

District 5010 Monthly Newsletter

August 1, 2010

News from District Governor Jane Little

August is Membership & Extension Month



Greetings from Russia – July 23, 2010

This is our first newsletter this year and I hope everyone is having a great year.

My Rotary year started immediately at 6 am on July 1st when I left Anchorage at 6:00 am on a plane at bound for Russia. I arrived in Vladivostok on July 3rd at 1:30 pm. Russian President Medvedev was in town for the 150th year anniversary celebration and all the hotels were filled. AG Mikhail Batkhan and Svetlana were gracious

hosts and I stayed with them the first night. There are five clubs in the Vladivostok area and so it was a whirlwind of activities with visiting club projects, board meetings, club meetings, lunches, and banquets. Next we were on our way to the Sakhalin area where there are three clubs and the next stop was Magadan with one club.

From Magadan we flew to Petropavlovsk, Kamchatka which is a very special place for me. I was there in 1999 when my son married my Russian daughter-in-law so I was happy to be able to spend a couple of days with her sister, nephew, and aunt. There are 3 clubs in the PK area plus one club in Esso. It is 11 hours on the bus just to get to Esso (and 11 hours to get back) so that was a 3 day trip but well worth it. That little club is very much like my Homer Downtown club. Small but lots of heart and they are doing lots of good work in their community. The Kamchatka region Rotarians know many of you in our district and they all give you a warm hello.

The next stop was Khabarovsk with one club and a full house of Rotarians and Rotaractors at the meetings. We left Khabarovsk at 9 pm on the train bound for Blagoveschensk – I love trains – and we arrived in the morning rested and relaxed. We are in Blagoveschensk now with a club meeting and banquet later tonight after having visited a TB hospital and Orphanage which are just two of the clubs projects.

The Rotaractors have been at most of the meetings and it is wonderful to see such active, committed young people doing great projects throughout Russia. They would like to meet our Alaska Rotaractors and I hope that they will all have a chance to get together sometime in the near future.

So far we have inducted 9 new members and 6 new Paul Harris Fellows in Russia since I arrived with promises of many more.

This will be an exciting year in District 5010 and I hope that each club and all members will share in the newsletter or on the website any of your activities, accomplishments, ideas, plans, and any item that you think someone in our district would like to hear about.

August

1 – Ulan-Ude
3 - 6 – Irkutsk
8 – Krasnoyarsk
9 - 11 – Novosibirsk
12 - 13 – Barnaul
15 – Biisk
17 – Tomsk
19 – Kemerovo
10 - 22 – Omsk

September

8 – Nome
15 – Barrow
16 – Girdwood
20 - 24 – Fairbanks
20 – Fairbanks College
21 – Fbks. Golden Heart
22 – North Pole
Fairbanks Rotaract
23 – Fairbanks
24 – Fairbanks Sunrise
27 – Susitna
28 – Wasilla Sunrise
29 – Wasilla
30 – Palmer

October

1 – Anchorage International
5 – Seward
12 – Valdez
15 – Anchorage Gateway
18 - 19 – Ketchikan 1st City
19 – Ketchikan 2000
20 – Petersburg
21 - 23 – Whitehorse
25 - 26 – Sitka
27 - 29 – Juneau
27 – Glacier Valley
Juneau Rotaract
28 – Juneau
Juneau Gastineau



News from District Governor Jane Little

Continued from page 1

Let's have a great year and continue to Build Communities...Bridge Continents!

From Russia With Love, Jane

[Russian Translation on Page 3]

Where's Jane this month?



ITHF members visit Alaska

by Vivian Finlay

Alaskan Rotary Clubs hosted the first group visit to Alaska involving members of the Rotary Fellowship for International Travel and Hosting (ITHF) in late June and early July. Rotarians and their spouses who are members of the Fellowship from Jamaica, Nigeria, England, Australia, and USA, were hosted by Alaskan Rotarians, some who are also members of the ITHF. Outgoing President of ITHF, Steve Yoshida and Noko Yoshida, organized the event. The group visited clubs in Anchorage, Seward, Soldotna, Homer, and Wasilla. This was a wonderful experience for all who participated.



ITHF visitors on the boat heading to dinner at The Saltry in Halibut Cove, across Kachemak Bay from Homer.



Homer to Host 2011 District Assembly & Conference

June 16-19

The Rotary Clubs of Homer and the Central Kenai Peninsula are in the process of planning for the 2011 Rotary District Conference, to be held June 16-19, 2011 in Homer, Alaska. This annual event brings Rotarians from around the world together to celebrate the accomplishments of District 5010. We invite you to be a part of it.

The 2011 conference will focus on six priorities, the #1 priority being the complete eradication of Polio worldwide. See what District Governor Jane Little has to say about the upcoming conference in her video at this web site: <http://homer.rotary5010conference.org/video/>.

To become a sponsor or to participate in the 2011 conference, contact Conference Co-Chair Tina Day at 907-529-4352 or by e-mail at tina.day@acsalaska.net, or Conference Co-Chair Michele Miller at 907-227-6207 or by e-mail at homerarts@yahoo.com.

For details, visit our web site: <http://homer.rotary5010conference.org>



News from District Governor Jane Little Continued from page 2

Привет из России - 23 июля 2010

Это наш первый информационный бюллетень, и я надеюсь, что год будет успешным для всех.

Мой год начался в 6 утра 1 июля, когда я вылетела из Анкориджа в Россию. Я прилетела во Владивосток 3 июля в 13:30. Во Владивосток в эти же дни на празднование 150-й годовщины со дня основания города прилетел Президент России Дмитрий Медведев. В Все гостиницы города были переполнены гостями. По приглашению помощника губернатора Михаила Батхана и его супруги Светланы первую ночь я провела у них дома. На территории Приморского края 5 клубов. Мероприятия сменяли друг друга как вихрь – знакомство с проектами клубов, заседание активистов клубов, заседания клубов, обеды, банкеты. Затем мы полетели на Сахалин. В Сахалинской области 3 клуба. Следующая остановка была в Магадане. Там один клуб.

В Магаданской мы вылетели в Петропавловск -Камчатский, с которым меня связывают особые чувства. Я была там в 1999 году, когда мой сын женился на моей русской невестке так что я была счастлива вновь оказаться в этом городе и провести там несколько дней с родственниками невестки. В Петропавловске-Камчатском 3 клуба плюс один клуб в Эссо. Поездка до Эссо и обратно на автобусе составляет по 11 часов в одну сторону и нам потребовалось на нее 3 дня. Но это того стоит. Этот маленький клуб очень похож на мой клуб Downtown в Хоммере. Небольшой клуб с большим сердцем, и они делают много хороших дел в своем поселке. Ротарианцы на Камчатке хорошо знают многих североамериканских ротарианцев и передают все самый теплый привет.

Следующая остановка в Хабаровске. Там один клуб. На заседании присутствовал полный зал ротаринцев и ротарактовцев. В 9 вечера мы выехали на поезде из Хабаровска в Благовещенск. Я люблю поезда. Мы прибыли утром хорошо отдохнувшие. Сейчас мы в Благовещенске. Скоро состоится заседание клуба и банкет. Днем мы посмотрели лишь два проекта – детский дом и тубдиспансер. Это лишь немногие из всех проектов клуба.

Ротарактовцы были на большинстве заседаний и это замечательно видеть таких активных молодых людей, которые делают большие проекты по всей России. Они хотели бы встретиться с ротарактовцами Аляски, и я надеюсь, что у них будет такая возможность в когда-нибудь в ближайшем будущем.

На сегодняшний день в клубы принято 9 новых членов и 6 новых членов общества Пола Харриса, но мне пообещали, что это число увеличится

Это будет захватывающий год Округа 5010, и я надеюсь, что каждый клуб и все члены будут отправлять информацию о своей деятельности. Пишите о своих достижениях, делитесь идеями и планами, информируйте обо всем, что вам кажется важным.

Пусть у нас будет успешный год. Помогая городу – сближаем континенты!

Из России с любовью, Джейн



Club Fund-raisers

Homer Downtown

Homer Downtown Rotary has two raffles going:



Wine Raffle

Tickets:
\$10 or 3 for \$25

Drawing: Sept. 4

Winner gets a basket of fine wines collected by our members on their various travels. The club is still collecting, and expects to have about a dozen wines by the time the raffle ends.



Trip or Cash Raffle

Tickets: \$25 or 5 for \$100
Drawing: Dec. 15, 2010

Winner gets a gift certificate to the travel agent of their choice for a \$4,000 vacation to or from anywhere. **OR** \$4,000 cash.

Winner need not be present to win in either raffle. For more information, or to buy a raffle ticket, contact Jan O'Meara at 907-235-8757 or e-mail janomeara@gmail.com.

Tickets can also be purchased by mail by sending a check made out to Bridges/Homer Downtown Rotary, at PO Box 57, Homer, AK 99603.



Northwest Clubs invited to Success Forum

Chris Offer, PDG, Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator Zone 24

Please circle October 15-16, 2010 on your calendar or put it in your Blackberry or I-phone. District 5040 will host the first "Rotary Success Forum." This is a Regional Zone 24 seminar for districts in western Canada, Alaska and Washington. As you may know District 5040 has been selected for the past four years as the location for the regional Rotary Foundation seminar. Our district will now be the location the new Rotary Success Forum.

RI President Ray Klinginsmith created the new position of Rotary Coordinator. President Ray and Trustee Chair Carl-Wilhelm Stenhammar asked the RRFC (Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator) and RC (Rotary Coordinator) to work together. That is what we are doing at this seminar. RC Dean Rohrs and I have put together what we feel is a very tight program that covers the most important areas of TRF and RI programs. TRF and RI are not separate – they are interrelated and this new approach we believe will be a significant benefit to our district.

Most importantly regional seminars bring Rotarians together from different districts. The ability to exchange best practices, share ideas, discuss what works and what does not work is the most important part of a regional seminar.

Keynote speakers in Vancouver include Lt. Governor Steven Point and PDG Jennifer Jones from Windsor, Ontario. Steven Point has been

Continued on p. 6

What to do When Your Numbers Drop

by Jan O'Meara, Rotary Club of Homer Downtown

Your club started out with 25 members, now you're down to 15. What happened, and why? And, equally important, what can you do to halt the decline and start to reverse the trend? These are questions that must occur to any club member – and particularly any club officer – when their club undergoes such a shocking decline.

The first thing you should know is that you're not alone; your situation is not unique. Member lapse is a fact of life for most clubs, but that makes member recruitment and retention all the more important as a focus of each club president.

Members resign or fall away for many different reasons, but the main one is probably that they didn't find what they needed or were looking for in the club. You'll never know the reason unless you ask. Rotary suggests you conduct an exit poll of lapsed members. You don't have to ask them specifically why they quit, because they may be uncomfortable with such candor, but you can ask such generic questions, with a rating scale of, say, 1 to 5, as –

- Was the amount of fellowship too much, too little, about right?
- Were the programs interesting?
- Did they feel included?
- Did they feel club officers were responsive to members ideas?

Continued on p. 6

Club News

Rotary Club of Anchorage South

As part of President Mary Fairbanks' public relations initiative, our club has launched several social media outlets for Rotarians and other interested parties to get a glimpse of what's going on at our club. These are just the first steps to make our club more visible in our community—particularly among our own Rotarians and those in other 5010 clubs. Check them out.

FACEBOOK PAGE:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Anchorage-South-Rotary/105218659530728>

TWITTER FEED:

<http://twitter.com/ANCSouthRotary>

YOUTUBE CHANNEL:

<http://www.youtube.com/user/anchoragesouth>

FLICKR PICTURE FEED:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/anchoragesouthrotary/>



Rotary Club of Girdwood

We have posted 550 Community Service Hours so far in 2010, with lots more to come.

We are challenging all Rotarians in the Anchorage area to help us complete a Habitat build in September. (*See related story on page 6.*)

Our second End Polio Wine Tasting Fundraiser at the Double Muskie Inn on October 11th.



Open World Program looking for hosts

From Natalia Kunzer, Open World Program Officer

This year's Rotary theme brought by RI President Ray Klinginsmith "*Building communities/Bridging continents*," aligns perfectly with Open World's goal to develop a network of American and Eurasian leaders through fostering understanding and cooperation between the United States and the countries of Eurasia.

In addition to standard local programs, Open World supports specialized and niche-nominated groups and programs. Participants for such groups are nominated by RI through Rotary clubs in Russia and Ukraine. RI received a number of proposals for the program from Russian and Ukrainian Rotary Clubs that do not have a host Rotary Club in the U.S. Please consider hosting one of these groups.

Hosting specialized Open World delegations presents a unique opportunity to facilitate existing relationships or establish new connections with Eurasian countries and support Rotary movement in that region.

The Open World Leadership Center has issued Grant Guidelines for Open World Russia and Ukraine Programs 2011. Now that we have hosting dates and themes for the next year's program, we can begin planning for local Open World Programs in 2011.

The Open World Leadership Center requires grantee organizations (RI) to submit a list of local host Rotary clubs/districts with their plans for hosting Open World delegations, including hosting dates and themes. Please discuss Open World hosting opportunities with your club/district as soon as you can and let us know if your club/district would like to participate in the program. Lists of Open World Hosting opportunities and registration forms for the program are available from me at natalia.kunzer@rotary.org, OpenWorldProgram@rotary.org, or by calling 1-847-859-7530. Time is short, as RI has to receive this information no later than **Friday, 20 August 2010**. Rotary clubs that already completed the form do not need to complete it again, but, please, e-mail me the hosting dates when your club would like to host an Open World delegation.

For additional programming information please visit the Open World Program web page on Rotary's Website at <http://www.rotary.org/en/ServiceAndFellowship/Fellowship/OpenWorld/Pages/ridefault.aspx>. There you will find the following documents: program's overview, RI Open World Brochure, Frequently Asked Questions, Host Rotary Club/District Responsibilities, and other program-related materials.

This is a terrific program available to Rotary clubs only in the United States.

Should you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me at your convenience.

Club Focus

Rotary Club of Homer Downtown

Rotary International President Ray Klinginsmith has declared his theme for 2010 – 2011 to be "Building Communities, Bridging Continents". The Rotary Club of Homer Downtown has been following this theme consistently for the four years it has been in existence.

We have focused on serving youth, especially those homeless youth without resources in the lower Kenai Peninsula area. Using matching grants, fund raising and lots of "grunt" effort by Club members, we have been able to support and encourage youth with backpacks filled with basic supplies; a wallet card listing resources available to teens; as well as lots of encouragement and emotional support through direct contact with youth.

Dictionaries provided to third graders throughout the area provide inspiration and excitement for students with a desire to learn. Across continents, we have collaborated on computer and camera projects; school develop-

Continued on p. 6



Jim Henkelman provides dictionaries to excited third graders in Nanwalek, AK.



... Success Forum beckons

Continued from page 5

working with Rotary on literacy projects in First Nations Communities. Jennifer is on the RI communications committee and is the producer of the new history of Rotary in Canada DVD. Both are outstanding speakers. There is also a line up of great presenters to cover a variety of Rotary and Foundation topics.

Please don't come to this seminar prepared to sit back and be talked at. These will be two days of discussion and debate. Your ideas and view will make this a success.

The seminar is for district committee members, AGs, district leaders, Past Governors, club presidents, club leaders and all Rotarians that want to make their club a success.

For details and registration go to www.RotaryEvents.ca.

Please share this invitation with your club members, post it on your club website and in your club newsletter

Girdwood Rotary issues Habitat For Humanity Challenge

The Girdwood Rotary Club challenges all Rotarians in the Anchorage area (Girdwood, Anchorage, Eagle River, Wasilla and Palmer) to participate in a Habitat for Humanity build project in September.

The dates are: September 7 from 1-5 PM – Girdwood Rotary will be responsible for this one. September 8, 9, 10 – from 8:30 AM to 4 PM. This could be done in split shift (8:30-12:30 and 1 – 4) or a whole day.

We need 12 volunteers for each day's work.

Please go to our web site (www.girdwoodrotary.org) or directly to the Habitat for Humanity web site (<http://www.hfhanchorage.org/sys-php/hfh/sched/view.php>) and sign up on our schedule page. Sign up directions are below. We want all volunteers that week to be Rotarians or Friends of Rotary. Please pitch in.

... Member surveys key to recruitment and retention

Continued from page 5

• Were the meetings efficiently run and fun?

After these general questions, you can ask a couple of specific ones, such as: What do you think our club's greatest strength is? What is its greatest weakness? Or, you can even be more specific, asking, "What could have improved your club experience?"

Asking these questions of still participating members could also help in membership retention.

In any gathering of Rotarians, when the question arises, "Why did you join Rotary, and why do you keep coming?" the answers are almost always the same. First, they joined because they were asked – clue one to *recruiting* members. Second, they stay because of the fellowship – clue one to *retaining* members. Some Rotary clubs add a fifth element to the four way test: Is it fun? If it isn't, membership retention may always be a problem.

Club Focus

Continued from page 5

ment programs; provided wheel-chairs, glasses, crutches and hearing aids; helped with water projects and provided consistent funds for the End Polio Now campaign.

For this coming year, our new President, Jim Henkelman, intends to continue supporting these efforts to help build our community and develop positive, supportive relationships with sister Clubs around the world. The Rotary Club of Homer Downtown exemplifies the "Service Above Self" motto, with everyone in the Club going above and beyond to continue the projects we are committed to, as well as everyone helping with fund raising. The "Flag Project", where the Club puts up flags at subscribing businesses on four holidays from Spring thru Autumn, has been noted to significantly improve the feeling of patriotism and community unity on Memorial Day, Flag Day, Fourth of July and Labor Day. It also is a consistent positive fund raiser for the Club.

Jim noted that he is very proud to be a member of the Rotary Club of Homer Downtown and is committed to helping the Club grow and continue to mature as it enters its fifth year. As the home Club for our District Governor, we are looking forward to welcoming District 5010 Rotarians from Alaska, Russia and the Yukon Territory to Homer in June 2011. (See related story, page 2.)