

DG Penny's June Message

June is Rotary Fellowship month.

Fellowship is one of the five core values of Rotary – diversity, integrity, service, leadership and fellowship. It is through fellowship in Rotary that much is achieved, clubs are strengthened, friendships developed and humanity served.

“The power of combined efforts knows no limitation, multiplies resources, and broadens our lives and perspectives. Fellowship leads to tolerance and transcends racial, national, and other boundaries.”

Strong fellowship among Rotarians and meaningful service projects characterize Rotary worldwide. Working together in friendship enables Rotarians to combine their skills and knowledge and to accomplish much more than one person as an individual. As friends we want to attend our Rotary club meeting and share social events. As we work together in fellowship we strengthen our commitment to Rotary and build bigger, better and bolder Rotary clubs.

In Rotary, Rotarians with common interests have formed what we call Rotary Fellowships. They are autonomous, international groups of Rotarians, Rotarian spouses, and Rotaractors who join together to:

- Share a common interest in worthwhile recreational activities (sports, hobbies, etc.)
- Further their vocational development through acquaintance with others of the same profession
- Make new friends around the world
- Explore new opportunities for service
- Have fun and enhance their Rotary experience

There are over 60 fellowships where Rotarians with the same interests come together to enhance their Rotary experience. Yachting, singing, bird watching, coin or stamp collecting, gourmet, skiing, motor bike riders, wine appreciation and single Rotarians are just a few of the fellowships in Rotary. You can find a complete list of Rotary Fellowships on the RI website.

It has been my great pleasure to serve as District Governor in this wonderful district. It has been a great experience to work with so many dedicated Rotarians and clubs. I would like to thank everyone who has been a member of Penny's Posse and who has contributed to the success of the year - all the club presidents, assistant governors, district committee chairs and each individual Rotarian. And of course my spouse PDG Chris who has been such a tremendous support throughout this amazing journey as a District Governor.

There have been many highlights this year for me. To name just a few - the start of two new clubs, the Pennies for Polio campaign in the fall with many clubs rolling pennies, the first year of being a pilot for Future Vision, the visit of RI President Ray Klinginsmith for the lower mainland Foundation dinner, literacy projects such as the Computer Assisted Literacy Solution (CALs) and the partnership with Government House to build libraries for isolated first nations communities, and of course the annual District Conference.

Thank you all for your support and being part of the team. Together, through Rotary fellowship, we accomplish great things. It is with your support and efforts that we have had a successful year in District 5040. In the words of Past International President Clem Renouf 1979

“We elect a man to the presidency of our club or the governorship of our district, but he has no chance of succeeding unless we support him- unless he is part of a team. “

THANK YOU ALL!