

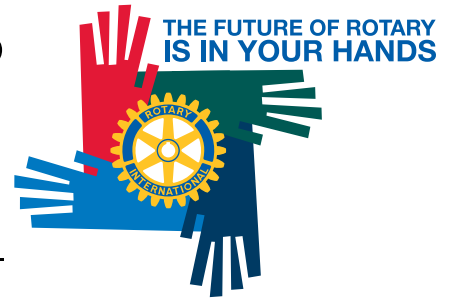
District 6000 News

Rotary International, District 6000, Iowa USA

Calvin Litwiller, Governor

– A Global Network of Community Volunteers –

December/January/February 2009-10



Governor's comments . . .

Reports predict demise of polio

By DG Cal Litwiller/Mt. Pleasant

Feb. 23, 2010 marked Rotary's 105th birthday. This gives us reason to look back to the accomplishments that Rotary has enjoyed and forward to the challenges that lie ahead of us.



Cal Litwiller
District Governor

When we think of accomplishments, the first thing that comes to mind is the ongoing effort to eradicate polio from the face of the world. In November 2008, Rachel and I were able to visit Nigeria with DGN Gary Welch, Dr. Julia Jenkins from The Rotary Club of Osceola, and a group of Rotarians from several other Midwest districts.

While in Kano, Nigeria, Rachel, Julia and I were able to attend a polio update and planning committee meeting with our host, Miriam Birma, coordinator of polio eradication in Kano. The meeting was attended by several

polio survivors who were suffering from the ravages of this disease. It was obvious to those of us who were privileged to join the Nigerians in this planning meeting that the emphasis toward eradicating polio had become one that the Nigerians were taking responsibility for, and not something that Rotary International was telling them they needed to do. The local Nigerians were taking ownership for the eradication of this horrible disease.

'It's been a long uphill task with lots of obstacles, but we're getting there...Thank you for being with us. We still have more steps to go, but we will get there SOON."

– *Miriam Birma, Rotarian in Kano, Nigeria in a March 4 e-mail in which she said Kano has gone eight months without a single case of Wild Polio Virus 3 and 13 months without a single case of type 1*

In the last week I received a mailing from Miriam stating the following: "I'm thrilled to inform you all that yesterday, March 4, I attended the celebration of eight months without the Wild Polio Virus 3 and 13 months without a single case of Wild Polio Virus 1 in Kano, Nigeria. It's such a pleasure to see



On top of the world!

Charlie Wittmack, a member of the Rotary Club of Des Moines and the only Iowan to successfully summit Mt. Everest, will speak at District Conference, Saturday, April 24 at Burlington. Rotarians and guests can register online at www.rotary6000.org for both the District Conference and the PETS/District Assembly, March 26-27 at Ankeny.

that we will soon have that big party to celebrate the permanent demise of POLIO in Nigeria. It's been a long, uphill task with lots of obstacles, but we're getting there. We were so sure we would be the last in this race. Obviously we were wrong."

Miriam went on to say, "Thank you for being with us. We still have more steps to go, but we will get there SOON." The recent data on polio cases around the world show Nigeria to have only one new polio case thus far in 2010, compared to 42 new cases at this time in 2009.

GOVERNOR/continued on p. 2

Meet new, old friends at District Conference

GOVERNOR/continued from p. 1

Many of you know that Rotary has passed the halfway mark toward the \$200 million goal to match the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Challenge. We will reach our goal of polio eradication. It is only a matter of time until we reach our goal. For this reason it was only fitting that numerous buildings and monuments were lit up with the "End Polio Now" logo to celebrate Rotary's birthday on Feb. 23 (see photos on p. 10).

Matching grants: When we think of the accomplishments of District 6000, the list is long and extensive. Much has been done around the world through matching grants in the area of water, school equipment, medical equipment, programs to assist the deprived, etc. (One such project is featured on page 24.)

Xicotepec: District 6000 Rotarians have stepped up during the years and have made a difference in the lives of the underprivileged through the world. Rotarians from our district are making another expedition this month to Xicotepec, Mexico to continue the development efforts in that community.

MOST: Sunday, Feb. 28, Rachel and I were able to meet the Iowa MOST (Miles of Smiles Cleft Palate Surgery Team), at the Cedar Rapids Eastern Iowa Airport when they returned from another very successful trip to Guatemala. This group of medical professionals have again donated time to make a difference in the lives of the people in Guatemala. (Read about them on pages 16-17.)

District Simplified Grants: Many impressive and worthwhile projects have occurred within District 6000 through District Simplified Grants. Playground equipment was installed in Burlington, bicycle helmets were given to children in Carroll, counseling services are being provided to Lucas County residents, Dr. Seuss books were given to kindergartners in Mt. Pleasant, backpacks full of school supplies were given to students in Oskaloosa, and more.

The list of projects is diverse, representing many programs initiated by District 6000 Rotarians during the 2009-10 Rotary year.

District Conference: April 23-25 will be a time for District 6000 Rotarians to come together and celebrate the accomplishments of this Rotary year. Rotarians from across District 6000 will come to Burlington, during these days to celebrate the programs and projects that have been occurring throughout our district.

The planning committee under the direction of Conference chairs Joyce Vance and Gwen Baker from the Rotary Club of Burlington, have been busy putting plans together for an enjoyable and fun-filled weekend.

We will have two honored guest speakers who will be presenting during the conference. Charlie Wittmack, member of the Rotary Club of Des Moines, the only Iowan to successfully summit Mt. Everest, will be our featured speaker for the Saturday luncheon.

We are very eager to have Mr. Wittmack talk to District 6000 Rotarians about his experiences, accomplishments, and current plans. District 6000 is honored to have Charlie join us for our conference.

Alex Buchanan, from the Rotary Club of Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, will be here to talk to District 6000 Rotarians about his experiences as an Ambassadorial Scholar at Iowa State from 1959-60, and what he has been able to do since 1960 as an Ambassadorial Scholar Alumni. Alex was honored as the Rotary Foundation Alumni of The Year at the RI Convention in Birmingham, England in 2009.

District 6000 is honored to have 06-07 PDG Larry Dimmitt and his wife, Lois, from Topeka, Kansas, as Rotary International President John Kenny's special representative. I am sure each of you will want to meet Larry and Lois and spread some of the District 6000 hospitality to the Dimmitts. Win and Gail Boyd, from the Rotary Club of Burlington, will be special hosts for the Dimmitts during District Conference.



**District 6000
Conference**
April 23-25, 2010
**PZAZZ! Convention
& Event Center**
• Burlington, Iowa •



DG Cal Litwiller met with Rotarians in Kano, Nigeria, in November 2008. Back row (l-r): Governor Litwiller, Mariam Birma, Rachel Litwiller, Julia Jenkins from Osceola, and District 6420 Governor Elise Cadigan from Rockford, Ill.



Alex Buchanan

GOVERNOR/continued on p. 3

Presidential Citation deadline is March 31

GOVERNOR/continued from p. 1

Additional video presentations will be presented by Vikram Sanghani, District 6000 3-H Matching Grant Partner from Rajkot, Gujarat, India, and Jill Moeller, current Ambassadorial Scholar from Mt Pleasant, in Grahamstown, South Africa.

Saturday evening will begin with a time for wine tasting, courtesy of some Iowa wineries, followed by a recognition of women from the Rotary clubs of District 6000, as we celebrate "Women in Rotary." The evening celebration will include a performance by the Mt. Pleasant High School Show Choir and a live and silent auction. A member of the inbound GSE team is an auctioneer, and will be helping our local auctioneer with the live auction.

During the conference the youth of District 6000 (Exchange Students, Interactors, and RotaKids) will have an opportunity to spend some time with Charlie Wittmack and Alex Buchanan along with the opportunity of packaging food for "Kids Against Hunger."

In addition to all of this, the Rotarians and young people will have opportunities to enjoy the facilities at Fun City in the PZAZZ complex.

If you have not already received a registration form you can get one from your club president, or you can download one from the District Web site at www.rotary6000.org, use the form inserted with this newsletter, or you can register online at the same Web site. Mark your calendars for April 23-25, 2010, and plan to be in Burlington, Iowa for a weekend of Rotary and Fun!

* * *

Presidential Citation: Club presidents, please make plans to complete the Presidential Citation Award for your club. This is a simple way for you and your club to receive recognition for all of the great things your have done and are continuing to do during the 2009-10 Rotary year. The deadline for submitting the Presidential Citation application is March 31.

If you do not have the application document, it can be downloaded at the District 6000 Web site. On the left side, under District click on Download Forms, then go to the For Presidents link, click on Presidential Citation Form.

* * *

GSE team: The District 6000 Group Study Exchange left from the Des Moines International Airport on Feb. 24 for their month-long adventure in southeastern Australia. The team is led by Rotarian Rita Perea, who is the president of the new Greater Des Moines Rotary Club that was chartered almost one year ago. This year's team is comprised entirely of ladies. Other team members are Cara George, Natasha Wilson Boland, Kyla Kiester and Julie Pollock.

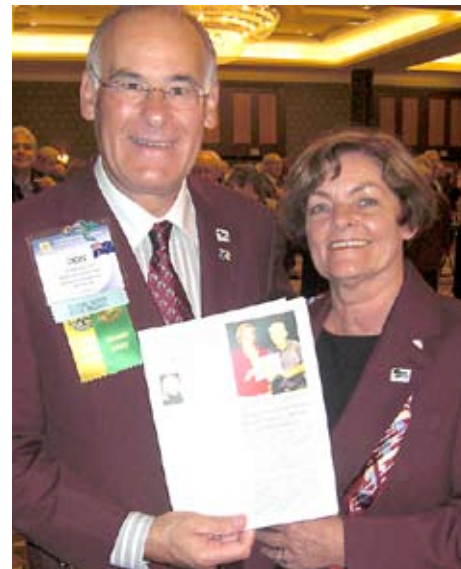
The GSE program is promotes world peace and understanding through the exchange of ideas between young professionals worldwide. The two participating districts each assemble a team of young professionals of which only the team leader is a Rotarian. Each team visits the other's district for a month to observe and talk with young professionals engaged in similar professions. It is hoped that the understanding developed by these young professionals will help them to become better leaders in our ever changing world.

GOVERNOR/continued on p. 4



District 6000 Rotarians and clubs will host this Group Study Exchange team from District 9790, Melbourne, Australia, March 30-April 28. Team members (l-r): Cindy Uren, Marcus Walta, Glenys Hall (team leader), Matthew Pitzen and Kerrie Lante. Host clubs are: Pella (March 31-April 4), Decatur County (April 4-7), Ames (April 7-12), North Scott (April 12-19) and Mt. Pleasant/Burlington (April 25-28).

GSE with Australia



Don Cox, who will be District Governor of District 9790 in Australia in 2010-11, and his wife, Joan, learn about District 6000 by reading District 6000 News at the International Assmsembly Jan. 12 in San Diego. The Coxes are among the hosts of our team from District 6000 during March.



District 6000's Outbound GSE team will return from Australia March 26 (l-r): Cara George, Natasha Wilson Boland, team leader Rita Perea, Julie Pollock and Kyla Kiester. Follow them at: www.d6000gseladies.tumblr.com.

Clubs, check your giving to The Rotary Foundation

GOVERNOR/continued from p. 3

Haiti Relief: The latest total for the District 6000 Haiti Relief fund is approximately \$24,000. I am sure that this is not the end of the money for Haiti. I know from communications with Rotarians, that some Rotarians are also contributing through other organizations. District 6000 Rotarians are stepping up to the need, as we always do.

Someone asked if there is an end to the relief fund. The plan is to present checks for the money received from District 6000 clubs to the organizations sponsored at our District 6000 District Conference, April 24. For this reason I would like to have District 6000 clubs submit their contributions to the fund by April 20.

Foundation: As of the end of February, District 6000 has contributed \$242,906 to the Annual Programs Fund, which is 56.27 percent of our annual goal and comes to \$58.06 per member of District 6000. This compares to \$225,733 in 2007-08 and \$254,031 in 2008-09.

If you or any of your club members have committed to Every Rotarian Every Year, EREY, or the Paul Harris Society, please make sure you are meeting your commitment for 2009-10. District 6000 has an excellent record of supporting The Rotary Foundation over the years, and I hope we can continue this commitment.

Several of our District 6000 clubs have made a commitment to the Foundation, but have, as of this date, not made any contributions. Please consider trying to meet the goal you set for this year's contribution. (Check your progress with the table on page 29.)

Bears: The Iowa National Guard Officers Auxiliary's (INGO-Aux) "Teddy Bear Program" is off to a great start thanks to several clubs that have already invited this organization to present their program. Hopefully, more of our clubs can accommodate them in the future.

I have learned the INGOAux has chosen a patriotic medallion to be presented to teens whose parent is deployed providing the ultimate service to our nation. There is a need for 1,500 medallions by summer due to the largest deployment of guard members since World War II at a total cost of approximately \$9,000.

Additionally, I would like to suggest that your club consider following Ankeny's lead and thank your program presenters by donating a bear or medallion in their name. The INGOAux will provide your clubs with the certificates of appreciation to be awarded to your guests each week at a cost of only \$6 per bear.

RI Convention: The Rotary International Convention will be June 20-23, 2010 in Montreal, Canada. Special speakers will be Dolly Parton, Greg Mortenson ("Three Cups of Tea"), and Jo Luck, The Heifer Project.

I am sure you will enjoy Montreal because of its diversity and old-world charm. This is an opportunity to feel like you are visiting Europe without ever leaving the continent. AND, as long as the US dollar remains strong, you can expect some great bargains heading into Canada. Early registration discounts end March 31!!

News: These are just some of our many activities, as you will see by looking through the pages of District 6000 News.



Join us for breakfast in Montreal!

In this picture taken at the Rotary International Assembly in San Diego, Canadian Mounties welcome the world to Montreal for the 105th Rotary International Convention, June 20-23. The District 6000 Breakfast that began in Indianapolis in 1998 is now an official convention activity. It will be Monday, June 21 at 7:30 a.m. at the Maisonneuve A at the Marriott Chateau Champlain. The cost is \$25/person guaranteed until May 1, pending exchange rate changes. Make your reservations send your check by June 1 payable to Rotary District 6000, P.O. Box 122, Pella, IA 50219.

Deadline for registering for RYLA is March 31

By Ken Angersola/West Des Moines

Chair, District 6000 RYLA

The date for this year's RYLA event is set! The 2010 RYLA conference will be held on Thursday, April 22 at Hope Lutheran Church in West Des Moines.

Meeting rooms and gymnasium facilities will be available for the conference which will begin

at 9:15 a.m. and conclude at 3:00 p.m. Sign-up and information materials, along with the Medical Authorization Form, were sent to clubs in January.

The fee for this year's RYLA is the same as last year at \$90 per participant. All Rotary Youth Exchange students in the district are encouraged to attend with the sponsoring club responsible for their fees.

The Club Participation Form, the Medical Authorization Forms for each participant and total fees MUST be returned to me on or before March 31, 2010. Final notification to all participants will be sent out by April 9, 2010. Questions? Call (800) 488-0411 or (515) 224-5524, or ken.angersola@mssb.com. Thank you in advance for your interest in RYLA 2010!



FAMSCO ships medical supplies to Haiti

By Karin Franklin/Iowa City
FAMSCO President

Friday afternoon, Feb. 5, I received an urgent call from Linda Farkas, a new member of the Rotary Club of Iowa City.

Linda had taken on a leadership role in the World Wide Village (WWV) effort to supply a hospital in Haiti that was the brainchild of Chris Buresh, an emergency room doctor at the University of Iowa Hospitals & Clinics.

Linda had been working with WWV and Chris for a couple of weeks since the earthquake in Haiti, collecting supplies and inventorying them in a Quality Care mini-warehouse, donated by Rotarian Dean Moore.

Linda had just found out that Gov. Chet Culver was going to enable use of a semi from Kirkwood Community College to ship some of the supplies to Miami for their trip to Haiti. This was all to happen during the coming weekend.

Linda and I had talked previously about some walkers in the FAMSCO warehouse and she wanted to know if we could get them to the WWV warehouse the next day. An e-mail was sent to the FAMSCO board and local Rotarian friends of FAMSCO asking them to be at the warehouse Saturday morning at 10, to see what we could load up and get to Haiti.

Saturday morning, a number of people showed up from the Iowa City, Iowa City Downtown and Iowa City AM clubs. John



Rotarians Dixie Casady, Linda Farkas, John Ockenfels and John's son load a gaylord bound for Haiti.

Ockenfels came with most of his family and a truck that would enable us to get our load to the WWV site. As we started work, Dr. Chris Buresh showed up and was like a kid in a candy store.

By the middle of the afternoon, we were able to pass on 10 gaylords (huge cardboard boxes) of items including collapsible walkers, crutches, prostheses, surgical supplies, syringes, surgical gloves, and miscellaneous medical supplies. We also sent two baby cribs, a small refrigerator, an autoclave, wheelchairs, and backboards.

This was truly a collaborative effort of Dr. Buresh, World Wide Village, local volunteers supporting WWV, many connections through the network that is Rotary,

and the District 6000 FAMSCO project.

I would like to take this opportunity to especially recognize Linda Farkas, who as a new Rotarian, immediately embraced that which is Rotary – collaboration, networking, and service above self to improve our world!

VOLUNTEERING

If you are looking for an opportunity to go to Haiti and volunteer, PDG Ron Axel of Minnesota is planning a trip that leaves March 25. See Haiti Outreach at www.haitioutreach.org for details or call Axel, (763) 557-8636; or e-mail: Ronald9494@aol.com



Linda Farkas and Dr. Chris Buresh.



Wheelchairs from FAMSCO bound for Haiti.

Pajama parties make huge impact

By Kelly Sargent/Des Moines

D-6000, Helen's Pajama Parties chair

Helen's Pajama Party, a District 6000-sponsored project, has had a busy and successful year fueled by great efforts by clubs around the state.

For the second year, the Coralville-North Corridor Rotary Club conducted a pajama drive spearheaded by Judy Meyer to benefit the Domestic Violence Intervention Program in Iowa City. This year they collected 80 pairs, and Helen's Pajama Party supplemented that with another 80 to provide a total of 160 pairs of pajamas – enough we hope to last a year.

Allyson Walter and Don Borchering from the Rotary Club of Ames spearheaded an extremely successful drive in the Ames area. After I spoke to a Rotary After Hours event, Don volunteered to organize a drive in Ames. What a guy! He and Allyson and their club set a goal of collecting 150 pairs of pajamas, a year's worth for the Ames Access Shelter. The end result was 200 percent of their goal – 300 pairs collected – with more still coming in! The extra pajamas have enabled Helen's to provide for other shelters in the surrounding area like Marshalltown and Fort Dodge.

At the invitation of Gene Enke, I spoke to the Rotary Club of Fort Madison in



Rotarians complete a successful Helen's Pajama Party campaign in Ames. Don Borchering, who headed the drive with Alyson Walter, is in the green shirt. Kelly Sargent is holding the red-topped pajamas. Mary Wandling is the person farthest to the right who's also a member of the Rotary Club of Ames.

November. I challenged the Fort Madison club to team up with the Rotary clubs in Burlington and Keokuk to collect 120 pairs of pajamas, enough to provide for the two domestic violence shelters in the southeastern tip of Iowa. I didn't know what the consensus of opinion would be after I left.

I was enormously impressed when the club contacted me afterwards to let me know that they had taken me up on my challenge to work with the other two Rotary clubs to hold a pajama drive, but they set their goal, not at 120 pairs, but at a whopping 500 pairs!! The drive is still underway.

The Rotary Club of Des Moines is an ongoing partner in collecting pajamas and supporting Helen's Pajama Party. The Children and Families of Iowa Domestic Violence Shelter in Des Moines needs 450 pairs a year, but because Des Moines

is the largest city, the drive we conduct there helps supply other shelters around the state. For those of you who live in the Des Moines area, be sure and thank Dahls Foods for having allowed us to have collection sites in their stores for the last three years. You can e-mail them at dahlsfeedback@dahlsfoods.com.

In the Quad Cities, women from the Rotary Clubs of Davenport, Bettendorf and North Scott held a pajama party at Gilda's Club on Dec. 3 to provide for the Domestic Abuse Shelter at Family Resources, Inc.

In addition there have been fantastic non-Rotarians who have conducted drives in cities and towns around Iowa.

Martha Oskvig from Milford has organized a drive that's just now wrapping up in the Iowa Lakes area. So far they've collected around 300 pairs! Kimberly Setzer who owns Allure Salon in Algona collects pajamas all year long. (Note to clubs, somebody recruit these terrific women as Rotarians!)

Although the original intention was for Helen's Pajama Party to have a once-a-year pajama drive, it has become a year-round effort. For one thing, 3,000 pairs of pajamas is a lot. That's about how many we need every year to supply all the domestic violence shelters in Iowa. The other factor is that unfortunately domestic violence happens all year long. To find out more about how to help, go to www.helenspajamaparty.org or call (800) 760-7706.



Sandy Smith (l), who was then director of the Children and Families of Iowa Domestic Violence Shelter, and Gloria Gray (r), who is executive director of Children and Families of Iowa, with Kelly Sargent, in 2009 when 450 pairs of new pajamas were delivered to the CFI DV shelter.

Video project promotes Rotary

By PDG Bill Tubbs/North Scott

D-6000, Public Relations chair

If you haven't seen the Iowa Rotary Video that is appearing two times a week on Mediacom Connections Channel 22, it is not too late! The 30-minute program will air on Tuesdays at 9:30 p.m. and Saturdays at 6:00 p.m. through April 17. It is also available through Mediacom Video on Demand, and DVDs have been sent to clubs in Districts 6000 and 5970.

The program combines segments from "This Is Rotary," an inspiring video produced by Rotary International, with locally-produced segments about polio survivor Doug Oberman, which is introduced by former Governor Robert D. Ray. Also shown are Iowa Rotarians' response to the 2008 floods, a review of Rotary's core values, and projects of Iowa Rotarians, including photos, narrated by former First Lady Christie Vilsack.

Districts 6000 (southern Iowa) and 5970 (northern Iowa) worked together. PDG Bill Tubbs of North Scott coordinated the project and wrote the script, and District 5970 PR chair Dave Updegraff of Maquoketa did the video editing. Des Moines Rotarian Dennis Goering loaned his DHG Communications studio and staff, where the professional recordings of Governor Ray and First Lady Vilsack were produced.

The value of these three in-kind contributions exceeded \$7,500, which helped the districts qualify for \$9,000 Rotary International Public Relations Grants. A one-third cash match was required of each district, as well, putting the project cost at \$24,000, for vendors Mediacom, Iowa Public TV and Customized Newspaper Advertising.

Mediacom: In addition to airing the 30-minute program 16 times, 30-second Rotary Humanity In Motion ads are appearing 144 times on Fox News, BTN, Discovery, ESPN2, Hallmark, CNN, Food and MSNBC and others.

Customized Newspaper Advertising: Ads were placed in 96 Iowa newspapers in towns with Rotary clubs to announce the Me-



Dennis Goering welcomes former First Lady Christie Vilsack and former Governor Robert D. Ray to the DHG Communications Studio in Des Moines where their segments of the Iowa Rotary Video were taped.

diacom program schedule. Clubs and newspapers were encouraged to work together to publish special pages and sections promoting Rotary.

Iowa Public TV: Rotary's corporate partnership includes 400 15-second Humanity In Motion ads on Washington Week in Review, Iowa Press, Newshour with Jim Lehrer, Nightly Business Report and Nova. And, on Tuesday evening, March 9, more than 30 Rotarians came together for fun and fellowship at the Iowa Public TV Studio in Johnston as hosts for IPTV Festival. It was a high-energy evening with busy phone lines, a terrific on-air interview about Rotary with DGs Cal Litwiller of District 6000 and Gerry Retzlaff of District 5970, programming by Celtic Women and Daniel O'Donnell, and phone lines that were busy!

It's all about telling the public what Rotary is and does, with the goal of building community partnerships and growing membership. Public relations alone won't grow our clubs unless members invite new members and we "Get Our ASK In Gear!"



DGs Gerry Retzlaff of Monticello (l) and Cal Litwiller during their on-air interview with IPTV host Jennifer Konfrst.



How many of these happy Rotarians who manned the phones at IPTV Festival can you identify?

At the Second Annual Iowa Green Eggs and Ham Benefit Breakfast for Books, Rotary District 6000 was recognized as 'Reach Out and Read' champion:

By Carolyn Jons/Ames Morning

D-6000 Literacy Promotion Committee

Adults and children who are fans of reading gathered at the Iowa State Historical Museum on March 2 to eat green eggs and ham and to celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday. The event was hosted by Reach Out and Read Iowa (ROR-Iowa).

Debra Salowitz, chair of the Reach Out and Read Iowa Advisory Committee, recognized Rotary International District 6000 for its leadership role in promoting literacy.

In 2006, District 6000, representing 63 clubs in central, eastern and southern Iowa, stepped forward to match former Iowa First Lady Christie Vilsack's contribution to help expand Reach Out and Read Iowa by launching a "Rotarians for Reach Out and Read" campaign with a goal of \$30,000 for ROR children's books to support literacy.

Rotarians responded by making generous donations to the Reach Out and Read Iowa Coalition and direct contributions to their local Reach Out and Read programs. The \$30,000 goal was surpassed, with District 6000 Rotarians contributing over \$34,000 that funded more than 14,000 books for young Iowa children.

Rotary's commitment continues as Rotarians continue to support Reach Out and Read at the state and local levels through financial contributions, adoption of local ROR programs to help with books, volunteer readers, and literacy-rich waiting rooms; and spreading the word about Reach Out and Read in Iowa.

In accepting the award, current Rotary District Governor Cal Litwiller said, "Reach Out and Read (ROR) is a national research-based nonprofit organization that promotes early literacy and school-readiness by training doctors and nurses to advise parents

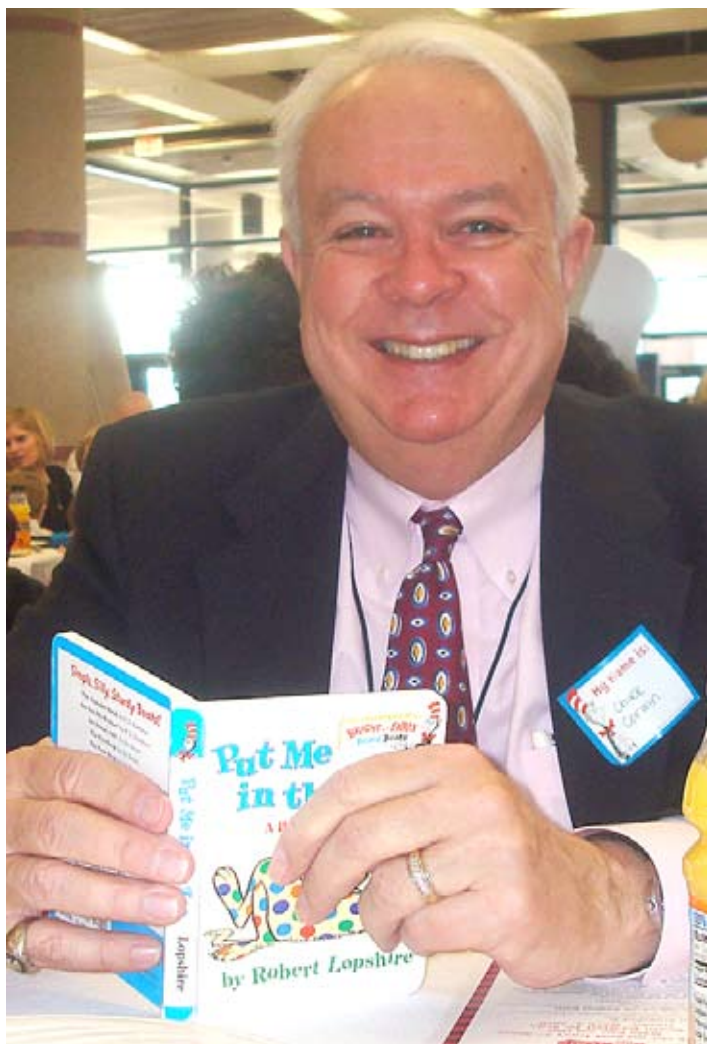


PDG Dale Belknap, Margaret Borgen, Rachel Litwiller, Chuck Corwin and DG Cal Litwiller were joined by The Cat In the Hat as RI District 6000 was honored as a Reach Out and Read Iowa Champion.



The menu truly did consist of green eggs and ham!

about the importance of reading aloud and to give books to children at checkups from 6 months through 5 years of age. ROR-Iowa is a coalition of 72 ROR programs serving over 51,000 children with 72,000 books each year."



Chuck Corwin of the Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines, couldn't resist reading the books that were placed on the table as centerpieces.

Rotarians in Ames Reach Out and Read, and Step Into Storybooks

By Carolyn Jons/Ames Morning
D-6000 Literacy Promotion Committee

Step Into Storybooks will be held again this year on May 1 at Ames High School from 10 a.m.-noon. Families and their young children are invited to this free event.

The main hosts this year are the Rotary Club of Ames, Ames Public Library and Raising Readers in Story County. Many other community partners will participate. Children enjoy interactive stations that feature popular children's books.

The Rotary Club of Ames Morning hosted the first Step Into Storybooks event on May 2, 2009, with over 500 people attending. A District Simplified Grant from Rotary District 6000 funded over 800 books for the county Reach Out and Read program. Book labels were signed by participants and the book, *Mouse Mess*, is



being given this year to children at their 4-year-old well-child checkup (see photo at right).

The Rotary Club of Ames Morning funds the Step Into Storybooks event and the 6-month ROR books as part of our larger com-

mitment to the cause of early childhood literacy.

The Rotary Club of Ames and the Rotary Club of Ames Morning are both Lead Sponsors of Story County Reach Out and Read. Each club contributes \$3,000 a year to fund ROR books.

The ROR program in Story County is sponsored by the non-profit organization Raising Readers in Story County. Annually, 10,000 books are provided through Raising Readers which are then given to children at well-child checkups by all of Story County's primary care providers.

National Reach Out and Read (ROR) is a research-based non-profit organization that promotes early literacy and school-readiness by training doctors and nurses to advise parents about the im-

portance of reading aloud and to give books to children at checkups from 6 months through 5 years of age. ROR-Iowa is a coalition of 72 ROR programs serving over 51,000 children with 72,000 books each year.



District 6000 was recognized as Iowa's Reach Out and Read champion!



Eliza Loecke is thrilled to accept her prize book from The Cat In the Hat (Rotary Club of Ames Morning Past President Dave Kramer).



Joel Rogers, President-Elect of the Rotary Club of Ames Morning (c), dressed as "The Beast" in *Beauty and the Beast*. After volunteering during the event, he said, "I've never been more proud to be a Rotarian." Rotarian Jerri Heid is a right.



From the Great Pyramids of Egypt to the Wrigley Building in Chicago and iconic landmarks worldwide, the message was the same on Feb. 23 (Rotary's 105th birthday): End Polio Now. Lightings included Taipei Arena in Taiwan, Obelisk in Buenos Aires, Tower Bridge in London, Table Mountain in South Africa, Reggia of Caserta in Italy, Operahouse in Sydney, the Coliseum in Rome, and more!



One worldwide message: End Polio Now

By PDG Susan Herrick/Boone

D-6000, Polio Challenge chair

As we near the end of the "Final Inch" of our fight to eradicate polio from the planet, the news is good!

According to the Wild Poliovirus Weekly update for the week of March 3, last year-to-date (2009) polio cases were at 91 – 66 in the four endemic countries and 25 in non-endemic countries. THIS YEAR we are at only 34 cases – 29 in the four endemic countries and five in non-endemic countries!

Sixteen African countries were to be immunizing more than 70 million children that weekend in a massive, synchronized cross-border immunization campaign to stop the ongoing outbreak in West Africa in its tracks.

That week only one case of wild poliovirus had been reported

PBS DOCUMENTARY TELLS ABOUT CRUSADE TO END POLIO!

The "summer of fear" that gripped Americans in 1950 and the crusade to eradicate polio will be aired in a PBS documentary, "The Polio Crusade," on Monday, April 12, at 8:00 p.m. on "The American Experience" on Iowa Public TV.

Thanks to Rotary's corporate partnership with IPTV, Rotary's Humanity in Motion polio messages will be aired at the beginning and end of the program.

globally – a wild poliovirus type 3 case in Pakistan. The long-time reservoirs of WPV1 in India – Uttar Pradesh and Bihar – have not reported WPV1 cases since Nov. 13 and Oct. 29 of last year, respectively, while in Nigeria the last WPV1 case in that

country was reported on Nov. 20, 2009.

Who said we can't get this job done?!

But it's not time to celebrate yet. There is still work to be done and the \$200 Million Challenge will help us see this fight through to the end.

Rotary District 6000 is still hard at work to achieve Rotary International's No. 1 goal. Our part of the \$200 Million Challenge is to raise \$378,000 by the 2012 deadline.

Rotary International has now raised \$109 Million, or 54.5 per-

cent, of the goal. We are doing slightly better in our efforts to meet this challenge – we have raised \$218,555, or 57.8 percent of our goal. We have heard that there is another check for over \$7,000 being donated toward the PolioPlus Challenge in March.

Sadly, there are still five District 6000 clubs listed on the RI PolioPlus Challenge District Report that show that no money has gone into the challenge since we began Dec. 1, 2007. And two more clubs that have contributed under \$30 since that date.

There is a possibility that your club has submitted money for the polio challenge but failed to designate those monies for PolioPlus, thus having the money end up in the Annual Fund. If your club is contributing to the PolioPlus Challenge, be sure that your 123-EN form is designated for PolioPlus.

I feel the excitement building – we will see the end of this deadly, crippling disease very soon! Think of the celebration worldwide when we have finally kept our promise to the children of the world that not one of our precious children will ever again have to be stricken with this terrible disease. Please do your part in helping us bring an end to polio!



Scott Gooch, left, holds his winnings from the 50/50 raffle held after the third quarter of the Iowa Energy game at Wells Fargo Arena on Jan. 23. He is joined by Mike Schoville from the Rotary Club of Johnston. The raffle was part of a Rotary club fundraising effort for PolioPlus, an organization dedicated to the worldwide eradication of polio.



Ten Des Moines-area clubs raised \$7,543 for polio eradication with Rotary Night at the Des Moines Energy (l-r): Eric Dickinson (Northwest), Ethan Huisman (Waukee, Iowa Energy), Dave Campbell (Johnston), Leslie Malcom (Northwest), Ed Arnold (Northwest), Mike Schoville (Johnston), Rachel Litwiller, DG Cal Litwiller and Chris Makris (Iowa Energy). Committee members not pictured: Joel Duncan (Des Moines AM), Marcia Grant (Des Moines), Brent McClure (Greater Des Moines.)



Krusha Vickery and her mother, Des Moines Rotarian Sharon (r), get into the spirit of the occasion.

Des Moines-area clubs raise funds for polio

By Ed Arnold/Northwest Des Moines

Continuing efforts to eradicate polio worldwide were given a boost recently by the collaborative efforts of 10 Des Moines-area Rotary clubs and the Iowa Energy NBA D-League Basketball organization.

On Jan. 23, Rotarians from Ankeny, Dallas Center, Des Moines AM, Des Moines, East Polk, Greater Des Moines, Johnston, Northwest and West Des Moines were treated to a very entertaining basketball game as the Iowa Energy defeated the Ft. Wayne Mad Ants before nearly 6,000 fans. Halftime entertainment was provided by “Benny the Bull,” mascot of the NBA Chicago Bulls. Benny elicited cheers and laughs from the crowd with his athletic prowess and unique ability to make long distance baskets, while incorporating humorous skits involving the referees.

Rotarians have been responding to the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Challenge by raising public awareness of polio eradication efforts, and getting involvement of “other than Rotarians” in the fundraising efforts. Iowa Energy was most instrumental in providing a mechanism for the Des Moines-area clubs to raise funds and to help satisfy each club’s commitment to District 6000. For each ticket purchased by Rotarians, a portion was donated to our Polio Plus effort.

The pregame events started with Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines Rotarian Jenifer Mercer-Klimowski singing the National Anthem. Iowa Energy gave us access to the Jumbotron, which was used to play the District 6000 PSA on Polio several times during the game. Ed Arnold (Northwest) also gave two 30-second appeals to the fans (one at the beginning of the game and one at halftime) to encourage them to be part of the eradication efforts; by throwing a dollar or two into the yellow “End Polio Now” buckets held by Rotarian volunteers.



In a fortuitous happenstance, this game was televised nationally on the NBA Futurecast network, so Rotary and Polio Plus got some additional exposure. In addition, fans could participate in the 50/50 raffle, where the “winner” received 50 percent of the proceeds and Polio Plus the other half. Polio Plus netted nearly \$1,000 from these two efforts. Another \$6,500 net was received from our ticket sales efforts making the net to Polio Plus for the evening \$7,543.58.

Goals for the Iowa Energy/Polio Plus event were:

1. raise funds for polio eradication through Iowa Energy ticket sales, donations and selling 50/50 raffle tickets;
2. fill the seats at an Iowa Energy game;
3. provide a vehicle for promoting Community Service for both the Iowa Energy and

Rotary;

4. provide information to the public about Polio Plus, Iowa Energy and Rotary;
5. establish a basis for repeating this fundraiser in future years;
6. give non-Rotarians the opportunity to participate financially in the eradication of polio in our lifetime.

Last year our inaugural event raised \$4,000 for PolioPlus. This year showed significant improvement. Our committee members included: Marcia Grant (Des Moines), Joel Duncan (Des Moines AM), Dave Campbell (Johnston), Ethan Huisman (Waukee), Brent McClure (Greater Des Moines), Eric Dickinson (Northwest), Leslie Malcom (Northwest), Ed Arnold (Northwest), Todd Wishman (West Des Moines), Chris Makris (general manager – Iowa Energy) and Pat Kelly (Iowa Energy marketing VP).

The committee met several times and is looking forward to planning now to raise more money next year. In addition to all the above, generous Rotarians purchased nearly 150 tickets for several non-profit groups.

Mount Pleasant Interactors help kindergartners learn literacy through music, movement

By LaDonna Wicklund/Iowa City

District Governor Cal Litwiller's Interact club used a District Simplified Grant (DSG) to spread literacy to Mount Pleasant kindergartners this year. Each year the Interact club reads and presents a Dr. Seuss book to kindergartners on Dr. Seuss's birthday.



This year the high school students also gifted I Can Read Songs CDs and Sing-Along Charts for the teachers. The children in Mount Pleasant will be dancing and singing as they learn to read and write words that will help boost them into literacy.

Thanks to the DSG, kindergartners will also each take home a copy of the I Can Read Songs for Reading DVD so that families can enjoy helping their children with literacy skills at home. DG Litwiller's club is very committed to literacy and to helping high school students learn "service above self."

I CAN READ non-profit invites District 6000 Rotary clubs to join this literacy initiative. Clubs can gift the CD and Sing-Along Charts to kindergarten teachers in their community schools. Clubs can gift the DVD to schools for families to enjoy at home. This is a joyful way to support literacy. Go to Contact Us on www.ican-readsongs.org to start an I CAN READ Literacy Project in your community.

The Rotary Club of Iowa City began the I Can Read Songs Literacy Project two years ago when its creator, LaDonna Wicklund,



Mount Pleasant Interact students Lisa Moeller, Angelina Baccam and Cynthia Carrazco with Donna Deardorf's kindergarten children.

was a new Rotarian. Club president Charlie Funk supports literacy and he LOVED the project. Wicklund began a non-profit to distribute them.

The Rotary Club of Iowa City is seeking to spread the I Can Read Songs Literacy Project to other clubs. Governor Litwiller LOVED the songs and took them around on his visits to district clubs this year. The songs are in Iowa City, Mount Pleasant, West Liberty and Washington – thanks to the generosity of the Rotary Clubs in those communities.

To hear a sample of I Can Read Songs, go to the website: www.ican-readsongs.org and scroll down and play the /my song/.

Interactors in Iowa City serve in many ways

By Peggy Doerge/Iowa City AM Club President

The future is in our hands, and if the activities of the two Interact clubs sponsored by the Iowa City AM Rotary Club are any indication, the future is looking good. Sponsorship of the Interact clubs at the two Iowa City public high schools – West High for over 10 years and City High for six years – has filled the Iowa City AM club with pride as these dedicated and motivated young people rack up an impressive list of activities each year.

Here is a sampling of some of this school year's activities: Both groups worked on a Habitat for Humanity "wall build," sold radios at Iowa football games as a Habitat for Humanity fundraiser, and have volunteered at various Children's Museum activities.

There are two students from West and two students from City traveling to Xicotepec this year. In addition, West High Interactors have sold chocolates to raise money to purchase blood pressure cuffs and stethoscopes for health care providers in rural areas around Xicotepec.

City High Interactors supported the "Run for Relief" for the Iowa City Free Medical Clinic and volunteered at the "Run for the



Schools" road race which raises money to enhance the educational experiences of students in the Iowa City Community School District. They also volunteered at the Shelter House book sale.

West High club members have provided many meals at the Ronald McDonald House and provided assistance to seniors on the use of computers and the Internet. West High students provided support for "Soles for Souls" (shoes for those in need) and City High students did fundraising for "Cassie's Mittens." There were fundraisers for Huntington's Disease (West) and Doctors Without Borders (City). And then, there were the dances – West High Interact sponsors an annual fundraiser dance to benefit Habitat for Humanity and partnered with City High on a fundraising dance for the Animal Shelter.

This is not a complete list of the activities of these clubs this year, but it is a pretty good representation of what they do. These (hopefully) future Rotarians clearly demonstrate "service above self."

As West High Interactor Michael Levy observed, "It's fun to know you are helping to make a difference. You can't get to every event, but as a group, you do a lot."

Ponseti Method: Exporting a low-cost, non- invasive cure for club foot

By PDG Herb Wilson/Iowa City Downtown

The Ponseti Method of club foot repair has been practiced for more than 50 years. Why is it that so much of the world is unaware of this excellent, low-cost treatment for this disability that affects 180,000 newborn infants each and every year?

Rotarians in District 6000 and 5970 have joined forces to spread this practice to Central American countries. Dr. Jose Morcuende



Dr. Ponseti

of the University of Iowa Hospital and Clinics has been teaching the Ponseti Method to doctors in Central America, and will be doing so for the next two years. Teaching clinics are planned in El Salvador in mid-2010, David, Panama, in January 2011 at the Central American Project Fair, Colombia in July of 2011, and at the 2012 project fair in Costa Rica.

A Rotary Foundation Matching Grant from our districts with the La Ermita club in Guatemala provides funds for the treatment of 100 children. Similar grants are planned to accompany the next four visits of Dr. Morcuende in Central America. Once trained,

these Central American countries can readily sustain this effective low-cost treatment in the future. Rotarians are changing lives.

Dr. Ignacio Ponseti died in Iowa City at age 96 in November of 2009. One young girl said, "I never knew I had club feet." That is our wish for all the afflicted children of the world.

Rotarians from District 6000 attended the 2010 Project Fair and the teaching clinic. We observed the doctor's examination and the application of casts to three children less than 6 months old. We also had the pleasure of seeing the results of treatment on a small child and the happy parents as they departed – a wonderful occasion.

The Ponseti Method consists of a series of manipulations and



Doctors at the Central America Project Fair demonstrate the low-cost, non-invasive club foot cure that was pioneered by Dr. Ignacio Ponseti at the University of Iowa. Rotarians in Districts 5970 and 6000 are seeking to make the cure available for children world-wide.

casts to bring the ankle bones into the correct alignment and then to restrain them as required. A new cast is applied every five to seven days. The casting period for newborn infants can range from three weeks to five weeks, depending on the degree of correction required.

After the doctor's examination and prescribed casts, nurses or other medical assistants can apply the castings. Once corrected, a training bar between two booties holds the feet in position and avoids regression for the prescribed period. This low-cost treatment is done with no pain and is very inexpensive and sustainable in less affluent parts of the world.

To support this project, your tax deductible contributions payable to the District 6000 H&E Foundation can be sent to: Dick Kennedy, 181 N. Dubuque Rd., Iowa City, IA 52245.

PDG Wilson spreads the word for low-cost club foot cure

My Dear Fellow Rotarians,

This is to inform you of Rotary activities supporting the Ponseti Method of correcting club foot deformities in Central American countries. Nigeria has successfully implemented this procedure and has trained Nigerian orthopedic doctors to be self sufficient in their country and this can readily be accomplished in Central America.

At the January 2009 Project Fair in Belize, a team of Rotarians and doctors from the University of Iowa presented a program and trained doctors in using the Ponseti method of correction. They also accomplished the first steps with a patient who has now successfully completed the correction process.

The Rotarians of Districts 5790 and 6000 are prepared to cooperate with Rotarians in your districts and we are asking that sponsoring clubs be recruited in your districts for a Matching Grant to move forward to a total sustainability within your countries by your doctors and technicians.

On July 11 and 12 in Guatemala City, Dr. Morcuende will again be demonstrating the Ponseti Method to the assembled group of doctors who have expressed an interest in learning this procedure. I encourage you to do your very best to have knowledgeable Rotarians attend this meeting and to consider initiating a Matching Grant

with our Iowa Rotarians to continue our progress in your countries. It is our intention to eradicate club foot deformities in Central America as soon as possible, and with that success, to engage Rotarians around the world to then join in this enterprise.

Interest on the part of local Rotarians is essential to achieving this goal. Your actions will determine how quickly we can together achieve this objective and overcome the stigma of club feet and social outcasts. There is a quote from a teenage girl who says, "I never knew that I had club feet." What a blessing!

For information I would direct you to www.ponseti.info/or the Ponseti International Association on the Internet. Yours in Rotary,
-s- Herb Wilson, (319) 354-1451; hawilson@oaknoll.com



PDG Wilson enjoys a lighter moment with Past RI President Cliff Docktermann at the Past Officers Reunion in San Diego.



Assistant District Governors for 2010-11 met DGE Gary Welch and received information for the year beginning July 1, 2010, on Feb. 19-20 at Ankeny (l-r): Tim Ennis (Corning), PDG Diana Reed (Northwest Des Moines, AG Coordinator), Bill Shewmaker (Keosauqua), Jenn Pfeifer-Malaney (Indianola), Gary Anderson (Knoxville), DGE Welch, Ginny Hughes (Fairfield), Cathy Spencer (Ankeny), Jim Riordan (Waukee), Roz Dunblazier (Nevada), Chuck Briegel (North Scott), Sam Harding (Jefferson) and Judith Cox (Fairfield). Not present: Ted Carpenter (Coralville-North Corridor), Becky Eiting (Davenport), Otto Hall (Grinnell) and John Tone (Des Moines).

Assistant Governor Training held Feb. 19-20 at Ankeny



DGE Welch (l) convened a panel of past club presidents for part of his Assistant Governor Training seminar (l-r): Troy Boelman (Ankeny), Denny Linderbaum (Des Moines AM) and Lorinda Roth (Waukee).



The Rotary Club of Greater Des Moines asked *District 6000 News* editor PDG Bill Tubbs (second from left) to take a picture of their drawing in a 50/50 raffle to raise money for District 6000's Haiti Relief project. A name was drawn and there was silence as PDG Susan Herrick (l), club president Rita Perea (r) and project co-chair Suzie Bell (c) looked at each other and burst out laughing. The winner of \$1,898 was photographer Tubbs – who will give \$500 to the club as a polio eradication challenge.



Assistant Governors at work at 2010-11 AG Training session.



Rotary International President-Elect Ray Klinginsmith wanted a theme that spoke equally to internal and external audiences.

Last District 6000-only PETS Training slated

District Governor-Elect Gary Welch and his training committee are putting the final touches on two training events that will be coming up Friday and Saturday, March 26 and 27, at the Courtyard by Marriott, Ankeny.

Presidents, remember, that according to RI guidelines, if your President Elect does not attend PETS, YOU will be president for the 2010-11 Rotary year!

This is the last year that District 6000 will conduct its own President-Elect Training Seminar. The district will join North Central PETS with districts from Iowa, Minnesota and part of Wisconsin on March 4-5, 2011 at Dubuque. Multi-District PETS are held in all but a few of the Rotary districts in North America.

Serve For Success • President-Elect Training and District Assembly • March 26

- 12:00-1:00 Registration (Conference Lobby) Administrator Carolyn Scharff, Colleen Welch and Doris Goering
- 1:00-1:10 Welcome (Salon III & IV)..... DGN Don Patterson
- Announcements, Goals, Ground Rules
 - Facilities & Presentations
 - Introductions of Training Committee
- 1:10-1:40 RI and District Goals DGE Gary Welch
- 1:40-2:10 RI Video DGE Gary Welch
- 2:10 - 2:35 Multi-District PETS 2011 (Q & A) DGN Don Patterson
- 2:35-3:00 Serving for Success as Club President..... DGE Gary Welch
- The Roles and Responsibilities of a Club President
- 3:00-3:15 BREAK
- 3:15-4:15 Making it all work (Past Presidents)
- Club Meeting Structure AG Ros Dunblazier
 - Board Meetings and Club Assembly AG Ginny Hughes
 - DG Official Visit DGND Terry Geiger
 - RI and District Reporting Checklist Past AG Ted Carpenter
 - District Website and on-line tools Administrator Carolyn Scharff and District Co-Trainer Michael Schmitz
- 4:15-5:00 Goal Setting Past AG Craig Hertel
- Club Foundation EREY Goals
 - Club Membership Goals
 - Presidential Citation 2010-11
 - The Planning Guide for Effective Rotary Clubs
- 5:00-5:30 Club Extension Past AG Bill Koellner
- 5:30-6:30 Small Groups Assistant Governors
- Club Foundation EREY Form (to be handed in today)
 - Club Membership Goal Form (to be handed in today)
 - Presidential Citation 2010-11
 - Planning Guide for Effective Rotary Clubs (to be started)
- 6:30-7:30 DINNER (Salon III & IV)
- Invocation PDG Dale Belknap
- 7:15-7:45 Special Guest Speaker - Multi-District PETS..... PDG Gail Scott, Ann Arbor Nth, MI
- 7:45-7:50 District Conference (Burlington, IA)..... DG Cal Litwiller
- 7:50-8:00 Sergeant-at-Arms..... Past AG Norm Van Klompenburg
- 8:00-8:30 Youth Exchange Program-Entertainment..... Chris Knapp
- 8:30 Adjourn DGE Gary Welch
- 8:30 Afterglow at Marriott Hotel (by fireplace north of lobby)

Serve For Success • President-Elect Training and District Assembly • March 27

- Saturday, March 27th – District Assembly, PETS Day 2 Agenda
- 7:30-8:30 Registration (Conference Lobby) Administrator Carolyn Scharff, Colleen Welch and Doris Goering
- 8:00-8:30 Coffee and rolls
- 8:30-8:35 Welcome (Salon III & IV)..... DGE Gary Welch
- 8:35-11:30 Youth Exchange Officers and Counselors (Break out session - Courtyard Meeting Room)
- 8:35-8:45 Introduction of Special Guests/Dignitaries DGN Don Patterson



With the charge, "Enter To Learn: Go Forth To Serve!," 2010-11 District Governor Gary Welch of Ankeny and Colleen joined incoming District Governors worldwide at the International Assembly in San Diego in January. They will convey the same message to incoming club presidents March 26-27.

- 8:45-9:00 Polio Goal Update PDG Susan Herrick
- 9:00-9:30 Encourage Foundation Giving-Strategies PDG Corliss Klaassen, PDG Don Goering
- 9:30-10:00 How to complete District Simplified Grants Past AG Doug Flournoy
- 10:00-10:30 Multi-District PETS Q & A DGN Don Patterson
- 10:30-10:45 BREAK
- 10:45-11:00 PR – Tell Your Story! PDG Bill Tubbs
- 11:00-12:00 Break out Session (Board Room past the pool)
- Club Secretaries Nate Burnham
 - Club Treasurers Terry Geiger
- 11:00-11:30 Matching Grants Rachel Litwiller
- 11:30-12:00 Membership Development, Recruitment Bill Koellner and Retention PDG Diana Reed
- 12:00-1:00 Business Meeting DG Cal Litwiller presiding
- Introduction of Executive Committee DG Cal Litwiller
 - Introduction of Budget Committee PDG Del Bluhm
 - Presentation of the Budget PDG Del Bluhm
 - Election of DGN PDG Dale Belknap
 - Council On Legislation Report PDG Don Goering
- 1:00-2:00 LUNCHEON - Invocation PDG Del Bluhm
- 1:30-2:00 Special Guest Speaker PDG Gail Scott, Ann Arbor Nth, MI
- 2:00 Adjourn DGE Gary Welch



Trainers for 2010-11, Michael Schmitz and Maggie Mowery of Iowa City worked with district leaders to plan the agenda for PETS and District Assembly.

THE STORY OF MATEO HERNANDEZ

Iowa Miles Of Smiles Team in Guatemala, Feb. 18-28

By Catherine Lane/Iowa City

Iowa MOST Project Team

Feb. 22, 2010: Mateo Hernandez went home today, his future made brighter thanks to the donation of time, talents and money from many people both near and far. He was born ten months ago in Los Angeles, a very remote village in the area of Xoxlac in the western mountains of Guatemala. He was born with a cleft lip and cleft palate, and his feedings were going to be very tedious and time consuming.

His mother, who is 18, already had several small children at home, and at his birth was overwhelmed with the time that would be involved with his feedings. It was suggested by those at the clinic that she swap babies, one feeding per day, with one or two of the nursing mothers in the village in order to stimulate her own milk production. Her husband agreed that they would try that.

In 2006 a joint Medical Mission sponsored by Rotary District 6000 of southern Iowa and the Rotary Club of Huehuetenango came to Huehue, Guatemala, to repair cleft lips and cleft palates of the children in western Guatemala. This mission was made up of surgeons, anesthesiologists, dentists and nurses, all from Iowa. They volunteered their time for a week, and changed the lives of many.

This mission was so successful that it has become an annual event for the past five years. In 2008 the Rotary Club of Quetzaltenango, also located in the western mountains, became a partner in this, and so sites are now alternated between Huehue and Quetzaltenango.

In 2006, Juan Francisco Fernandez, or "Paco," of Guatemala City, joined the team as translator and in-country coordinator. It was through Paco's involvement with this mission that the family of



Mateo Hernandez' future was not bright at birth.

little Mateo Hernandez became aware of help for their little son.

Two to three months before the mission arrives in Guatemala, the Rotarians of Huehue and Quetzaltenango advertise through various venues. Radio and television ads are placed and targeted to those living in the mountains; flyers are printed and placed throughout the region; local clinics are asked to let their patients know of his help; and Rotarians spread the news by word of mouth.

We were greeted the first day of the clinic by patients and their extended families lining the walls of the waiting room. Some had traveled 1½ days through the mountains to get to the hospital. Some were local residents of Quetzaltenango. All were happy to see us.

The mission group began the day by setting up all the stations necessary to evaluate each potential patient, and the order in which each patient would be evaluated. The stations included registration, vitals, surgery, anesthesiology, dental, and finally pediatrics. To impose some sense of order, it was initially decided that those who had traveled the furthest would be seen first. And so, Mateo Hernandez was one of the first to be seen.

Mateo Hernandez made his way through the evaluation process. After being weighed and vitals taken, he was then seen first by the surgeons, then by the anesthesiologists, then by the dentists, and then by the pediatricians. He was diagnosed with a left unilateral cleft lip complete and a cleft palate. It was also noted that he had poor weight gain in his short 10 months of life, and so nutrition was discussed with his family. He was cleared for surgery, and he would be one of the first to have surgery the next day.

Because he would have surgery the next day, Mateo Hernandez was admitted to the hospital the same day as his evaluation. This was not true for everyone. Surgeries were performed for five days, and so some would have to come back to be admitted. But Mateo Hernandez was assigned a bed in the pre-operation room, where he and all the other surgery patients, along with their families, spent the night in one big room.

Mateo Hernandez was No. 3 on the surgery schedule. He was wheeled from his room and his mom waited patiently at the doors



With surgical repairs performed by doctors and nurses sent to Guatemala by District 6000, Mateo Hernandez and his happy parents have a new lease on life!

MOST/continued on next page

MOST: changing lives

MOST/continued

of the operating hall, standing against the wall.

Mateo's surgery was relatively simple. He was going to have his cleft lip repaired now, and encouraged to come back in a year or two to complete the palate repair.

But other repairs require more steps. Because good dental hygiene is uncommon with these mountain folk, many children who need cleft lip and palate repair first need to have decayed teeth extracted, in order to provide the surgeon a disease-free mouth. On this particular mission, there is one young child who is scheduled to have 18 teeth removed. And as a child he should only have no more than 20 in his mouth.

After spending time in the recovery room, Mateo Hernandez was wheeled back to the post-op ward, where the two earlier patients were also recovering. Both his mother and father were there to embrace their son. Throughout the course of the day, Mateo would be joined by three other young children who were all from the same area of the country. All four families came to Quetzaltenango together, and all four wanted to leave together.

Sometimes, if everything goes well, if the surgery isn't complicated, and the child is robust, he or she is able to leave the same day as the surgery. In Mateo Hernandez's case, and in the case of the other three from his village, he spent the night. This was partly due to his low weight, and partly due to the distance that needed to be traveled to his village.

Mateo Hernandez had a good night, and was discharged by the Mission pediatrician. The other three in the group were also discharged, and packed up their things for the long trip home. It was quite an entourage that left the ward this morning. Four moms and their babies, each with beautiful new smiles, marched down the hallway and steps of the hospital, and made their way to the truck that was taking them back to their village.

The dads laid down a foam pad on the bed of the truck, and everyone climbed in and settled down. Then a tarp was tied on the supports of the truck bed to provide shade and protection, and the group was on its way. There were about 15 people who were making their way to the village, a day and a half trip covering 150 miles of very winding, steep and extremely rutted roads.

This story is just one of dozens that happened during MOST Mission week.

Members of the 2010 Iowa Miles Of Smiles Team:

Team Leader: PDG Gary Pacha.

Surgeons: John Canady, Brian Andrews, Don Solomon, Juan Carlos Garcia Moran, Antonia Rosal Alvarez.

Nurses: Jody Meyer, Pat Wehrle, Deb Strike, Mindy Bowen, B.J. Wagner, Dee Grems, Ruben Zuniga, Diane Miller, Trudy Wright, Jen Oliver.

Anesthesiologists: David Swanson, Bob Forbes, Riley Stringham, Karen Dean.

Biomedical Engineer: Dennis Wilson.

Pediatricians: Ayman El-Sheikh, Pete Wallace.

Dentists: Steve Aquilino, Bill Gates.

Medical Students: Kristopher Day, Jennifer Baker.

Translator: Juan Francisco Fernandez.

Supply Clerk: Karin Franklin.

Photojournalist: Catherine Lane.

Records Clerk: Jim Lane.

Pediatric Ward Assistant: Kathryn Wallace.

Con mucho cariño – I am filled with elation!

Catherine Lane forwarded this letter from a woman (Linda Eastman) who visited Mateo's family when he was first born. She obviously read the Iowa MOST blog, and was thrilled to find out the "rest of the story."

"My heart is just soaring, feeling her elation," writes Catherine. "From my perspective, I'm not sure everyone in Rotary 6000 has a chance to experience the direct impact MOST makes on these lives. If you don't have a chance to go with the team, or know someone personally who has gone, sometimes that is enough distance to make the program somewhat 'sterile.' But this woman's response really brings home the importance of this program":

Dear Iowa MOST team,

My heart is filled with inexplicable joy at seeing the photos of little Mateo Hernandez. I saw Mateo before he was even named, and I had great fear for his life because his poor mother was not coping well after his birth. I will never forget the scene. We were in San Angel and heard that there was a newborn with a facial birth defect. We stopped by their home to see if we could be of some help. In the dark interior of their humble, one-room dwelling, we saw several small children busying themselves by running, climbing, and toddling all over the place. Mom held her newborn baby, looking completely overwhelmed and in despair. One look and you could feel so much compassion for her situation. She was slipping into depression. We had to offer some measure of hope.

Francisco shared the encouraging news that there was a team of surgeons from the United States that comes down every year to Guatemala to repair problems like the one her tiny son had. She made no sign of acknowledgment. It was beyond her comprehension to hope for such a miracle. At that point, the big task was keeping the baby alive. We weighed little Mateo, who was in the danger zone on the scale. Mom was advised how to feed her baby under these circumstances and was told how to stimulate her milk production. Because of the cleft palate, the baby didn't suck vigorously enough, and Mom's milk was in danger of drying up. Several of the neighboring women peeked their heads in the door to see what was going on. Many of them were carrying their own babies in their rebozos, and we urged them to rally for Mateo's sake and share a feeding every day until Mateo was out of danger.

The women understood the situation and agreed to help. Later we had a chance to talk to Mateo's dad, and he was on board immediately with what it would take in order for Mateo to make it. He promised to help his wife with the other children and give her a lot of encouragement and support. When we left that day, my heart felt as heavy as a stone. I wondered if the tiny boy would live. Chances were slim – we all knew it. I thought about him often during the next several months.

Seeing your photos and reading the story made my heart burst with joy. He looks fantastic! I can't believe it is the same child! I felt a wave of relief wash over me at seeing Mateo's mom, too. She looks like a freshly watered flower. How can I thank you enough for the part you played in bringing this miracle to pass? I have so much admiration for every one of you. Have you ever felt like you were the direct answer to a prayer? You certainly were in this case. I am truly grateful for your sacrifices of time, treasure, and talent. You have made such an enormous difference in the lives of Mateo and his family.

God bless you for the work that you do.

Con mucho cariño,

Linda Eastman

Casa Colibrí

Buen Provecho! Ambassadorial Scholar in Spain gives Rotary's recipe for success:

Tortilla Española



Ambassadorial Scholar Heidi Koester at the famous cathedral La Sagrada Familia in Barcelona, Spain.

Heidi Koester is one of three Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholars sponsored by District 6000 this year. She is a graduate of Northwestern University and was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines. She can be reached at: Heidi_mariekoester@yahoo.com.

By Heidi Koester

Outbound Ambassadorial Scholar

Before beginning my adventure in Madrid, Spain, I could make a mean peanut butter sandwich and an edible grilled cheese. As I near my fifth month as an Ambassadorial Scholar, my culinary skills are slowly evolving, along with my appreciation, awe and respect for this country. Spain has earned a lofty reputation for its fine cuisines, but for me it is Spain's Rotarians who have earned my admiration. It's a struggle to give back in a way that equals their contributions to my growth and development.

Perhaps one of Spain's most famous dishes is the seemingly simple "Tortilla Española" a dense, potato-based omelet. The dish seems basic, just a few eggs and potatoes. But complex layers and a few surprise ingredients turn this staple into a something worth writing home about. In many ways, my experience as an Ambassadorial Scholar is similar. Though seemingly straightforward, a series of experiences, friendships and opportunities has enriched my time tremendously.

Tortilla Española begins with a dense base of seven peeled potatoes. Just as these ingredients provide a base for the dish, the base of my experience in Madrid has been my host counselor, Cipriano Saboya and his fellow Rotarians. Cipriano has welcomed me into his home, his large and colorful family, and his deep connection within Madrid's Majadahonda Rotary Club. Cipri's wife, Paloma, is a chef who trained at France's eminent Le Cordon Bleu – so trust me, I've been taking notes from the best. Cipriano has joined me in many Rotary presentations, as I share parts of Iowa culture and learn from the diverse clubs in Madrid (more than 15 in the metropolitan area). Cipri has connected me to Rotarians with children interested in learn-

ing more about journalism in the United States, which I studied as an undergrad. He has also introduced me to leaders in the sustainable development field – my current passion – and to Rotary service projects.

Tortilla Española continues with one yellow onion, added to sizzling potatoes. Onions bring flavor but can induce a lot of emotion from the person in charge of chopping. Here in Madrid, my life has been flavored with various community service commitments that touch my emotions, as well. For example, I've discovered Fundación Magdala, an organization supported by many Rotarians. The organization provides microcredit to women in Madrid, with a focus on creating larger microcredit institutions in Latin America and in Africa. The inspiring stories of women who establish their own small businesses are impressive, and they pour in from the organization's work with women who earn less than \$2 a day in Tanzania. I am working with the foundation's director to match my skills to the organization's needs, and I can't wait to dig deeper. I've also had the opportunity to contribute to a Rotaract fund raising effort to support Haiti relief and will help in the coordination of a similar effort in solidarity with Chile.

Six eggs are drizzled over the cooking potatoes and onions, filling in the gaps and bringing the dish together. Likewise, my masters program at EOI Business School brings together my past and my future. Studying in the one-year program for Sustainable Development and Corporate Social Responsibility unites my previous experience (two years of service in the U.S. Peace Corps and nearly three years in Stakeholder Engagement with The Coca-Cola Company) with my current life in Spain. The masters program connects me with 16 other students from more than 11 countries, spurring debate and cross-cultural engagement. These studies are preparing me for the future career I envision – helping the private sector improve lives in emerging economies while strengthening its own business model.

Peppers, chorizo (Spanish sausage) and other veggies can be added to the Tortilla Española to spice things up. I've tried to



At a soccer game in Barcellona

add in as many of my passions as possible to my experience in Spain. Between exploring Spanish theatre and flamenco, I have had the chance to visit a rural community in northern Spain and to see some of the architect Gaudi's work in Barcelona. These brief travels allowed me to return to Madrid with a fresh perspective and appreciate my surroundings even more. I look forward to traveling for the District Conference in a few months and engaging with more Rotarians. I've begun attending weekly Rotaract meetings, and the connection with young professionals from a variety of fields (architecture, art, magic, law and journalism) has spiced up my routine. Additionally, I teach English to some colleagues at the university. One of my commitments for years has been to teach English to immigrant populations in the United States, and it has been a joy to find eager students in Spain. Given Spain's current unemployment rate (nearly 18 per-



Heidi, on Gran Via during, Madrid's main street at christmas with elaborate light decorations.

cent) many students are seeking improved English skills to gain a competitive edge in the job market. It is my privilege to help them, even if some of our sessions start in the early mornings before school begins.

Finally, the secret to a successful Tortilla Española is the flip. As I nervously hold my breath, a seasoned chef, such as Paloma, seems to effortlessly tilt the pan and perfectly toss the mass of potatoes, eggs and surprises into the air. They land noiselessly and ready to brown completely. My attempts will likely be a bit messier. Part of my adventure in Spain has been about trying new things, constantly engaging with new people and pushing my limits. I am juggling many opportunities, goals and new ventures all at once, and the challenge is exhilarating.

Meals taste better shared, and as you can see, my time in Madrid has been enriched one thousand times over by sharing it with local Rotarians, colleagues and friends. Regardless of how much I know about Tortilla Española, I've yet to try one on my own and share with my new friends. As my year continues, I plan to deepen my Rotary involvement and really use the skills I am learning. After my first Tortilla Española success story, you'll have to try a piece.

Please accept my heartfelt thanks, in case the Tortilla Española is delayed. Know that the support of your district, and that of the Northwest Des Moines Club and Jeff Bremer is crucial to this life-changing experience. Sometimes I pinch myself, still stunned that I am here, living this adventure. On behalf of all Rotary Ambassadorial Scholars supported by your generosity, thank you for opening my eyes, my world and my taste buds. Trust that I will continue giving back to the Rotary community long after my ambassadorial year has ended.

Buen provecho!

Exchanges set with British Columbia and South Africa

By Al Orsborn/Ottumwa

D6000 Friendship Exchange chair

The District 6000 Rotary Friendship Exchange Committee is finalizing plans for two exchanges later this year.

A group of District 6000 Rotarians will be visiting District 5080 in British Columbia, Canada, from Aug. 25 through Sept. 8, 2010. We are expecting a group from District 5080 to visit District 6000 from Sept. 27 through Oct. 8, 2010. If you are interested in participating in this exchange contact Al Orsborn at acokmo@yahoo.com.

Another group of District 6000 Rotarians will be visiting District 9300 in South Africa from Oct. 3 through Oct. 24, 2010.

The RFE Committee is developing plans for exchanges to England and New Zealand in 2011. Final announcements concerning those exchanges will be coming in the near future.

Pereas award scholarships for Rotarians

Lawrence Cunningham, an account executive with Cyclone Sports Properties, received a \$1,500 scholarship to attend the Leadership Iowa program this year through the Iowa Association of Business and Industry.

Cunningham, who currently serves on the board for the Rotary Club of Greater Des Moines, is the first recipient of the Perea and Perea Leadership Award, created by Rita Perea, charter president of the Rotary Club of Greater Des Moines, and her husband, Dr. Ernest Perea, a charter member of the same club.

Through the Rotary District 6000 Humanitarian and Education Foundation, the Pereas have established a scholarship to be awarded to a Rotarian in good standing who practices the "Service Above Self."

The Pereas anticipate awarding three to five scholarships to Rotarians per year.



YOUTH EXCHANGE:

Meet these outstanding inbound students and our outbound students for 2010-11 at District Conference ... and learn how your club can become involved in a program that truly does make the world smaller – and friendlier!



Clement Donnio (France, Waukee), Marcela Souza (Brazil, Kalona), Lucas Rocha (Brazil, Knoxville).



Felix Tyllack (Germany, Indianola), Magnolia Bastar (Mexico, Decatur County), Youssef Ibn-Daifa (Belgium, Mount Pleasant).



Anika Bytowski (Germany, Iowa City AM), Magnolia Bastar (Mexico, Decatur County), Marcela Souza (Brazil, Kalona), Larissa Storto (Brazil, Winterset), Numploy Boonarchart (Thailand, Wellman)



Eduardo Coppacheski (Brazil, Wellman), and Jaime Ruiz (Spain, North Scott).

Host clubs needed for 2010-11 Youth Exchange students!

Dear District 600 Rotary Clubs,

The District 6000 Youth Exchange Committee has received our first list of students for the upcoming school year. Please consider hosting one of these outstanding students. District 6000 has a tremendous reputation for being the best Rotary District for Youth Exchange because of our strong clubs and the communities that they are part of. We practice "The Future of Rotary is in Your Hands." Please open your hearts and communities to one of these fine young international youths. They really are our future. I look forward to hearing from you. Thank you.

Contact: Chris Knapp, chair, District 6000 Youth Exchange Committee, 2 Lime Kiln Lane NE, Iowa City, IA 52240-9642 (H) (319) 338-0909; (W) (319) 356-9048; e-mail: Knappc1@mchsi.com.

Clubs encouraged to buy Youth Exchange calendars

By Chris Knapp/Iowa City AM

D-6000, Youth Exchange chair

Your District Rotary Youth Exchange (RYE) Committee is offering every club a great way to support the D6000 Youth Exchange program, a program that has been recognized by its peers as one of the best in the world.

The 2010, District 6000 Rotary Youth Exchange Wall Calendar is now available. This colorful calendar, featuring a pictures of youth exchange students and activities, is a great gift for your club's exchange student(s) and host families. The calendar is an excellent gift to give to your weekly speakers. And, it should be considered a "must" for every Rotary Youth Exchange Counselor and club Youth Exchange Officer. What better way to keep track of events and dates that are important not only to every inbound and outbound exchange student but to every Rotarian in our district?

The 2010 calendar also provides your club with a great marketing opportunity. Give a calendar to your high school guidance office to help promote Rotary Youth Exchange. The calendar will provide visibility of the program to your high school students. What a great way to promote one of the great ideals and programs of Rotary, "Peace Through Understanding - Rotary Youth Exchange."

The 2010 Calendar costs \$5.00. We are asking that every club order 10 or more. The funds raised through the sale of calendars will help support the required multiple training sessions that students, host families and Rotary counselors must attend; the funds will provide additional social opportunities for the students and their host families to interact during the school year; and, the funds will also help defray expenses for RYE shirts, a great addition to the students' wardrobes that will help promote RYE when the students return home. Your club's participation at the \$50 level shows your club support and commitment to the youth of your community and the world.

Mail your orders to: Doug Peterson, 3130 Halcyon Drive, Bettendorf, IA 52722, or e-mail to: louannandoug@mediacombb.net.



Numploy Boonarchart, an inbound Rotary Youth Exchange student from Thailand who is sponsored by the Rotary Club of Wellman, celebrates a winning point in table tennis during a Feb. 27-28 weekend Youth Exchange social hosted by the Rotary Club of North Scott at the Steeplegate Inn in Davenport. Students from eight countries on four continents swam together, ate together, played table games and went to the Quad Cities ice arena for winter games.



How about a headline that reads something like "Rotary Exchange Students in France Prepare Thanksgiving Dinner for French Guests!" Joanne Shepard, a student from Fairfield, Iowa, was one of cooks for the event. "It went wonderfully," she writes. "A huge success! We had 16 people, a 6-hour dinner, tons of food and a good time!" Exchange students are pictured enjoying the occasion (l-r): Michelle (Mexico), Catalina (Chile), Claïresse (Brazil), Joanne Shepard (Iowa), and Gina (California). "Gina and I made all of the food, including the turkey and homemade stuffing and sweet potatoes. We worked all day. It was worth it!" Joanne writes.

(submitted by Marilyn Smith, Muscatine)



District 6000 Youth Exchange Committee members and North Scott Rotarians Dennis Peterson and Paul Kalainoff and their wives, Deb and Susan, hosted Youth Exchange students at the Feb. 27-28 outing in Davenport. Peterson is District 6000 chair for the Short Term Exchange Program, and Kalainoff will chair the Outbound Program for 2010-11.

Paul Harris Fellows recognized at Fairfield

By Doug Flournoy/Fairfield
Club Foundation Chair

The Rotary Club of Fairfield held its annual dinner on Monday, Feb. 15 at the Fairfield Golf and Country Club with District Governor Cal Litwiller present to recognize six local Rotarians as Paul Harris Fellows.

The Rotary Club of Fairfield has carried out a number of projects, both civic and humanitarian, with support from Rotary District 6000 and grants awarded to the club by The Rotary Foundation.

With local partners the club has provided playground equipment at Chautauqua Park, a conference table and chairs for the meeting room at the Fairfield Arts and Convention Center, refurbished and replaced Christmas displays, helped to build an indoor playroom at The Roosevelt Center, and most recently helped to purchase an thermal imaging camera and firefighting equipment for the Fairfield Fire Department.

Internationally the Rotary Club of Fairfield has partnered with Rotary clubs around the world to: provide a water collection system for a village in Turkey; sponsor a drug rehabilitation program in Cartagena, Colombia; provide water for a squatter village outside of Johannesburg, South Africa; provide heart monitors for a



Fairfield Rotarians recognized as Paul Harris Fellows (l-r): Gene Luedtke, Jim Rubis, Dave Reiff, Ginny Hughes, District Governor Cal Litwiller, Doug Flournoy, and Sallie Hayes.

children's hospital in Cartagena, Colombia; build a medical clinic for that same village outside of Johannesburg, South Africa, and provide support for a food bank in Cartagena, Colombia.

Rotarians designate a Paul Harris Fellow to recognize a person whose life demonstrates a shared purpose with the objectives and mission of The Rotary Foundation to build world understanding and peace. Rotarians Sallie Hayes and Ginny Hughes were each recognized as Paul Harris Fellows at the first level. Rotarians Gene Luedtke, Dave Reiff, Jim Rubis, and Doug Flournoy were each recognized as Paul Harris Fellows at the second level. Also attaining the second level were Barry Harper and Chet Swanson, both of whom could

not be present.

The Paul Harris Fellow is named for Paul Harris, who founded Rotary with three business associates in 1905. The Fellowship was established in his honor in 1957 to express appreciation for making a significant contribution to the humanitarian and educational programs of The Rotary Foundation. Those programs include an array of projects that save and invigorate the lives of people around the world and enhance international friendship and understanding.

Foundation programs provide educational opportunities, food, potable water, health care, immunizations, and shelter for millions of persons. These activities are funded, implemented and managed by Rotarians and Rotary clubs around the globe.

Sponsor students for Industrial Tech Expo

By Larry Wilson/East Polk
Club President

Fellow Rotarians of Districts 6000 and 5970: The Rotary Club of East Polk County has been the primary sponsor of the Iowa Industrial Technology Exposition for the past 21 years.

The Expo provides an opportunity for junior and senior high students in Iowa to receive recognition for outstanding work done in the industrial technology classrooms of this state.

The Expo is held at Southeast Polk High School, about five miles east of Des Moines, and is a team effort by the East Polk Rotary Club, Southeast Polk Community School District, the Iowa Department of Education and Prairie Meadows.

We typically have nearly 1,000 entries from more than 1,100 students (some are group projects) and 60 or more school dis-

tricts.

We at the East Polk Rotary Club are asking the help of Rotary clubs throughout the state to assist students to attend the Expo.

Rotary clubs can do two things to increase attendance at the Expo:

1. Upon reading this letter, Rotary members can contact their local school district's industrial technology teachers and school administrators to make sure they are aware of the Expo and encourage industrial technology teachers and students to participate. If they are not planning to attend, they should be encouraged to do so. This is a very valuable activity, and teachers who have participated consider this the most important moti-



ational factor in promoting their programs and students.

2. Due to budget restrictions, it may be that schools cannot afford to send teachers and students to the Expo. Rotary clubs in Iowa can assist their local schools by offering to pay for substitute teachers and/or travel expenses for teachers and students who wish to participate. We are spreading the word to IT teachers statewide that if finances are keeping them from bringing their students to the Expo, they should contact their local Rotary club to ask for assistance.

Please consider helping junior and senior high students attend the exposition scheduled for Friday, May 14, 2010. If you need more information please contact Mike Hamilton, chairman of our club's vocational service committee, at the following e-mail address: hamilton@se-polk.k12.ia.us.

Volunteer inspired by grandfather who had polio

Amy Duncan is immediate past president of the Iowa Newspaper Association and publisher of the Indianola Record-Herald Tribune, where this column was published on Jan. 20. She is president-elect of the Rotary Club of Indianola.

By Amy Duncan/Indianola
President-Elect

When Jennifer Pfeifer Malaney thinks about her visit to Nigeria two years ago, she thinks about two things. The people using small scooters, such as those American children use in their gym classes to play scooter dodge ball, to get around, because they have no wheel chairs.



Amy Duncan

And her grandfather.

Her grandfather, John Piffer, now 94, was one of the first people in Warren County to have polio, back at the turn of the 20th century. When Jen went to Nigeria it was to help Rotary International bring vaccines to some of the last people in the world to suffer from the disease, a trip she says was inspired by her grandfather's brush with the illness many years ago.

Today, polio exists in four countries – Nigeria, India, Afghanistan and Pakistan. And even in those nations, polio is close to being eradicated. In Nigeria, for instance, the number of reported cases of polio dropped from 783 cases in 2008 to 388 in 2009. Jen's efforts, along with many other Rotarians, have helped lead to that improvement. The push to finally end polio is one of the signature efforts of Rotary International, which is in the midst of raising \$200 million to match funds provided by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. With \$100 million raised toward the goal, Rotary has a little over two years to complete its effort. Anyone can contribute, just go to www.rotary.org/endpolio to learn

more.

Jen went to Nigeria in February of 2008 for a little more than two weeks. She was part of a group of 16 American Rotarians on that trip, but hundreds and thousands of Rotarians from all over the world have made the journey, all at their own expense. Once in the nation, Jen said, they spent their days traveling the country, providing oral polio vaccine to children under the age of 5, and trying to persuade state and national leaders in Nigeria to support the immunization efforts.

While moms generally are convinced that immunization is a good thing, government officials sometimes aren't so sure, said Jen. "Some people think it will sterilize their children," she said. Overcoming those concerns is just one of the challenges that face the effort to eradicate polio. While Americans haven't seen polio up close for years, the danger, according to a Rotary Web site, is that polio could re-emerge, perhaps in a strain that is resistant to the vaccine, and begin to attack areas that today are free of the disease.

By the time polio is eliminated, Rotary International, including the Indianola club, will have provided more than \$850 million and provided vaccine for more than 2 billion children around the world. That includes the close to 1,000 children Jen estimates her team inoculated during their time in Nigeria.

Jen said the trip was very moving for her. "Whenever you go somewhere where you can have an impact, it's just special," she said. "It's so much more gratifying than just going on vacation."

In addition to immunizing children who haven't had polio, Jen and her group also got to see the results of a program to buy wheelchairs for those who have had it. The program, which isn't part of the Rotary effort, provides wheelchairs to people with education who have a plan to earn a living. While many people sell items on the side of the road, from fruit, to cell phone cards, they don't beg, she said. "They DO stuff."

Just like Rotary.

Adel Rotarians package 'Meals from the Heartland' for Haiti

By Chad Bird/Adel
Club President

The Adel Rotary Club volunteered to help package meals as part of the Meals from the Heartland program. About 20 club members traveled to Lutheran Church of Hope in West Des Moines Feb. 22 to package meals and spend time serving the global community. The volunteers worked for about one hour and packaged 650 meals for the program.

Club membership chair Jim Van Werden commented, "We really appreciated the opportunity to serve and had a lot of fun with this project. We would like to thank the 'Van & Bonnie Show' and Lutheran Church of Hope for their efforts in coordinating this important outreach project."

WHO Radio's Van and Bonnie hosted a meal packaging event on Monday and Van Werden had arranged for the Rotary club to volunteer during that time.

Bird stated that Rotary International is a globally focused organization and has spent a majority of its time and money on polio eradication. He said the Adel club strives to fulfill the ideals of Rotary International and also serve the local community.

Information: Chad Bird, Adel Rotary president, 1519 Maple Drive, Adel, IA 50003 or by phone at (515) 993-4322.



Volunteers "Bob and Mary" help the Rotary Club of Adel package meals for Haiti.



Ames Rotarian Sarah Buck (second from right) and fellow resident Sheri Krumm visited the Rotary Club of Same, Tanzania, in September. Others (l-r): Same club members Gerson Gabriel Kira, Elibariki Fanueli Kisimbo, an unidentified minister; Pr. Leonard Luhwa and Clement Ngoka from Hedaru, and Same club president Kimambi Alson Kajiru.

Water will flow freely, thanks to Matching Grant

By Sarah Buck/Ames

We often take for granted the clean water that flows freely from our faucets, allowing us to bathe, brush our teeth, drink and cook. For villagers in many parts of Tanzania, the lack of water makes life challenging every day.

Hedaru, in the Kilimanjaro region of northeastern Tanzania, is home to more than 22,000 people. The region is often plagued by drought, and when rain finally comes, floods and mudslides can be devastating to homes and crops. The rainy season brings typhoid, bacterial infections, diarrhea, and amoeba problems as water is contaminated by run-off that enters the system through streams and leaking pipes.

The village water distribution system is 40 years old and in disrepair. Many of the pipes are above ground, where they are easily damaged. The handful of public distribution points require that women walk long distances with their containers to haul water for their families. Then they wait by the distribution points to see if water will flow. On a good day, water will be available for up to 45 minutes. Some days, there is no water at all.

A Rotary Foundation Humanitarian Grant is about to make life much better for the people of Hedaru. In partnership with the Rotary Club of Same, Tanzania, the Rotary Club of Ames and District 6000 are providing \$25,000 to purchase the materials for a new water distribution system for Hedaru, including new pipes and distribution points. Hedaru residents will provide the labor to install the system. Same club members will oversee the project.

Humanitarian grants are made possible in large part by the "Paul Harris" contributions which Rotarians make to The Rotary Foundation. After three years, 50 percent of the Paul Harris contributions are returned to the district, where they are

used to fund humanitarian grants, district simplified grants, and ambassadorial scholars.

Questions about the Hedaru water project can be directed to Sarah Buck, sarahbbuck@yahoo.com or (515) 292-2366.



Clement Ngoka, Hedaru village chair, near the village water tank.

Rotary briefs

Clinton: The Rotary Club of Clinton will hold its second annual auction, entitled "Parco di Bambini," on April 30 to raise funds for additional resurfacing to the Rotary Park Playground. The auction will be held at the Tuscany Center at Rastrelli's Restaurant from 6-9 p.m. Doors open at 5:00 p.m., silent auction from 5:30-7:00 p.m. and the live auction follows. Tickets are \$50/person, \$55 at the door. A selection of Italian food will be served along with jazz entertainment. For tickets contact Ida Lorenz edal@mchsi.com.

* * *

Lenox: The Rotary Club of Lenox will sponsor a "Joyful Noise" concert March 28 from 4-5 p.m. at the Lenox Elementary gymnasium. All are invited. A free will offering will support a local food bank, disaster relief for Haiti, and projects in the Philippines. A fish fry will follow, from 5-6:30, in the high school concourse. Information: Tom Bender, benrey@frontiernet.net.

* * *

Ottumwa: The Rotary Club of Ottumwa is hosting an Indoor Golf Tournament for Rotary members during March and April at The Golf Haus, Ottumwa. Get your 4-person team together for a best ball (low score per hole) tournament to be played on Pebble Beach Golf Links. Cost is \$25 per person for 18 holes of golf with a chance to win \$500 for your Rotary club. Second is \$400 and this is \$300. Play as many times as you like, Tuesday through Sunday. Questions or Tee Times: The Golf Haus, 2604 N. Court, Ottumwa, (641) 814-4651.

* * *

Northwest: The Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines' second annual Charles Gabus Memorial Bike Ride will be Sunday, June 20, starting at Walker Johnston Park, 9098 Douglas Ave., Urbandale. Three distances are available: 5, 18 and 30 miles. Registration is \$25 per person or \$50 for a family. The ride is named in honor of the late PDG Charles Gabus. Proceeds benefit the club's service projects. Information: www.clubrunner.ca/northwestdesmoines.



Mary and Rotarian George Maybee read to a child at the Boone Health and Safety Fair, which was attended by 600 children.
— submitted by Scott Smith

Keosauqua: The Rotary Club of Keosauqua was pictured on page 47 of the February issue of "The Rotarian" as part of the magazine's "A Day in the Life of Rotary" which featured Rotary events that took place on Oct. 10, 2009. The photo (which was small) showed club members in Keosauqua's annual Fall Festival Parade. Rusty Ebert took the picture and President Bill Shewmaker submitted it.

* * *

Oskaloosa: In early January, the Rotary Club of Oskaloosa held its third annual Holiday Auction at The Peppertree Restaurant. The Holiday Auction is the club's social event/fundraiser where members and spouses have dinner together and then bid on items that were donated by club members. All of the money raised is donated to a local cause that was agreed upon by club members. This year's recipient was the Clean and Green project. More than \$1,500 was raised and earmarked for Litter Critter T-shirts to be given to Oskaloosa elementary students. (Submitted by John Sherlock).

* * *

Keokuk: The Rotary Club of Keokuk asked residents to support the 2009-10 "Calling All Communities" campaign, which awarded \$100,000 to 10 schools across the nation, sponsored by US Cellular. Rotarians asked voters to vote for Keokuk High School. The program concluded in January.

* * *

Des Moines: More than 70 large Rotary clubs from across the U.S. and two from Canada met in Birmingham, Alabama to share ideas and network Feb. 21-24. Executive directors and President Elects attend these conferences each year. The Rotary Club of Des Moines was represented by President-Elect Skeet Wootten and executive secretary Kitte Noble.

In other news, the club relocated its office from the Hotel Fort Des Moines to 2700 Fleur Drive Des Moines, IA 50321.

* * *

North Scott: The club's New Idea Committee chaired by Jan Trimble selected a Rotary Foundation Recognition Meeting as a new activity. The event will take place at the club's regular meeting time and place on Friday, May 7, noon at the Steeplegate Inn in Davenport. Jamie Revord, Major Gifts Officer of The Rotary Foundation, will be the guest speaker.

* * *

Biking for Polio: Ames Rotarian Carole Custer reports that fellow Rotarian, Dennis Dorman, originally from Perry, was interviewed on WHO radio, as he has started biking across the United States to bring awareness to Rotary's commitment to end polio in the world and to raise money for it. He was a photographer in Perry for many years before he retired and moved to Missouri. Read about him at: <http://www.ride4polio.com/Dennis/page4.htm>.

* * *

Davenport: On Feb. 22, 56 guests gathered at the Red Stone Room in Davenport to enjoy nine different chilis prepared by members of the Rotary Club of Davenport at the club's annual Chili Cook-Off. Awards were presented to Tom Bowman, winner of the Judges Choice, Mark Zimmerman, winner of People's Choice, and Dan DeVries won the 50/50 drawing.

* * *

RV Fellowship: John Pheiffer, a member of the Rotary Club of North Scott, is interested in pulling together a group of Recreational Vehicle Fellowship members from Iowa or the upper Midwest. He observes that the RV Fellowship leader of our zone lives in Texas and that is where all of the members live and where all of the activities take place. RV Fellowship members, please contact John at: JohnPheiffer@mchsi.com or phone (563) 340-8366.



Rebaz Shamsideen – Age 10

Rebaz: Hale, hearty five years after surgery

Rebaz Shamsideen, the 5-year-old boy who came to Iowa City from Iraq in 2005 for a heart surgery that saved his life, is a hale and hearty 10-year-old today, reports Cindy Yerington, the woman who opened her West Liberty home to Rebaz and his father, Subhi, for three-and-a-half months, before, during and after the surgery.

"I wanted to share these photos that I just received today from Subhi - I guess he now has Internet!!!" wrote Cindy, at Christmastime. "Rebaz looks very grown up and very 'healthy.'"

District 6000 Rotarians raised \$22,000 and coordinated arrangements through war-time diplomatic channels for the Shamsideens to come to the U.S., where doctors at University Hospitals and Clinics in Iowa City donated their services to perform the life-saving surgery.

Yerington's son, Sgt. Corey Johnston, identified Rebaz as needing help when Johnston was serving in Iraq in 2003. Cindy said Corey recently married after his third tour of duty in Iraq and reported for duty in Afghanistan two weeks after the wedding. He is now a Green Beret and will spend his remaining years in the U.S. Army overseas.

Cindy and her husband, Scott Yerington, now reside at 4540 Majestic Oaks Place, Eagan, MN 55123.



Young philanthropists

In keeping with the philanthropic teaching of their parent organization, the Rotary Club of Decatur County, the Rota Kids are doing their humanitarian part to give to the Haiti relief fund. A check was presented to the Decatur County Rotary Club president Chris Coffelt (l), who will forward it to District 6000. The \$500 given by the Rota Kids was raised through their efforts of a pop can drive and will be matched dollar for dollar by World Vision, making a total donation of \$1,000. "This is a remarkable gift on the RotaKid's part," stated Coffelt. "For these young minds to think outside of the box and to lend a helping hand to those in need (especially in a foreign land) is truly a wonderful trait. I thank and commend them for this."



Golden Gates from Russia

Serge Pasheev, a Russian immigrant and member of the Rotary Club of North Scott, entertains members of Golden Gates, an ensemble from St. Petersburg, Russia, who were hosted by the Rotary Clubs of North Scott and Fort Madison in January. The troupe, whose mission is to create cultural understanding, stayed in homes of Rotarians and performed public concerts. The North Scott club raised \$1,000 in support of the group's orphanage project.



Muscatine celebration

An austere group of business men in Muscatine Rotary club were participants in a skit based on the December 2009 copy of The Rotarian magazine depicting the founding of Rotary. A new communications major Rotarian young woman reworked the skit, narrated the action, directed and rehearsed the men. Ironically, the three seniors who were guests at one table had just asked the question, "What is Rotary?" This skit was a 10-minute answer and the celebration of Rotary's founding on the Feb. 23. Pictured (l-r): Tim Nelson, Paul Kraushaar, Norm Smith, Greg Kistler, narrator and author Jessica Wittman, and Sal LoBianco.



Holiday gift cards

Cara George (l), chair of the Community Impact Team for Nationwide Insurance, accepts the donation made possible by the Rotary Club of Greater Des Moines. Club members donated \$350 towards the purchase of holiday gift cards for the local service project, Adopt-A-Family holiday program. The adopted family received the following gift cards to make their holidays a little brighter: \$100 to Best Buy; \$100 to Kmart; and \$150 to Hy-Vee. George is pictured with club president Rita Perea.

Johnston Rotarians support community closet

By Therese Herold/Johnston

In March of 2007, The Closet at Crown Point, or The Closet for short, opened its doors for the first time. A community coalition called The Johnston Partnership for a Healthy Community recognized that people from their community could use a clothes closet, but none was available. The Partnership approached the City of Johnston and was granted space in The Crown Point Community Center to create this resource.

Once space was obtained, the matter of how to fund the project was called into question. A representative from the Partnership approached Johnston Rotary about financial help, and through club donation and a District Simplified Grant, the Rotary club provided 100 percent of the start-up funds to get the venture started.

In addition to the start-up costs, Johnston Rotarians provided labor to get the space ready for opening. The Closet was designed to look like a store, so patrons could have a shopping experience. Over two weekends, Johnston Rotarians painted the walls, prepared the carpet, designed and built the shelving units, and organized the storage space.

As The Closet celebrates its three-year anniversary, community members note that over 250 families have visited The Closet with many of them returning on a regular basis. The resource has expanded beyond just clothing, and now helps provide needed sundry items (shampoo, laundry soap, diapers, etc.) for patrons as well. putting the "teach them to fish" philosophy into action.

The Closet charges patrons a \$2.00 user fee each visit. These



The Closet, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Johnston, has provided clothing and sundries for 250 families in the last three years.

fees are then used to purchase more sundry items. Patrons enjoy shopping at The Closet, and several also volunteer there as well. Overall, The Closet has become an important resource in the Johnston Community.



Cat in the Hat

Is that a cat in the hat? No, it's Terry Geiger, Assistant Governor from the Rotary Club of Decatur County. He is reading to the second-grade class at the Central Decatur South Elementary School. He and his Rotarian helpers – Mary Ruth Horn, Bill Morain, Chris Coffelt, Marcia Stephens, Angie Jensen and Peggy Geiger – volunteered to read throughout the day to different levels of elementary students on March 2. Happy Birthday Dr. Suess!

John Beran volunteering at school, hospital in Zimbabwe

By John Beran/Lenox

John Beran, a member of the Rotary Club of Lenox and a past assistant governor, is a Rotary Volunteer in Zimbabwe. He e-mailed to District 6000 Rotary Volunteers chair Merle Anderson in January:

"I am now in Zimbabwe and will be here for about eight more weeks. So far, I was able to visit a secondary school of the church we relate with here; specifically to share with the people in a major poultry project designed to provide income for the school. We were able to join the entire faculty and student body (about 350) for their worship on Sunday morning, which was a good way to begin my stay here in Zimbabwe.

"Now I'm at the mission hospital and will be having some responsibilities here, though I have asked that I might focus this time on language learning. I will likely be coming back each year for a while and feel it would really be helpful to have a grasp of the language. Admittedly, though, eight weeks is not a very long language-learning period. It is really hot here.

"They should be getting rains every day or every other day, but the season is not normal. The farmers planted when rains started in November, but there hasn't been any rain this year and the crops are dying. Unfortunately, if the rains start again the season will be too late for a replanting. Many, many will again depend on food aid from outside, as last year. What a contrast with the record-breaking crop the Iowa farmers experienced last year."



In Memoriam:



Paul E. Hellwege

1912-2010

Governor, Rotary
International District 600,
1954-55



PDG Paul Hellwege

Judge Paul E. Hellwege, age 97, of Boone passed away on Thursday afternoon, Jan. 28, 2010 at the Boone County Hospital.

Judge Hellwege was born July 3, 1912 in Amaqua Township, Boone County, Iowa, the first child of Frank C. and Ida (Shadle) Hellwege. He attended country school for the first four grades. The balance of his secondary education was at Boxholm, where he graduated in 1930. In the fall of 1932, he enrolled in the University of Iowa as the result received a BA degree in 1936 and a JD in 1938.

After graduating, he returned to Boone and began his law practice. In 1959, he formed a partnership, known as Hellwege & Bergren.

On Aug. 27, 1939, he married Phoebe Benson in Iowa City and in 2005 they celebrated their 66th wedding anniversary.

Shortly after coming to Boone, he became active in Democratic politics. In 1942, he was elected County Attorney of Boone County, an office he held for six years, and was the first Democrat to do so. On two occasions, he was a member of the State Democratic Central Committee.

Judge Hellwege was twice appointed as District Court Judge. In 1958, he was appointed to fill the vacancy created by the death of H. C. Nichol – the first Democratic judge in the then 11th Judicial District since 1894. In 1964, he was appointed to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of John M. Schaupp. He served as a District Court Judge until April 30, 1981, and as a Senior Judge until December 10, 1991.

Judge Hellwege has been a member of the Boone Rotary Club since 1948. He is a Past President of the Boone club, was District Governor in 1954-55, and served on Rotary's Council on Legislation on four occasions. He is a Paul Harris Fellow, a Rotary Foundation Benefactor and in 1994 received the Foundation's Citation for Meritorious Service. In 2007, he received the Foundation's highest honor, the Distinguished Service Award.

He has been active in many areas of service to his home community. He was Charter President of Boone Community Chest and served on the Boards of Iowa Lutheran Hospital, Madrid Home for the Aging, Boone Chamber of Commerce and the Salvation Army. He was District Chair of the Broken Arrow District-BSA, President and Director of Boone County AARP and served 30 years on the Council of the Augustana Lutheran Church. He was an avid reader and his hobbies included flower gardening and stamp collecting, specializing in first day covers.

Judge Hellwege was preceded in death by his beloved wife Phoebe, his son David, his daughter Janice, his parents and a baby sister.

Survivors include his sister Wilma Bennett of Boone, nieces Twila Torres of Gladstone, Missouri, and Karla Jenkins and her husband Walt of Boone, nephews Rev. Don Benson of Waterloo and Ted Benson of Shalimar, Florida, David's partner Jan Peterson of Tulsa, Oklahoma, three grandnieces, one grandnephew, numerous other relatives and friends.

Judge Hellwege's love was the law. His fellow judges described him as "an able and respected judge." The Iowa Supreme Court in affirming a criminal case presided over by him observed, "Trial court throughout displayed that patience and insight which characterizes competent management of criminal cases."

Funeral services were Feb. 6 at the Augustana Lutheran Church in Boone with Pastor Daniel Solomon officiating. Interment will be in the Linwood Park Cemetery in Boone. Memorials were designated to the Rotary Foundation or Augustana Lutheran Church, for the benefit of the Hellwege Memorial Scholarship.

Obituaries

Clubs have reported or *District 6000 News* has learned of the deaths of the following members. *May light perpetual shine upon them:*

- Frank Piersol, 98, a member and past president of the Rotary Club of Iowa City, died Feb. 25. A native of Minnesota and graduate of Grinnell College, he had a long and notable career as a bandmaster, including director of bands at both Iowa State University and the University of Iowa. He was a guest conductor, lecturer and judge for festivals, contests and music camps in 40 states, Europe, Canada and Mexico and published over 90 works of music and a series of concert marches – and was song leader for Rotary!

- Robert Schaub, 76, Boone, died Feb. 1 after a six-year battle with multiple myeloma. He was a longtime Rotarian, a third-generation newspaperman, and the retired publisher of the Boone News-Republican. Bob's wife, Jeannine, who survives, gave a memorable portrayal of Mrs. Paul Harris at District 6000 PETS in 2004.

- Gary Lynch, 65, Davenport, who was the 2008-09 president of the Rotary Club of North Scott, died Dec. 25. He was the founder and owner of Mid-States Transmission Parts, Inc. A generous supporter of scholarships, the Rotary club's vocational scholarships at Scott Community College will be presented in his honor this year.

- * Edward Roth, 83, Urbandale, a member of the Rotary Club of Des Moines, died Feb. 23. A native of North Dakota and veteran of WWII, he built a career selling insurance and retired as chairman and CEO of the Statesman Group in 1982. In retirement, he devoted his time to many civic causes, including Rotary.

- Arlen Stensrud, 65, a Davenport Rotarian since 1996, died Feb. 27. A native of Lake Mills and a graduate of Luther College, he had recently retired as vice president/marketing with Norcross Safety Products and was active in his church and numerous civic organizations.

Rotary's Core Values

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

Rotary Foundation Annual giving

District 6000 Clubs • July 1, 2009 - March 14, 2010*

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
(Members: Jul 09/Jul 08)	09-10 Goal	Thru 11-30-09	% of Goal	Per capita
Adel (29/29)	\$ 2,600	1,445	56	\$ 49.84
Albia (32/33)	1,860	800	43	25.00
Ames Morning (63/69)	10,000	9,700	97	153.97
Ames (247/264)	38,250	14,723	38	59.61
Ankeny (60/60)	10,650	4,007	38	66.78
Atlantic (67/66)	5,175	3,523	68	52.58
Bettendorf (92/88)	10,560	13,200	125	143.48
Bloomfield (15/14)	1,400	175	13	11.67
Boone (58/62)	5,400	5,450	101	93.97
Burlington (97/96)	10,100	5,763	57	59.41
Carroll (59/59)	6,000	4,565	76	77.39
Centerville (39/40)	4,000	1,570	39	40.26
Chariton (53/54)	5,500	4,925	90	92.92
Clinton (119/124)	9,400	6,619	70	55.63
Coon Rapids (26/27)	2,400	0	0	0.00
Coralville-North Corridor (30/33)	5,704	200	4	6.67
Corning (47/53)	2,450	2,500	102	53.19
Corydon (15/15)	320	650	203	43.33
Creston (21/18)	475	0	0	0.00
Dallas Center (25/22)	2,500	50	2	2.00
Davenport (168/174)	16,500	5,555	34	33.07
Decatur County (19/17)	4,000	1,580	40	83.16
Des Moines AM (143/134)	15,000	6,050	40	42.31
Des Moines (331/345)	24,000	5,725	24	17.30
East Polk County (40/37)	3,900	1,975	51	49.38
Fairfield (68/68)	7,770	2,935	38	43.16
Fort Madison (54/55)	5,500	1,685	31	31.20
Greater Des Moines (40/0)	2,800	1,000	36	25.00
Grinnell (31/32)	3,000	0	0	0.00
Indianola (52/51)	5,720	2,586	45	49.73
Iowa City AM (56/57)	8,250	8,703	105	155.41
Iowa City Downtown (19/26)	2,500	0	0	0.00
Iowa City (298/308)	28,458	26,550	93	89.09
Iowa Quad-Cities (48/53)	65,000	1,145	47	23.85
Jefferson (56/57)	5,700	2,350	41	41.96
Johnston (49/47)	5,000	3,755	75	76.63
Kalona (46/45)	2,500	2,250	90	48.91
Keokuk (83/82)	8,500	800	9	9.64
Keosauqua (24/28)	1,950	1,977	101	82.38
Knoxville (64/68)	2,450	1,500	61	23.44
Lenox (26/26)	2,700	792	29	30.48
Manning (17/17)	1,800	600	33	35.29
Marengo (14/15)	1,350	179	13	12.79
Marshalltown (174/175)	10,000	350	4	2.01
Mount Pleasant Noon (39/34)	2,010	929	46	23.82
Mt. Pleasant (30/25)	2,500	1,150	46	38.33
Muscatine (123/131)	18,900	29,389	155	238.94
Nevada (64/61)	6,500	1,650	25	25.78
Newton (79/80)	9,205	4,415	48	55.89
North Scott (104/99)	11,330	11,680	103	112.31
Northwest Des Moines (54/58)	11,700	4,812	41	89.12
Osceola (31/34)	2,560	0	0	0.00
Oskaloosa (55/58)	4,125	1,002	24	18.22
Ottumwa (110/112)	12,540	10,925	87	99.32
Pella (41/39)	4,400	3,000	68	73.17
Perry (26/31)	1,600	300	19	11.54
Tipton (26/32)	2,900	1,075	37	41.35
Washington (62/62)	7,150	3,120	44	50.32
Waukee (47/57)	5,500	2,000	36	42.55
Wellman (36/33)	3,910	1,945	50	54.03
West Des Moines (80/81)	9,085	200	2	2.50
West Liberty (32/33)	7,425	9,750	131	304.69
Winterset (31/31)	1,860	2,250	121	72.58
Total (4,184)	\$ 431,672	\$249,603	57.82	\$ 59.66

(*) Data from unofficial "interim" Monthly Contribution Report of The Rotary Foundation

Foundation news



Rotarian Tunji Funsho, a cardiologist from Kano, Nigeria, at Bill Tubbs' driveway in Eldridge, Iowa, en route to the Rotary Institute at Minneapolis in October 2009.

Incubators reduce child mortality

In response to a request from RI Vice President Tom Thorfinnson, the World Community Service Committee agreed to transfer \$5,000 from the District's DDF (District Designated Fund) in support of a Matching Grant for incubators for a hospital in Kano, Nigeria.

The aim is to reduce child mortality in a region whose health care system is vastly undersized for the 9-million population. The appeal came from Tunji Funsho, the former Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator for west Africa. District 6000 Rotarians who have traveled to Nigeria have met Tunji, and he was in Iowa in the fall of 2009 en route to the Rotary Zones 28-29 Institute in Minneapolis.

At the committee's Feb. 16 meeting, chair Brock Earnhardt observed that 17 clubs had successfully partnered in ten World Community Service Matching Grants thus far in 2010-11 with projects in ten countries. This is four more grants than the previous year.

The committee also wishes to remind clubs and Rotarians who make contributions to The Rotary Foundation's Permanent Fund to check the "Share" box on the form. By so doing, District 6000 can decide how the earnings from their permanent endowment will be used.

News Briefs

Hoover-Wallace: Upon inquiring with the World Food Prize Foundation regarding the date and venue for the Hoover-Wallace Dinner, *District 6000 News* learned from communications director Justin Cramer that event will not be held this year. Starting in 2004, there have been six annual Dinners to celebrate Iowa's humanitarian heritage and raise funds for the Borlaug-Ruan Scholars program, which sends college students abroad in 8-week internships to study food production. Cramer said 15 of 16 interns have been placed for 2010.

Xicotepec: Watch for names of 2010 Xicotepec Project Team members and a report of their activities in Xicotepec, Mexico, in the next issue of *District 6000 News*.

Scholars: Clubs are reminded of the April 5 deadline for nominations for Ambassadorial Scholars for the 2011-12 academic year. Candidates will be interviewed in June. Information: Jeff Bremer, (515) 440-7064; (515) 249-5366; e-mail: jeffbremer@mchsi.com.

Paul Harris Society: West Liberty Rotarian Bill Koellner is updating the membership list for the District 6000 Paul Harris Society. The Society was begun in 2004-05 and recognizes Rotarians who promise to give a minimum of \$1,000 annually to The Rotary Foundation's Annual Programs Fund. A year ago, the Society included 57 Rotarians from 22 clubs, but there have been changes. If you would like to learn more, please contact Koellner at: (319) 627-4545, (319) 627-4138, or e-mail: libertypark@Lcom.net.



The friendly faces of former Muscatine Rotarian Don Johnson and his wife, Virginia, are familiar to many in District 6000. Don moved to North Carolina a few years ago and will be governor of Rotary District 7720 next year. The editor of *District 6000 News* caught up with the Johnsons at the International Assembly in San Diego and took this picture. The Johnsons can be reached at 106 Cape Fear Dr., Hertford, NC 27944, e-mail: dljgov1011@embarqmail.com.

Multi-District PETS: Three from District 6000 attended the Multi-District President-Elect Training Seminar Feb. 26-27 at Minneapolis: DGN Don Patterson, trainer Michael Schmitz and administrator Carolyn Scharff. They will discuss Multi-District PETS and answer questions at this year's PETS Training, March 26-27 at Ankeny. The three participating districts were District 5970 (northern Iowa) and Districts 5950 and 5960, Minnesota. Roger Kueter, a professor in the College of Education at the University of Northern Iowa, will be the 2010-11 district governor in District 5970.



Members of the Rotary Club of Corning appeared in the local paper, the *Adams County Free Press*, to celebrate Rotary's 105th birthday. The caption and article told how Rotary was founded on Feb. 23, 1905 in Chicago by Paul Harris, and that this was the simple beginning of the world's first service club with the motto "Service Above Self." Readers were invited to contact Jodi Lyddon or Nancy Turner for information about Rotary's worldwide network of 1.2 million volunteers, and membership in the Corning club in particular.

Youth Services Fund: District 6000 clubs were asked to make a \$2 per member voluntary contribution with their dues in support of the Youth Service Fund, which support scholarships for young people to participate in projects such as Xicotepec, Mexico. Two clubs made contributions thus far: Nevada and North Scott. Others are welcomed and encouraged!

Displays: Clubs, committees or groups wishing to have a table display at District Conference should contact administrator Carolyn Scharff, (877) 976-8279. The conference area will have tables showcasing district and club projects. Displays may be brought to the hotel anytime after noon on Friday, April 23. Deadline is April 9.

Thank You! The district office in Pella is the recipient of an Epson Power Lite 7500C projector with travel case, cords, remote and batteries, and a 5' 7" wide x 5" tall projection screen, compliments of John Schreurs, the CEO of Strategic America and a member of the Rotary Club of Des Moines AM. A tip of the hat to John. Thank you!

Council On Legislation: Rotary International's triennial Council on Legislation will begin April 25 at RI Headquarters in Evanston, Ill., and continue through April 30. Delegates from Rotary's 530 districts representing more than 200 countries and geographic regions will consider proposed changes to the RI by-laws. PDG Don Goring of Ames (1998-99) is District 6000's representative.

Alumni: Former Ambassadorial Scholar Alex Buchanan, the recipient of last year's Rotary Foundation Alumni Award, will arrive in Ames the week before District Conference and will stay with friends. Buchanan, from Australia, was a scholar at Iowa State College (now University) in 1959-60. He will be a guest of the College of Agriculture and will speak to the Rotary Club of Ames on April 19 and the Rotary Club of Ames Morning on April 21 – before heading to Burlington for District Conference.

Public Relations: Congratulations to the Rotary Clubs of Atlantic, West Liberty, Corning, Des Moines AM and North Scott for their exemplary coverage of Rotary activities in their local newspapers – per articles forwarded to the District PR chair!



RI President John Kenny and PDG Bill Tubbs.

Two from D-6000 are Presidential Reps

PDG Larry Dimmitt from Topeka, Kan., and his wife, Lois, will be the Official Representatives of RI President John Kenny and his wife, June, at District 6000 Conference, April 23-25 at Burlington. And this year for the first time in recent history, a past district governor from District 6000 will represent the president of Rotary International at a District Conference.

PDG Bill Tubbs (2004-05) and Linda will represent President John Kenny at the District 6910 Conference in Jekyll Island, Ga., April 15-18, and PDG Diana Reed and Rick (2007-08) will represent the Kennys at the District 6310 Conference April 23-24 in Midland, Mich.



PDG Diana Reed

The picture of Bill giving a book of Iowa photos to President Kenny (above) was taken at Rotary International in Evanston in 2009. The portrait of Paul Harris in the background was a gift to RI from Rotary Districts 6000 and 5970 in 2005.

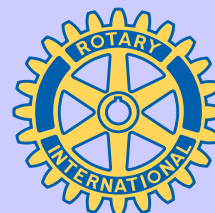
CLUB ATTENDANCE PERCENT AND RANK November 2009 - January 2010

CLUB	NOVEMBER		DECEMBER		JANUARY	
	Percent	Rank	Percent	Rank	Percent	Rank
Adel	64.00 %	31	67.00 %	27	78.00 %	12
Albia	53.10 %	48	45.30 %	55	51.60 %	50
Ames	60.00 %	40	59.00 %	41	54.00 %	46
Ames Morning	57.90 %	43	56.30 %	43	54.00 %	45
Ankeny	75.61 %	14	66.39 %	28	73.80 %	19
Atlantic	43.49 %	57	45.31 %	54	49.60 %	53
Bettendorf	66.18 %	26	65.01 %	30	74.92 %	18
Bloomfield	65.00 %	29	63.00 %	36		
Boone	60.00 %	39	50.00 %	51	56.00 %	44
Burlington	82.00 %	7	74.00 %	17	77.90 %	13
Carroll	67.16 %	24	56.37 %	42	60.29 %	38
Centerville	60.00 %	38	65.00 %	34	63.00 %	35
Chariton	66.00 %	27	68.00 %	23	69.00 %	26
Clinton	50.29 %	55	50.49 %	48	52.16 %	49
Coon Rapids	62.00 %	35	46.00 %	53		
Coralville-North Corridor	100.00 %	1	100.00 %	1	86.00 %	4
Corning	72.00 %	21	74.20 %	15	69.40 %	25
Corydon	51.00 %	52	51.00 %	47	59.00 %	42
Creston	76.00 %	13	65.00 %	33	67.00 %	27
Dallas Center	64.00 %	30	74.00 %	16	78.00 %	11
Davenport	54.74 %	46	48.36 %	52	52.43 %	48
Decatur County	79.00 %	11	76.00 %	13	80.00 %	10
Des Moines	49.00 %	56	41.00 %	59	45.00 %	57
Des Moines A.M.	61.00 %	37	65.00 %	32	76.00 %	16
East Polk County	55.36 %	45			48.13 %	54
Fairfield	52.38 %	49	72.02 %	20	65.48 %	30
Fort Madison					62.00 %	36
Greater Des Moines			93.00 %	4	82.00 %	7
Grinnell						
Indianola			62.00 %	38	51.00 %	51
Iowa City	80.00 %	8	96.00 %	2	46.00 %	55
Iowa City A.M.	72.00 %	20	73.00 %	19	73.00 %	21
Iowa City Downtown	79.69 %	10	75.00 %	14	80.30 %	9
Iowa Quad-Cities	65.28 %	28	67.92 %	24	53.72 %	47
Jefferson	72.00 %	19	60.00 %	39	64.00 %	33
Johnston	67.93 %	23	76.81 %	11	73.47 %	20
Kalona	74.43 %	15	67.46 %	26	70.10 %	24
Keokuk	51.74 %	50	42.07 %	58		
Keosauqua	57.10 %	44	62.50 %	37	57.50 %	43
Knoxville	58.87 %	42	50.38 %	49	64.45 %	31
Lenox	78.00 %	12	71.00 %	21	76.00 %	15
Manning	69.00 %	22	76.00 %	12	72.00 %	23
Marengo	92.00 %	2	85.00 %	6	83.00 %	5
Marshalltown	50.95 %	53	44.44 %	56	45.91 %	56
Mount Pleasant Noon	51.39 %	51	55.15 %	44	59.09 %	41
Mt. Pleasant			83.00 %	9	72.00 %	22
Muscatine	50.74 %	54	43.51 %	57	43.54 %	58
Nevada	72.96 %	17	73.86 %	18	75.59 %	17
Newton	61.00 %	36	59.00 %	40	61.00 %	37
North Scott	85.22 %	5	83.79 %	8	90.49 %	2
Northwest Des Moines	79.87 %	9	69.33 %	22	81.86 %	8
Osceola	62.50 %	33	51.54 %	46	64.00 %	32
Oskaloosa	63.40 %	32	64.00 %	35	63.00 %	34
Ottumwa	59.60 %	41	53.47 %	45	59.51 %	40
Pella	83.00 %	6	86.00 %	5	82.00 %	6
Perry						
Tipton	66.67 %	25	65.33 %	29	66.65 %	28
Washington	54.50 %	47	50.26 %	50	50.00 %	52
Waukegan	73.83 %	16	79.41 %	10	86.39 %	3
Wellman	89.52 %	4	95.24 %	3	91.91 %	1
West Des Moines	72.13 %	18	67.67 %	25	66.10 %	29
West Liberty	62.00 %	34	65.00 %	31	60.00 %	39
Winterset	90.38 %	3	84.42 %	7	76.80 %	14

Tell Your Rotary Stories

Clubs in District 6000 are invited and encouraged to submit news of past and upcoming activities for District 6000 News. Send Word documents and free-standing .jpg photos to: btubbs@northscottpress.com. If you have questions, please call DG Cal Litwiller, (319) 385-6440; editor Bill Tubbs, (563) 285-8111; Jacque Andrew, (515) 386-2114; Karin Franklin, (319), 321-8261; or your assistant governor.

Deadline for the next issue: May 24.



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

One Rotary Center
1560 Sherman Avenue
Evanston, IL 60201
Phone: (847) 866-3000
Fax: (847) 328-8554



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

John Kenny, Scotland

DISTRICT 6000 • Iowa USA

www.rotary6000.org

DISTRICT GOVERNOR

Calvin Litwiller
311 N. Adams St., Mt. Pleasant, IA 52641
(319) 385-8440; (319) 931-6441 (c)
crlitwiller@yahoo.com

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR

Carolyn Scharff
P.O. Box 122, Pella, IA 50219
(877) 976-8279
dis6000admin@lisco.com

ASSISTANT GOVERNORS

PDG Dale Belknap, Des Moines (coordinator)
Gary Anderson, Knoxville
Ted Carpenter, Coralville-North Corridor
Ros Dunblazier, Nevada
Becky Eiting, Davenport
Terry Geiger, Decatur County
Otto Hall, Grinnell
Sam Harding, Jefferson
Linda Hartkopf, Atlantic
Ginny Hughes, Fairfield
Carol Machael, Clinton
Dave Reiff, Fairfield
Jim Riordan, Waukee
Cathy Spencer, Ankeny
John Tone, Des Moines
Kay Weiss, Burlington

'DISTRICT 6000 NEWS' EDITOR

PDG 2004-05 Bill Tubbs
P.O. Box 223, Eldridge, IA 52748
Fax: (563) 285-8114; Ph. (563) 285-8111
btubbs@northscottpress.com

District 6000 News is published four times a year, in August, November, February and May, 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 Cal Litwiller . . .

- Join fellow Rotarians at P.E.T.S. and District Assembly in Ankeny March 26-27; be prepared to submit your club's membership and EREY goals (p. 15).
- Register club members and members of the Family of Rotary for District Conference, April 24-26 at Burlington (p. 1-3, insert).
- Fill out the Presidential Citation form and send it to DG Cal Litwiller by March 31 (p. 3) – the Governor's Citation, as well.
- Register students for RYLA by March 31 (p. 4).
- Make plans to attend the 105th Rotary International Convention June 20-23 in Montreal, including the District 6000 Breakfast. Note the March 31 pre-registration deadline (p. 4).
- Support District 6000 and FAMSCO's Haiti relief initiatives by April 20 (p. 4-5).
- Use the Iowa Rotary Video to promote membership and community partnerships, and always be aware of the need to explain what Rotary is and what Rotary does to your members as well as the general public (p. 7).
- Plan community activities to create awareness of polio eradication and meet or exceed your club's three-year goal for PolioPlus Partners (p. 1-2, 10-11, 23).
- Learn how your club can support District 6000's effort to export the Ponseti Method of club foot repair to the world (p. 13).
- Tell your members about opportunities for involvement with Rotary Friendship Exchange (p. 19).
- Tell the Youth Exchange Committee that your club will host a student from another country next year (p. 20-21).
- Provide scholarships for students for the Iowa Industrial Tech Expo (p. 22).
- Lead by example, and ask members to increase giving to The Rotary Foundation, including Sustaining Members (\$100/year); Paul Harris Society Members (\$1,000/year); Major Donors (combined personal outright or cumulative giving to the Annual Programs Fund of \$10,000); Benefactors (minimum \$1,000 to the Permanent Fund as an outright gift or in an estate plan); and Bequest Society Members (\$10,000 or more for The Rotary Foundation in an estate plan).
- Submit news of your club's successes or upcoming events by May 24, 2010 for the next issue of *District 6000 News* to PDG Bill Tubbs, or Karin Franklin (Iowa City) or Jacque Andrew (Jefferson).



We Invite You to Celebrate

Rotary's Future in Your Hands

Family Fun at District Conference



ACCOMMODATIONS

PZAZZ! CONVENTION & EVENT CENTER

- Catfish Bend Casino • Indoor Water Park • Fun City Arcade • Indoor Go-Cart
- Bowling • Family or Adult-Only Hotel Rooms

HOTEL RESERVATIONS

US Highway 61 – 3001 Winegard Drive Burlington, Iowa 52601
Individual Reservations – Conference Rates Valid Through **April 2, 2010**
Conference Rates (Friday Night \$89.00, Saturday Night \$109.00)

Toll Free Direct
1-866-792-9948

Website
www.thepzazz.com

Please ask for "Rotary District 6000 Conference Rates"

CONFERENCE CHAIRS

Joyce Vance
Tel: 319-752-1554
joycev@gseiwi.org

Gwen Baker
Tel: 319-759-8140
gbakerconsult@mchsi.com

CONFERENCE REGISTRAR

Carolyn Scharff: District 6000 Administrator
P.O. Box 122, Pella, Iowa 50219
B: 1-877-976-8279 Fax: 1-614-613-3500
Email: dis6000admin@lisco.com



Celebrate "Rotary's Future in Your Hands" Conference Registration Form

Name _____

☐ Rotarian ☐ Non Rotarian

Club Name _____

Badge Name _____

Address _____

Contact Phone _____

Email _____

Guest(s) Name(s) _____

☐ Rotarian ☐ Non Rotarian

Club Name _____

Children (age 10 and under)

Name _____ Age _____

Please Indicate All that Apply

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> District Governor | <input type="checkbox"/> Club President | <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining Member |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Past District Governor | <input type="checkbox"/> Past Club President | <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> District Governor Elect | <input type="checkbox"/> Club President Elect | <input type="checkbox"/> Paul Harris Fellow |
| <input type="checkbox"/> District Governor Nominee | <input type="checkbox"/> Club Officer | <input type="checkbox"/> Major Donor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Assistant Governor | <input type="checkbox"/> Rotaractor | <input type="checkbox"/> New Member 2009-10 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Past Assistant Governor | <input type="checkbox"/> Interact | |

CONTINUE →

“Rotary’s Future in Your Hands”

R.I. District 6000 Conference
PZAZZ! Convention & Event Center
April 23 – 25, 2010



PROGRAM

FRIDAY, APRIL 23, 2010

GOLF TOURNAMENT at Spirit Hollow Golf Course, Burlington
 1:30 pm Shotgun Start, 18 Holes of Golf with Cart, 4 Person Teams

DINNER AND ENTERTAINMENT at PZAZZ! Convention Center

6:00 pm Dinner for Golfers, Guests and Friday Registrants at PZAZZ!
 8:00 pm Reception-Past District Governors with RI Rep, Larry Dimmitt
 8:00 pm All Attendees Experience Fun City

SATURDAY AM, APRIL 24, 2010

YOUTH

7:00 am Registration Opens
 8:00 am Breakfast & Opening Session
 Presentation of Flags – Rotary Youth
 Welcomes – DG Litwiller & Burlington Chamber
 RI Rep, Larry Dimmitt
 Ambassadorial Scholar – Alex Buchanan, Melbourne Australia
 10:30 am Focus on Youth
 District 6000 Youth Programs
 12:00 pm Luncheon
 Charlie Wittmack, Mt. Everest Climber

Golf Sponsorships Available

SATURDAY PM, APRIL 24, 2010

INTERNATIONAL & FOUNDATION

1:45 pm District 6000 Global Programs
 International Projects
 GSE – Inbound and Outbound
 5:00 pm Wine Tasting
 6:00 pm Celebrating 20 Years of Women in Rotary
 Dinner
 Recognition of District 6000 Women
 Mt Pleasant High School Show Choir
 8:00 pm Elvis Impersonator Performance
 9:00 pm District Fun Challenge – Go-Carts, Bowling, etc.

Sponsorship Opportunities Available for Conference

SUNDAY, APRIL 25, 2010

COMMUNITY

8:30 am Interfaith Service
 9:00 am Closing Session
 Community Based Projects
 Club Awards
 RI Rep, Larry Dimmitt
 11:00 am Brunch

Register Online at www.Rotary6000.org

Early Registration Deadline – March 26, 2010*Late Registration Fees Begin March 27, 2010***Last Date to Register April 16, 2010**

Total Conference Registration Package Includes All Meals (Individual Meals Listed Below)

	# Persons	Early Registration Fee	# Persons	Late Registration Fee	Total Persons	Total Fees
		@ \$100.00		@ \$150.00		
Total Conference						
Subtotal #1						

Friday, April 23, 2010 Golf Outing Spirit Hollow Golf Course

# Persons	Subtotal
Golf _____	\$65.00* _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Assign Me to a Team	
<input type="checkbox"/> My Team Members are:	
_____	_____
_____	_____
* Does not Include Dinner	
Subtotal # 2 _____	

Friday-Saturday-Sunday Meals Only / Additional Meals / Special Meals Children Under 6 Are Free

	# Adults	Early/Late Fee	Total	# Children Total (6 -10 yr)	Total Meal Fees
Fri. Dinner	_____	\$25.00/37.50	_____	_____ \$6.25	_____
Sat. Breakfast	_____	\$15.00/22.50	_____	_____ \$5.00	_____
Sat. Lunch	_____	\$25.00/37.50	_____	_____ \$6.25	_____
Sat. Dinner	_____	\$35.00/50.00	_____	_____ \$6.25	_____
Sun. Brunch	_____	\$25.00/37.50	_____	_____ \$8.00	_____
Subtotal # 3					_____

Special Meals

(Special Meals Included in Total Conference Registration)

Vegetarian # _____
 Other _____ # _____
 Children Under 6 Free # _____

Registration Totals

All Conference **Subtotal # 1** \$ _____
Golf **Subtotal # 2** \$ _____
Meals **Subtotal # 3** \$ _____

Total \$ _____

Payment Method

☐ VISA ☐ Master Card
 Card # _____
 Expiration Date _____
 Name on Credit Card _____

☐ Check Enclosed Payable to: District 6000 Conference
 Mail to: District 6000, P.O. Box 122, Pella, Iowa 50219