

District Governor Message:

Hello fellow Rotarians. This is my last message as Governor and it is bittersweet for me. I have so many folks asking me if I am happy it is over soon, you must be tired of it, or I bet you can't wait to stop doing all this work. I am actually not looking forward to July 1st as my end of the job I had leading this District.

I loved doing this work and meeting so many people I can call friends. I was ecstatic at my conference. It came off so well and I couldn't have asked for four better chairs for a conference committee. My four ladies that lead the conference did an amazing job along with the 40+ volunteers that pulled off such a great conference.

We have had so many people send us wonderful positive feedback on our year and the conference and I truly appreciate it.

I have always had a thing against a club saying they are better than another. I feel

all clubs are good, just different, no one is better than another. When I went to Yakima SW Rotary and they yell out, "Who Are We?" and the members reply, "We are the most awesomest club in the World!", I didn't see this as them saying they are the best. I felt this was a club that wanted to spread a positive energy and vibrancy to get members excited about the meeting. And yes, there is no such word as Awesomest. If that word and the energy that comes with it creates a positive vibrancy in the meeting, I say run with it. "Who are we?", "We are the most awesomest district in the world!". If we all say we are awesome, we will be.

There was a speaker at the International Convention – a young professional Rotaractor and in his speech he talked about being a "Dogooder", not a word but, it was fun and he used it well to get the audience all energized. So; let's all yell it out; "We are the most awesomest Rotarians in the world!".

GOALS AND SUCCESSES

My goals this year were to build and retain members which we are just over 2700. We started the year at just around 2600 and we met our goal at over 2700. Let's keep those newbies! How can we do this? Reach out to all those new members and ask them, "are you getting out of Rotary what you expected". If not, let's work on that. You need to engage with the new members now. DG Peter Schultz may have his goal at 3000. If that is the case, it will be so difficult to then try and have a net gain of 200. Let's move forward and achieve this.



Conference 2018-2019 Committee Heads

I wanted to see clubs get involved in hands on service and if you didn't have a project, create a peace



Pollinator Garden creation at the BC Wildlife Park and soon to be Peace Garden addition, completed by Rotarians from around the district on conference weekend May 2, 2019.

garden or park. Hands on engages members and retains them. I think we have about 6 new peace gardens and peace poles in our cities now. This is wonderful. I would love to see our district become a peace building district. We would need to then donate some of our DDF reserve to the Rotary Peace Centers.

We promoted buying Hippo Rollers this year. We have over \$37000 to buy these for women in Africa.

Ending Polio is a must. We had the "Worlds Greatest Meal to End Polio" on October 24th. Clubs from all over took part on the same night. That was fun and an extra \$36000+ raised that week.

DISTRICT INSURANCE

There was something that was bothering me for awhile and that was our District insurance. I was curious to know if we were covered for abuse and cyber liability. Last May I called for an RFP to insurance companies so that we can insure we were getting the best coverage for our money. This is for the Canadian clubs as the US clubs are covered by Rotary International policy. Upon review I have found out that we are not covered for Abuse or Cyber and there are other exclusions that worry me. This past year we have been reviewing and researching and decided to ask Rob Lemire to head up our insurance

as our rep for the district. Rob is very knowledgeable and has already presented at two events so far. By July 1st we will have better coverage for the same costs we have paid, for the Canadian clubs. I have been in conversation with RI folks to investigate how we are covered for the US clubs as I don't think we have abuse coverage. This whole process has been long and a lot of work taken on by our newer Rotarian Rob Lemire. I will keep DG Peter informed so that he can pass on any new information.

YOUTH AND CONFERENCE

For the first time ever that I know of, Interact students attended our district conference from all over



Interact and Youth Exchange on the dance floor at District Convention May 4, 2019

our district to join in with the YEX program during the four days in Kamloops. A part of the program was the new "Rotary Now" sessions on the Friday of conference designed to create dialogue between youth and Rotarians. I thought these sessions were successful, more than 300 people attend these special sessions at conference and included our 21 Interactors from five areas.

ROTARACT AND INTERACT

We have had two Rotaract clubs form this year, one in Wenatchee and one in Chelan and two Interact clubs form one in Ashcroft and one in Sun Peaks. We have also become part of the Big West Rotaract group as a district. We belong to the wide area Big West Conference committee that hosts Rotaractors from all over the West Coast of USA and BC. We hope to see more and more Rotaract members attend these conferences to help inspire them to lead and build their membership.

TOASTMASTERS AND ROTARY

We have implemented Toastmasters ideas into our district as per RI initiatives. We have done this at our assemblies and conferences and we have tried to instill into folks to take advantage of public speaking opportunities and work on their skills. For example, youth exchange for the first time had to vie for the opportunity to be the closing speakers at conference. Then the winners worked with Toastmaster expert coaches in our district to refine their talks. At assembly in October 2017 we had the district leaders work on their own speeches they would have to do at club meetings like introducing a speaker and giving out PHF awards.

FRIENDSHIP EXCHANGE

I am pleased to announce that our trip at this time in Norway in a way is a friendship exchange. We haven't done this in our district as far as I know. A friendship exchange is getting two countries together to organize a cultural exchange trip together.

Last July we hosted some Norwegians in Kamloops BC in 2018 and currently they are hosting us in Norway. There are 8 of us Rotarians from D.5060 here in Norway. Wayne and Karen from Wenatchee Sunrise, Tony from Ellensburg Morning, and ourselves plus Gary and Linda from Rotary Club of Kamloops



West. John from Penticton Sunrise is here as well but not shown as he stays on in Oslo for a few more days.

This has been a wonderful time getting to know our three countries together. Our hosts have been amazing. This year has been an incredible experience for me and my husband, one I will never forget and will cherish.

THE YEAR COMES TO A CLOSE

Please reach out to all those new members we



brought in this year and find out what they want out of Rotary, as well, for those new Rotarians, please step up and take advantage of Rotary – it has so much to offer.

I head into July 1st with a new confidence, knowledge and outlook that will allow me to continue the wonderful work of Rotary. Why do I do this? Because I feel I am addicted now and someone needs to do it, so why not me. I would love to see more women step up and say yes to being club president, running a district chair position and/or becoming Governor.

For district I will continue to work on our District insurance committee, the Rules and Procedures committee, the nominating committee, the Bob Winter Fund committee, and act as Vice Governor. I also will enter the new Rotary year as Area Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator, Zone Convention promotion committee and act as a DGN Trainer at the Zone Conference in Niagara Falls. I have a lot of areas of involvement but my most favorite position so far has been a District Governor visiting 57 clubs. A few we have visited more than once and the many club events we were invited to were special.

Thank you, Rotary Clubs of District 5060 for the memories!

DG Sherry Chamberlain