

## Rotary District 5960 Monday Musings

Notes from Marlene Gargulak, District Governor, 2015-2016

November 15-21, 2015



Thanksgiving is a time to gather around loved ones ...to be grateful for all that we are so abundantly blessed with and also to spare a thought for those not so lucky. It is a season of bountifulness and a reason to share the same.... true Thanksgiving is in actually doing that - Giving!!!

All of us have been given so much. This is a time to really think about what we have and those that have less. It is time to think about our connections to the world and the opportunity to make it different. It is a time to make the Rotary Foundation your charity of choice.

Our Rotary Foundation in combination with 1.2 million Rotarians will make the world different if we collaborate our efforts and create meaningful projects that change life's in our communities and the world. Your help is needed. Become a sustaining member by giving a minimum of \$100 per year to your Foundation. Become a Paul Harris Society member by giving \$1000 annually.

We are **SO CLOSE** to eradicating **POLIO** in the world. This initiative is close to the end, but we still have much work to do. In 2015, wild virus transmissions are at the lowest ever, with fewer cases reported from fewer countries than ever before. In 2015, 56 wild poliovirus cases have been reported from two countries (Pakistan and Afghanistan) compared to 290 cases from nine countries during the same period in 2014. Your help and support for this program is needed as we continue the journey to the end.

*From my family to yours, we thank you for all you do! We thank you for your friendship and support. We are so lucky to be born in this country. We are so lucky to have Rotarian friends. We hope you are surrounded with the love of your family and dear ones on this festive season.*

*Jim and Marlene Gargulak, DG 2015-2016*

## November 16, St. Peter Rotary Club

**Cory Abels** is the President of the St. Peter Rotary Club. He is excited to use his leadership skills to double the membership in three years and he has a distinct method and plan to make this happen. One



interesting and new way to keep the members having fun and organized is to run a video to allow members to know when the meeting will start. The videos are called Countdown Timer. Check them out here:



Cory Abels, President

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T2pjeLz76XM>

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a\\_tPQqAy0pM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a_tPQqAy0pM)

Doing a full day seminar on leadership and organization Cory developed goals for the St. Peter Rotary Club and he lists those on the screen at every meeting. They include:

- **ReEnergize**- 75% of membership at each meeting
- **Retain**-100% retention of existing members.
- **Recruit**-10 new members in 2015/2016

The members had some fun participating in teamwork exercises during recent meetings. Balancing a stick on a finger would be nearly impossible for one person, but when supported by the index finger of up to five friends, the change of success increases dramatically, especially with good communication.

Each club member is encouraged to bring at least one guest to a meeting to get a sense of how fellowship and doing good for the world are happening with St. Peter Rotary.



Check out the fun at this club. Visit on Monday's at Gustavus Adolphus College or check out their Facebook page and LIKE them.

<https://www.facebook.com/stpeterrotary/>

*(John Kremer from River Falls Rotary shared this card and message with us.)*



# Notes From The Road



## A Rotary Holiday Note

November 17th, 2015

Lat. N 44° 58' 32.3"  
Lon. W 92° 43' 39.2"  
Elevation 956 ft.



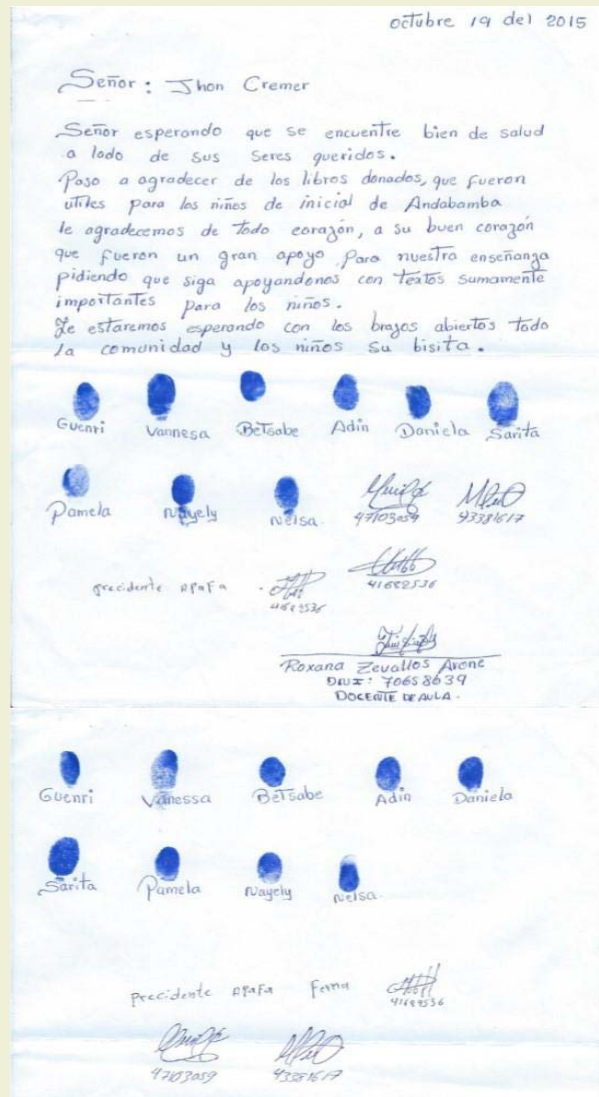
High in the Andes mountains of Central Peru are villages that were the center of a Maoist rebellion 25 years ago. The return of peace did not bring the government support and services that the prospering Peru could afford. By chance, an east Metro family became aware of the villager's needs and accepted the request to help, first one, and ultimately more than a handful of villages and the surrounding mini-villages, get schools started over the past 15 years. Several different gifts from the clubs of District 5960 have been a part of this for which the villagers recently sent their thank you notes.

Although the villagers addressed their letters to me they belong to every Rotarian in the District that supports the Rotary Foundation. The New Richmond, Hudson Daybreak, Rochester, Greater Rochester, Rochester Risers joined the River Falls Club to raise \$5000 that the District matched to provide text books to schools far from our world. As you can see in the thank you letter from the parents and village officials, many can't write their own name. Thumb prints are their marks and one of the school girls (I'd bet) was chosen to print out the name.

The fact that the parents can't write, read, or in many cases, even speak Spanish, doesn't keep them from knowing that an education is what can change the world their children will live in. Subsistence living is a hard life even if your family has done it successfully since time started. Being able to read is the foundation to knowing and understanding how to use the knowledge of all mankind. Access to mankind's massed learning isn't gained without teachers and books. The teachers will do their jobs for \$400 or \$500 per month. Your \$10,000 worth of books is a very big help.

This giving season, please direct some of your good fortune to the organization that you know. Not only does your Rotary Foundation operate with very little overhead, it also provides each of us an opportunity to touch the lives of those that need a hand up. Before you give you gifts to organizations with professional do-gooders doing the deeds, support your Foundation and then make time to do your own good deeds. The payback will enrich you beyond your expectations.

*Happy Holidays Everyone*



[Click Here](#) for translation of letter



**THIS IS COMMITMENT:**

*“Can you help me?”* I'm looking for a job as headwaiter or maitre'd at a 5 Star hotel or restaurant. I'll welcome our guests with a heart felt smile and provide the type of service that will keep them coming back over and over again. I'll work hard, be dependable and do my very best for the business. I can start tomorrow.

Okay, maybe a little bit absurd. But hopefully I have your attention. The island of Jamaica is, by most measures, the second poorest country in the western hemisphere following Haiti. The largest industry in the country is the tourism / hospitality industry where a smile is a most important calling card. Unfortunately, the reality is that there less than 1 dentist per 100,000 persons. And dental care is not affordable for those who have no jobs. It's a self-perpetuating dilemma. This is where an exciting opportunity exists.

The Rotary Club of Apple Valley is developing a global grant to give a hand up to the people in rural areas of Jamaica with the help of Great Faces, Inc. an NGO with a long history of helping the people of Jamaica. The grant will be primarily focused on the dental care of the selected region and take advantage of the opportunity to provide dental hygiene education in rural schools, and distribute children's books at the same time. And in some cases volunteers will include optical professionals who will perform eye exams and fit eyeglasses for elderly who haven't been able to read for years.

Attached is an introduction to Great Shape, some of their work and brief intro to the goals of the project. The project will require about \$200,000 and as previously mentioned, is being lead by Apple Valley Rotary in District 5950. After review at the District 5960 October, 2015 Grants Subcommittee meeting, the decision was to support and partner with 5950 to help make this project a success. That means our district will match any club dollars up to our \$12,000 cap.

A very unique fact about this project is that District 5950 was gifted a significant amount of money with which they can match club and district funds to help support a grant if it qualifies. This grant qualifies and with your help, it can be funded in short notice. We are hoping to have the grant funded by the end of November. Rotary Clubs of Apple Valley, Burnsville Noon and Prior Lake are already committed. Others are considering the request and we wanted to be sure you are aware of this project. At this time, including all district and TRF matches, we are approaching half of our goal.

Can you /will you please help? Can your club contribute \$5,000, \$2,000, \$1,000 or \$500? The impact on the grant, and most importantly the lives of the people of Jamaica will be tremendous. It is only through partnerships like this that Rotary is able to accomplish all the great things we do.

Please contact me to pledge your commitment to this project as I am coordinating contributions from District 5960 clubs. I will record them and have them included in the final application for the District 5960 global District Designated Funds match. When the project is fully funded, you will receive another email from me. To learn a little more about the project and partners, review the attached document.

Now, while this is not the best photo I've ever been in, I hope to have garnered your attention to this project and maybe made you chuckle. After all, in all the good things we do as Rotarians, we are supposed to have fun.”

Thank you for your support!

Gerry Wersal

D-5960 Stewardship Officer & Mentor

Past Grants Subcommittee Chair

952-239-3779- Phone

E-mail: [ggwersal@aol.com](mailto:ggwersal@aol.com)

***NOTE: Call Gerry for the detailed information regarding this grant.***



## Join us at the Rotary International Convention in Seoul, Korea.

Here are some reasons:

1. Convention fees for Rotarians increase after **December 15** from \$310 to \$375.
2. Registration online is simple:  
<http://www.riconvention.org/>

Katie Dailey, Woodbury Rotary, Dailey Travel has secured block hotel space for our district at the [ibis Styles Ambassador Seoul Myeongdong hotel](#). Rate is KRW165,000 (about USD\$132) + 10% tax for 1- or 2-person per room, per night, all rooms include breakfast. Please contact Katie Dailey directly to book, by emailing her at: [katie@daileytravelservice.com](mailto:katie@daileytravelservice.com), or call her at 651-323-0101.) In addition, Dailey Travel is offering several sightseeing options, [Half Day Tour Seoul-Gangwon - 4Day Pre Tour](#) [Seoul-JejuIsland-4Day Pre Tour](#). [Click Here](#) for more information.

*Upcoming Events: Mark your calendars*

*November 26: Thanksgiving*

*December 2: GIVING TUESDAY*

*January 29, 2016: Leadership Academy*

*January 30, 2016: Midterm and PETS Orientation*

**We are challenged by this theme: it is a call to action, a directive of service, an order to follow, a course to lay down, and a quest to pursue!**



**Join me during this exciting Rotary year to honor our journey together. Our time is short; it is fleeting already. We have just 7 MONTHS to respond to this challenge. This is our Time!**