learning styles of individuals with Down syndrome.

Hope at the BRICK House, Inc., BRICK House after school program, $2,000: Request for funding to provide at-risk students in the afterschool program with necessary materials and resources to enhance academic performance and social skills.

Scott County Family Y, YMCA Fairmont Pines Summer Fun Club Program, $2,500: A seven-week collaborative summer program designed to "close the achievement gap" by serving at-risk children from the Fairmont Pines Housing Complex.

The 180 Zone (One Eighty), Sports Camp Equipment, $1,000: Providing sports equipment that will be used during Sports Camps to close the activities gap in local schools to over 1,000 kids.

The Center, Skate Shop, $1,500: Skate Shop is a program from skate church designed to teach students leadership skills through a business design.

The club will hold its 10th Annual Bettendorf Rotary Lobsterfest on Saturday, June 11, 2016. Tickets are $75 per person with proceeds going to fund charitable grants for the community. To find out more, visit www.bettendorfrotary.com.

– Submitted by Johanna Smith

Atlantic Rotarians sweep top awards at Chamber of Commerce dinner

By Dolly Bergmann/Atlantic
Club Publicity Chair

The Atlantic Area Chamber of Commerce held its annual dinner and awards on Jan. 23, 2016. You ask how is that important to what is happening in the Rotary Club of Atlantic? Let me explain. The Chamber presents several awards that evening to individuals and groups in the community. This year was a great year for the Atlantic Rotary Club in many ways.

First, the Atlantic Area Chamber of Commerce has a group called Ambassadors. This group meets every Thursday at a different business in the Atlantic area. They visit businesses celebrating a milestone, that have new employees or have promoted employees. They also attend ribbon cuttings in the community when a new business is opened. Each year the chamber recognizes an ambassador that attends the meetings faithfully and shows support to the area businesses and fellow Ambassadors. They are an ambassador to all they meet for the community, their business organization and the Chamber of Commerce.

The 2015 Ambassador of the year was **Dan Mehmen.** Dan is a Rotarian. Dan is new to the community but that didn't stop him from getting involved with the chamber and the Atlantic Rotary Club. Dan is a great representative of Rotary at the Ambassador meetings.

Another award presented is the Community Betterment Award. This is given to a person or group who has shown a long-term dedication to the betterment of the community. The 2015 Community Betterment Award was presented to the **Rotary Club of Atlantic. Ted Robinson,** club president, accepted the award on behalf of the group.

The award was presented to the Rotary Club of Atlantic for its continued support of the community with funds from its annual auction. 2015 was a big year for Atlantic Rotary. The Auction reached a milestone of having raised over one million dollars since its first auction in 1983. All of these funds have been reinvested into the community.

Another award presented that evening is the Athena Award. The award originated in Lansing, Michigan, and through the sponsorship of General Motors grew to be a worldwide award. It is through the generous sponsorship of the Deter Motor Company of Atlantic that the Atlantic Area Chamber of Commerce is able to present the Athena award, the only community in Iowa to do so.

The award was inspired by the Greek Goddess, Athena, who is the goddess of wisdom and courage. It seeks to inspire others to achieve excellence in their professional and personal lives. The bronze sculpture representing the award is created individually and numbered as a select edition. The marble base represents the recipient's solid foundation, while the cut crystal symbolizes the many facets of human character and the light emanating forms the recipient. The outstretched arms express the celebration of achievement and reaching out to others. This award has a large financial commitment from Deter Motors but more importantly it is something Scott Deter feels very passionately about for our community. This year's winner was Kathie Hockenberry of Hockenberry Family Care Funeral Home. Kathie is an Atlantic Rotarian.

Dolly Bergmann, who presented the award to Kathie, said she "inspires women on a daily basis," especially "as a woman in a male-dominated field." Kathie is involved in the community in many ways working with the Chamber of Commerce and many other organizations.

Rotarian Kathie Hockenberry (c) received the prestigious Athene Award from Scott Deter of Deter Motor Company. Rotarian Dolly Bergmann is at right.

Rotarian Dan Mehmen was honored by the Chamber as Ambassador of the Year.

Rotary club president Ted Robinson accepted the Community Betterment Award.

The Athena Award was started in Atlantic in 2001. There are now 15 Athena winners in the community. Six of these women are either present or past Rotarians, which says a great deal about the women of the Atlantic Rotary Club. The Atlantic Athena Networking Group is working to help the community with a mentoring group. Watch for great things from this group.

Photos courtesy of Jennifer Nichols with the Atlantic News Telegraph

Rotary Foundation Annual giving

District 6000 Clubs • July 1, 2015 - March 18, 2016*

(Members: Jul 14/Jul 15)	(1) 15-16 Goal	(2) Thru 12-8-15	(3) % of Goal	(4) Per capita
Adel (27/37)	$ 4,000	1,890	47	$ 51.08
Albia (30/22)	1,200	350	29	15.91
Ames Morning (56/55)	10,500	7,825	75	142.27
Ames (232/224)	27,366	25,549	93	114.06
Ankeny (61/61)	10,460	5,880	56	96.29
Atlantic (56/58)	7,400	2,579	37	47.57
Bettendorf (107/103)	13,330	12,905	97	125.29
Bloomfield (11/10)	900	0	0	0
Boone (45/42)	6,380	13,460	211	320.48
Burlington (75/80)	14,550	4,815	64	60.19
Carroll (45/45)	2,600	0	0	0
Centerville (50/46)	4,160	2,845	68	61.85
Chariton (50/41)	5,100	4,125	81	100.61
Clinton (103/98)	9,125	4,775	52	48.72
Coon Rapids (27/27)	1,400	100	7	3.70
Coralville-North Corridor (17/20)	2,100	0	0	0
Corning (36/34)	1,375	1,254	91	36.88
Corydon (21/18)	100	200	200	11.11
Creston (23/23)	200	75	38	3.26
Dallas Center (27/27)	2,700	0	0	0
Davenport (120/112)	14,850	2,860	19	25.64
Decatur County (26/30)	5,700	4,635	81	154.50
Des Moines AM (160/170)	13,000	4,475	34	26.32
Des Moines (278/276)	22,000	19,212	87	69.61
East Polk County (38/34)	2,950	1,841	62	54.15
Fairfield (58/74)	7,900	0	0	0
Fort Madison (45/49)	7,500	2,600	35	53.06
Greater Des Moines (16/12)	510	0	0	0
Grinnell (37/38)	9,800	2,542	26	66.89
Indianola (57/54)	6,500	4,119	63	76.28
Iowa City AM (62/66)	15,000	17,070	114	258.64
Iowa City Downtown (19/23)	3,500	2,020	58	87.83
Iowa City (302/312)	46,200	35,220	76	112.88
Iowa Quad-Cities (40/41)	2,475	800	32	19.51
Jefferson (56/59)	4,129	6,325	153	107.20
Johnston (56/60)	3,500	3,537	101	58.95
Kalona (42/42)	2,700	1,550	57	36.90
Keokuk (68/66)	4,950	2,610	53	39.55
Keosauqua (23/24)	1,200	2,375	48	38.93
Knoxville (61/61)	5,000	0	0	0
Lenox (27/29)	2,875	1,010	35	34.83
Manning (19/19)	1,700	4,267	251	224.56
Marengo (11/11)	120	0	0	0
Marshalltown (157/150)	21,000	17,595	84	117.30
Mount Pleasant Noon (55/52)	3,030	4,211	139	80.98
Mount Pleasant (22/20)	550	250	45	12.50
Muscatine (99/79)	10,400	12,929	124	163.66
Nevada (73/71)	8,876	400	5	5.63
Newton (57/60)	4,200	1,500	36	25
North Scott (81/85)	11,000	12,436	113	146.31
Northwest Des Moines (43/34)	7,400	6,247	84	183.74
Osceola (30/28)	2,070	100	5	3.57
Oskaloosa (49/56)	2,300	0	0	0
Ottumwa (105/97)	11,600	1,500	13	15.46
Pella (28/29)	4,200	1,750	42	60.34
Perry (26/26)	810	0	0	0
Tipton (31/30)	2,800	970	35	32.33
Washington (52/49)	5,300	2,800	53	57.14
Waukee (63/58)	6,300	5,400	86	93.10
Wellman (38/36)	2,808	1,950	69	54.17
West Des Moines (76/62)	4,300	2,600	60	41.94
West Liberty (36/43)	10,343	12,975	125	301.74
West Polk County (30/31)	4,000	0	0	0
Winterset (27/25)	2,240	4,650	208	186.00
District Contributions	0	0	0	0
Total (3,900/3,854)	**$ 434,332**	**$ 299,190**	**68.89**	**$ 77.63**

(*) Interim report as of March 18

Foundation news

D6000 on track for record giving!

By Bill Koellner/West Liberty
D6000 Annual Giving Chair

The table at left is as of March 18. Below is an analysis of Rotarian giving as of Feb. 12.

Facts:

1. Giving is based on a total number of Rotarians on July 1, 2015 which is 3,854.

2. 64 clubs have a combined goal of $434,332 for Rotary year 2015-16. This is projected as a potential $112.70 per Rotarian if all clubs give their goals.

3. District 6000 has 76 Rotarians who are registered with Rotary International as Paul Harris Society members. This means they will give a minimum of $1,000 each year.

4. As of Feb. 12, the RI website states that there are 3,888 members in District 6000.

5. As of today, total Annual Fund giving is $271,983.

6. As of Feb. 12, nine clubs have given more than their goal. Those nine clubs have given $69,079, or $19,757 more than their goals of $49,322.

Analysis:

1. As of Feb. 12, 59 Rotarians have given a minimum of $1,000.

2. Of those 59 Rotarians, 37 are Paul Harris Society Members; 21 are not.

3. Of the 21 non-Paul Harris Society members, six are first time givers of $1,000; five are non-Paul Harris Society members who give $1,000 every year, but do not wish to join the PHS. The other 10 are 10 Rotarians from Marshalltown who pledged to give $1,000 for the 100th anniversary of the Marshalltown club.

4. This leaves 29 Rotarians who are PHS members to give a minimum of $1,000 before June 30.

6. There are also seven Rotarians who are not PHS who always give $1,000, and will give $1,000 before June 30.

Future:

1. 29 Rotarians who are PHS members will give a minimum of $1000 before June 30. Total=$29,000

2. Seven Rotarians who are not PHS members will give a minimum of $1,000 before June 30. Total= $7,000

3. 55 clubs to contribute a minimum of their goal. Amount remaining to be given to make goal by 55 clubs=$182,106.

4. The PHS and non-PHS giving is assumed to be in the $182,106.

5. As of Feb. 12, PolioPlus giving is $38,945.

6. As of Feb. 12, funds toward grants are $9,378.

Potential giving by 30 June is $271,983 plus $182,106=$454,089. If this amount all comes in, the per capita giving would be $454,089/3,854 = $117.82. So the facts do support PDG Terry Geiger's statement that it could be a record year in giving!

Doug Flournoy, Community Grants

DGE Chris Knapp, Iowa City AM

PDG Terry Geiger, Foundation Chair

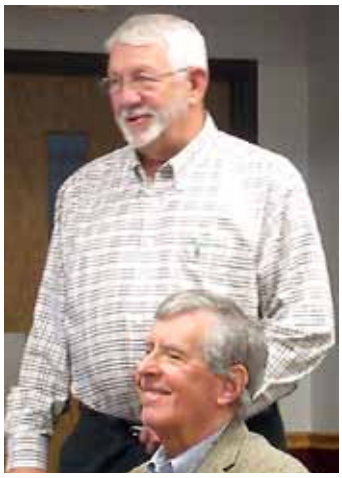
Grant Management Seminars held

Rotary Foundation Grant Management Seminars were sponsored by District 6000, Feb. 20 at West Liberty, and March 5 at West Des Moines, to provide required training for participation in Foundation grants programs. In these pictures from West Liberty, trainers and participants shared freely about their projects. A third seminar will be April 15 at 5 p.m. at Newton.

Jim Peterson, Iowa City AM

Tim Lane, Bettendorf

Rick Fleshin, Tipton



Glen Keppy, North Scott

NEW! DISTRICT INCENTIVES FOR MEMBERS, CLUBS

The Rotary Foundation

To stimulate giving to The Rotary Foundation, the district executive committee has approved offering PH Recognition Points to members and clubs as follows:

1. 500 points for a member becoming a new TRF Benefactor.
2. 500 points for a new Paul Harris Society Member.
3. 500 points to the club for sending a President-Elect to an International Convention.
4. 500 points for becoming a new 100 percent EREY club member contributor to the Annual Fund.
5. 1,000 points for becoming a 100% Sustaining Member club ($100 per member to the Annual Fund).
6. 100 points for any first-time contribution to the Foundation in any amount. If that first-time donation is between $100 and $500, the district will match that donation with an equal number of points.

To participate, contact District Administrator Carolyn Scharff, (877) 976-8279; or dis6000admin@Lisco.com.

The mission of The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International is to enable Rotarians to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through the improvement of health, the support of education, and the alleviation of poverty.

STARTING OVER:

Rebooted auction nets $76,541 at North Scott

By Patrick Olsen/North Scott
Auction Committe co-chair

The Rotary Club of North Scott completed its annual dinner and auction on Friday, Nov. 20, 2015. This event is the club's only annual fundraiser. Although the auction has been a long standing tradition, this year it was completely rebooted to reignite interest, grow attendance, and set new revenue goals.

As with many projects, planning for this year's auction began at the conclusion of the 2014 auction, and in December 2014 the auction committee came together to discuss the future of the fundraiser. Some members thought the event had grown stale and needed to be refreshed, while others believed it needed to be a completely new project. In the end, the committee decided to retain the auction and dinner concept, while at the same time giving the event a complete makeover, offering a high-class atmosphere without abandoning the history and tradition of the past.

The committee first decided to create a brand that would give the project an identity, helping it connect emotionally with Rotarians and the public at large. In doing so, the committee renamed the event, "North Scott Rotary Rallies for Youth," and created a logo that incorporated the flavor of Rotary with the intended beneficiaries of the project.

Another major change the committee wanted to explore was a venue change. This did not come without opposition; however, in order to improve the event, the committee's consensus was that a "pattern interrupt" was necessary, and a new venue was selected. Some other changes included moving the day from a Thursday to a Friday evening, offering soft drinks, beer and wine in the ticket price, providing entertainment, ambient lighting, videos and video projections, and much more.

Plus, sponsorship opportunities were offered to club members and the greater community for the first time as a way to raise additional funds and to demonstrate a broader coalition of support. The sponsorship effort was a huge success, landing five Gold Level sponsors, two Silver Level sponsors, 14 Bronze sponsors, and seven in-kind and media sponsors.

This endeavor required a lot of work by many Rotarians and even a few non-Rotarians. Countless meetings, phone calls, emails and brainstorming sessions provided a game plan to the project without losing sight of the end goal. The committee divided into teams to solicit businesses for donations, sell tickets, track auction items, design posters and other print materials, solicit media sponsors, and much more. The night of the event included volunteers working from setup through cleanup. The logistics were extraordinary, and required the assistance of more than 35 Rotarians to pull off the finished product. Needless to say, North Scott Rotarians did not disappoint!

Rotary Club of North Scott Auction Committee co-chair Patrick Olsen in action. Photos by Bill Tubbs

The club acquired 193 silent auction items, 35 live auction items, 42 restaurant gift cards for a "grab for grub" fundraising element,

continued on next page

Three hundred sixty Rotarians and guests enjoyed an upbeat ambiance at the Rogalski Center, St. Ambrose University, for the Rotary Club of North Scott's record-setting auction

Rotarian bid callers John Maxwell (above) and Eric Langan (r) kept the evening lively and unpredictable.

Record-setting auction

50/50 raffle, door prize opportunity, apple pie auction, and an entertainment package raffle.

As the date drew closer, only one thing stood in the way of success – weather! With the season's first snowstorm forecast for the day of the auction, the committee chairs were reasonably nervous; however, once again North Scott Rotarians and their guests did not disappoint. In the end, the event had a record 360 people attend with only a handful of cancellations.

The previous high for monies raised was slightly over $43,000 net. This year's new and improved Rallies for Youth auction raised an impressive $76,541 net. All of the proceeds will go back to the community in the form of scholarships or grants for community projects and club initiatives.

This event could not have taken place without the tremendous support of the 32 Rallies for Youth committee members, the club president, and the overwhelming support from the general membership. The project is proof of how open discussion leads to fresh ideas which, in turn lead to a fundraiser that exceeded all expectations by setting records for public and Rotarian attendance, number of items auctioned, and ultimately raising more money than any prior auction.

The 2016 North Scott Rotary Rallies for Youth event is already in the planning stages and will take place in the fall of 2016 with hopes of being bigger and more successful than this record setting year.

Patrick Olsen can be reached at: olsenpatrickd@gmail.com.

Josh Cobie and Rich Horst sold chances for the "Grab for Grub."

First round of grants ...

The first round of grants from the Rotary Club of North Scott's auction were awarded on March 4. Twenty-one organizations received $24,000, including Davenport North Band Boosters, 180 Zone, Handicapped Development Center, Scott County Library, Boy Scouts Illowa Council and Hav-Life Foundation, pictured with grants committee chair Jeff Helms. A second round of grants will be awarded in June. Auction proceeds also support longstanding charities of the club and district.

Photo by Bill Tubbs

Youth Exchange enjoys a weekend in the QCA

Thirty-two inbound, outbound and Rotex Youth from District 6000 enjoyed a weekend in the Quad Cities March 5-6, compliments of the Rotary Club of North Scott. The students gathered at the Steeplegate Inn for interaction, fun, games and training. They visited the Mississippi River and viewed the eagles by Arsenal Island, then visited the John Deere Pavilion to see the products of one of our major industries. In the evening they went iceskating at the "Rivers Edge." Students are pictured above with their hosts Paul Kalainoff and Dennis Peterson. (Deb Peterson and Susan Kalainoff also hosted!) At right, Japanese students Kinuka Miwa and Mizuna Okura enjoy barbecue sandwiches – an American tradition.

Photos by Bill Tubbs

PETS at GMS? ...

Indianola Rotary club president Ron Heideman brought Vince, a dog in training for a disabled veteran, to the Grant Management Seminar at West Des Moines on March 5. Is GMS the new PETS? Provided by Peggy Geiger

'School Shop' ...

Since 2005, North Scott Rotary's School Shop, in partnership with AEA counselors, has given hats, scarves, coats, folders, notebooks, pencils, markers, head phones, tissues, hand sanitizers and more, to Davenport and North Scott school children on an ongoing basis, mostly anonymously. On Jan. 22, Jeremy Kaiser and Brian Williams made deliveries to Neil Armstrong School in Park View. Photo by Bill Tubbs

Rotary ringers ...

Waukee Rotarians participated in the Salvation Army Red Kettle Bell Ringing at the Waukee Hy-Vee on Dec. 14. Among those ringing the bells were Rotarians Jim Riordan and Curt Fett.

Provided by Jim Heffernan

Walking for Epilepsy ...

Nate Burnham (r) delivered a $500 check to the Iowa Epilepsy Foundation. This made the Rotary Club of Ankeny a bronze sponsor for the Iowa Walk for Epilepsy which will be held April 30th in the lower level of Jordan Creek mall. Registration is 8:00 a.m. with the fun walk beginning at 9:00 a.m. In addition to the fun walk, there will be music by CW Hobbs, face painting, a silent auction, mascots, snacks and a kids area. Pictured (l-r): Jessica Hunnell, Des Moines Walk Chair, Roxanne Cogil, Director of Iowa Epilepsy Services, Annette Burnham, Walk Committee volunteer, and Nate Burnham, Rotary Club of Ankeny. Provided by Jody Savage

For the YMCA ...

Kraig Vry accepted a $1,000 check at the Rotary Club of Ankeny meeting on Feb. 16 for the YMCA's annual campaign. Pictured (l-r): President Damon Miller, Kraig Vry, executive director of Ankeny Family YMCA, and YMCA board members and Ankeny Rotarians, Justin Carlton, Stacey Koeppen and Kathy Sibbel (front). Provided by Jody Savage

Good spirits at Nevada!

The Rotary Club of Nevada hosted a Wine and Microbreweries of the Midwest Tasting event on Friday, Feb. 19, at the Indian Creek Country Club in Nevada. Featured wines were from Italy, France and the United States, including microbreweries from the Midwest. The event included finger foods, a wine pulland silent auction.

Proceeds went to Project Warm, Project Stove Top, Fire Stop and RAG4Clubfoot, a Rotary Action Group dedicated to helping approximately 200,000 children born each year with clubfoot.

– submitted by Karin Sevde

The theme for the Rotary Club of Ankeny fundraising auction was "Biker Night."

'Biker Night' at Ankeny

By Jody Savage/Ankeny
Club Public Relations Chair

The Rotary Club of Ankeny held its 6th annual auction fundraiser on Saturday, Feb 27 at the DMACC FFA Enrichment Center.

The theme was Biker Night in recognition of Wade Franck, a local Ankeny resident and avid bike rider who was killed in a car/bike accident last summer. With over 220 in attendance, the night was a huge success for the club, with over $36,000 net income raised. This will help further the projects and organizations the Rotary club supports in the community and around the world.

Some key items the Rotary supports include the Ankeny Market Pavilion along the bike trail, dictionaries for the Ankeny area 4th graders, Dollars for Scholars, Ankeny Service Center, YMCA annual campaign and Iowa Walk for Epilepsy, just to name a few.

Hosted by
Jennifer Jones, Director
Zones 28 & 29

Hosted by
Brad Howard, Director
Zones 25 & 26

Presenting...
The Great American Breakfast
The NORTHLAND
Meets
The FAR WEST

Rotary | SEOUL 2016

Going to Seoul Convention? DON'T MISS THIS!

Great American Breakfast

Monday, May 30, 7-9 am
Kintex Convention Center
(go right from breakfast to the Convention plenary session)

REGISTER NOW at
www.greatamericanbreakfast.com
Or at www.zones28-29.org

Contact PDG Jacque Andrew at jeandrew@netins.net for more information.

News briefs

Jefferson Highway: District Governor Loring Miller reports that a 115-page document has been submitted to the Department of Transportation to designate a series of highways from Winnipeg, Canada, to New Orleans, La., as the Jefferson Highway. In Iowa, the highways are sections of U.S. 65, 30 and 69. This project of Rotary required resolutions of support from all governmental jurisdictions along the route (cities, counties, states). The Jefferson Highway, conceived in 1915 by Edwin T. Meredith, a member of the Rotary Club of Des Moines, was the first international trans-continental route.

* * *

China: RI Past President Gary Huang of Taiwan (2014-15) told District 6000 Rotarians Bill Tubbs and Mike Ruby that he remembers his February 2014 visit to Muscatine well – and that the visit has, and will, help Rotary charter clubs in China. While we were at RI Headquarters in Evanston on March 8, Gary said there are currently 10 Rotary clubs in China for foreigners who are in China – AND (this is new!) for Chinese citizens with passports. One club has 85 members. Their service projects are exemplary. Past President Gary will charter five more clubs in May. "My time in Muscatine made it possible," he said. Muscatine is where China's president, Xi Jinping, lived and studied in 1985. The city has extensive ties with China. Gary's visit to Muscatine was facilitated by PDG Jacque Andrew. *–BT*

* * *

Council On Legislation: Delegates from 535 districts worldwide will convene in Chicago on April 9-15 for Rotary's triennial Council On Legislation. The Council will act upon, 181 proposed enactments and resolutions relating to the RI bylaws and constitutional documents. District 6000's delegate is PDG Bill Tubbs of the Rotary Club of North Scott. Alternate is PDG Susan Herrick of the Rotary Club of Boone.

* * *

HEF: Phil Peterson of the Rotary Club of Iowa City is the new treasurer for the District 6000 HEF (Humanitarian and Educational Foundation). The 501C3 foundation administers 37 funds for projects of District 6000 Rotarians. "HEF is going strong," says District Governor Loring Miller. Peterson can be reached at 330 Butternut Lane, Iowa City, IA 52246; ph. (319) 351-3807; email ptpeterson33@gmail.com.

* * *

India: Iowa City Rotarians Jody Braverman and Usha Balakrishnan traveled to India for Rotary service, including polio National Immunization Days, in February. Watch for a report in the next issue of District 6000 News.

* * *

Scholar: District 6000 Rotary Scholar Dylan Clark is a graduate student at McGill University in Montreal, Canada. He discovered during his masters' research that search and rescue events in Nunavut seem to peak at around -3 C – a finding that will save money on future SAR missions. Rotary Scholars are a program of The Rotary Foundation. Watch for a feature in the next issue of District 6000 News.

* * *

Outreach: Transportation troubles held up the shipment of meals intended for survivors of the 2015 Nepal earthquake. The non-perishable meals that were collected by Iowa-based Outreach, Inc., and shipped by Rotary in partnership with Kiwanis and Lions, will be used where they will do the most good, more likely in India than Nepal.

* * *

Global Grant: If your club is looking to be a partner on a Global Grant, please consider one in Nicaragua. For more information contact: jim-peterson@mchsi.com (319) 214-0102 mobile and office.

* * *

PR: Hats off to Rotarians from District 6000 and 5970 who manned the phones at the Iowa Public TV Festival night on March 19 at IPTV studios in Johnston!

* * *

100 Years: The Rotary Club of Ottumwa will celebrate its centennial on May 19 at Bridgeview Center, Ottumwa.

The Paul Harris portrait at RI Headquarters (l-r): Vernette and DGE Chris Knapp, Phyllis and DG Loring Miller, PDG Jacque Andrew, PDG Bill Tubbs, DGN Mike Ruby and Jo Anne, and PDG Jill Olsen (District 5970. Photo by Amanda Runge

Iowa's gift to Rotary International

By PDG Bill Tubbs/North Scott

Our guide during a tour on March 8 was unaware of the history of the famous portrait of Rotary founder Paul Harris that hangs outside the board room on the 18th Floor of RI Headquarters in Evanston, Ill. PDG Bill Tubbs explained: The portrait was a gift to Rotary from Iowa Rotarians during his governor year in 2004-05. Paul Harris was a graduate of the University of Iowa Law School. The portrait by famous American portrait artist Paul Trebilcock, whose subjects included FDR, was given to the University and sat in storage, unnoticed, for more than 50 years. In 2004, PDG John Dasher urged that it be deaccessioned from the University, restored and given to Rotary International. Governors from the two Iowa districts, 6000 and 5970, raised $4,400 from the pockets of DGs and PDGs in both districts to accomplish this. The portrait and frame were restored by a firm in Minneapolis and shipped with archival care from Iowa to Minneapolis to Evanston. The rest of the story is that a 500-year flood in June 2008 destroyed the lower levels of the Memorial Union. Had it not been for the actions of Iowa Rotarians in 2004-05, the portrait would have been forever lost. It is a story that must be told!

Obituary

Kathy Strum, 68, a member of the Rotary Club of Nevada, who served District 6000 as district treasurer from 2008-13, died Dec. 23, 2015, at the Israel Family Hospice House in Ames, surrounded by her loving family.

She was a 1983 graduate of Iowa State University with a bachelor of science degree in accounting and passed the CPA exam on the first round, also in 1983. A lifelong learner, she received her MBA degree from Iowa State in 1996. She was an officer and director at Hertz Farm Management, where she was employed for 31 years and which she grew to love as her second family.

Kathy Strum

She participated in RAGBRAI for over 12 years and ran the Dam to Dam 20K race at age 58. She was a Sunday school teacher, church officer and seven-year member of the Nevada City Council. In 2012, she received a "Meritorious Service Award" from Rotary District 6000. She is survived by her husband, Stanley, three daughters, one son, seven grandchildren, two brothers and one sister. Services were Dec. 28 at Memorial Lutheran Church.

KOREA 2016 28 MAY–01 JUNE SEOUL
ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Connect with 40,000 Rotarians in Seoul!

Pre-registration for the May 28-June 1 RI Convention in Seoul, Korea, ends on March 31. 40,000-plus are expected at attend!

District Governor-Elect Chris Knapp and Vernette invite you to the District/Zone Great American Breakfast on Monday, May 30 in Hall 10 at the Kintex Convention Center, Seoul, Korea. This event will serve as a great way to kick off your experience at the Rotary International Convention. Details and online registration are available at www.rotary6000.org.

Rotary rallies for youth ...

225 children from school- and after-school programs in the Quad Cities were treated to an afternoon at the farm by the Rotary Clubs of North Scott and Davenport at their 10th annual Youth Harvest Party last fall at Pride of the Wapsi Pumpkin Patch, Long Grove.The students were bused to the farm where they enjoyed a hayrack ride to the pumpkin patch and activities that included petting the farm animals, seeing local fire department and EMS displays, and games. They were treated to a "taco in a bag" meal and each child received a "goody bag." Photo by Bill Tubbs

CLUB ATTENDANCE PERCENT AND RANK

CLUB	OCTOBER 2015		NOVEMBER 2015		DECEMBER 2015	
	Percent	Rank	Percent	Rank	Percent	Rank
Adel	62.00%	27	59.00%	31	56.00%	31
Albia			59.40%	30	62.50%	22
Ames	60.40%	32	61.40%	26	45.94%	45
Ames Morning	59.70%	34			60.90%	25
Ankeny	75.42%	10	75.93%	10	71.88%	13
Atlantic	39.47%	50	46.93%	51		
Bettendorf	60.80%	31	51.70%	44	59.00%	28
Bloomfield	68.00%	20	78.00%	9	78.00%	8
Boone	61.00%	30	58.00%	33	43.00%	46
Burlington	86.20%	5	84.30%	4	80.20%	7
Carroll	61.72%	28	64.52%	22	58.06%	30
Centerville			50.00%	47	47.00%	41
Chariton	73.06%	12	71.79%	14	66.12%	18
Clinton	52.14%	45	55.80%	34	46.55%	43
Coon Rapids	68.00%	20	74.00%	12	67.00%	15
Coralville-North Corridor	100.00%	1	100.00%	1	83.00%	6
Corning	60.00%	33	63.00%	24	60.00%	27
Corydon						
Creston			54.00%	39	53.00%	38
Dallas Center	69.00%	19	80.00%	8	72.00%	12
Davenport	54.53%	42	48.00%	50	46.11%	44
Decatur County	71.00%	16	62.00%	25	65.00%	20
Des Moines	57.57%	36	55.23%	36	55.87%	32
Des Moines A.M.	59.00%	35	61.00%	28	65.00%	20
East Polk County	55.73%	38	55.47%	35	65.00%	20
Fairfield	36.84%	51	30.56%	52	30.14%	49
Fort Madison	55.00%	41	55.00%	37	59.00%	28
Greater Des Moines	83.00%	7			67.00%	15
Grinnell	76.00%	9			74.00%	9
Indianola	55.51%	39	61.27%	27	58.33%	29
Iowa City	34.04%	52	23.51%	53	34.25%	48
Iowa City A.M.	87.11%	4	83.51%	5	87.24%	5
Iowa City Downtown	85.53%	6	85.71%	3	91.23%	3
Iowa Quad-Cities	62.00%	27	69.23%	18	65.33%	19
Jefferson	63.00%	25	60.00%	29		
Johnston	70.29%	18	66.04%	21	62.38%	23
Kalona	70.63%	17	69.57%	17	66.15%	17
Keokuk					41.94%	47
Keosauqua	63.20%	23	52.60%	42	72.40%	11
Knoxville	48.98%	47	49.44%	48	47.22%	40
Lenox	66.00%	21			67.00%	15
Manning	73.00%	13	70.00%	16	71.00%	14
Marengo						
Marshalltown	54.26%	43	48.01%	49	53.02%	37
Mount Pleasant Noon	40.00%	49	52.00%	43		
Mt. Pleasant	76.00%	9	73.00%	13	83.00%	6
Muscatine	48.43%	48	54.94%	38	46.95%	42
Nevada	55.79%	37	50.43%	45		
Newton	63.18%	24	68.69%	19	63.21%	21
North Scott	93.49%	2	91.24%	2	93.75%	1
Northwest Des Moines	71.94%	15	70.94%	15	72.57%	10
Osceola	53.00%	44	53.00%	40	50.00%	39
Oskaloosa						
Ottumwa	50.27%	46	50.11%	46	53.48%	36
Pella	64.00%	22	75.00%	11	67.00%	15
Perry	68.00%	20	59.00%	31	62.00%	24
Tipton	61.50%	29	55.00%	37	54.00%	34
Washington	55.20%	40	52.95%	41	55.24%	33
Waukee	62.95%	26	68.55%	20	66.23%	16
Wellman	91.43%	3	83.48%	6	91.18%	4
West Des Moines	73.78%	11	64.45%	23	53.88%	35
West Liberty	72.00%	14	59.00%	31	54.00%	34
West Polk County	64.00%	22	58.68%	32	60.87%	26
Winterset	81.00%	8	82.00%	7	92.00%	2

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District 6000 News is published four times a year, in September, December, March and June, 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.

Club leaders' checklist

Be a gift to the world

From DG Loring Miller . . .

• Attend the **District Conference** and encourage your members to register and attend! (p. 1-2).

• Register club leaders to attend **District Training Assembly** April 16 at Newton (p. 3).

• Register for the May 28-June 1 **RI Convention** in Seoul, Korea, including the District 6000 Breakfast (p. 35).

• Complete the **Club Planning Guide** at Rotary Club Central to prepare for a successful year in 2016-17.

• Support the **Ponseti Clubfoot Repair Project** (p. 1, 4).

• Create awareness and raise funds for the **Global Campaign to Eradicate Polio** (p. 10-12).

• Identify student(s) for **2016 RYLA** (p. 13)

• Plan **Membership Development** strategies and **engage new members** in meaningful service (p. 16-17).

• Encourage members to attend **RLI Training** (p. 7).

• Check your club's progress toward your **Rotary Foundation** Annual Programs Fund goal and make plans to meet or exceed it (p. 28-29).

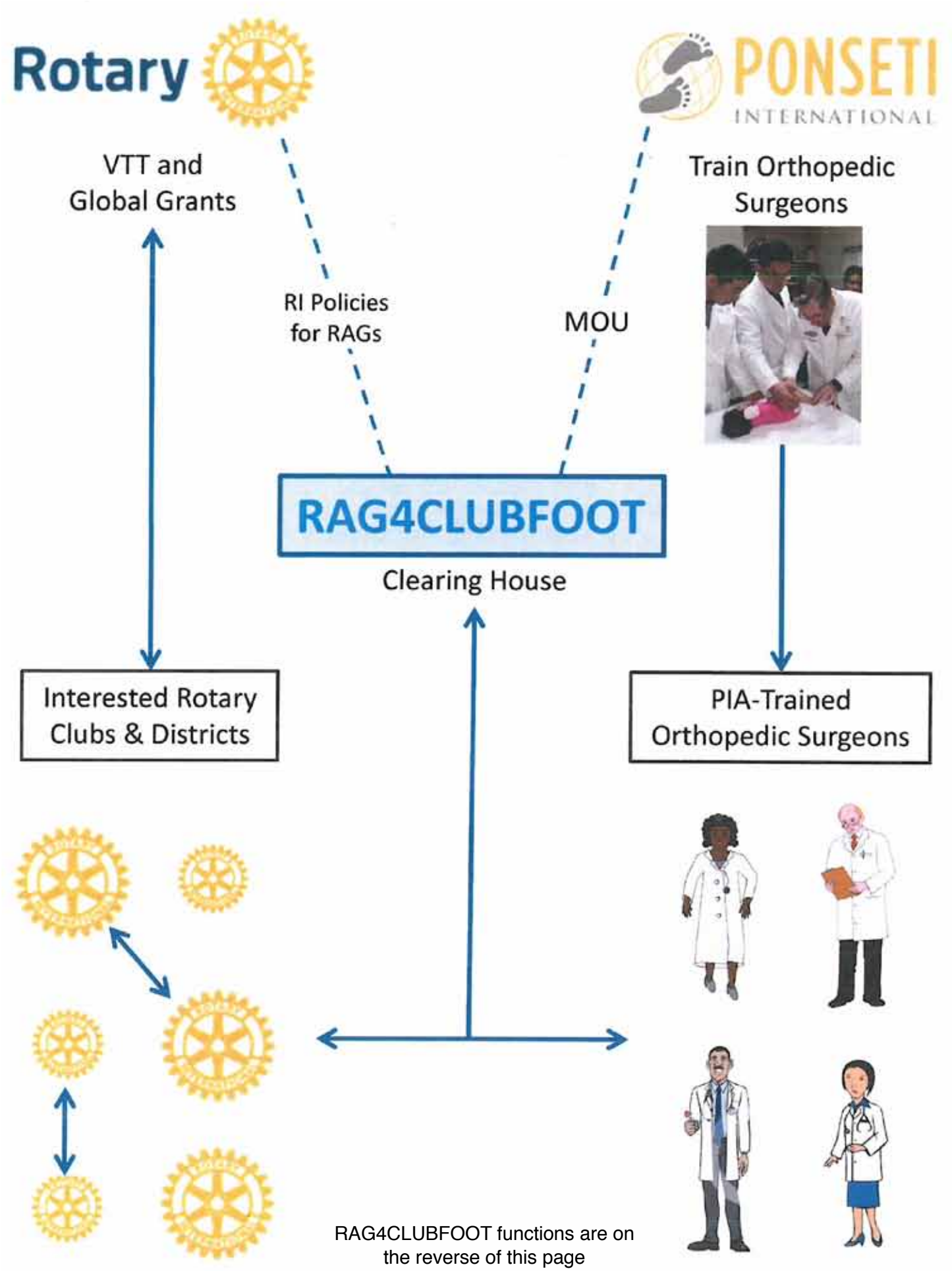
• Promote **attendance** and report your **attendance** monthly to District Administrator Carolyn Scharff (p. 35).

• Encourage members to create a personal **My Rotary Account** and use **Rotary Club Central** to record your goals and plans.

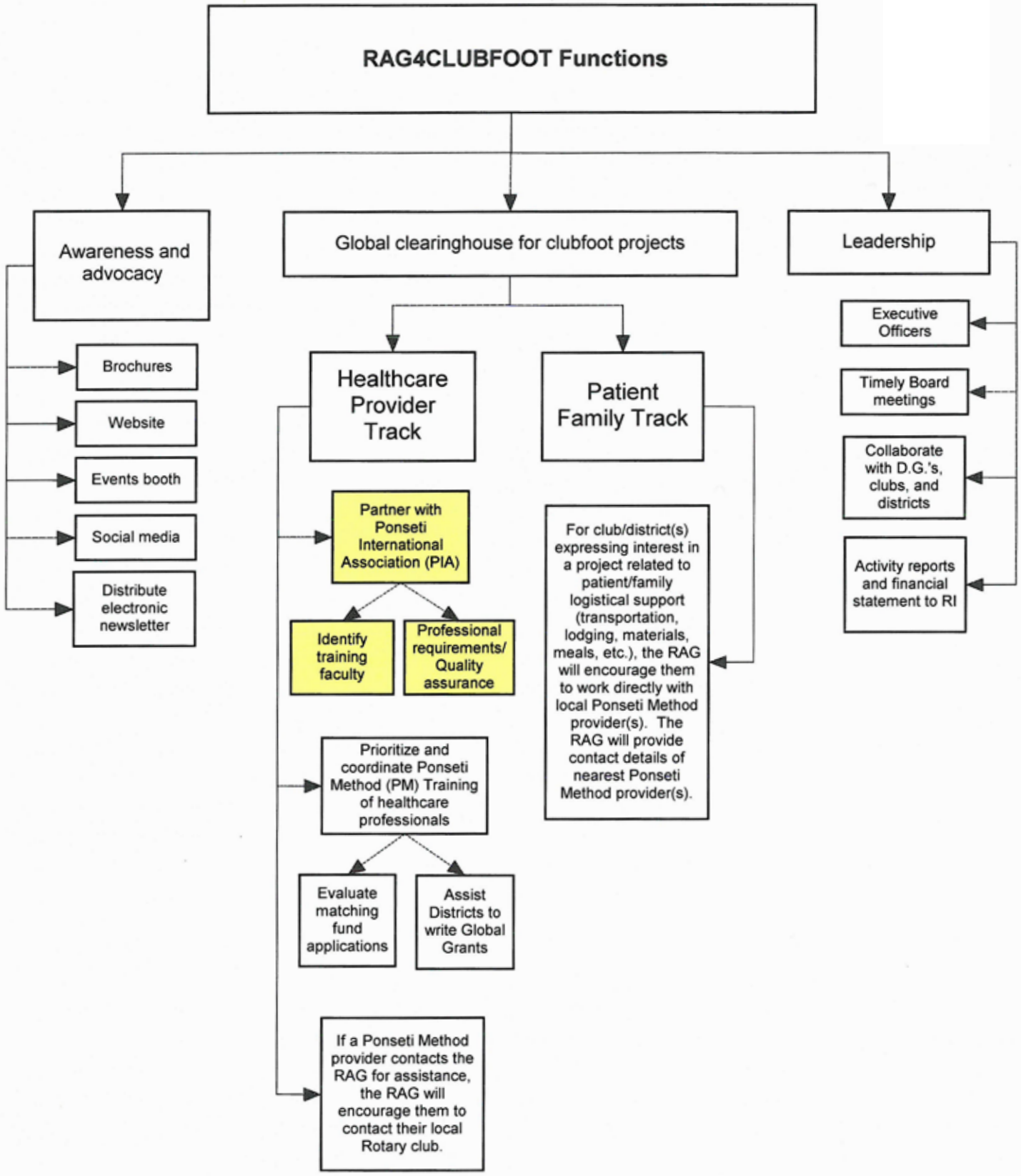
• **Submit news** of your activities by May 28 for the next issue of *District 6000 News* to PDG Bill Tubbs at btubbs@northscottpress.com.

PDG John Ockenfels (c) and Deb promoted Operation Warm at NCPETS March 11-12 at Rochester, Minn. Visiting their display was Rotary Foundation Trustee Bryn Styles of Barrie, Ontario, Canada. In two years, District 6000 Rotary clubs have provided coats for more than 18,000 children.

Photo by Bill Tubbs



RAG4CLUBFOOT functions are on the reverse of this page


RAG4CLUBFOOT Functions
Awareness and advocacy
Brochures
Website
Events booth
Social media
Distribute electronic newsletter
Global clearinghouse for clubfoot projects
Healthcare Provider Track
Partner with Ponseti International Association (PIA)
Identify training faculty
Professional requirements/ Quality assurance
Prioritize and coordinate Ponseti Method (PM) Training of healthcare professionals
Evaluate matching fund applications
Assist Districts to write Global Grants
If a Ponseti Method provider contacts the RAG for assistance, the RAG will encourage them to contact their local Rotary club.
Patient Family Track
For club/district(s) expressing interest in a project related to patient/family logistical support (transportation, lodging, materials, meals, etc.), the RAG will encourage them to work directly with local Ponseti Method provider(s). The RAG will provide contact details of nearest Ponseti Method provider(s).
Leadership
Executive Officers
Timely Board meetings
Collaborate with D.G.'s, clubs, and districts
Activity reports and financial statement to RI