

Rotary District 6000 News

Rotary District 6000, Iowa USA

Chris Knapp, Governor

– A Global Network of Community Volunteers –

Third Quarter (January-February-March 2017)



Should I go? YES!

By DG Chris Knapp/Iowa City AM

Should I stay or should I go?

'Tis the season of Rotary events. Our Rotary year may be from July 1 to June 30, but the year for our club leadership begins in February.

The year of events for both new and current leadership begins with the annual Grant Management Seminars. GMS is a chance for a Rotarian to get up close and personal to the District Grant and Global Grant process. At a GMS, we learn how to put our Rotary Foundation dollars to work "Doing Good In The World."

Should I Go? Yes!

Our presidents-elect and president nominees attend North Central Presidents-Elect Training Seminar. This four-district training event is the premiere training event to prepare our club leadership for their year at the helm of our clubs. PETS is the opportunity for your club's leadership to network with other incoming leaders of clubs both large and small.

NCPETS, because of its geographic significance, provides our club presidents-elect with the opportunity to meet such RI leaders as President-Elect Ian Riseley and RI Vice-President Jennifer Jones.

Should I Go? Yes!

In March, District Assembly meets in Newton to provide a learning venue for club treasurers, secretaries, Foundation and membership chairs and other club leadership. This annual meeting again

offers club officers from across the district time to network, to talk of challenges and successes that every club experiences.

Should I Go? Yes!

Then comes May. Our annual District Conference offers our clubs, members and leaders a time to come together to celebrate their year of successes. Clubs, district committee members and individual Rotarians host tables in the House of Friendship. District Rotarians often participate as panelists, hosts or speakers at our conferences. This

NC-PETS

March 10-11, Ames
Grant Management
Seminar

March 24, DMACC,
Newton, 5-9 p.m.

District Training
Assembly

March 25, DMACC,
Newton, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

District Conference

May 4-6, Coralville Marriott

RI Convention

Atlanta, Georgia
June 10-14



Our newest Rotary club!

Rotary Club of West Des Moines president Amy Feters (c), along with Assistant District Governor Chris Nelson (l) presented the Norwalk bell to the potential new Rotary Club of Norwalk on Feb. 14, to president-elect Anthony Samuelson (r). The new club has been meeting since Jan. 10 at 6:30 on Tuesday mornings. A charter date has not been set, but congratulations, all, in helping Rotary grow!

Provided by Amy Feters

What's your legacy?

By DG Chris Knapp/Iowa City AM

What's your Legacy?

Legacy: "Something transmitted by or received from an ancestor." (Merriam-Webster).

This year I have challenged every Rotarian across our district to think and act upon their Rotary Legacy. The purpose of the challenge is to encourage Rotarians to join in an effort to raise \$1 million. By bringing Rotarians together to achieve this goal, we build a legacy for the future generations of District 6000 Rotarians.

The Legacy Challenge Goal is \$1 million. The sources of this Challenge Goal are gifts of both cash contributions and bequests from Rotarians. To be a part of this challenge, a participant is asked to make a minimum contribution or pledge of \$10,000. Some of our fellow Rotarians have made cash contributions or are gifting appreciated assets or designating an insurance policy to The Rotary



2017 DISTRICT 6000 CONFERENCE

MAY 4-6, 2017 at Coralville Marriott

THURSDAY, MAY 4

UI Service Learning Student Report of Xicotepec trip, Marriott Hotel, 6:00 p.m.

Reception and Fellowship, Johnson County Historical Museum, 6:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, MAY 5 **Morning Highlights**

Conference registration, 8:00 a.m.-noon

Welcoming and opening ceremony, 9:00 a.m.

House of Friendship, 9:00 a.m.-noon

RI President's Rep Rich and Tracy Rowland

Speaker, PDG Susan Herrick, Stories of Polio Eradication

Panel: Stories of Long-Term Projects

Memorial Service

Noon Highlights

Rotary Youth Exchange Flag Presentation

Keynote Speaker: David Forward, 100 Years of The Rotary Foundation

Afternoon Highlights

House of Friendship, 1:30-5:00p.m.

Panel: Stories of Short-Term Projects

Panel: Stories of Fundraising.

Evening Highlights

Home Hospitality Dinners, 6:00 p.m. (Be sure to sign up!)

SATURDAY, MAY 6 **Morning Highlights**

Conference Registration, 7:00a.m.-noon

Conference Breakfast, 7:30-8:45 a.m.

House of Friendship 8:00 a.m.-noon

Speaker: Juan Francisco Fernandez, Stories from Guatemala

Panel: Stories of D6000 Youth Programs

Panel: Stories from Parents

Paul Hellwege Guardian of Integrity Awards

Noon Highlights

Keynote speaker, Andrew Carter, UI Rowing Coach

Afternoon Highlights

House of Friendship, 1:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m.

Panel: Stories of Engaging and Growing Membership

Panel: Stories of Serving Generations

RLI Presentation: PDG Terry Geiger

Evening Highlights

Dinner, 6:00 p.m.

Keynote speaker: RI Rep Rich Rowland

Music by John Schulz

Live Auction of Handmade Quilt

Sing Let There Be Peace On Earth

**Sign up today at www.rotary6000.org
for a Great District Conference!**

District Conference: A time to celebrate and tell our Rotary stories

By Nancy Pacha/Iowa City AM

District Conference Co-Chair

District Conference, May 4-6, 2017: Uniting Generations, Serving Humanity.

May 4-6 we will gather at the Marriott Hotel in Coralville for an opportunity to handle Rotary business and enjoy fellowship at our annual District Conference. The program is packed with sessions of interest and plenty of time is allocated for the camaraderie we enjoy when Rotarians gather.

At our District Conference we take the opportunity to celebrate the accomplishments of our Rotary service projects and endeavors.

The 2017 conference will focus on stories of Uniting Generations Serving Humanity. There will be stories of the life-changing things Rotarians do to serve others and create a better world. We will hear stories of midwives and water projects, of project fairs and surgical missions, of serving youth and growing membership.

We will hear stories of polio eradication, stories from Guatemala, stories about how we can get in the boat together and row toward the same goals; stories about how The Rotary Foundation works to support the ideas that germinate in our clubs and communities.

On Thursday evening, May 4, the service learning students from the University of Iowa will provide their annual report, telling stories of how their own lives changed and how they changed the lives of others in Xicotepec, Mexico this year. Then, on to the fellowship portion of the evening at the nearby Johnson County Historical Society and Antique Car Museum for food, drink and conversation as we process the information we have just heard.

The all club luncheon is Friday noon. Plan to come and see all your friends and hear from David Forward who will tell stories of The Rotary Foundation.

CONFERENCE/continued



This beautiful quilt hand-stitched by Deb Ockenfels will be sold as a fundraiser for youth at the District Conference.

Should I Go? YES!

GOVERNOR/continued from p. 1

is the top district networking event of the year.

Should I Go? Yes!

Finally, the premiere event of each year is the Rotary International Conference. This year it's in Atlanta. How close can we get to this fantastic annual event? An International Conference offers every Rotarian the opportunity to meet Rotarians from around the world. Every International Conference brings together Rotarians from around the world in search of partners to improve the lives of the citizens of their country. Rotarians of District 6000 are generous and are often looking for new challenges. What better place to do it than at this year's International Conference?

Should I Go? Yes!

The annual calendar of district and Rotary International events is on the district's website. Every Rotarian in our district has the chance to choose one or more of these special events to attend.

Should You Go? I most certainly hope so!

District Conference: Add value to Rotary

CONFERENCE/continued from p. 2

On Friday evening conference attendees can appreciate hospitality as guests for dinner in the homes of local Rotarians. Home Hospitality offers the opportunity to eat a fabulous meal and to really get to know more folks well.

On Saturday evening you may dress formally (or not) at a banquet. Instead of stories, you will be treated to music by talented young musicians.



David Forward

During the day on Friday and Saturday there will be more storytelling about our district's projects and programs as we continue to enjoy this chance to see old friends and make new friends and to extend our Rotary knowledge.

When you broaden your Rotary experience beyond your club involvement by attending a district conference, you have taken a step to enhancing the satisfaction Rotary can provide to you. So plan to come and share your Rotary story. We want to hear.

THE ROTARY FOUNDATION Centennial Celebration

LEGACY/continued from p. 1

Foundation this year. Many other participants are designating The Rotary Foundation in their wills as a bequest.

Rotarians who gift or arrange a bequest of \$25,000 or more are eligible to have the gift listed in their name. The district's SHARE of the annual income from that gift is returned to the district in the name of the donor. The Rotarian's legacy is remembered year after year and benefits our district year after year.

A Legacy Celebration Dinner is planned for Wednesday, May 24, 2017, at the Radisson Hotel and Conference Center, Coralville. Our special guest for the event is Stephanie Urchick, past trustee of The Rotary Foundation who is currently serving as chairperson of the Strategic Planning Committee and chair of The Rotary Foundation Centennial Celebration Committee.



The Legacy Challenge ends April 30th. Are you going to be at the Radisson?

If you want to be a part of the District 6000 Legacy Challenge, please contact any of the following:

For more information on how you can leave your Legacy contact any of the following:

- **DG Chris Knapp**, Rotary Club of Iowa City AM. Ph: (319) 621-4977.
 - **PDG Jacques Andrew**, Rotary Club of Jefferson. Ph. (515) 370-8358.
 - **AG Steve Dakin**, Rotary Club of Boone Ph: (515) 230-0036.
 - **PDG Terry Geiger**, Rotary Club of Decatur County. Ph. (641) 442-5559.
 - **DGN Tom Narak**, Rotary Club of West Des Moines. Ph. (515) 229-9846.
 - **James Slavens**, Rotary Club of Bettendorf, Ph. (563) 340-8857.
 - **Wayne Steen**, Rotary Club of West Liberty. Ph. (563) 607-3367.
 - **Rachel Greenhoe**, Major Gift Officer of The Rotary Foundation in Evanston, Ill., is our RI liaison. Ph.: (847) 866-3476.
- What's your Legacy?*

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Des Moines area clubs plan celebration of 100 years of The Rotary Foundation

"We should not live for ourselves alone, but for the joy in doing good for others."

– Arch Klumpp, founder of The Rotary Foundation

By Sharon Vickery/Des Moines

Foundation Day Committee

More than 300 Rotarians are anticipated to come together in Des Moines on Tuesday, April 11, in proclamation and celebration of 100 years of Rotary Foundation contributions to improving the human condition in our local communities and around the world.

The celebration will kick off with multiple metro area mayor proclamations of April 11th as "Rotary Foundation Day," followed by a fun-filled evening with food, fellowship and live music.

When: Tuesday, April 11, 5:00 to 7:30 p.m.

Where: Kum & Go Theater (in Des Moines Social Club), 901 Cherry Street, downtown Des Moines.

Who: Rotarians, dignitaries and your guests.

Parking: Free ramp parking between 8th and 9th and Mulberry and Cherry after 5:00 p.m. Street metered parking is also available and free after 6 p.m.

RSVP: Only \$15 per person. Contact your club to register

THE ROTARY FOUNDATION



YEARS OF DOING GOOD IN THE WORLD

today!

A special 'thank you' to the Rotary Foundation Day Committee who represent 11 metro area clubs: Ankeny, Des Moines AM, East Polk, Greater Des Moines, Indianola, Johnston, Northwest, Rotary Club of Des Moines, Waukee, West Des Moines and West Polk.

'Vision 2020' Membership Development training meetings planned

By Wayne Steen/West Liberty

District 6000 Membership Chair

District 6000 will be sponsoring two Membership Development (Vision 2020) events:

- The eastern Iowa District 6000 Membership Event (Vision 2020) will be Thursday, April 6, at the Best Western SteepleGate Inn in Davenport (at the I-80 and Highway 61, Brady Street exit). A light buffet style meal and "meet and greet" will start at 6 p.m. and the meeting will start at 6:30. I hope we can get the event finished at 8:30. DGE Mike Ruby, District Trainer John Schultz and I will facilitate the event. For those who are familiar with the SteepleGate Inn, the event will be at the Williamsburg C room because it has round tables and the screen is no charge.

- We will have a District 6000 Membership event in West Des Moines on Wednesday evening, April 19. The schedule will be the same as at the meeting in Davenport. The event will be called Vision 2020 and will be held at Shive Hattery in West Des Moines. So please save the date of the evening of Wednesday, April 19 on your calendars! The event will be lead by John Schultz, Steve Wieneke and me. District Governor Chris Knapp will also be attending.

We are encouraging everyone interested in membership and engagement to attend. We would especially like club presidents-elect and club membership chairs to attend the event.

There will be no charge for either event. A very light buffet will be served at each event.

Is is time to rebrand, refurbish Rotary marks?

By Peggy Geiger/Decatur County

District 6000 Public Image Chair

Put on your club "TO DO" list – make time to check Rotary projects to ensure the branding is still visible and readable. The Iowa weather has no mercy when it comes to rain, sleet, ice or snow beating down on our branding.



Symbols that are worn out and in disrepair are a disservice to Rotary!

Please be checking to see if our Rotary branding has been blown down, bent over, hidden by trees or bushes, torn or broken by accident, or just faded out and rusted by inclement weather. Make sure that our Rotary wheels still look like Rotary wheels and that the paint is still crisp and clear and can be easily seen.

And if your project was identified with a wheel in the beginning that now needs replaced, this is the time to bring in our new brand as shown here.



Where practical, rebrand projects with Rotary's new mark of excellence (at left).

Xicotepec, Mexico: Year No. 15

Rotarians, Interactors, students, faculty give Service Above Self

By Jim Peterson/Iowa City AM

District 6000 Xicotepec Project Co-Chair

2017 is the 15th consecutive year in which District 6000 has sent a project team to Xicotepec, Puebla, Mexico to help make community projects of the Rotary Club of Xicotepec become reality.

As in past years, the project team includes Rotarians, Interactors, University of Iowa service-learning students and faculty, and their family members. The 2017 project team includes 45 members from Clinton, Coralville, Des Moines, Iowa City, Keokuk, West Des Moines and West Liberty in Iowa, and Kent, Washington, and Midlothian, Virginia.

This year's March 11-19 mission is the smallest project team in the 15-year history of the Xicotepec Project, although only by a few persons. Of the 45 members, 15 have made the trip to Xicotepec at least once in previous years, while 30 will be participating for the first time.

Including this year's participants, well over 900 project team members have made the spring break trip to Xicotepec since the first team went there in March, 2003 to construct classrooms at the Rotary Club Primary School during PDG Gary Pacha's year as DG.

Projects for 2017 include continuing activities such as the deworming program organized by University of Iowa College of Pharmacy students (along with their faculty member and Iowa City Rotarian Dr. Chris Catney) which is executed with help from the rest of the project team, Xicotepec Rotarians and friends. School staff in and students in many preschools and primary schools will receive the deworming medication. 2017 will be the eleventh year for this program, which in recent years has shifted its focus toward poorer rural communities where parasite infection rates are highest. Retired College of Pharmacy Associate Dean, Hazel Seaba, a member of the Rotary Club of Iowa City AM, played a key role in establishing this program and will accompany the team this year – her first trip to Xicotepec as a former member of the U of I faculty.

Another continuing program is a community dental health program, conducted by University of Iowa College of Dentistry students along with faculty members Dr. Steven Levy and Daisy Patino. This group also works in schools to promote preventative dental hygiene to students, their parents and school staff.

Both the deworming and dental programs address needs identified by the community, and both depend on support from the Xicotepec Rotary Club for scheduling, obtaining authorizations from schools and parents, transportation and other logistics, and the actual execution of the programs in the schools. Other groups that have contributed personnel for these projects include a local nursing school, the local Red Cross chapter, and members of Xicotepec's Inner Wheel, Interact and Rotaract clubs.

Some other projects for this year's project team will be:

- The construction of an entrance canopy at a special education school in Villa Ávila Camacho that will allow disabled students to get into and out of vehicles without being exposed to inclement weather;
- Construction of a workshop area for teaching food preparation and related vocational skills to secondary school students in a rural school in Mecatlán de las Flores;
- Improvements to the Cruz Azul Center, where lodging and food is provided for project team members. This Catholic center

hosts many group activities throughout the year and is also the home for several nuns who work with indigenous villages in the Xicotepec area;

- Improvements at the La Aldea orphanage; their former location was destroyed by Tropical Storm Earl and they have moved 53 children into a large house in Xicotepec. The Rotary Club of Xicotepec has contributed in many ways to help La Aldea settle in and adapt to its new home.

In addition to these work projects, team members will have the opportunity to visit the sites of past projects as well as projects that are being considered for the future. Among these are repairs and new construction on the office building at the Rotary Club Primary School, and construction of a new classroom at a preschool in San Pedro Itztla, just outside of Xicotepec. The D6000 Xicotepec committee hopes to raise about \$30,000 in the coming year to finance these two important projects.

Tax-deductible contributions to help with projects in Xicotepec can be made to D6000 HEF; contributions should be sent to Phil Peterson, Treasurer, D6000 HEF, 330 Butternut Lane, Iowa City, IA 52246.

2017 XICOTEPEC PROJECT TEAM

Riley Hubbart	Sponsored by Rotary Club of Clinton	
Bihotza James Lejarcegui	Interactor	Coralville
Ana Rodriguez	Leadership	Des Moines
Alexia Sanchez Garcia	Sponsored by Rotary Club of Des Moines	
Chayla Stanton-Robinson	Course Instructor (SL)	Des Moines
Christine Catney	Course Instructor (SL)	Iowa City
Steven Levy	Course Instructor (SL)	Iowa City
Jim Peterson	Rotarian Leadership	Iowa City
Hazel Seaba	Rotarian	Iowa City
William (Bill) Doucette	Course Instructor (SL)	Iowa City
Daisy Patino	Course Instructor (SL)	Iowa City
Max Otoadese	Interactor	Iowa City
Sophia Chen	Service-Learner	Iowa City
Laurel Meyer	Service-Learner	Iowa City
Hira Mustafa	Sponsored by Rotary Club of Iowa City	
Mary Liebig	Interactor	Iowa City
Amy Uehara	Service-Learner	Iowa City
Kenneth Brown	Rotary Family	Iowa City
Emily Henningsen	Service-Learner	Iowa City
Allison Stutting	Other	Iowa City
Matthew Kelly	Sponsored by Rotary Club of Iowa City	
Adam Dixon	Service-Learner	Iowa City
Thy Cao	Service-Learner	Iowa City
Carli Brucker	Service-Learner	Iowa City
Briana Negaard	Service-Learner	Iowa City
Colby Beck	Service-Learner	Iowa City
Anthony Morpheu	Interactor	Iowa City
William Windauer	Rotarian	Iowa City
Anh Thu Ngo	Service-Learner	Iowa City
Ava Otoadese	Interactor	Iowa City
Andrew Welling	Service-Learner	Iowa City
Christian Sandoval	Service-Learner	Iowa City
Ellison Brown	Interactor	Iowa City
Audrey Bailey	Other	Iowa City
Jazmin Lopez	Service-Learner	Iowa City
Sandra Osorio	Service-Learner	Iowa City
Thomas Narak	Rotary Family	Kent, Washington
Alka Khanolkar	Rotarian	Keokuk
Nancy Stroborg	Rotarian	Midlothian, Virginia
Thomas Mott	Rotarian	Newton
Robert Main	Rotarian	Newton
Thalia Gonzalez Torres	Service-Learner	Plainfield
DGN Thomas Narak	Leadership	West Des Moines
Carol Narak	Rotary Family	West Des Moines



RAG4Clubfoot

Brazil Vocational Training Team update

By Anna Hanson/West Liberty

Information provided by Ms. Sabrina Onhibeni, a mother of a child born with clubfoot.

In October 2010, a Brazilian parent support group, Associacao Primeiro Passo (APP), began to promote clubfoot treatment with the Ponseti Method in specialized treatment centers in Brazil and to help support parents of children born with clubfoot. The organization is headquartered in São Paulo under the leadership of Ms. Sabrina Onhibeni, a mother of a child born with clubfoot.

As physicians participate in the Ponseti Method training grant, they are learning about the importance of parents as partners in the treatment team. In addition, they learn how Primeiro Passo can assist the medical team by offering parents emotional support, education and advocacy.

The overall vision of Primeiro Passo (translation is First Step) is to promote the eradication of untreated clubfoot in Brazil and worldwide. Nearly 2,800 parents have been in communication with the group via email, Facebook and face-to-face meetings held at clinics. Following is a list of the most common assistance requested:

- Providing parents with names of nearest medical centers and doctors who provide the Ponseti Method treatment;
- Helping parents through the treatment journey, providing confidence and advice;
- Providing information about the correct treatment for clubfoot; and
- Helping promote the Ponseti technique throughout Brazil.

In 2016, APP received a donation of office space which currently serves as the headquarters. In this space, APP initiated a new service known as the brace bank project which allows parents to send in gently used braces to be cleaned and repaired, if necessary, and then passed on to the most needy families at a more affordable price. The funds collected are used to keep the project financially viable and it helps with the upkeep of the headquarters. Sabrina says the brace recycle project has been a success, as many families have been helped.

Advocacy by parents and Primeiro Passo is extremely important for national acceptance of the Ponseti Method and influencing hospital administrators and government officials for its integration into the healthcare system.

Thank you to Rotary for helping to spread the word of such a valuable service to Brazilian parents and Ponseti Method providers (photos at right).

The next training of 10 physicians is scheduled to occur in Salvador, Brazil in March 2017. Three additional trainings are scheduled later in the year.



Sabrina Onhibeni (standing on right) is holding her daughter while meeting with another mother and her daughter. Both daughters received Ponseti Method treatment.



From left to right: Sabrina, Heliomar, and Nana are Board members of the association.

Ponseti Method training projects in development

By Tomeka Petersen/West Liberty

Mexico: The Rotary Foundation provided feedback on the second revision of the grant narrative and budget. TRF has asked the project team to receive permission from the District Governor of D4170 (Mexico City) to approve training activities within their boundaries. D6000 is contributing DDF to this grant.

Bolivia: An in-country champion and Ponseti International Association Bolivia representative has recently received approval from the LaPaz mayor and city council to integrate Ponseti Method treatment programs into several municipal hospitals. Rotary Club of LaPaz Rotarians are on board to assist with the implementation. The team is working on finalizing the Global Grant budget and grant narrative. D6000 is contributing DDF to this grant and the Rotary Club of Iowa City AM is listed as the international club.

Cambodia: Ponseti International Association staff met via webinar with an Australian Rotarian interested in a training program in Cambodia. The Australian club decided to first create a district grant to begin Ponseti Method training for a limited number of physicians, and then consider a national training program at a later date.

Funding of Ponseti Method training grants is often a challenge. If your club is interested in offering a project financial assistance, please contact info@rag4clubfoot.org

2017 Events

March 7: Iowa City AM Rotary club presentation.

March 10-11: Booth at NC PETS in Ames.

April 29: District 5970 District Conference in Cedar Falls.

May 4-6: Exhibit table at District 6000 District Conference and participation in panel discussion in Coralville.

June 10: RAG4Clubfoot Annual General Meeting during RI Convention. Time: 2:30-4:00 p.m. Location: Georgia World Congress Center, Room A407.

June 10-14: Booth 2825 in House of Friendship exhibit space at the RI Convention, Atlanta, Ga.

June 12: Break-out session: "Clubfoot Initiatives - How RAG4Clubfoot Can Help," 3:30-5:00 p.m. at RI Convention in Atlanta.

Club programs

Are you interested in inviting a RAG4Clubfoot representative to give a program during an upcoming meeting? To schedule a speaker, contact info@rag4clubfoot.org.

Meet us in Atlanta, June 10-14

By Tomeka Petersen/West Liberty

RAG4Clubfoot will be represented in Atlanta during the Rotary International Convention. We welcome everyone to visit our booth No. 2825 in the House of Friendship, to participate in our first general meeting, and to join our break-out session. Details:

- June 10th. RAG4Clubfoot Annual General Meeting from 2:30-4:00 p.m. in Room A407, Georgia World Congress Center.

- June 12th. Break-out session: "Clubfoot Initiatives – How RAG4Clubfoot Can Help" from 3:30-5 p.m.

We are looking for Rotarians to assist with staffing the booth. Contact us at info@rag4clubfoot.org if you would have a few hours to greet other Rotarians.

The RAG4Clubfoot Campaign: "IOWA'S GIFT TO THE WORLD"

To Advance The Ponseti Method of Clubfoot Treatment



'Iowa's Gift to the World' campaign underway

By Tomeka Petersen/West Liberty

The RAG4Clubfoot campaign, "Iowa's Gift to the World," furthers the work of Iowa's Dr. Ignacio Ponseti in treating children of the world. Iowa Rotarians and Rotary clubs have a unique opportunity to raise funds to facilitate training in the Ponseti Method in underserved regions of the world.

The campaign goal is to raise \$125,000 by July 2018. A generous Iowa Rotarian will match your contribution dollar to dollar (for the first \$125,000 raised).

Donations can be made by credit card on the website or by check payable to: Iowa's Gift to the World. Mail check to:

Phil Peterson, RAG4Clubfoot Treasurer
330 Butternut Lane
Iowa City, IA 52246

More information is available at: www.IowasGift-totheWorld.org.



The lead challenge gift of \$125,000 from Iowa City Rotarian John Buchanan and his wife, Ellen (c) for RAG4Clubfoot was announced at the District Foundation Dinner Nov. 5 at Coralville. Rotarians are challenged to match the gift by June 30, 2018. Information? PDG Jill Olsen (l) at (319) 551-0399 or PDG John Ockenfels (r) at (319) 321-4601; or www.IowasGifttotheWorld.org.

Photo by Bill Tubbs

Rotarians needed to volunteer at RYLA

By Mark McAndrews/Northwest Des Moines

RYLA Chair

Iowa Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) is gearing up for another great year. Clubs across Iowa have reserved our capacity of 240 slots at Grinnell College (though we may be able to accommodate a few more if there are cancellations). Nearly every club in the district is sending at least one student.



Mark McAndrews

Iowa RYLA is based on the successful Rocky Mountain, Colorado, program. Our program started in 2011 with 37 students and has grown to its capacity at Grinnell College of 240 conferees (students who will be high school juniors and seniors).

The 2017 conference will be held from July 16-21. Rotary's motto of "Service Above Self" is central to RYLA, and students often return to their schools and start programs such as Interact, a high school Rotary sponsored service club.

The purpose of RYLA is to encourage high school students to become responsible leaders. The conference is an action-packed week of activities designed to build confidence, self-awareness, and leadership skills with a curriculum based on:

- Rotary's purpose;
- Leadership;
- Communication skills;
- Problem-solving and conflict management;
- Building self-awareness;
- Community and global citizenship.

This is the seventh year of RYLA and is sponsored by Rotary Districts 5970 (54 clubs) and District 6000 (64 clubs). Rotary clubs

work with high schools to select the students they financially support at \$450 each. This money pays for the residence hall, food, t-shirt, and training manual each conferee receives.

RYLA is led by counselors who are selected from prior years' conferees. This year's head counselors are Matthew Kelly and Hira Mustafa, both sophomores at the University of Iowa with three years of experience in RYLA as conferees and counselors. Each conferee is placed on a team of 12 that is led by a counselor who has been extensively trained, as well as a Rotarian. Team counselors are selected from conferees who have attended RYLA. This year we had 120 applicants for 24 positions, which speaks to the power of this experience for the conferees.

Students spend the majority of their time with their team working on team activities and debriefs, but come together for large group time each day to hear speakers and to eat meals in the dining hall. Speakers have included Dr. Stephanie Rose, U.S. District Court Judge for the Southern District of Iowa, and Keegan Kautzky, who leads the national expansion of the World Food Prize Foundation's education program.

Many past RYLArians have commented, "It was the best week of my life."

We need Rotarians to serve as volunteers at RYLA to continue the success we are building with RYLA. To volunteer, you need to be able to be at Grinnell College from Saturday, July 15th through Friday July 21st. You also need to be available on Saturday, June 24th in Grinnell for a day of training.

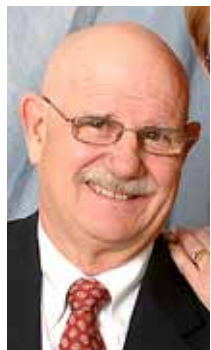
This is an opportunity to spend a week with a dozen of Iowa's best and brightest future leaders. If you want to volunteer, fill out your application at: <http://www.iowaryla.org/rotarian-resources/rotarian-application-process/>. If you want more information, contact Mark McAndrews District 6000 RYLA Coordinator at markmcandrews@msn.com or (515) 371-0683.

WHY Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI)?

By PDG Terry Geiger/Decatur County

RLI Chair

District 6000 has joined forces with District 5650 of Nebraska and southwest Iowa to form Heartland RLI, and we have four sessions scheduled for this 2017 calendar year. We encourage Rotarians to consider being a part of these educational opportunities.



Terry Geiger

Rotary Leadership Institute provides educational opportunities for potential leaders to improve their Rotary knowledge and be exposed to new ideas of leadership. Clubs that care about their future will want the best leaders and members possible.

Rotary Leadership Institute is an interactive, facilitated session on topics designed to provide Rotary knowledge and develop leadership skills for volunteer organizations. RLI does not provide position specific training. Instead, it is an opportunity to really "discover Rotary" using different tracks of knowledge. Here's what you will cover:

- Part I centers on the basics of being a Rotarian.
- Part II builds on the Part I courses, and seeks to increase your

effectiveness in your Rotary club.

- Part III opens the door to higher Rotary service and critical examination of more complex issues.

RLI gears classes toward professional persons who want to be more effective leaders in their vocation and club, and more knowledgeable Rotarians.

The institute believes in course sessions with as much discussion/participation as possible. Lectures are limited. Course methods include discussion groups, role-playing, problem solving workshops, creating projects and audiovisual presentations. Everyone participates during the institute's sessions.

Participants return to their clubs with enthusiasm, fresh ideas, and an increased understanding of their potential as Rotarians.

This year's sessions are scheduled as follows: **April 1:** Des Moines; **June 3:** Omaha; **Sept. 30:** Iowa City; **Oct. 21:** Omaha.

Register at: <http://www.rli-heartland.org/>.

We need a minimum of six to make each session most meaningful so please register early. Rotarians who have participated in RLI say the experience is well worth the time. Cost of each session is \$85 and we encourage clubs to pick up this cost because it will make members better Rotarians for your club.

If you have any questions, please email me at: tlgeiger@grm.net or call (641) 442-5559.



Inbound and outbound students were treated to a weekend in the Quad Cities March 4-5 by the Rotary Club of North Scott, front (l-r), with their sponsoring or host club and the country of the exchange: Isabella O'Connor (Des Moines, to Italy), Catya Sanchez Aguirre (Ankeny, from Mexico), Aaron Hoang (Ankeny, to France), Olivia Bohlmann (Ottumwa, to Italy), Caroline Christopherson (Iowa Quad Cities, to France), Raquel Palomero Blasco (Boone, from Spain), Jean-Romain Pourin (Iowa Quad Cities, from France), Emily Thomson (Mount Pleasant, to Spain), Doug Peterson (Iowa Quad Cities, District Youth Exchange Chair). Back: Elinor Sagemo (Ankeny, from Sweden), Ivana Boromisa (Burlington, from Croatia), Sebastian Llaca (Waukee, to Spain), Alexander Krob (Iowa City AM, to Chile), Marta Pulia (Ottumwa, from Italy), Viola Prinetti (Des Moines, from Italy), Niccolo Podda (Decatur County, from Italy), Paul Kalainoff (North Scott, District Inbound Chair). Photo by Bill Tubbs

Rotary Youth Exchange? Talk to students now for 2017-18 exchanges

By Doug Peterson/Iowa Quad Cities
District 6000 Youth Exchange Chair

Outbound Youth Exchange: Now's the Time to Think About It

Yes, it's only spring 2017. But this is the time when high schoolers should be thinking about becoming a Rotary Youth Exchange (RYE) student. The next opportunity for applying to the program is October 2017, when applications will be accepted for the 2018-19 academic year.

Now is the time when club Youth Exchange Officers should be in contact with their local high schools to expose the counselors and foreign language teachers to one of the best Exchange programs in the United States. Students ages 15 to 16 who might have thought about the possibility of a foreign exchange experience should be encouraged to explore our program with their local club.

What resources can local clubs make use of to promote RYE? Start with the District 6000 website. Click on the Youth Exchange link under "Service to Youth." There can be found several links to information that can provide a starting point.

Rotary.org can also be a good resource, searching on Rotary Youth Exchange. Your RYE district



Julia Kahl, an inbound student from Germany, is hosted by the Rotary Club of Keokuk.

committee has members all across the district who will be more than willing to come to a club or local school to promote our program. Those clubs that may be hosting a student during this academic year should use the student as a resource for sharing their story to classmates. Current students are frequently our best promoters!

If all else fails, contact Doug Peterson, chair of the district committee, who can answer questions and arrange for speakers and programs: louann-doug@mediacombb.net or (563) 210-9072.

Rotary Youth Exchange is a true exchange. We trade students with partner districts with whom we have built relationships over many years.

When we do not have Outbound students to send abroad, we will not have an opportunity to receive and host students from abroad. Therefore, we must continually promote our program and recruit students for outbound exchange experiences in order to maintain a healthy program for everyone in District 6000.

Please encourage your clubs to be involved at some level with this premier Rotary program. An unforgettable experience that cannot be duplicated anywhere in Rotary awaits all who are involved.



Sarah in 2016 before her surgery.



Sarah six months after her surgery.



Sarah with Iowa Miles Of Smiles team leader, Rotarian Deb Dunkhase, in 2017 one year post-surgery.

Thanks to Iowa Miles Of Smiles Team, these children are Social outcasts no more

By Deb Dunkhase/Iowa City AM

Iowa Miles Of Smiles Team Leader

Let me introduce you to my friend, Sarah.

Sarah's family lives in the remote Western Highlands of Guatemala. They work hard to provide for their children and love them as all parents do, but when Sarah came into this world with cleft birth defects, her parents were terrified. They were terrified and didn't have the resources to cope with Baby Sarah's condition, believing as many Guatemalans do that they had been cursed by their God. Sarah was abandoned on the church steps.

Fortunately, a neighbor found Sarah and took her to her grandmother who has cared for Sarah all four years of her young life.

Sarah is fortunate to have an abuela who loves her, but because cleft defects cause children to be social outcasts in their communities, this sweet little girl hasn't been allowed out of the house to interact with the world around her. No friends. No contact with nature. Just a small existence with no real future.

Miriam, a local social worker from Huehuetenango, heard about Sarah's situation and brought Sarah and her grandmother to meet Iowa MOST during our 2016 mission. This was a huge accomplishment in itself, considering that most of the rural population of Guatemalans have very negative experiences with the national hospitals and believe that once you enter a hospital you'll

never leave again.

Sarah's grandmother was very fearful that Sarah wouldn't survive the life-changing surgery promised by the Iowa MOST team. But of course, her fears were unfounded. Sarah recovered beautifully from her surgery! We were thrilled when Miriam visited Sarah and her abuela six weeks after the surgery to find Sarah not only healthy, but playing outside!!

But Sarah's story doesn't stop here. As is the case with many of our cleft patients, Sarah returned to Iowa MOST in 2017 for additional palate surgery, as her mouth continues to grow and develop.

What a tremendous joy it was to see this beautiful, young girl walk into the hospital with a huge smile on her face! Sarah had heartfelt hugs for everyone! Gone was her debilitating fear of people and lack of self-confidence – replaced with the simple joys of childhood that every child deserves to experience.

Support of Rotary clubs

Thanks to the financial support of numerous District 6000 Rotary clubs, 41 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 from Feb. 2 to Feb. 12, 2017.

This year's mission screened over 70 children,
continued on next page



Our first of 34 patients who were treated in 2017.



The La Escuela en Las Nubes School, currently, provides little protection or amenities.



The La Escuela en Las Nubes School, in progress. Children will soon have a real school with real walls.

MOST service includes dental outreach, schools

which is up from last year's numbers thanks to the great partnership Iowa MOST has with the Rotary Club of Huehuetenango. These Rotarians searched a huge area of Western Guatemala trying to recruit children born with cleft defects to come to us for help. Their efforts worked, helping us to perform 34 cleft and cleft-related highly successful surgeries on children.

For the past several years, the Iowa MOST team has also worked to expand our efforts outside of the hospital walls. We have been working with local Rotarians to provide dental outreach to children who attend school in the remote communities of the Western Highlands.

This year we were able to visit five different schools, each of which is the focus of a literacy, latrine, or clean-water project by the Huehue Rotary Club. Our team was able to help by donating school supplies and library books, teaching children about good oral care through a puppet skit and song, donating toothbrushes, making homemade toothpaste, applying fluoride to the children's teeth, distributing de-worming medication, making polar fleece scarves, and donating sunglasses to help them deal with the harsh high-altitude sun. The relationships our team members are able to make with these beautiful, bright students are deeply meaningful with heartfelt hugs that last for months!

Dental outreach and a new school

Thanks to the financial support of two very generous Rotarians from the Rotary Club of Iowa City, Dr. Pete Wallace and Dr. John Stamler, Iowa MOST has been able to help one community of 40 students build a new school. Very soon, these kids will have a school with real walls, a concrete floor, a roof that doesn't allow the rain and wind to blow through their classroom, and space for desks and school supplies; all of which will contribute to a better education for each of them.

On our last day in Huehuetenango this year, a young mom came to us with her 14-day old son who needs cleft surgery. Though he was too young for our surgical team to help this year, he and his family are patiently awaiting the return of the Iowa MOST team in 2018. They have put their hope and trust in Iowa MOST and Rotary's dedication to making the world a better place.

The incredible work the Iowa MOST team performs every year dramatically impacts children who would otherwise have very little

chance of a healthy, bright future, and it couldn't be done without the support of District 6000 and each of you!

Please consider supporting District 6000's 2018 Iowa MOST mission with a personal donation or by advocating for your Rotary club to designate a specific dollar amount per member when paying your annual dues.

This year, you also have a unique opportunity to support Iowa MOST by purchasing wild-caught Alaskan Sockeye Salmon freshly caught in the Cook Inlet as they're headed to the Kenai River by Rotarian Dr. Dan Jorgensen! Dr. Dan donated 5,000 pounds of salmon to Iowa MOST, so don't delay in placing your online order (www.iowamost.org) because when it's gone, it's gone!

Every dollar donated makes a real difference in Rotary Serving Humanity.

On behalf of our Guatemalan children, Dr. John Canady – MOST Medical Team Director – and the entire team of volunteer doctors, nurses, and non-medical staff ... Muchas, Muchas Gracias!



In the end, it's about the hugs and opportunities for new lives for the children – thanks to Rotary!

Iowa Energy: PolioPlus wins!

By Ed Arnold/Northwest Des Moines
Iowa Energy Polio Fundraiser Chair

Worldwide polio eradication efforts were showcased at the Ninth Annual Rotary Polio Plus/Iowa Energy basketball game, Jan. 28 at Wells Fargo Arena, Des Moines.

The event started as a humanitarian effort in 2009 by Des Moines area Rotary clubs to support the efforts of the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations (UNICEF), the United States Center for Disease Control (USCDC), and Rotary International, has continued to grow.

A partnership that was first envisioned in December of 2008 has now raised enough money through Iowa Energy D-League basketball (a Memphis Grizzles affiliate), ticket sales, contributions, a 50/50 raffle and a Memphis-style BBQ cook-off, to immunize over 160,000 children.

A total of \$11,285.75 was raised this year, which will provide enough money to vaccinate approximately 20,000 children.

Rotary clubs from Ankeny, Boone, Dallas Center, Decatur County, Des Moines AM, Des Moines, East Polk, Greater Des Moines, Jefferson, Johnston, Northwest Des Moines, Perry, Waukee, West Des Moines and West Polk participated in past years.

In 2013, the Polio Plus Committee established a traveling trophy to recognize the club that sold the most tickets per member. The Rotary Club of West Polk County was recognized as the 2015 and 2016 winner; and they won again in 2017.

The goals of this event are: 1) Raise money for the final eradication of Polio worldwide; 2) Provide an opportunity for area Rotary clubs to work together in a fun and cooperative event; 3) Provide positive exposure to a primary focus of Rotary and give non-Rotarians a chance to financially support eradication efforts in a fun and inexpensive family event; and 4) Provide tickets to a variety of youth and other non-profit organizations who would not otherwise be able to attend a basketball game.

This year's event included entertainment by the Memphis Grizzlies mascot, an NBA-quality halftime show by the acrobatic Grizzlies "Dunk Team," and Memphis blues-style music throughout the game.

New this year was a pulled pork BBQ cook-off competition among six Rotary clubs: Des Moines AM, Indianola, Johnston,

IOWA ENERGY/continued on next page



Waukee Rotarian Drew Strube's pulled pork entries were declared the grand winner of the BBQ fundraising tasting.

Photo by Erna Morain



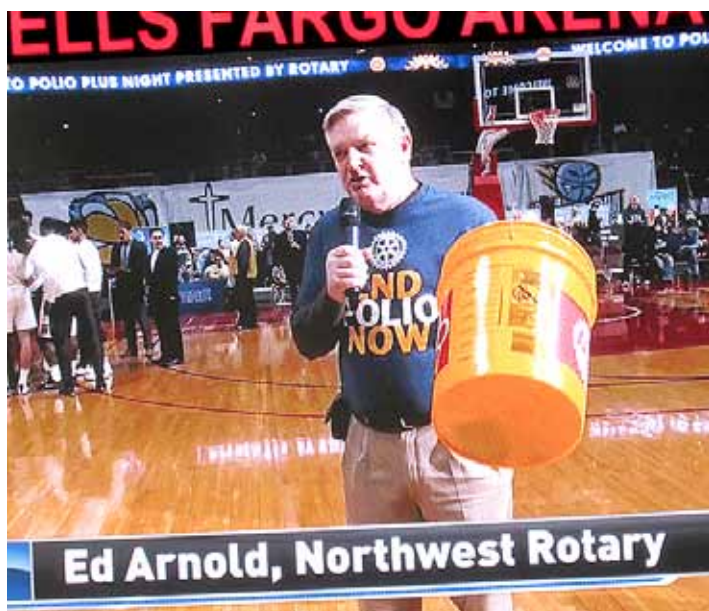
Iowa Energy for Polio chair Ed Arnold (second from right) presented the trophy to the Rotary Club of Waukee for its first-place finish in the pulled pork barbecue contest, (l-r): Matt Olson (club president), Drew Strube (chef), Ed Arnold, and Brad Kobernusz.

Provided by Ed Arnold



Chair Ed Arnold's efforts were supported by (l-r): PDG Terry Geiger and Peggy, Phyllis Miller and PDG Loring Miller, and DGND Erna Morain.

Provided by Peggy Geiger



Rotarian Ed Arnold announced the campaign to raise money for polio eradication on the jumbo-tron – excellent public relations for Rotary!

Photo by Bill Tubbs

Funds raised for polio

IOWA ENERGY/continued on next page

Northwest Des Moines (Urbandale), Waukee and West Polk County. The winning recipe as voted upon by more than 250 tasters was Drew Strube from the Waukee Rotary Club.

Since the Global Polio Eradication Initiative was started in 1988, reported cases of polio have decreased from over 1,000 per day to just 37 in 2016. In 2017, only one new case had been reported as of Feb. 20 (now three year to date). The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation joined the other partners in 2002, and has invested over 2.7 billion dollars to help eradicate polio. By 2019, the partners and more than 200 participating government and non-government entities will have invested more than \$14 billion in the effort.

To date, more than 2.5 billion children have been vaccinated, and more than 20 million volunteers have contributed to the successful eradication in all but three countries. Efforts in Nigeria, Pakistan and Afghanistan are continuing with National and Sub-national immunization days and will continue until the Polio Virus is completely eradicated from the planet, currently projected to be sometime in 2019. More information and updates on case counts are available on the website: www.polioeradication.org.



Surge, the Iowa Energy mascot, helped District 6000 Rotary Foundation chair PDG Terry Geiger and Peggy fill the buckets for PolioPlus.



Young and old alike raised funds for polio, including PDG Bill Tubbs and his daughter, Anne Olson (l). Anne's husband, Matt, is president of the Rotary Club of Waukee. The occasion was the 9th birthday party for the Olsons' daughter, Clara, who celebrated with friends. Photo by Peggy Geiger



Members of the Rotary Club of West Polk won the Arnold Cup for raising the most money per member for the Polio Plus/Iowa Energy game, (l-r): Mark Watson (president), Luke Vogel, Ed Arnold and J.P. Phillips.

Rotary's Core Values

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

The fight for a polio-free world

By Peggy Geiger/Decatur County

Club President, District Public Relations Chair

How can two fingers have so much meaning? Holding up your two fingers and indicating how Rotary is so close, "This Close," to eradicating polio is an international sign. It's a recognizable symbol that I am proud to be a part of, knowing just how really close polio is to being eradicated from the earth.

I recently was using that symbol A LOT while in Nigeria. With a team of 10 (seven Americans and three Canadians) with Ann Lee Hussey, who serves as an adviser to the International PolioPlus Committee, as our team leader, we flew into the capital of Abuja, Nigeria, and then drove to Kaduna the next day, to be a part of a Polio Campaign from Nov 28 to Dec 10.

Holding up your thumb and pointer finger indicating "This Close" now can literally bring tears to my eyes.

It was sad to think that Nigeria was literally "This Close" to being taken off the endemic list in a matter of months. Nigeria, which had no cases of the wild polio virus reported for 2-1/2 years, was "This Close" to being declared Polio Free. The discovery of new cases in the northern state of Borno, Nigeria, in August 2016 made evident that Nigeria now remains on the endemic list and there is still work to be done.

For team leader and polio survivor Ann Lee Hussey, pictured here at last year's District 6000 District Conference, this was her 28th trip to Nigeria.

We were unable to immunize in the field for two whole days as the funding for the government workers was not being released soon enough. During those days when we were not immunizing, we were able to visit Rotary clubs and their projects, help polio survivors through dedicating bicycle wheelchairs, donate

medical supplies to a hospital, visit and give items to an orphanage, and visit primary schools. Then, once the government funds were released, we were able to begin the Polio Campaign. I'm a witness to how hard Nigerians are working to rid their country of polio. Each day there would be two different members of our team assigned to a different Nigerian team and we would make up a team of four and hit the trail: One giving drops, one marking the little pinky finger, one recording, and one giving a "treat" which in this case was usually a packet of dry milk. We would always have a Nigerian Rotarian and Rotaractor volunteering with us.

Our first day out on the campaign trail was in the streets. We were to walk as observers and let children 5 and under come to us. It became evident that day that some were not coming out of their homes, so two of my Nigerian lady teammates and myself would go door to door and go inside. That day I was partnered with a male Rotarian from Canada who had to wait outside, as a white male was not welcomed in.

I found these visits extremely emotional. In a couple cases I did walk away having given a child their first polio immunization,

continued on next page



Peggy Geiger (c) with two of her Nigerian polio immunization team members going church to church in Kaduna.



Groups of children greet the white-skinned Rotarian.

'I am so proud to be part of this Service Above Self organization called Rotary'

knowing I truly had made a difference. And it was simply because I was a white-skinned woman from America who told them I bought a ticket on an airplane and traveled all the way to Nigeria because I wanted to help immunize their children against polio. They were impressed and trusted me.

But I remember one sad case where we tried very hard to talk the mother into letting us immunize her toddler. She refused even though she knew that it would mean her husband would be arrested. Emotionally drained, I turned and left that home and saw one of our workers leaving marks on the outside of their dwelling indicating "Non-Compliant."

I just could not understand why that mother turned us down. We were right there with the vaccine, and there were polio victims right outside of their home in the streets, and she still said no.

The next day we walked the streets going from church to church. What an uplifting and wonderful day to see the children released to come to the back and receive their immunizations. These were open-air churches where you could hear singing, the Gospel and happiness from the inside.

On our last day, immunizations were given to hundreds of children from different school-to-school locations. Our Nigerian team members explained that we, the white people, are a sort of entertainment. Being white strangers brings out the people and children to see us. Quite often the little ones would just want to feel my skin and touch my hair. I actually had a little girl lift my shirt to see if my tummy was also white and then she would giggle and run off.

Overall our team of 10 and the other Nigerian campaign volunteers and government workers (who got paid \$2/day) helped immunize 5,016 children in those three days in our area alone. It was



Decatur County Rotarian Peggy Geiger immunizing house to house in Kaduna, Nigeria.

quite rewarding, but at the end of the day exhausting. We would then have our daily meetings at the EOC (Emergency Operations Center) where everyone would report back their happenings, including those in non-compliance. Around this table we met with representatives from UNICEF, the WHO, Rotary, and the Nigerian government.

Our team leader, Ann Lee Hussey, is a familiar face to the Nigerian community, as this was her 28th trip there. Great progress has been made, but we all know that there is still work to be done to eradicate this dreaded crippling disease. In those four days of the campaign, 3.6 million children were immunized in Kaduna alone with the help of 3,700 health teams. Seven million children 5 years old and under get immunized monthly in Nigeria. They won't stop until it's done and neither will Rotary.

I am so proud to be a part of this "Service Above Self" organization called Rotary. And I'm so proud to be a Rotarian.

Polio: D6000 Rotarians who have gone

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



Adel
Willma 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
Peggy Geiger, Nigeria, 2016

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
Jody Braverman, India, 2016

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

Rotary Foundation Giving: APF, Polio, Endowments

District 6000 Clubs • July 1, 2016 - March 15, 2017 (Interim Report)

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
(Members: Jul 15/Jul 16)	16-17 APF Goal	% of Goal	Per capita	Thru 3-15-17	PolioPlus	Other (**)	TOTAL
Adel (37/37)	\$ 4,000	75	\$ 80.81	\$ 2,990	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 2,990
Albia (22/28)	1,150	24	9.82	275	0	0	275
Ames Morning (55/55)	8,000	122	177.73	9,775	0	1,765	2,265
Ames (224/226)	32,000	71	101.22	22,876	8,102	35,909	66,889
Ankeny (61/77)	12,000	54	84.18	6,482	75	0	6,557
Atlantic (58/58)	5,500	46	43.26	2,509	0	0	2,509
Bettendorf (103/101)	14,500	78	112.65	11,378	0	1,974	13,352
Bloomfield (10/10)	900	0	0	0	0	0	0
Boone (42/34)	17,000	14	68.09	2,315	85	25,482	27,882
Burlington (80/79)	7,500	35	33.42	2,640	0	0	2,640
Carroll (46/44)	952	848	175.54	8,075	684	0	8,759
Centerville (50/46)	3,360	84	64.09	2,820	0	0	2,820
Chariton (41/41)	4,500	88	96.34	3,950	500	0	4,450
Clinton (98/97)	8,500	64	56.29	5,461	2,728	0	8,189
Coon Rapids (27/31)	1,500	0	0	0	0	0	0
Coralville-North Corridor (20/21)	2,500	0	0	0	25	0	25
Corning (34/33)	1,300	113	44.47	1,468	1,000	0	2,468
Corydon (18/15)	1,200	100	80.00	1,200	0	0	1,200
Creston (23/19)	100	175	9.21	175	0	0	150
Dallas Center (27/29)	2,550	4	3.45	100	166	0	266
Davenport (112/113)	12,760	79	89.01	10,058	225	225	10,508
Decatur County (30/32)	6,300	64	126.25	4,040	794	0	4,834
Des Moines AM (170/170)	13,000	34	26.18	4,450	0	0	4,450
Des Moines (276/270)	21,000	100	77.76	20,995	2,400	1,050	24,445
East Polk County (34/31)	3,000	36	34.68	1,075	580	0	1,655
Fairfield (74/60)	5,800	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fort Madison (49/53)	6,000	47	53.30	2,825	259	0	3,084
Greater Des Moines (12/12)	600	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grinnell (38/40)	5,000	90	112.50	4,500	565	0	5,065
Indianola (54/53)	6,500	69	84.18	4,462	1,331	3,593	9,386
Iowa City AM (66/69)	12,500	85	154.58	10,666	4,740	1,135	16,541
Iowa City Downtown (23/21)	2,100	88	87.86	1,845	1,277	0	3,122
Iowa City (312/329)	45,000	95	129.79	42,702	1,577	1,135	45,414
Iowa Quad-Cities (41/42)	3,500	19	15.95	670	0	0	670
Jefferson (59/59)	6,000	90	91.53	5,400	1,500	0	6,900
Johnston (60/49)	4,000	141	115.49	5,659	0	0	5,659
Kalona (42/41)	2,200	120	64.63	2,650	1,200	0	3,850
Keokuk (66/71)	3,500	92	45.21	3,210	375	500	4,085
Keosauqua (24/22)	1,200	94	51.20	1,127	0	0	1,127
Knoxville (61/58)	5,500	41	38.79	2,250	0	0	2,250
Lenox (29/28)	2,500	59	52.84	1,480	0	0	1,480
Manning (19/25)	4,692	0	0	0	1,400	0	1,400
Marengo (11/10)	150	107	16.00	160	0	0	160
Marshalltown (150/147)	15,000	27	27.86	4,096	1,291	0	5,387
Mount Pleasant Noon (52/55)	5,000	65	58.93	3,241	0	0	3,241
Mount Pleasant (20/20)	400	76	15.28	306	513	0	819
Muscatine (79/77)	13,500	79	138.74	10,683	1,600	0	12,283
Nevada (71/69)	8,200	41	49.22	3,396	0	0	3,396
Newton (60/55)	3,000	1	0.48	27	1,530	1,050	2,607
North Scott (85/86)	11,000	54	69.19	5,950	1,600	20,000	27,550
Northwest Des Moines (34/40)	7,500	56	105.50	4,220	0	0	4,220
Osceola (28/29)	800	28	7.76	225	56	0	281
Oskaloosa (56/55)	3,000	49	26.67	1,467	0	0	1,467
Ottumwa (97/98)	12,500	78	99.74	9,775	0	0	9,775
Pella (29/30)	3,000	109	109.17	3,275	550	0	3,825
Perry (26/26)	900	92	31.92	830	723	0	1,553
Tipton (30/26)	2,500	108	103.46	2,690	725	987	4,402
Washington (49/48)	5,000	60	62.29	2,990	500	0	3,490
Waukee (58/64)	7,300	67	76.94	4,924	1,047	0	6,046
Wellman (36/34)	3,100	48	44.12	1,500	0	0	1,500
West Des Moines (62/63)	5,000	70	55.42	3,492	0	0	3,492
West Liberty (43/44)	13,000	74	218.84	9,629	250	0	9,879
West Polk County (31/18)	2,200	0	0	0	0	50,000	50,000
Winterset (25/30)	5,240	46	80.57	2,417	2,300	0	4,717
District Contributions	0	0	0	0	0	10,101	0
Total (3,854/3,853)	\$ 428,954	67.57	\$ 75.23	\$ 289,842	\$ 44,274		\$ 514,747

(*) Interim Report as of March 15, 2016

(**) Other includes endowment fund and restricted giving for grants

We give THROUGH The Rotary Foundation

By PDG Terry Geiger/Decatur County

District Rotary Foundation Chair

Why do you give THROUGH The Rotary Foundation??

I think there are many reasons for us to give THROUGH The Rotary Foundation, but let's think about some of them because we all may have a different perspective on why. The basic premise of TRF is "To do good in the world."

Some of those reasons may be:

- I give because I know that some of those funds come back to my community in the form of Community Service Grants.
- I give because I know there are people in the world that walk miles to get safe drinking water and my gift may help drill a well that will produce clean water near where they live.
- I give just because the Lord has been good to me and it is my way of paying back.
- I give because I get a tax deduction.
- I give because it makes me feel good to know my money will go to helping others less fortunate.

Community Service Grants

I am sure there are many more reasons and they are all good ones. To follow up on these, I thought I would highlight some of the good that we can see that our giving is doing. Remember that we don't give TO the foundation; we give THROUGH because The Rotary Foundation is just the pass through to the various projects and programs supported.

This year there were 32 Community Service Grant applications in District 6000 and there were 27 of these grants approved in varying amounts to do good right with our district borders. The total granted was just over \$84,000. We are making a difference in our communities.

Global Grants

In the last five years, 39 District 6000 clubs have participated in global grants for 38 projects in 19 countries. Your projects are helping 554,000 people in need to enjoy better health, or economic improvement, or educational opportunity, to draw water from a new well, or have their disabilities lessened so they can earn a living.

And that statistic is just for the first year after the projects' completions; most of the projects will continue to provide benefits for years and years into the future. Your projects will build better understanding in some of the world's most desperate places and they'll build lifelong friendships.

For 554,000 poor people in need your Rotary global grants are most certainly making a difference!

Making a difference

So, I started out by asking why we give and we can see that whatever the reason, we are making a difference in our communities and around the globe.

So let's keep the momentum going in this special year, that being the Centennial year of our Rotary Foundation.

Rotary project fairs make global connections

By Brad Helgemo/Northwest Des Moines

District Global Grants Co-Chair

The 24th edition of the Uniendo America Project Fair was held Jan. 26-28 in El Salvador.

Uniendo is the Spanish word for Uniting and this Project Fair unites District 4240 and 4250 (Central America, Belize and Panama) with mostly North American Rotarians from the USA and Canada.



Brad Helgemo

There were 154 attendees from 14 districts and seven countries. There were 32 booths manned by Central American Rotarians and various NGOs that had more than 100 projects on display. The Project Fair rotates every year between the various countries.

This was my third time attending the Fair and they are a great place to make new Rotarian friendships, learn about many worthy projects and find a Global Grant project to collaborate on.

Making a personal contact with Global Grant host club members improves communication and builds trust between the parties. Both are keys to successful Global Grants Projects!

Next year's Fair is scheduled to be held in Belize. The Fair is always scheduled the last Thursday, Friday and Saturday of January. Start making your plans to attend, and I hope to see you there!

Contact Brad for ideas if your club is looking for an international project in Central America for a Rotary Foundation Global Grant. Brad can be reached at (515) 689-0004 or email: bhelgemo@explogistics.com.



Brad Helgemo (center, blue shirt) was among the Rotarians making connections for Global Grant projects at the Uniendo American Project Fair Jan. 26-28 in El Salvador.



The Four-Way Test

(of the things we Think, Say or Do)

1. Is it the TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

Birthing training pays off for Nigerians

By Del Christensen/Adel

In Northern Nigerian, the phrase for “Happy Birthday” in the local language of Hausa is “Barka da rana haihuwarka.” The phrase literally translates into English as “Greetings on the day you survived birth.”

In parts of Nigeria, one in every eight births can result in the death of the mother or child. It is truly considered a time of life and death in this part of the world.

Rotary District 6000, along with Rotary Club Malali in Nigeria with funding from Rotary District 6000 and The Rotary Foundation, are trying to reduce those infant and maternal mortality rates in the rural regions of Northern Nigeria by providing additional training for health care workers and midwives in the field.

In 2016, a group of eight doctors, nurses, mid-wives, and Rotarians from Kaduna State, Nigeria, spent a week at Des Moines University in Des Moines, Iowa, receiving training on new birthing simulator training mannequins called MamaNatalies. The simulator mannequins are very low tech, highly durable and portable for training in rural areas, but still provide opportunity to train others in the field on a wide array of medical complications that can occur during childbirth.

These newly trained Nigerian health care providers returned to Nigeria with twelve training mannequins and immediately began training other health care providers and local birthing attendants. Already, through this unique train-the-trainer project, 39 Nigerian health care professionals are trained and ready to train others in the region.

According to Rotarian Del Christensen, who is coordinating the effort for Rotary District 6000, “Soon, more than 1,000 rural birthing attendants will gain improved skill sets to assist with births in rural Nigeria, saving tens of thousands of lives in the process.”

In December, a small group of Iowans including Christensen, Dr. Deb Turner of Des Moines and nurse Sarah Grover of Colo, traveled to Nigeria to help conduct additional training workshops and observe trainings being done using the new training mannequins and materials provided by this Rotary International project. While in Nigeria, the group was able to visit a village birthing clinic which was a 2009 project of the Rotary Club of Adel and Rotary Club Malali in Nigeria. The success of this project led to the current birthing training project.

The group learned that the clinic is going strong after several years, but more importantly the clinic has been providing additional training to the Traditional Birthing Attendants in the area. The impact this is having to the tens of thousands of people in this village and the surrounding villages is remarkable. Originally, the clinic was handling nearly 100 births each month. The clinic now handles 10-15 of the more challenging births each month while the trained Traditional Birthing Attendants are handling the 110-120 normal births that are occurring each month in the region.

While the team was not able to get specific mortality numbers, what was once a 1 in 8 births resulting in the death of the mother or baby is now far surpassing 125 safe and healthy births every month. It is so exciting to see that this Rotary-led approach to getting training to the most rural is showing success already!

The Nigeria Birthing Assistance Training Project is a Vocational Training Team (VTT) collaborative effort of Rotary Clubs in Iowa, and Nigeria, Des Moines University in Iowa, Ahmadu Bello University Teaching Hospital and St Gerard’s Hospital, both in Nigeria.



Adel Rotarian Del Christensen presents certificate to a nurse/midwife from Kaduna State, Nigeria for completing the Birthing Assistance Training workshop conducted by the Rotary Vocational Training Team partners from Nigeria.



Dr. Deborah Turner of Iowa holds an infant born just 3 hours before our arrival to the Danbushiya Birthing Clinic outside Kaduna, Nigeria.

Alumni Report:

'Rotary Impacted My Life Tremendously'

By Jennifer Blair/Iowa City

Assistant Director, Undergraduate Programs, UI Tippie College of Business

While Rotary impacted my life tremendously through the Ambassadorial Scholarship program in graduate school, I really have to go back to earlier days in Knoxville, Iowa, to explain how much Rotary, and District 6000 in particular, have shaped me into the person I am today.

And I mean way back! I was a Brownie Scout in first grade when our troop welcomed a Rotary exchange student from Australia to a weekly meeting. She was the first person I had met from another culture, and I'll never forget the way she pronounced the word "walk." I was amazed and mystified, and the seed was planted: I wanted to go where people talked differently!

My curiosity for global cultures became the engine driving my plans, and I had wonderful short-term opportunities in high school and college to travel outside of the country. But I was hungry for more, and again Rotary was there! After I finished my undergraduate degree at the University of Iowa, I travelled to Dublin on an Ambassadorial Scholarship (sponsored by District 6000), where I studied International Peace Studies at Trinity College from 1999-2000.

What struck me as unique about the Ambassadorial experience was the network of support for scholars, both at home and abroad. I was warmly sent off by my home club in Knoxville, and we kept in touch during my year and in years afterwards. I was then graciously welcomed by the Dublin North Rotary Club and my Rotarian host family, who treated me to Sunday dinners, a roaring peat fire, and that uniquely Irish gift of conversation.



I returned with immense respect for the work that Rotary does both at the local and global level. Rotary's global scale allows it to impact countless lives around the world. Please know that this one life will always be grateful for the impact you made in shaping my worldview and my values.'

– Jennifer Blair, Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholar, 1999-2000

The scholarship was, for me, a gateway to a longer term commitment to Ireland. I loved my time abroad and stayed to attend law school after my initial graduate degree. I practiced law in Dublin until 2009, and, in that time, inevitably acquired a bit of Irish culture in my own make-up. I even started pronouncing "walk" a bit differently myself (among many other words!).

I came home to Iowa in 2009 with a greater sense of my own cultural identity and a deep appreciation for other cultures. I also returned with immense respect for the work that Rotary does both at the local and global level. What a marvelous idea – connecting friends in communities, and then connecting those communities to the world. At every level, Rotary creates fellowship, and as I see our society separate into increasingly isolated groups, I do think that the fellowship fostered by Rotary holds a key to world peace.

I now work at the University of Iowa, wearing a number of hats related to student advising and support. Much of my work has focused on international students, and I can happily say that the many bends in my road back to Iowa have led me to what I feel is my calling in life. I love connecting with international students through our shared experience as "outsiders," and I love extending to them the kindness and welcome that I received from Rotarians when I was that outsider.

Rotary's global scale allows it to impact countless lives around the world, but each of those is a unique story in growth and transformation. Please know that this one life will always be grateful for the impact you made in shaping my worldview and my values.



Sunday dinner with my host Rotarian family, the Lantry's, at their home in north Dublin



Jennifer Blair in fall 1999 on the Cliffs of Howth, in north Dublin



RI Director Brad Howard of Oakland, Calif., spoke passionately about membership and engagement.



RI Vice President Jennifer Jones of Ontario, Canada, illustrated Rotary's core values with compelling stories.



RI Director-Elect Robb Knuepfer of Chicago gave the official charge to the presidents-elect.



Rotary Club of Washington president-elect Michelle Redlinger and son Cavan show that Rotary is for everyone.

North Central PETS comes to Ames

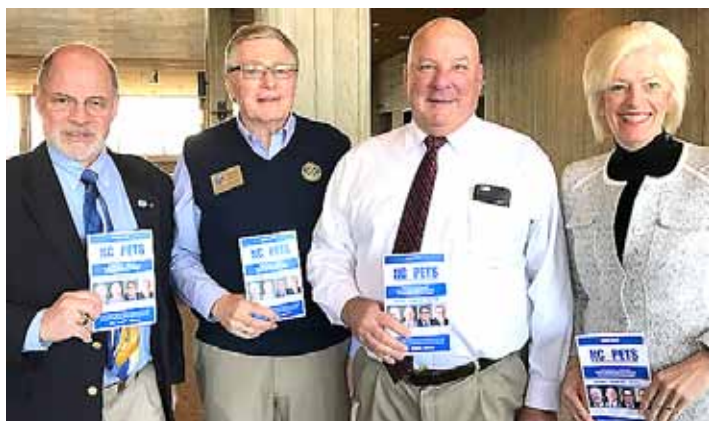
For the first time since 2013, North Central Presidents Elect Training Seminar (NCPETS) was hosted in District 6000, March 9-11, in Ames. Rotary International President-Elect Ian Riseley of Sandringham, Victoria, Australia headlined the Friday night dinner/general session at the Gateway Hotel and Conference Center, and the Scheman Building, part of the Iowa State University Center, was the location for the other general sessions, training, break-outs and all other meals.

The District Governors Elect from Districts 5950, 5960, 5970 and 6000 in Minnesota, Wisconsin and Iowa, along with the NCPETS executive committee, General Chair PDG Jacque Andrew of Jefferson, and Ames area Rotarians spent more than a year planning the event for a record number of attendees – nearly 350.



Riseley said Rotary gives us the power to make a difference and to change ourselves. "Committing to

NCPETS/continued on next page



DG Chris Knapp of Iowa City AM (l) and the next three District 6000 district governors (l-r): Mike Ruby (Muscatine), Tom Narak (West Des Moines) and Erna Morain (Waukee)..



President-Elect Ian Riseley of Victoria, Australia, and his wife, Juliet, share a laugh with District 6000 DGE Mike Ruby of Muscatine and his wife, Jo Anne.



Zone 28 Rotary Coordinator PDG Nikki Scott of Naperville, Ill., greeted Rotarians in the House of Friendship.



RI President-Elect Ian Riseley of Victoria, Australia, with NCPETS general chair, PDG Jacquie Andrew.



Sarah Bradley sang beautiful renditions of the national anthems of the U.S., Canada and Australia.



Zone 28 Public Image chair Debbie Stacey of Chicago (c) and assistants PDGs Jill Olsen of Mt. Vernon, Iowa, and Diann Kirby of Prescott, Wis., urged Rotarians to tell their stories.



Rotary Club of Keokuk president-elect Lori Conn who attended PETS with her husband, AG Tony Conn and daughter, received a warm welcome from RI President-Elect Ian Riseley.



The NCPETS executive committee: PDGs Chuck Berg, Judy Freund, Jill Olsen, Jacquie Andrew, Craig Leiser and Gary Campbell.
Photos by Bill Tubbs and Jacquie Andrew



President-Elect Ian Riseley with DGEs: Kyle Haugen (Prior Lake, Minn.), Mike Ruby (Muscataine, Iowa), Ralph Smith (Charles City, Iowa) and Bob Halagan (Buffalo, Minn.).

Riseley: 'Commit to ethics above all else'

NCPETS/continued

ethics above all else and Service Above Self sets us apart." In the coming year, he will re-emphasize the popular cultural Group Study Exchange program, and he wants clubs to plant a tree for every member (1.2 million worldwide). An accountant, he is directing clubs to count the dollars spent and volunteer hours to show the world the full impact of Rotary.



District administrator Carolyn Scharff (r) and Nevada Rotarian Ros Dunblazier at the registration desk. Photos by Bill Tubbs



Knoxville Rotarian Park Woodle (l) responded to an invitation for volunteers at NCPETS, to the delight of general chair PDG Jacque Andrew.

The "A" team list of speakers also featured:

- RI Vice President Jennifer Jones of Windsor, Ontario, Canada, this zone's representative on the RI board, who revved up the full-house Saturday breakfast with her "dance party" opening and followed with consummate and moving story-telling illustrating Rotary's core values;

- RI Director Brad Howard of California who challenged attendees to consider "Why Rotary?" He said presidents' No. 1 task is to "make your members love their club – everything else will take care of itself"; and
- Incoming RI Director for this zone, Robb Knuepfer of Chicago, who followed his remarks with the "commissioning" of the PEs as they enter their year of club leadership.

A new Ames-based registration system allowed attendees to sign up for optional (and well-attended) Thursday bonus sessions, two levels of Rotary Foundation training, and a tour of the Brunnier Art Gallery at the Scheman Center, donated by past RI President Henry Brunnier, originally of Manning, Iowa, in District 6000.

New website hosting afforded expanded and useful content and communications with attendees before and after registration.

District 6000 incoming assistant governors received training on Thursday and were joined Thursday afternoon through Saturday by incoming presidents and presidents-nominees from the other districts, RI, zone and district resource persons, other trainers and guests. All attendees were welcome to "Dine Around Ames" with local Rotarian hosts following the Thursday welcome reception with over 150 participating.

District sessions

The District 6000 sessions on Friday and Saturday were led by DGE Mike Ruby and district trainer John Schultz, with training by

district committee chairs and PDGs.

The annual business meeting convened by DG Chris Knapp, during which: a minor bylaws change was approved; Erna Morain of the Rotary Club of Waukee was elected District Governor Designee for 2019-20; and PEs approved the district budget of \$138,450. Dues will remain at \$30 and excess reserves will fund pilot programs, including mailing District 6000 News to all members.

DGE Mike Ruby introduced World Bicycle Relief, which will be a new district project in 2017-18. Watch for details!

Information was presented by: DGE Mike Ruby (welcome), DG Chris Knapp (overview), Wayne Steen (membership); PDG Terry and Peggy Geiger (RLI), John Schultz (youth programs and goal setting); Peggy Geiger (Public Image); and PDG Susan Herrick (polio). DGN Tom Narak led 21 presidents-nominee in a breakout session.

In the general sessions, presidents-elect were grouped with PEs of all districts by club size in sessions on membership, club leadership, humanitarian service, The Rotary Foundation, and "ask the expert" with RI leaders.

NCPETS facilitators from District 6000 were PDG John Ockenfels, AG Tom Downs, trainer John Schultz and ARRFC Cal Litwiller. DGE Mike Ruby was the emcee for Friday's lunch and DGN Tom Narak offered a Rotary Moment. Bill Tubbs was one of two photographers for the event.

District-specific wrap-up sessions closed the proceedings at noon on Saturday.

District 6000 members of the NCPETS Committee included: Bob Anderson (Ames Morning), Allyson Walter (Ames, Scheman site manager), Karin Sevede (Ames, Gateway site manager), PDG Jim Patton (Ames), Carolyn Scharff (Pella), Ros Dunblazier (Nevada), Bill Koellner (West Liberty), Bonnie Lowry (Marshalltown), Rick Morain (Jefferson) and Jim Andrew (Jefferson).



District 6000 DGN Tom Narak and Carol led a discussion with 21 presidents-nominee for 2018-19 who were in attendance.



DGE Mike Ruby met the District 6000 class of club presidents for 2017-18 at North Central Presidents-Elect Training (P.E.T.S.), March 10-11 at Ames. The incoming club presidents are pictured on Saturday. Can you find your club's president-elect?
Photo by Jacque Andrew

District 6000 club presidents for 2017-18

DISTRICT 6000 2017-18 Club Presidents:

Adel Shirley McAdon
Albia Bryan Crosser
Ames Donald Borchering
Ames Morning Karen Kiel Rosser
Ankeny Sally Schroeder
Atlantic Dan Mehman
Bettendorf Tim Lane
Bloomfield Karoleen Hammel
Boone Andrew Schroeder
Burlington Joel Sieren
Carroll Chris Polking
Centerville Kristopher Laurson
Chariton Joe Sellers
Clinton Rich Klahn
Coon Rapids Jon Heydon
Coralville-N. Corridor Victoria Struzynski-Olson
Corning Jamie Stargell
Corydon Richard Darrah
Creston Ron Ludwig
Dallas Center Matt Fox
Davenport Jim Wegener

Decatur County Bridget Davis
Des Moines Jamie Boersma
Des Moines AM Tara Connolly
East Polk County Bruce Mason
Fairfield Linn Cornick
Fort Madison Timothy Gobble
Greater Des Moines Rob Oxenford
Grinnell Effie Hall
Indianola Dave Tanner
Iowa City Michael McKay
Iowa City AM Philip Peterson
Iowa City Downtown Kimberly Schillig
Iowa Quad Cities Jeno Berta
Jefferson Joel Williams
Johnston Bob Wiley
Kalona David Heusinkveld
Keokuk Lori Conn
Keosauqua Kara McEntee
Knoxville T. Waldmann-Williams
Lenox Katie Lenhart
Manning Kevin O'Boyle
Marengo Patrick Fleming

Marshalltown Dennis Drager
Mount Pleasant Noon Rich Mueller
Mount Pleasant Betty Mullen
Muscatine Erika Cox
Nevada Jon Augustus
Newton Gerald Sawin
North Scott Dennis Peterson
Northwest Des Moines Leray Glendenning
Norwalk Michael Foss
Osceola Thomas Andersen
Oskaloosa Wyndell Campbell
Ottumwa Bonnie Campbell
Pella Jesse Underwood
Perry Kevin Videgar
Tipton Rick Fleshin
Washington Michelle Redlinger
Waukeke Devin Boyer
Wellman Merridy Leichty
West Des Moines Brad Brown
West Liberty Anna Hanson
West Polk Ben Chambers
Winterset Roger Queck

Assistant Governor team training held at Ames

All 16 AGs attended Assistant District Governor Training March 10 at Ames (the day before P.E.T.S.). Seated (l-r): Michelle Cassabaum (Nevada), AGteam leader PDG Susan Herrick (Boone), DGE Mike Ruby (Muscatine), Mary Ellen Stanley (Decatur County), and Ruth Freeman (Jefferson). Standing: Alka Khanolkar (Keokuk), Libby Goodman (Clinton), Linda Chastain (Decatur County), Bob Maurer (Pella), Erna Morain (Waukeke), Gary Loss (Davenport), Peggy Doerge (Iowa City AM), Chris Nelson (West Des Moines), Bob Freeman (Wellman), Tom Downs (East Polk), Bonnie Lowry (Marshalltown), Chris Bertelson (Winterset), and Lora Ashby (Centerville).



Photo by Jacque Andrew

Interactors, Student Council combine forces for good

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness: only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can do that." -Martin Luther King Jr.

By Jacob Lane/West Liberty
Editor/West Liberty Index

Two clubs within the West Liberty Community School District are using charity to bridge that awkward gap between middle school and high school.

Interact, the Rotary-sponsored high school all-around doers of good, and the Middle School Student Council, another charitable group in its own right, made blankets. Specifically, they spent several hours Monday, Jan. 16, spread across the floor in the middle school library working on a day when most other students were at home.

"We brought enough here to make 20 blankets for the University of Iowa Hospitals," explained Morgan Nichols, senior and president of the Interact Club. "We teamed up with the middle school student council to do a project on MLK day last year and we didn't have enough for them to do," she added.

Last year the Interact Club and the Middle School Student Council worked together to help the nonprofit organization Kids Against Hunger, but there were too many kids and not enough jobs. This year the Interact club upped the ante, providing enough materials so both groups could work together and make 20 "tie" blankets.

Tie blankets involve taking two large pieces of fleece, laying them on top of each other and tying the edges together. It's a great, simple craft project that makes a warm and comfortable dual layered blanket.



West Liberty Interactors work with the Middle School Council to make blankets for the University of Iowa Hospitals.

"It's great, I think it expands what we can do because there are more of us," said teacher and student council organizer Dan Stevenson about the two clubs working together.

The Middle School Student Council just finished a food drive during the holidays and is also involved with the town clean up. The group of young volunteers does a lot for West Liberty.

On the other side you have the Interact club, which specializes in charity work. Last year they picked out 20 stars from the Star Tree Project and helped with Christmas Box distribution. Last fall, the club offered to do yard work for free, including raking leaves and moving heavy objects. They plan to hold a similar Spring cleaning/yard pick up event in a few months.

However, the Interact club's involvement with the middle school goes beyond the student council. For the first time, last March the relatively young club held an 8th-grade dance. More than three quarters of the eighth-grade class attended the dance, both held in the high school and meant to get them acquainted with high school.

The Interact club plans to do it again this March as a way to ease the transition from middle school to high school, one that can be scary for young students.

There are plenty of clubs that do good in the West Liberty Community School District, but more often than not they stick to their respective grades and age groups. However, spread out across the warm library floor as icy rain pooled outside last Monday, students of all ages and grades worked together with a common goal.

Perhaps this is one interpretation of what Martin Luther King Jr. meant when he had a dream back on Aug. 28, 1963 – some 54 years ago.



Good for Rotary – and Iowa Public Television!

District 6000 volunteers put Rotary's brand in front of a state-wide audience on March 5, when they answered phones for Iowa Public Television's Festival 2017. "A big thank you to all who gave up your Sunday afternoon to man the phones for IPTV. Good fellowship, good publicity for Rotary, and good success for IPTV. It's busy people who always seem to come through when there is a need," said DGND Erna Morain. Volunteering were (left photo, front, l-r): PDG Terry and Peggy Geiger and Phyllis Miller (Decatur County); back: Erna Morain (Waukee), DGN Tom and Carol Narak (West Des Moines), Marcia Hammers (Waukee), PDG Susan Herrick (Boone), Todd Wheeler (Des Moines), Steve Morain, District Governor Chris and Vernetta Knapp (Iowa City AM) and PDG Loring Miller (Decatur County). Also PDG Jacque Andrew. Provided by Erna Morain

Tribute to a couple who lived 'Service Above Self'

By Carolyn Jons/Ames Morning

District 6000 Literacy Promotion Committee

Mary and Dean Harms were valued members of the Rotary Club of Ames Morning. They both exemplified the Rotary motto of "Service Above Self."

Dean was an ophthalmologist who, after retiring, pursued community service, especially through Rotary and church. As president of Ames Morning Rotary, Dean continued the club's tradition of funding 1,200 Baby Faces board books given by doctors to children at their 6-month checkups and began annual Teacher Recognition Awards.

In 2008 Dean and Mary organized a service trip to Honduras for a team of Rotarians.

There they created a community library and also helped conduct a medical outreach clinic.

In 2009, Ames Morning Rotary initiated the first Step into Storybooks event. It was a free event for families with young children. It featured interactive stations with family-friendly activities related to good quality



Mary Harms

children's books. A District 6000 Simplified Grant provided funding to buy books to give to children.

Mary and Dean assumed responsibility for Step into Storybooks costumes and did whatever else was needed to support the event. Mary continued on the planning team and as the "Costume Queen" for eight years.

We lost Dean and Mary too soon. Dean Harms passed away in 2010. Mary Brinkman Harms passed away in 2016. They both contributed generously to Rotary with their time, talents and treasures.

This year, the books given to children at Step into Storybooks will have a label saying, "Given in memory of Dean and Mary Harms by Ames Morning Rotary."



Ames Morning Rotarians volunteered in Honduras in 2008 in a trip organized by the late Dean Harms, (l-r): Jill Guffy, Mary Harms, Al Hermanson, a non-Rotarian helper, Dean Harms, Carolyn Jons and Jerri Heid.

The legacy of Step Into Storybooks continues



By Mary Mosiman/Ames Morning

Club Publicity Chair

The Rotary Club of Ames Morning is a founder and lead sponsor of Reach Out and Read in Story County. We donate \$3,000 a year to purchase all the books that Story County physicians give to parents as they bring their child in for a 6-month, well baby checkup. Speakers at our club sign the books on a label that identifies the book as being provided by the Rotary Club of Ames Morning.

Additionally, for the past eight years, our club has been a key sponsor of Step into Storybooks, a free event for families with children ages 0 to 5. Our club buys the books that are given away during this event and many of our members volunteer at the event.

Our ninth Step into Storybooks is scheduled for Saturday, April 8, from 9 a.m. to noon at the Ames Public Library.



Members of the Rotary Club of Ames Morning are in character for Step Into Storybooks, (l-r): Jerri Heid (as Mrs. Potts from Beauty and the Beast), Al Hermanson (as the Lion King) and Daryl Vegge (as Big Bird),



JOIN US FOR A PREMIERE
SCREENING OF UNITED
WAY'S "THE HERO EFFECT"
FEATURING LOCAL HERO,
CAROLYN JONS!

LIVE UNITED



Rotarian honored for leadership with literacy

United Way of Story County honored Ames Morning Rotarian Carolyn Jons with a reception at the Ames Public Library on March 7 for her longtime service in the area of early childhood reading through its docu series, The Hero Effect. Carolyn has provided leadership in literacy programs in her club, and as District 6000 Literacy Chair. Congratulations, Carolyn!

Submitted by Jacque Andrew

Friendship Exchange seeks Rotarians, spouses for November trip to India

By John Helgerson/Ottumwa

District 6000 Friendship Exchange Chair

We are attempting to build a team of Rotarians and spouses for an upcoming trip to District 3011 in India during November 2017.

The particulars:

- Five to a maximum of seven Rotarian couples/single travellers to District 3011 in India.

- Accommodation boarding and lodging is provided at homes of host district at cost of District 3011 in India.

- Exchange is for a period of 10 days in District 3011, but allow for travel days.

- Agenda during the exchange includes but not limited to: 1) Sightseeing; 2) Bonding with host Rotarians; 3) Learning the district and country culture; 4) Attending Rotary meetings; 5) Observing service projects; 6) Making presentations at Rotary and other meetings on District 6000 and the USA; 7) Touring the city of New Delhi, Agra for the famous Taj Mahal and the Pink city of Jaipur.

- The District 3011 in India will have accommodations that are hygienic and facility of attached independent bathrooms for guests.

- Air Fare and for shopping and personal expenses are met by the District 6000 members themselves with no liability attaching to District 3011.

- It is expected that each District 6000 member at his or her own cost will arrange for necessary travel and medical insurances and take good precautions with regard to clothes, food and other local conditions.

- Delegates will be selected by the District 6000 Rotary Friendship Exchange Committee after completion of an information application with photograph. The information provided will be shared with District 3011 and organization team.

For copy of the information application please e-mail johnhelgerson@gmail.com. Questions? (641) 799-1190.



Tie it with a bow ...

In addition to traveling the district and visiting Rotary clubs and projects, District Governor Chris Knapp has kept busy as an active member of the Rotary Club of Iowa City AM. Here, Chris wraps presents at Coralridge Mall on Christmas Eve with Pam Ehly, Ann Romanowski, Deb Galbraith and Valerie Martin. The club raised over \$1,000 in the project.

Provided by Vernetta Knapp



Cliff Dochtermann Award ...

Mike O'Connor from the Rotary Club of Ankeny was recently presented with the Dr. Clifford L. Dochtermann Award at the noon meeting by Kathy Sibbel. Mike is the District Director with the Boys Scouts. He has served several roles in the Rotary Club, including chairing the Service and Donation committees. The award is named after past Rotary International President Cliff Dochtermann, who was awarded three of the highest honors of the Boys Scouts of America. The award is given to those who are exemplary Rotarians and Scouters.

Provided by Jody Savage



Waukee Rotarians started their "Day of Action" by buying breakfast supplies which they delivered to teachers at all of the Waukee School District's eight elementary schools, (l-r): Terry Welker, Anna Bergman, Cyndy Cronin, Aaron Putze, Ryan Larson, Brad Heyer, Brad Kobernusz, Roger Schlaefer, Tom Young, Tom hunt, Mary Piechowski, Mark Heffernan, Angela Saak, club president Matt Olson, David Horner, Erna Morain and Russ Baugh.

Waukee Rotarians' 'Day of Action' says thanks to teachers, police, firemen, first responders

The Rotary Club of Waukee pulled off a triple play with a "Rotarian Day of Action" on Thursday, Feb. 16.

The club started by recognizing our educators by delivering breakfast to all of the elementary schools in the Waukee School District. Before school, Waukee Rotarians fanned out to the eight elementary schools to deliver breakfast.

Then, over the noon hour, more club members showed up at the Public Safety Building to deliver pizzas and say Thank You to the Waukee Police Department, Waukee Fire Department and EMT First Responders to recognize all the service they provide the community.

The club then finished the day volunteering time to help sort, restock shelves, paint and provide maintenance at the Waukee Area Christian Food Pantry, then presented the Food Pantry with a check for \$1,000.

"We wanted to show our appreciation to those in Waukee who so loyally and effectively serve the people in the Waukee community," said club president Matt Olson, about the fun-filled day. "We had a great turnout and we had a lot of fun doing it."

It was a great Day of Action that the Rotary club is very proud of!

– submitted by Mark Heffernan and Erna Morain



The Waukee Rotarians' "Day of Action" concluded at the Waukee Area Christian Food Pantry where they performed maintenance projects and presented a check for \$1,000 (l-r): Melissa Stimple, Craig Bullis, Pat Robinson, Erna Morain, Ron Robbison, Roger Schlaefer, Frank Hayer and club president Matt Olson.



At noon, Rotarians delivered pizzas to Waukee policemen, firefighters and EMT first responders

Rotary 

Holocaust program:

Perry Middle School students meet Rotarians

By Lynn Ubben/Perry

Superintendent of Schools, Rotarian

Perry Middle School teacher Carla Wood and her "Power-Up" class were guests at the Rotary Club of Perry meeting.

Mrs. Wood's students have been researching the Holocaust through the eyes of Dana Cohen, a Holocaust survivor.

The Rotary Club thanks Mrs. Wood and her middle school students for presenting this very interesting program. Students presented this program to their peers earlier in the week in the PPAC (Perry Performing Arts Center).



Perry Middle School students gave a program about the Holocaust at Perry Rotary (l-r): Molly Moorhead, Carter Iben, Macy Killmer, Lydia Olejniczak, Nepthale Gonzalez, Julian Ferreris, Juan Hernandez, Emiliano Ruiz, Bryce Eastman, Jenna Lawson, Cale Holst and Mrs. Wood. Alex Banuelos is seated in front. Keegan Fallis was not pictured.



Youth and Shelter Services aid

More than 100 holiday sacks filled with cleaning and personal hygiene supplies for Youth and Shelter Services clients were made possible from \$5,160 donated by members of the Rotary Club of Ames. The amount exceeded the Rotarians' goal of \$4,000. Pictured are Rotarians Andrew Allen, who is also the CEO of YSS, Suzy Shierholz, John Shierholz and Roberta Milinski.

Provided by Carole Custer, Club PR Chair



Socks for Animals Care Shelter

The Clear Creek-Amana Middle School Interact Club delivered the 160-plus collected socks to the Iowa City Animal Care Center. Shown in the photograph are: CCA Interact Club president Mariah Roller, Natalie Stewart, Emily Bernacki, Bre White, Livvie Herrington, CCA Teacher Jessica Sauer, Kemora Tillman and Caleb Herrington.

Provided by Victoria Struzynski Olson

Rotary pitches in on playground for all

\$150,000 goal set for inclusive park

By Mark Ridolfi/Assistant Editor
Eldridge North Scott Press

At an inclusive playground, all paths lead to fun.

The ladders lead to platforms with benches where kids can encounter new friends, or comfortably play by themselves.

Three mushroom-cap looking pedestals serve as seats, or as stepping stones to an arched ladder. Easy-to-reach benches accommodate grandmas and grandpas eager to play along with the kids. And a cushion of soft plexi-pebbles cushions every fall.

The Rotary Club of North Scott launched a community fund drive that should deliver a new inclusive playground to Sheridan Meadows park in 2017.

"Inclusive means everybody," said Jeff Ashcraft, the Rotary club's project leader. "That means age, too; parent, grandparent, everybody should have the possibility to play on this playground."

Inclusive does NOT mean boring.

Slides, climbing rocks, monkey bars and other familiar features are part of the system designed by Play & Park Structures, of Omaha.

The firm uses equipment manufactured in Tennessee, and the design gives kids room to be kids, while including strategic gathering points to make new friends. Climb-on points are low and wide enough for kids of all abilities. Rails include graphic panels showing American sign language.

The project grew from the North Scott Rotary's November annual auction, moved to St. Ambrose University's Rogalski Center. The event raised \$76,000, prompting club members to dream big about a community-changing project.

The members held focus groups and surveys to discern the specific project and arrived at this playground. It can serve all children in the greater North Scott area, while providing accessibility features that can draw families from the Quad-City region.

"We talked to Mayor O'Boyle and Marty jumped in with both feet and had not only a possible site, but a vision for how it might be a realized destination," said Ashcraft.

Eldridge Park Board Chairman Scott Campbell commended the Rotary plan, saying it fits the city's vision for Sheridan



An illustration shows the \$150,000 handicapped accessible play park that the Rotary Club of North Scott is building at Sheridan Meadows Park in Eldridge. After record-setting fundraisers, the club asked members for ideas of a large project which the club could sponsor above and beyond. Members said they wanted a project that benefitted the disabled and was visible in the community.

Meadows park.

"It adds another reason for people to check out Eldridge. I think it will draw people to the community for something that's not widely available elsewhere," Campbell said.

Ashcraft said a spot near the Sheridan Meadows pickle ball courts will be prepped for proper drainage, then outfitted with \$150,000 in playground equipment. The Rotary dedicated \$60,000, and already has drawn more donations, including \$5,000 from an individual member. (With additional gifts, the fund was \$99,000 on March 10.)

Fundraising will continue into 2017, when Ashcraft plans to field a crew of vol-

unteers for installation.

"We hope to have a barn raising party," he said. A manufacturer's rep will be on hand to direct volunteers.

This design uses Rotary's blue and gold colors, with blue plastic slides, canopies and other fixtures, including bright yellow guardrails, ladders and supports.

Among the features is a \$12,222 "rock-n-wave" push ride easily accessible to wheelchairs, so kids of various abilities may play together.

"Everything flows to a centralized location that will draw people together, allowing them to play together if they wish," Ashcraft said.

For NS: One project among many

North Scott's inclusive park project was possible thanks to back-to-back "Rotary Rallies for Youth" auctions which netted more than \$75,000 each. The Nov. 11, 2016 auction was attended by more than 400 at the Rogalski Center at St. Ambrose University. Activities included a silent auction, card draw raffle, pie auction, "Grab for Grub," wine raffle, 50/50 raffle and live auction.

Projects supported by the 89-member North Scott Rotary in the past year also include The Rotary Foundation, PolioPlus, Iowa M.O.S.T., Ponseti clubfoot repair, District 6000 Youth Services Fund, Global Grant for God's Mercy Orphanage in Uganda, Youth Exchange retreat, RYLA, Operation Warm, school shop (supplies for local students), Special Olympics, scholarships, Make-A-Wish, Student Dictionaries, food pantries, post proms, Youth Harvest Party, Junior Rotarians, 180 Zone, Fillmore Elementary Trauma Room, Vera French Foundation, Music in the Park, library books and supplies, Community Fine Arts Awards, Café on Vine, youth softball, youth basketball, iPads for second-graders, Camp Shalom, CASI, Handicapped Development Center, HavLife Foundation, Junior Diabetes, Lancer Productions, Interact, History Day, Project Renewal, Rebuilding Together, River Music Experience, Salvation Army, YMCA, and others.



District Governor Chris Knapp volunteers at the recycling center with members of his Iowa City AM Rotary Club, (l-r): Paul Ellis, Vernetta Knapp, Mike O'Leary and Phil Peterson in the background.

Rotary Club of Iowa City AM profits from recycling project

By Casey Cook/Iowa City AM

For many years, the Rotary Club of Iowa City AM has collaborated with City Carton and the Can Shed to collect returnable cans. When the Ockenfels family sold City Carton, a key element of that collaboration and our revenue stream was lost. Fortunately, Habitat for Humanity and the ReCycle Center of Iowa City stepped in and helped fill the gap. We still benefit from the guidance of the Ockenfels and their connection with the Can Shed.

The cans are collected at the East Side Recycling Center where we have a shed that advertises the Rotary Can Do Project. In a normal month, we collect about 5,400 cans and bottles. Once a month our AM Rotarians gather to sort cans. We usually have between eight and 14 members and get the job done in less than two hours. We make about \$200 a month. The project continues to gain momentum as the community shifts its recycling habits and more and more people discover the work that we do.

We give those funds away in a way we think may be unique. We piggyback on the grant evaluation process done by 30 volunteers working with the Johnson County Community Foundation. This group uses a disciplined approach to evaluate over 100 grant applications from local non-profits. They then share their evaluations with our club. We select grantees from that pool and distribute funds that favor applicants with a Rotary-aligned emphasis on childhood literacy especially for the most economically fragile in our community.

Thanks to all who support this project and special thanks to Mark Patton, Director of Habitat for Humanity, who oversees the project and handles much of the bookkeeping. Also thanks to our dedicated Rotarians who don't mind getting a little dirty in support of our community.

Atlantic auction raises \$40,740 for projects

By Dolly Bergmann/Atlantic

Club Public Relations Chair

The Rotary Club of Atlantic held its 34th Annual Rotary Auction on Nov. 19, 2016, at the Cass County Community Center in Atlantic.

Over the years the funds raised were put back into the community in many different ways. Investments in the past have included restoration of Santa's Cabin in City Park, the construction of the Cass County Community Center, and support with Iowa Western Community College and Atlantic School District scholarships, to name a few.

This year the auction followed its traditional format with a formal dinner with wine to kick the evening off. Members and guests had a chance to bid on several silent auction items. Once the meal was complete the opening of the auction began. Examples of items auctioned were: trips, short and long; seed packages (corn or beans); dinner packages including a barbecue, a Hoe Down, a beef dinner with fixings and much more.



Some of the more "unique" include a sporting package to the Iowa Cubs, a hunting trip right here in Southwest Iowa, artwork from a local artist, an autographed football from the Minnesota Vikings, an autographed basketball from the University of Iowa and an autographed jersey from John Elway. As in the past there were many great items up for auction.

This year there was one new feature to the event. The room was arranged differently. This provided more space for the auction items to be displayed and for people to walk by and look at them. Many commented about how nice it was to have the "extra" space for viewing the live auction and silent auction items.

This year the event raised \$40,740 to be put back into the community. Dolly Bergmann, chair of the event, said "You have to start with the donors, they are always outstanding. They step up. The next step is the bidders, and they were exceptional. You've got to have both for a successful auction. I'm so proud to tell people I'm from Atlantic. This community – they are wonderful. You can't say enough. The people are always willing to step up."

If you are interested in attending next year's auction, please mark your calendar for Nov. 18, 2017.



Atlantic auction boosters included Dale Gross, Dana Halder and Charles Bechtold (Dale and Charles are Rotarians. Dana is also a great donor to the auction!).

Mardis Gras fundraiser nets \$33,000 at Ankeny

By Nate Burnham/Ankeny

Club Executive Secretary

The Rotary Club of Ankeny held its 7th annual "Fun"-raiser the evening of Saturday, Feb. 25 at the FFA Enrichment Center on the DMACC campus in Ankeny, with approximately 240 Rotarians and guests in attendance.

The theme this year was "Mardi Gras" and the event included a dinner, "Heads or Tails" warm up, and both a silent and live auction. The auction proceeds totaled \$41,875 and after expenses the club will net over \$33,000. This included three paddle raisers with the proceeds designated to: Puppy Jake, the Ankeny Police Officers Tribute Wall, and the Ankeny Service Center.

The club's fundraisers during the past seven years have generated over \$170,000 for the club to use in its support of other charities and service projects in the Ankeny Community and international projects.



Ankeny Rotary president Carmen Davis and secretary Nate Burnham.



Puppy Jake service dogs in training, Digger and Kevin, attended the Rotary Club of Ankeny Mardi Gras fundraiser (l-r): Kent Van Maanen, Digger, Tim Cox, Danette Cox, Jessica Van Maanen and Kevin. Digger and Kevin are brothers.

Rose Parade float 'Archie' honors Rotary Foundation

By Peggy Geiger/Decatur County

District 6000 Public Image Chair

This year's Rose Bowl RI float was named Archie, a friendly dragon, who was crowned with the Princess award – the most beautiful float 350-feet or smaller on Jan. 2, 2017. Archie, named to honor the founder of The Rotary Foundation, Arch Klumpf, has the world at its feet as Rotary celebrates "Doing Good in the World."

The dragon had eyes that would blink with smoke that radiated out of its nose. Archie carried a 100-year medallion celebrating The Rotary Foundation Centennial as it made its way down Colorado Boulevard in Pasadena, Calif.

A group of Rotary RV Fellowship members with friends made the trip west to work on the float on one of the last shifts to put on the flowers. Our group was the "mummers." Popping heads off of mums, placing them face down to administer glue, or placing the mums gently on the whole bottom section around "Archie" were some of our assigned jobs. Afterwards, we got to place roses here and there. This was the 30th year for Rotary Rose Parade Committee to be in the parade.

We had RVs arrive from Florida, New Mexico and two from Iowa. Rotary Fellow-

ships bring friends together from all over. Several days of fun and fellowship included visiting the USS Iowa Battleship, the Reagan Presidential Library, and several other places of interest in the area. This was especially convenient for the RVs as we got to be "camped out" right up to the Colorado Boulevard the night before the parade and could watch from the driver's seat, or from lawn chairs in front of the RV.

Congratulations Archie and RI on such a beautiful float!



Volunteers who helped build "Archie" are from D6000 unless noted, front (l-r): Sue Rasmussen, Diana Schewe, Marv and Kim Konz (D5950), PDG Terry Geiger. Back: Dick Rasmussen, Carey and Donna Beamesderfer (D5520), Phyllis and PDG Loring Miller, Peggy Geiger, Judy and Dave Farr (president of the Rotary RV Fellowship, D7870). Not pictured: Vince and Marva McCarty.



Rotary's Rose Bowl float, "Archie."



Josh The Baby Otter teaches youth about water safety in a project supported by the Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines.

Water safety is focus of project at Urbandale

**By Mark McAndrews/
Northwest Des Moines**

The Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines partnered with the Urbandale Parks and Recreation Department to teach children to be safe around water. Drowning is the No. 1 cause of death for children ages 1-4 and is the second leading cause of death for children ages 1-14.

The club provided funds to present Josh The Baby Otter to 750 pre-school through first-grade students in the Urbandale School system.

Josh teaches the students the fundamentals of being safe around water: 1) Always have an adult with you when you are near water; 2) Always swim with a buddy; 3) Learn to float. These principles are reinforced with a class room presentation, song, coloring book, stickers and a visit by Josh.

In addition to presenting Josh the Baby Otter to students, the club provided 10 scholarships to provide swim lessons for children who could not otherwise afford them.

Josh the Baby Otter is a partner of Rotary International. For more information see <http://www.joshtheotter.org>.



The winning team "Debbie" in the Rotary Club of Manning's Trivia Night, front (l-r): Beth Booth, Courtney Eischeid, Rotarian Debbie Ranniger, Becky Eischeid and Casie Eischeid. Back: Kenny Eischeid, Karl Albertsen, Ben Booth and Craig Bogatzke.

Humor at the Hausbarn in Manning

By Jean Behrens/Manning

The first annual Manning Rotary Trivia Night was held Saturday, Feb. 19 at the Manning Hausbarn Conferenz Center.

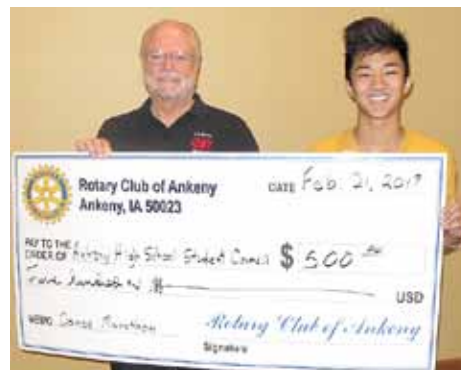
The evening was a great success with approximately 150 in attendance. Following social hour and dinner, emcee Kirk Huehn and Trivia Night chairman and technical specialist Curt Steger entertained and challenged those in attendance. Categories included television commercial slogans, sports, superheroes and even visual movie clips.

Proceeds support projects such as the food pantry, child care center and IKM Manning schools, all of which serve Manning



Technical specialist Curt Steger and emcee Kirk Huehn.

and the surrounding communities. PolioPlus, a global project of Rotary International, also receives funds annually from the Rotary Club of Manning.



Ankeny Rotary aids YMCA, Dance Marathon

Rotarian Kraig Vry (I), executive director of Ankeny Family YMCA, accepted a check from Rotary Club of Ankeny President, Carmen Davis, for \$1,500. The money will go towards the YMCA's Partners in Youth 2017 campaign.

Rotary Club of Ankeny Youth Committee chair, PDG Gary Welch (I), presented a check on behalf of the Rotary club to Aaron Hoong, an Ankeny High School junior. The \$500 will go towards the Dance Marathon, an event that supports the Children's Miracle Network.

Bettendorf awards \$20,500 grants

By Fred Anderson and Jonna Schuler/Bettendorf

The Charities Board of the Rotary Club of Bettendorf awarded grants worth a total of \$20,500 to 12 not-for-profit agencies that serve the Quad Cities during the Jan. 25, 2017, meeting. Funds for the grants were raised during the club's 10th annual LobsterFest in June 2016. LobsterFest is a New England flavored feast featuring lobster flown from Maine to the Quad-City Airport the morning of the event. The 300-plus attendees dine beneath a giant party tent and also enjoy appetizers, desserts, drawings and auctions.

Recipient organizations are:

- Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Mississippi Valley will use its \$1,500 grant in its Job Readiness Program, a part of its middle and high school initiative that prepares at-risk youth for summer and after-school employment.

- Camp Shalom near Maquoketa, Iowa, will apply its \$1,500 grant toward building a "Human Foosball Court," which officials said would be an outdoor activity in which people of all levels can participate at their new camp program for adults with disabilities.

- Churches United of the Quad City Area received a \$2,000 grant to be used for Winnie's Place Emergency Shelter for women and their children.

- The Family Museum of Arts and Science Foundation, Bettendorf, will apply its \$2,000 grant to provide free admission to school children in its Free and Reduced Lunch Program.

- Family Resources provides crisis intervention for at-risk youth, which serves the immediate safety needs of troubled kids in the Scott County region. The \$2,000 grant that it received frees police officers from having to do "double duty" as social workers.

- Hand in Hand Integrated Child Care and Respite Programs will use its \$2,000 grant to upgrade some facilities to help accommodate growth and develop some program innovations for the future.

- Handicapped Development Center will apply its \$1,500 grant toward purchasing musical instruments for a Sensory Path it is developing on the grounds of its 54-bed Residential Center in northwest Davenport.

- Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center in Rock Island, Ill., will use its \$2,000 grant in support of its Metropolitan Youth Program, which provides a structured environment that encourages its youthful participants to develop academically, socially and economically.

- The Ovarian Cancer Initiative of the NormaLeah Foundation, Rock Island, will use its \$1,000 grant to support Sisterly Advice Tea Chats, in which women "and the men who love them" become educated about ovarian cancer.

- Quad City Arts will help support its Visiting Artist Series in Quad-City area schools with the \$2,000 grant; visiting artists and performance ensembles will provide some 120 engagements and reach more than 26,000 students in their schools.

- Rebuilding Together Quad Cities received a \$2,000 grant to aid its work repairing and rehabilitating the homes of people

living in poverty who cannot physically or financially make those improvements themselves.

- YouthHope Ministry of the Quad Cities will use its \$1,000 grant to help provide equipment that it can use to outfit a softball team for girls in low-income families.

Charities Board members who participated in the awards were Jeff Hassel, Chelsea Powers, Sharon Sarver, Annette Martinez and Richard "Ozzie" Oswald, along with the major sponsors of last June's LobsterFest, John DeDoncker of Triumph Community Bank and Bill Daley of Abbey Carpets. Two board members, Ann Kappeler and Kevin Kraft, were out of town and could not attend.



Recipients of Bettendorf Rotary grants were, front (l-r): Nisha Ladlee, Family Resources; Carol Triebel, Rebuilding Together Quad Cities; and Jodie Kavensky, NormaLeah Foundation; center (l-r): Kevin Perrine, YouthHope Ministry; Ann Wachal, Churches United of the Quad City Area; Jerry Jones, Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center; and Mark Smith, Hand in Hand; Margot Day, Quad City Arts; back (l-r): Jeff Ashcraft, Handicapped Development Center; Ton Bley, Camp Shalom, and Jay Justin, Bog Brothers Big Sisters of the Mississippi Valley.

Photo by Bill Tubbs

Club observes 'Random Acts of Kindness' day

By Peggy Geiger/Decatur County Club President

Decatur County Rotarians wanted to draw awareness to The Rotary Foundation's 100 years of doing good in the world when they participated in the national "RAK Week" (Random Acts of Kindness) Feb. 12-18.

As club president, I challenged each Rotarian to submit random acts of kindness to me for the week. I then posted them on our club Facebook page until we reached the magic number of 100. Why 100? Because it's TRF's Centennial. So we were not only honoring TRF, but we were able to do fun and special things for people right here in our own community.

It's hard for Rotarians to toot their own horn. So we

didn't use names and we always mentioned the cause of our efforts was to honor The Rotary Foundation. We went from random acts of kind words, notes of appreciation, a gift of thanks, to donations here at home or to a good cause. Inspired by our club's focus on RAK, we had an awesome extension of our challenge by a Rotarian taking it back to work with him. He issued a challenge to students who then engaged in hundreds of acts of kindness to classmates in their building and in the community. The Butterfly Effect!

It can all start with one kind act. It's an opportunity for Rotarians to leave the world better than they found it and inspire others to do the same. Isn't that what The Rotary Foundation has been helping us do for 100 years?

Kindness is contagious. Carry on, Rotarians!



Rotary grant boosts freezer for Food Pantry

By Kristen Clark

Tipton Conservative, reprinted with permission

Tipton's local food pantry has nearly tripled in size and, thanks to the Rotary Club of Tipton, it now has a new eight-foot by 10-foot walk-in cooler.

The Bread of Life Food Pantry, located in the Calvary Foursquare Church at 1100 North Highway 38, received the \$13,000 cooler after the Rotary club was awarded a \$5,000 Rotary Foundation matching grant from Rotary District 6000. Combined with \$8,000 from the Tipton club, mainly from annual auction proceeds, the cooler is now in use.

The new cooler is the same size as the updated pantry freezer and both are located on the north side of the church in a 560-square-foot addition that was built with a combination of donations and local labor.

Members of the Tipton Rotary Club knew the food pantry was planning to expand and the club was looking for a project to support.

Rotary president Brad Goetz worked with Pantry Manager Wayne Nebergall to move the project forward.

Past president Laurie Brandenburg said the project was a perfect fit for Rotary's goals of fighting hunger, which will help students do better in school and benefit society. She prepared the Rotary grant application.

Nebergall called the partnership with Rotary "a perfect fit."

Prior to the expansion, Nebergall said the pantry was maxed out at 192 square feet and did not have enough room to take care of

local needs.

Work on the new 20-foot by 28-foot area began in June, with most of the job completed in August and September.

Affordable Metal in Muscatine donated steel for the project and Mike Fogg constructed the building.

Volunteers Dick Brennan, Brian Brennan and Eldon Downs did

the concrete work and Ron Stutzel helped with forms and footings.

Chris Tholen did the electrical work and Mark Bosten completed the sheet rock and texture work.

Nebergall said he began drawing up plans for the expansion about a year ago and "one thing after another fell into place."

Due to the generosity of many people and organizations, Nebergall said he continues to get more products in than he can give away to those in need. He thanked all of the donors, especially Family Foods (Rotary president Goetz' business), which has contributed a large amount of food and all of the shelving for the expansion.

In November the food pantry served 244 people and in December it served 234.

Nebergall says no one is ever turned away from the pantry, but people who come from outside the Tipton school district area are told that in the future they should utilize their own community food pantry services.

Hours for the Tipton pantry are 9 to 10 a.m. every third Saturday and by appointment only the first Wednesday of every month.

An open house, hosted by the Tipton Rotary and Calvary Foursquare Church, will be held at the Bread of Life Food Pantry from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 15. Cookies and refreshments will be served.



Pictured in front of the new cooler donated by the Tipton Rotary Club are (l-r): Laurie Brandenburg, Rotary past-president; Wayne Nebergall, manager of Bread of Life Food Pantry; and Brad Goetz, Rotary president.

Clear Creek Interactors help with Breakfast with Santa

By Victoria Struzynski Olson/Coralville N. Corridor

Club Interact/Ryla liaison

The Rotary Club of Coralville North Corridor held its annual Breakfast with Santa at the Coralville Marriott Dec. 10th. This fun family event was well attended and the Rotary club members were very happy to have wonderful CCA SAT/Rotary Interact Club members become our elves for the morning and help insure the event was a success! This fundraising event helps CNC Rotary support the following projects and more.

Coralville North Corridor Rotary Supports the following: Clear Creek Amana SAT/Interact Club, CCA Scholarship, Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA), Tiffin Roadside cleanup, Operation Warm coats, Judy's Jammies (DVIP), Crisis Center/Food Pantries, Dictionary Project for elementary students, local libraries, Xicotepec Mexico school, Wheelchair Project, PolioPlus, Boy Scouts, Rotary Youth Exchange Program. A Winter Wetland Walk followed the breakfast, sponsored by Take a Kid Outdoors (TAKO). TAKO hosts a free outdoor event each month to encourage families to enjoy and appreciate nature in all seasons.



Interactors and Coralville-North Corridor Rotarians, front (l-r): Students Anna Fox, Grace DeHerrera, Abigail Crow, Claire Schwarting, Audra Schultz and Fatima Gatea. Standing: Rotarians Michele Brandstatter, Steve Laughlin, Todd Nash, Santa, Keith Jones, Vicki Struzynski Olson, CCA Middle School teacher Jessica Sauer, Rotarian Judy Meyer.

Rotary Foundation Community Grants

The District 6000 Rotary Foundation Community Grants Committee approved grants totaling \$86,896 for these community projects in Rotary year 2016-17:

Davenport: Food/Agriculture. Membership Recruitment Event Supporting Riverbend Foodbank. Rotarians will package 20,000 meals for distribution by the Riverbend Food Bank to under-nourished children and their families in the Quad-Cities area. \$3,333.

Fairfield: Food/Agriculture. New kitchen for The Lord's Cupboard of Jefferson County, to support the purchase and installment of all items needed to furnish a kitchen in a new building owned by The Lord's Cupboard of Jefferson County, Iowa. \$5,000.

Ames Morning: Education/Literacy. Empowering Parents Through Reading, to provide children's books and reading tips to community organizations serving disadvantaged families to help them encourage family bonding and children's brain and literacy development. \$5,000.

West Liberty: Education/General. L.I.F.E., to provide five computers to the Latino Institute For Education (L.I.F.E.), a 501(c)(3) community organization to enhance the education and literacy of the Latino population of West Liberty. \$1,069.

Clinton: Community Development. Renovation of the kitchen at the Human Service Campus in Clinton, the home of several nonprofits. \$2,500.

West Liberty: Community Development. Wapsie Park, to make a recreational shelter area handicap accessible and to make repairs to structures and signage. \$852.

Bettendorf: Community Development. Rotary Row at Faye's Field, to build Rotary Row, consisting of five permanent large outdoor musical instruments, at Faye's Field. \$5,000.

Tipton: Community Development. Food Pantry Walk-In Cooler, to purchase and install a walk-in cooler for the local food pantry. \$5,000.

Adel: Community Development. Adel Public Library Improvement, to upgrade computers, introduce Playaway Launchpad collections and expand shelving at the Adel Public Library. \$4,774.

Winterset: Community Development. Rotary Skate Park, to build a picnic shelter near the Rotary Skate Park in Winterset. \$5,000.

Fort Madison: Community Development. PORT Rest Area Phase No. 1, to develop a rest area at the trail head of a Fort Madison PORT trail. \$4,000.

Boone: Health. AEDs for Boone schools, to provide portable AEDs for every school building in the local school district. \$4,000.

Lenox: Education. Window Replacement, to replace windows at the daycare/senior center in Lenox. \$4,000.

Ottumwa: Community Development. Grey Eagle Trailhead Project, to provide for the connection of the Gray Eagle Trailhead

with existing trail and other community trail heads. \$4,000.

Iowa City: Community Development. Rotary Bike Parking Racks, to provide for bike racks and fix-it stations in Iowa City. \$4,000.

Marshalltown: Community Development. Iowa River Trail - Rails to Trails, to provide for the rehabilitation of a bridge and its approaches on a trail between Marshalltown and Steamboat Rock. \$1,600.

Keokuk: Education: Literacy. Shelter Pal Reading Program, to replace kennel door panel fronts to provide a safe environment for children aged 5-12 who read to the animals. \$2,800.

Nevada: Health: General. Story County Medical Center Waiting Room Project, to develop a modern waiting room area for adults and children at Story County Medical Center's South Campus. \$4,000.

Clinton: Education: General. Community Connections Project to provide thematic field trips to 4th-grade students and adults to complement existing programming sponsored by community partners. \$2,000.

Manning: Community Development. Equipment Purchase for Manning Child Care Center, to purchase needed equipment for the newly expanded Manning Child Care Center operated by the Manning Betterment Foundation, a not-for-

profit corporation. \$3,025.

Washington: Community Development. Washington School Auditorium, to provide ticket office equipment and basic scene set and tools for Washington School. \$4,000.

Keokuk: Education: General. SiSTERS (Skills & Success Through Empowering Role-models), to provide funding for a STEM mentoring program for girls grades 6-11. \$750.

Knoxville: Health: General. Infusion Center of Knoxville Hospital and Clinics, to provide for renovation and remodeling of the present infusions center at Knoxville Hospital and Clinics. \$3,000.

Johnston: Community Development. Terra Park Bike Fix-It Station, to provide for the installation of a Bike Fix-It station at trail head at Terra Lake Park, Johnston. \$562.

Manning: Community Development. Purchase new starter block for the Manning Indoor Swimming Pool, to provide a starter block for Manning Recreation Center pool. \$660.

Wellman: Community Development. Welcome to Wellman Sign to provide for a "Welcome to Wellman" sign at the north entrance to the community. \$2,640.

Marshalltown: Education: General. LOSM Star Education Outreach Program, to provide for a concert and workshop for middle and high school music students of the Marshalltown school system. \$1,800.

District 6000: Administration (Maximum 3%). To provide for the administrative expenses associated with Rotary Foundation District Grant #1735347. \$2,531.



Doug Flournoy of the Rotary Club of Fairfield chairs the District 6000 Community Grants Committee. Norlan Hinke of the Rotary Club of Clinton will play a leadership role next year, too.

Photo by Bill Tubbs

Use life insurance for charitable gifts

By Andrea Reason

Attention Senior Rotarians – it's time for spring cleaning your investment portfolio!

What happens when you no longer need life insurance? Perhaps your children are financially independent and your IRAs, 401(k)s, or other savings are more than sufficient to meet your retirement needs. Under these circumstances, donating life insurance to charity may be an attractive option.

Donating your life insurance policy to charity, such as The Rotary Foundation, can allow you to make a large gift while generating current tax benefits. Whether this strategy is right for you depends on your specific circumstances and your family's financial situation.

The Rotary Foundation Endowment Fund benefits from the donation of all financial assets, but non-cash assets such as life insurance can provide you, the Rotarian donor, greater tax benefits than a straight donation of cash. Life insurance can be a useful financial planning tool. It provides a significant source of wealth and creates liquidity for your family to pay any applicable estate taxes or other expenses.



An Example of How to Use Life Insurance for Charitable Gifts

Consider Joe, for example. He is a 60-year-old widower with two children, both of whom are finished with college and gainfully employed. He has substantial savings in an IRA and his company's

retirement plan, but continues to pay premiums of \$10,000 per year on a \$1 million life insurance policy. The policy's cash surrender value is \$400,000, and Joe's cost basis in the policy, based on premiums paid, is \$200,000. If he simply surrenders the policy in exchange for its cash value, he will recognize \$200,000 in ordinary income.

In a meeting with his financial advisor, Joe expresses an interest in giving more to charity. The advisor explains how Joe can accomplish this goal, while actually improving his cash flow, by donating his life insurance policy. Joe would enjoy a charitable income tax deduction for the initial donation as well as for any premiums he pays in the future. And when Joe dies, the charity, if directed to The Rotary Foundation, would receive a \$1 million gift.

Tax considerations

The most tax-effective way to donate life insurance is to transfer the policy so that the charity becomes the owner and beneficiary. You may be entitled to an immediate charitable deduction for income tax purposes. If you continue to pay the premiums, each payment is also a deductible charitable donation.

You may be surprised to learn that you can not necessarily deduct the policy's face value or cash surrender value; rather, the deduction is limited to the policy's fair market value or your cost basis, whichever is less. Determining a policy's fair market value is complex, requiring consideration of factors such as the policy's cash surrender value, the cost of purchasing a comparable policy and the insurer's actuarially calculated reserves. Deductions for noncash gifts in excess of \$5,000 must also be supported by a qualified appraisal.

Review your finances

Donating a life insurance policy (or other financial asset you no longer need) to charity can be a smart move under the right circumstances. By working with tax and financial advisors to review your family's financial situation, you can determine whether your financial needs and desire to give to Rotary would be best served by a charitable donation of a non-cash asset.

This article was provided by District 6000 Endowment Chair, PDG Don Goering. Andra L. Reason, CPA, CFP, is a Principal and Director of Tax and Estate Planning and Trust Services at Marrs Wealth Management.

Celebrate special occasions with a charitable gift annuity

By PDG Jacque Andrew/Jefferson

D6000 Rotary Foundation Fundraiser Chair

In honor of its hundredth year of serving humanity, The Rotary Foundation now offers celebratory charitable gift annuities, which can be scheduled to issue fixed payments each year in the month of the donor's choice to celebrate a special occasion such as a birthday or anniversary. Rotary recognizes the full face value of the gift, so this is a great opportunity to commemorate the Foundation's centennial by increasing a Rotarian's Major Donor Level.

A charitable gift annuity is a fantastic way to create a better life for people all over the world while providing lifetime payments to a loved one that will not change with fluctuations in the market. With rates ranging from 4 to 9 percent, a charitable gift annuity may help "unlock" the income potential of low-yielding assets.

If you have friends or clients who are considering the sale of their appreciated stock, you might encourage them to consider funding an annuity backed by the unrestricted funds of The Rotary Foundation, eliminating their investment risk and helping them reduce or delay capital gains tax. After all lifetime payments have been made, the balance of the gift annuity will be used to provide ongoing support for their favorite Rotary Foundation programs.

Tell us how you want your gift to help your family celebrate and build your Rotary legacy, and we will prepare a customized, no-obligation sample illustration that outlines the payments and potential tax benefits.



Bequest Society ...

The Rotary Club of West Des Moines on Jan. 24 recognized DGN Tom and Carol Narak as Bequest Society Level 1 donors for \$10,000 pledged to The Rotary Foundation. Carol was inducted as a member that day, too. Present were (l-r): Tom and Carol Narak, District Governor Chris Knapp and Vernetta, District Rotary Foundation Chair PDG Terry Geiger, PDG Jacque Andrew, DGND Erna Morain and Assistant Governor Chris Nelson.

Provided by Amy Fettes



Jim Peterson
Iowa City AM



DG Chris Knapp
Iowa City AM



Laurie Brandenburg
Tipton



Dimi Doreasca
Iowa City

Grant Management Seminars teach Foundation basics



Dotti McKay
Iowa City

The first of three Grant Management Seminars designed to teach the requirements of Rotary Foundation Community and Global Grants was held Feb. 18 at West Liberty. Some of the presenters and participants are pictured. A second seminar was March 4 at West Des Moines, and a third will be March 24 at Newton. Attendance is required for clubs to participate in Rotary Foundation grants projects.

Photos by Bill Tubbs



Brad Helgemo
Northwest Des Moines

Brock Earnhardt
Davenport

Rotary Foundation: A gift that lasts forever

By The Rotary Foundation

Throughout our lifetime, most of us strive to make a difference in the lives of others, providing gifts to the people and causes we value. Wouldn't it be nice to know that you could continue to change lives even after you are gone – creating a legacy of support for the causes most important to you? By creating an endowment with our organization – or adding to our existing endowment – you can give a gift that lasts forever.

How it works

- You give cash, securities or other assets to an existing endowment or an endowment you create with The Rotary Foundation. If you can't give up assets today, consider making the gift in your will or other estate plan, specifying that you would like your gift to be used to fund an endowment.
- You determine if your endowment will be designated to fund a specific program or service, or given without restrictions to allow the TRF board of trustees to direct the fund to our most critical needs.

Endow your annual gift: A case study of benefits

For many years, Susan has been writing a check for \$5,000 to our organization. She wants to continue this giving and create a

legacy of support after her death. She decides to update her estate plan and establish an endowment gift in her will of \$125,000. When the gift is made, we use a portion of the endowment each year to fund our programs and reinvest the remainder, allowing it to grow and support annual payouts indefinitely. This generous arrangement allows Susan to continue supporting our current needs each year during her lifetime and ensures she can support our future needs after her lifetime.

Susan is entitled to a \$5,000 income tax charitable deduction on her taxes the year the gift is made. The endowment gift also reduces the size of her taxable estate at death. We receive the benefit of Susan's generosity now and forever.

We can help

We would love to work with you to help you create a lasting legacy that honors your values for many years to come. Please contact us today to learn more about establishing an endowment with The Rotary Foundation. Contact Us: Planned Giving, phone: (847) 866-3100; email: planned.giving@rotary.org. The Rotary Foundation, 1560 Sherman Ave., Evanston, IL 60201-3698.

This article from The Rotary Foundation was provided by PDG Jacques Andrew, District 6000 Fundraising Chair

News briefs

AG Districts: The soon-to-be-chartered Rotary Club of Norwalk brought about a reconfiguration of AG districts. The new area will have the following clubs: Indianola, Northwest Des Moines, West Polk and the new Norwalk club. These clubs are contiguous. Chris Bertelson of the Rotary Club of Winterset will be the AG.

Assembly: There is still time for club leaders to attend the District Training Assembly which will be held on Saturday, March 25, at the Newton DMACC campus. Register at www.rotary6000.org. Assembly is for current club leaders as well as up and coming leaders of your club. Registration is free. Lunch is included. Sessions begin at 8:30 a.m. and wrap up after lunch. Topics include membership development, polio, youth programs (RYLA, Interact, Rotaract, Youth Exchange), Rotary Foundation, fundraising, RLI, promoting your club online and with print and social media. If you are attending the Grant Management Seminar the night before and are staying to attend District Training Assembly, the district has a block of rooms available at the hotel next door. Call (641) 792-3333.

Conference Displays: Clubs are invited and encouraged to showcase their projects at the District Conference, May 4-6 at the Coralville Marriott. There is no charge, but reservations are requested by April 14 by contacting Phil Peterson at (319) 499-8109, email ptpeterson33@gmail.com, or Wayne Steen at (563) 607-3367, email pythagoras78@hotmail.com.

Council On Legislation: The District 6000 Nominating Committee met Feb. 26 and interviewed nominees for the 2019 RI Council On Legislation. PDG Susan Herrick of Boone was selected as the delegate and PDG Jacque Andrew of Jefferson is the alternate.

Interact: At the March 8 meeting of the Rotary Club of Waukee, club president Matt Olson reports that he signed the paperwork to charter not one but TWO Interact clubs in the Waukee School District: one at the high school and one at the Timberline Middle School. "We could also potentially charter two more sometime next year!" he added.

Gala I: Jim Bruhn reports that the Rotary Club of Clinton will host its annual fund raising auction, themed "Western Gala" on Friday, April 28, at the Eagle Point Park Lodge, and at the same time to showcase the club's \$1.3-million Rotary community renovation project. There will be dinner, entertainment, live and silent auctions. The event starts at 5:30 and tickets are \$50 per person. "We invite all fellow Rotarians and friends to attend," writes Jim. "Tickets may be purchased by contacting Kathy Klahn at kathy.klahn@clintonnational.net or Jennifer Graf at jdgraf@mchsi.com."

Gala II: Blessman International's 5th annual Gala with the theme "Changed Lives" will be Thursday, April 27 at the Tuscany Event Center, 3901 NW 121st St., Urbandale. Tickets are \$150 per plate and support Blessman Ministries' humanitarian work in South Africa. RSVP by March 27th at (515) 343-5920 or online at www.BlessmanInternational.org/Annual-Gala-Event.

Foundation: The Rotary Club of Nevada gave \$26.50 per member to The Rotary Foundation as a "Centennial Contribution" in honor of the \$26.50 that was the first contribution that started the Rotary Foundation after the 2017 RI Convention – a clever way to give which totaled \$1,643.

Tribute to Gene Gabus

As a followup to the very fitting tribute to Rotarian Gene Gabus in the last District 6000 newsletter, a correction is necessary. Gene generously supported the Des Moines Riverwalk Park with a \$100,000 donation (not the \$30,000 as printed), according to a member of the fundraising committee for the project, Chris McLinden of the Rotary Club of Des Moines AM. Gabus requested that the donation be credited as \$40,000 from District 6000 and \$30,000 each from Northwest Des Moines and West Polk County clubs.

McLinden and Gabus were next door neighbors and fellow Rotarians for 17 years. Chris writes, "He knocked on my door one early Sunday morning and sat in my living room quizzing me about it (the Riverwalk project) for a few hours (he knew I was on the fundraising committee) and asked me for more info on it which I emailed him that Sunday afternoon. He called me the next day and said he was in for \$100K!"

"I miss him every day as a neighbor and as a Rotarian – with special feeling on Saturdays. I would cut my two acres and blow the leaves and clippings onto his lawn every Saturday morning and he would promptly come home from the (auto) dealership on late Sat afternoon and cut his lawn and blow them right back at my lawn – :(" McLinden wrote to Bill Tubbs, D6000 newsletter editor.

McLinden noted to editor Tubbs, "I enjoy your District 6000 newsletters every quarter and I do read them!"

– submitted by PDG Jacque Andrew

Foundation: Rotary tapped fundraising expert, Eric Schmelling, to manage philanthropy and fundraising for the humanitarian service organization's \$1 billion charitable arm – The Rotary Foundation. As the general manager and chief philanthropy officer, Schmelling will lead the area responsible for facilitating contributions to The Rotary Foundation. "With over 20 years at Rotary, Eric brings a deep understanding to this role," said John Hewko, general secretary of Rotary. Schmelling began his career at Rotary in 1995 and has held several positions, including director of planned and major gifts. Schmelling is an alumnus of Beloit College in Wisconsin and received his M.A. from Central European University in Hungary. He is a member of the Rotary Club of Evanston Lighthouse.



Eric Schmelling

Letter: Greetings Bill: Thank you for sending a hard copy of 6000's latest newsletter – THE best newsletter in Rotary! As per usual, you present a fantastic and comprehensive overview of "What's happening" in your district. Again thanks for all you do and for producing such a quality publication. Let's Celebrate Rotary in Atlanta. – Mike McCullough, Trenton, Mich., Past RI Director

Letter: Yesterday, I finally had enough time yesterday to read the latest edition cover to cover. I have no doubt about it – 6000 has the best district newsletter I have ever seen and likely the best in the Rotary world. Well done! I would be remiss if I did not also say, "Kudos to your district because you have so much great news to report," not just about The Rotary Foundation activity in your district, but overall in all of the Avenues of Rotary Service.

– Newell Krogmann, LeSueur, Minn.
Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator

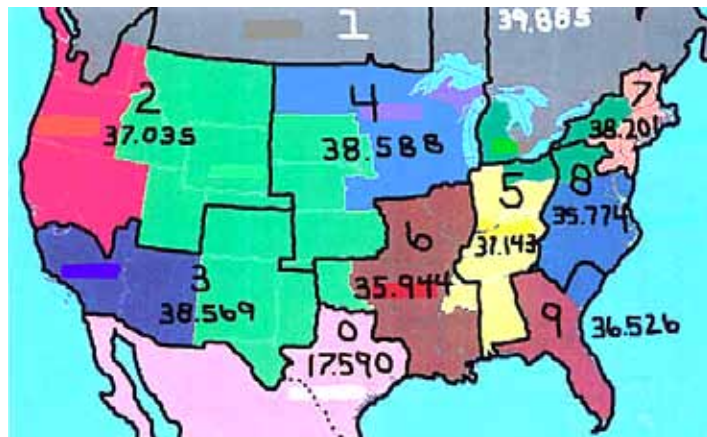
Membership shift causes zones realignment

Rotary's worldwide membership is holding steady at 1.2 million, but because membership is growing in Asia and declining in North America, a realignment of zones has been approved by the RI Board, which will take effect in 2018-19. The net effect: there will be one fewer director from North America on the RI Board.

In the map at right, Iowa is part of Zone 28 (blue, upper Midwest). We are currently paired with Zone 29 (green, Great Lakes region) to elect a director to the 34-member RI Board. Zone 29 will be divided into parts of four new zones.

The new Zone 28 will continue to include northern Illinois, upper Michigan, all of Wisconsin and part of Canada, and will expand to include all of Iowa (Sioux City is not currently in Zone 28), Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota and Nebraska, and parts of Kansas and Oklahoma.

In June, we will learn which zone will be paired with Zone 28 to elect an RI Director.



New Rotary zones for North America



Sign up by May 22 for District 6000 Breakfast at Atlanta

The June 10-14, 2017, Atlanta Convention is only three months away and the excitement is building. Rotarians and guests from all over the world are registering in record numbers for the BIG event celebrating the 100th Anniversary of OUR Rotary Foundation. The deadline to pre-register at <http://www.riconvention.org/en/atlanta/> register is March 31.

DGN Tom Narak announces that the District 6000 Breakfast will be from 7:30 to 9 a.m. on Monday, June 12 at the Double-Tree Hotel just a few blocks walk from the Convention venue. "This event will be a great way to kick off your experience at the Rotary International Convention and provide a chance to talk with Rotarians from the Midwest," he said.

For details and to sign up please go to the District 6000 website. The price is \$35 and the deadline is May 22.

Please contact Tom and Carol with questions tom.carol@msn.com.

Watch the RI website (www.rotary.org) and the Zone website (www.zones28-29.org) for information about hotels, speakers, things to do in Atlanta, and of course, our Zones 28 and 29 party. See you in Atlanta!

CLUB ATTENDANCE PERCENT AND RANK

CLUB	OCTOBER 2016		NOVEMBER 2016		DECEMBER 2016	
	Percent	Rank	Percent	Rank	Percent	Rank
Adel	57.00%	32	54.00%	39	52.00%	41
Albia	52.60%	40	50.30%	45		
Ames	61.43%	25	63.16%	24	55.47%	37
Ames Morning						
Ankeny	73.60%	9	73.77%	16	72.09%	15
Atlantic	47.64%	46	58.00%	31	47.00%	46
Bettendorf	57.80%	31	57.70%	32	59.30%	32
Bloomfield			80.00%	9	80.00%	7
Boone	54.00%	38	50.00%	46	68.00%	21
Burlington	84.30%	5	80.20%	8	83.70%	4
Carroll	61.78%	24	51.52%	43	46.15%	47
Centerville	47.00%	47	47.00%	50	43.00%	50
Chariton	71.71%	14	77.39%	12	73.15%	13
Clinton	55.50%	34	51.20%	44	48.64%	44
Coon Rapids	59.00%	29	59.00%	29	61.00%	28
Coralville-North Corridor	100.00%	1	100.00%	1	100.00%	1
Corning	63.00%	22	63.00%	26	76.00%	11
Corydon						
Creston	53.00%	39	54.00%	39	57.00%	35
Dallas Center	69.00%	15	80.00%	9	62.00%	26
Davenport	52.51%	41	48.38%	47	59.52%	30
Decatur County	72.00%	13	67.00%	21	69.00%	19
Des Moines	55.31%	35	56.26%	35	57.04%	34
Des Moines A.M.			62.00%	27	62.00%	26
East Polk County	62.55%	23	57.33%	34	53.33%	40
Fairfield	35.59%	49	31.07%	53	37.50%	52
Fort Madison	58.00%	30	52.00%	42	46.00%	48
Greater Des Moines	64.00%	21	77.00%	13	100.00%	1
Grinnell	72.39%	12	84.57%	7	80.45%	6
Indianola	54.10%	37	58.95%	30	59.36%	31
Iowa City	30.87%	50	28.09%	54	28.13%	54
Iowa City A.M.	78.11%	7	78.61%	11	79.86%	8
Iowa City Downtown	85.56%	4	86.11%	4	79.63%	9
Iowa Quad-Cities	59.76%	27	68.29%	20	63.41%	24
Jefferson	63.00%	22	66.00%	22	64.00%	23
Johnston	64.20%	20	73.86%	15	72.05%	16
Kalona	71.71%	14	69.43%	18	69.87%	18
Keokuk					29.30%	53
Keosauqua	61.00%	26	59.00%	29	63.20%	25
Knoxville	50.96%	43	53.69%	40	55.78%	36
Lenox	65.00%	18	65.00%	23	66.00%	22
Manning	58.00%	30	66.00%	22	60.00%	29
Marengo	72.50%	11	85.00%	6	76.66%	10
Marshalltown	44.20%	48	45.61%	51	42.35%	51
Mount Pleasant Noon						
Mt. Pleasant	73.00%	10	75.00%	14	70.00%	17
Muscatine	49.18%	44	52.33%	41	44.00%	49
Nevada	55.79%	33	47.35%	49	51.58%	42
Newton	64.77%	19	68.91%	19	68.61%	20
North Scott	90.48%	3	97.55%	2	95.04%	2
Northwest Des Moines	76.07%	8	70.49%	17	73.81%	12
Osceola			45.00%	52	47.00%	46
Oskaloosa					61.40%	27
Ottumwa	48.51%	45	47.41%	48	53.88%	39
Pella	68.00%	16	79.00%	10	73.00%	14
Perry	69.00%	15	66.00%	22	54.00%	38
Tipton	59.00%	29	60.00%	28	52.00%	41
Washington	54.35%	36	54.66%	38	51.28%	43
Wauke	51.79%	42	63.02%	25	58.99%	33
Wellman	81.25%	6	85.01%	5	82.41%	5
West Des Moines	59.09%	28	56.08%	36	48.59%	45
West Liberty	65.00%	18	55.00%	37	80.00%	7
West Polk County	67.50%	17	57.50%	33	60.00%	29
Winterset	91.00%	2	93.00%	3	94.00%	3

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DISTRICT 6000 • Iowa USA

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Brock Earnhardt, Davenport
Bob Freeman, Wellman
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Bob Maurer, Pella
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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

From DG Chris Knapp . . .

- Make your members **love their club** (p. 22).
- Encourage members to attend **Membership Development Training** (p. 4).
- Attend the **District Conference** and encourage your members to register and attend (p. 1-3).
- Register club leaders to attend **District Training Assembly** March 25 at Newton (p. 1, 38).
- Register for the June 10-14 **RI Convention** and the **District 6000 Breakfast** in Atlanta, Georgia (p. 39).
- Complete the **Club Planning Guide** at Rotary Central to prepare for a successful year in 2017-18.
- Support the **Ponseti Clubfoot Repair Project** (p. 6-7).
- Create Awareness and raise funds for the **Global Campaign to Eradicate Polio** (p. 12-15).
- Rebrand, refurbish your **Rotary marks** (p. 4).
- Encourage members to volunteer for **RYLA** (p. 8).
- Encourage leaders to attend **RLI training** (p. 8).
- Encourage students to consider a year abroad with **Rotary Youth Exchange** (p. 9).
- Invite members to be part of the **Rotary Friendship Exchange** trip to India (p. 26).
- Check your club's progress toward your **Rotary Foundation Annual Programs Fund** goal and **PolioPlus** and make plans to meet or exceed them (p. 16, 34-35).
- Invite quality **new members** to grow the fellowship and service that you enjoy in your club!
- **Submit news** of your activities by March 1 for the next issue of *District 6000 News* to PDG Bill Tubbs at btubbs@northscottpress.com.

Object of Rotary

The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

FIRST: The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;

SECOND: High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;

THIRD: The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;

FOURTH: The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.