

Rotary District 6000
Iowa USA
Mike Ruby, Governor



Third Quarter
(January-February-
March 2018)

District 6000 News

**1,750
BICYCLES ...
SO FAR!**

District 6000 Rotarians
are changing 8,750
lives in Zambia
through World Bicycle
Relief. Pictured:
Muscatine Rotary
President Erika Cox.



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL
A Global Network of Community Volunteers

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Evanston, IL 60201
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Rotary



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Ian Riseley, Victoria, Australia

DISTRICT 6000 • Iowa USA

www.rotary6000.org

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District 6000 News is published four times a year, in September, December, March and June, as a supplement to monthly electronic communications. District 6000 News is mailed to District 6000 Rotarians and friends of District 6000. Archives of District 6000 News are posted in PDF format at our district website, www.rotary6000.org. We encourage Rotarians to use your copies of District 6000 News both internally and externally 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.

Rotarians are 'People of Action,' 'Connecting for Good'

Dear Rotarians and Friends of Rotary,

DGE Tom Narak, a retired school superintendent who worked as a lobbyist on behalf of school administrators and children for six years, told incoming club presidents at NCPETS that he'd rather be with Rotarians than at the state capitol. "There's more positive energy here," he said. Indeed, NCPETS, like most gatherings of Rotarians, oozed with a "can do" spirit. It is always uplifting to be surrounded by people of goodwill who want to have fun and *make a difference* in their clubs, communities, vocations and world.



Bill Tubbs

Our goal at District 6000 News is to tell the stories that let our members – and potential members – see the possibilities. In this issue, there is plenty to inspire – from our exemplary Rotary Youth Exchange, to the life-changing work of Ponseti International and RAG4Clubfoot, to our 16-year relationship with Rotarians in Xicotepec, Mexico, to the Rotary Club of Des Moines AM's partnerships with Drake University and others in Uganda, and all of the great community and youth programs of clubs and Rotarians.

We received notes from many after the last issue that affirmed our mission. "I just read your latest work – excellent in all respects!" wrote our RI Director Robb Knuepfer, of Chicago. "The newsletter looks fantastic," said DGE Narak, of West Des Moines.

"A fantastic newsletter! It graphically shows how active District 6000 Rotarians are in providing service and enjoying fellowship," wrote RI Director-Elect Larry Dimmitt of Kansas City.

Rotarian Connie Boyer of Fairfield wrote, "I LOVE getting the newsletter in hard copy. I can read at my leisure. Thank you for this change. I hope it sticks." Rotarian Gary Murphy of Washington added, "Just received the new issue today and as usual it is top notch! I want you to know how much I look forward to each edition."

And finally, from Rotarian Jim Lane of Iowa City: "Just read your great article on Bill Olin in the Rotary District 6000 newsletter. He was a great Rotarian and I appreciate you taking the time to share your thoughts about him with Rotarians."

Bill, like many Rotarians, was a "person of action" who "connected for good." It's up to us to tell their stories and *Make a Difference!*

Bill Tubbs, District Governor 2004-05
Editor, District 6000 News



Rotarian Peggy Geiger of Decatur County shares a minute with Daniel Campos from Brazil (at Marshalltown) at the winter Youth Exchange retreat at Newton. See pages 19-22.

District Governor

Reflecting on 20 years of Rotary regrets

**By DG Mike Ruby/Muscatine**

A major part of life is learning from mistakes we've made, wishing we had the opportunity to do things differently.

I have oftentimes reflected on my first 20 years of Rotary membership and have several regrets. I was just 33 years old when a good friend invited me to join the Rotary Club of Muscatine. It was a proud day when I was formally inducted in front of a large crowd, receiving my Rotary pin and a Four-Way Test plaque.

**Mike Ruby**

I had every intention to be an active Rotarian, but within a year I found my comfort zone as a spectator rather than a participant. My attendance was sporadic, I had very little interest in the committees I was assigned to, and I was content to sit on the sidelines while others played an active part on the Rotary team. For 20 years I was a bystander and oftentimes considered dropping my membership, especially when the quarterly billing statement arrived.

In 1999 I was invited to join the Rotary board. Based on my lethargic involvement, I'm fairly certain I was not their first choice. I felt somewhat obligated to accept the invitation, even knowing that it was a six-year commitment, including serving as club president the fifth year.

I soon learned a lot about Rotary from a board member's viewpoint and for the first time cautiously attended a few Rotary events outside my own club. I gradually began to see the bigger picture of Rotary. Combining a business trip to Asia, Jo Anne and I attended the Rotary International Convention in Osaka, Japan in 2004.

While sitting in an arena with 25,000 Rotarians from around the world, many in their native dress, speaking in a language we couldn't understand, and seeing the flags on stage representing the 200 countries Rotary was in, we were in awe. It was on that day in May, 2004 when I truly understood what Rotary is all about.

The rest of my story is history.

Don't make the same mistake I did by being a passive spectator in Rotary and missing numerous opportunities! If your Rotary

If your Rotary membership is a stagnant, ho-hum experience, take a long look in the Rotary mirror. Only you can change the image and it starts with a change in attitude ... you will be a happier person with a Service Above Self outlook, and you will be doing your part to carry out this year's theme of Rotary: Making A Difference.

membership is a stagnant, ho-hum experience, take a long look in the Rotary mirror. Only you can change the image and it starts with a change in attitude.

Make an effort to improve your attendance and get involved in something you can get excited about. You will have a new perspective of Rotary, be a happier person with a Service Above Self outlook, and you will be doing your part to carry out this year's theme of **Rotary: Making a Difference**.

I wish someone had asked me 38 years ago, "Mike, you are in Rotary, but is Rotary in you?" Hopefully I would have pondered that question, taken my membership more seriously, and enjoyed the benefits of Rotary 20 years sooner.

Thumbs up for newsletters!

By DG Mike Ruby/Muscatine

One of the pilot projects for this year is to provide a hard copy of our quarterly district newsletter to all 3,800 Rotarians. We hope you are enjoying your copy, learning about the various projects, innovative ideas and good works by other clubs, and getting a greater appreciation for our well respected district. Don't forget to share your copy with non-Rotarians when you are finished with it!

After two issues had been published, an online survey was distributed on Jan. 22 to get member input regarding the continuation of the pilot. The results were overwhelmingly in favor of the pilot. The district board has approved continuing the pilot for the 2018-19 Rotary year. We value your input, so sometime next year there will be another electronic survey pertaining to this pilot.

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District Conference is coming to your backyard

Rotary Toasts: **NOW** is the time to turn your intentions into action!

By DG Mike Ruby/Muscatine

The time is NOW!

For several months you've heard about the pilot project, "A Toast to Rotary District 6000," for this year's District Conference. The information has been shared on our district website (www.rotary6000.org), at the District Governor's visit, at three Grant Management Seminars, at the Training Assembly in Newton, at all three of the One Rotary Summits, in your local club bulletins, and frequently mentioned by your club president.



Mary Beth Johnson from World Bicycle Relief.

In addition, there has been substantial coverage in three issues of *District 6000 News*.

Numerous Rotarians have commented they like this new approach and have said they are more likely to attend because of the shorter time commitment, the convenient location, and lower prices.

Now is the time to turn your intentions into action! The Toasts are only three weeks away (April 12-14). The venue and programming are finalized: all we are lacking is you!

Make plans now to attend a Toast of your choice and be on the front lines to experience this first-ever pilot of a totally new concept of a District Conference.



RI President's Rep Lisa Herring of District 5840 in Texas and her husband, Alan.

Adjacent to this page (on page 5) is the registration form. This is a wonderful opportunity to team up with other members from your club, your spouse, partner, friend, or co-worker. You will get a bigger picture of Rotary, meet members from other clubs, share ideas to make your club more vibrant, and hear good speakers.

Can we count on you to help make the Toast a homerun success?



A Toast to Rotary District 6000

| Davenport Steeplegate Inn | Coralville Coralville Radisson | Ottumwa Bridge View Center | Carroll Santa Maria Winery | West Des Moines West Des Moines Marriott |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| Speakers: Lisa Herring Rotary International Representative Mary Beth Johnson World Bicycle Relief Representative Allie Stutting 2018 RYLA Female Lead Counselor Xicotepec participant Jeff Ashcraft Inspiration Playground Build Rotary Club of North Scott J D Wall Miracle Ball Field Iowa & Illinois Quad Cities Rotary Clubs | Speakers: Lisa Herring Rotary International Representative Mary Beth Johnson World Bicycle Relief Representative Young Rotarian - TBD Featured Club - TBD | Speakers: Lisa Herring Rotary International Representative Mary Beth Johnson World Bicycle Relief Representative Rotary Youth Exchange Flag Ceremony Featured Club - TBD | Speakers: Lisa Herring Rotary International Representative Mary Beth Johnson World Bicycle Relief Representative Haley Hall Greene County Interact President RYLA Alum Adam Pedersen Charity Gala Auction Rotary Club of Jefferson Winery Tour Optional opportunity following Toast programming | Speakers: Lisa Herring Rotary International Representative Mary Beth Johnson World Bicycle Relief Representative Matt Busick Rotary Youth Exchange Experience Rotary Club of Des Moines Kyler Johnson 2018 RYLA Counselor Waukee High School Tamara Kenworthy Des Moines Area Clubs Mental Health Project Rotary Club of Des Moines AM |
| <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> Additional programming details for Coralville & Ottumwa not available at press time. </div> | | | | |

All locations will have the following:

- ★ Social Hour - Cash bar
- ★ Door Prizes
- ★ 2019 District Conference information
- ★ District 6000 Update
- ★ Awards and Recognitions
- ★ Fellowship
- ★ Interact Student Breakout Session
- ★ Memorial Time
- ★ Club Displays



A TOAST to Rotary District 6000

You may register for one or more of these events for \$49 per person per location (\$55 after March 31); \$24.50 per youth. Each event includes social hour, meal, speakers, door prizes, fun, fellowship, networking, etc. Business casual attire. **Special note:** No charge (but registration required) for Interact School Advisers when accompanied by student registration(s). Please mark which one(s) you will attend:

- ☐ Thursday, April 12, 2018 – 5:30-9:00 p.m.; Best Western Steeplegate Inn, **Davenport**
- ☐ Friday, April 13, 2018 – 11:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.; Radisson Conference Center, **Coralville**
- ☐ Friday, April 13, 2018 – 5:30-9:00 p.m.; Bridge View Center, **Ottumwa**
- ☐ Saturday, April 14, 2018 – 11:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.; Santa Maria Winery, **Carroll**
- ☒ Saturday, April 14, 2018 – 5:30-9:00 p.m.; Marriott, **West Des Moines**

List any special dietary needs on the back of this form

| Please Print | |
|-------------------------|-------|
| Name _____ | _____ |
| First | Last |
| Spouse/Guest Name _____ | |
| First | Last |
| Daytime Phone _____ | |
| Email _____ | |
| Rotary Club of _____ | |

☐ Payment by check # _____ (preferred) made to District 6000 ☐ Payment by credit card

Total payment amount \$ _____ Online registration available at www.rotary6000.org

Card number _____

CVV # _____ Exp. Date (mm/yy) _____ Card billing zip code _____

Card holder signature _____

Completed form and payment should be sent to:

District 6000
PO Box 122
Pella IA 50219

Bicycle Relief reaches milestone

Clubs respond to match incentive; 1,750 bicycles and counting

By DG Mike Ruby/Muscatine

On Friday, Feb. 16, District 6000 Rotarians reached a major milestone with our partnership with World Bicycle Relief, surpassing the 1000-bike donation mark.

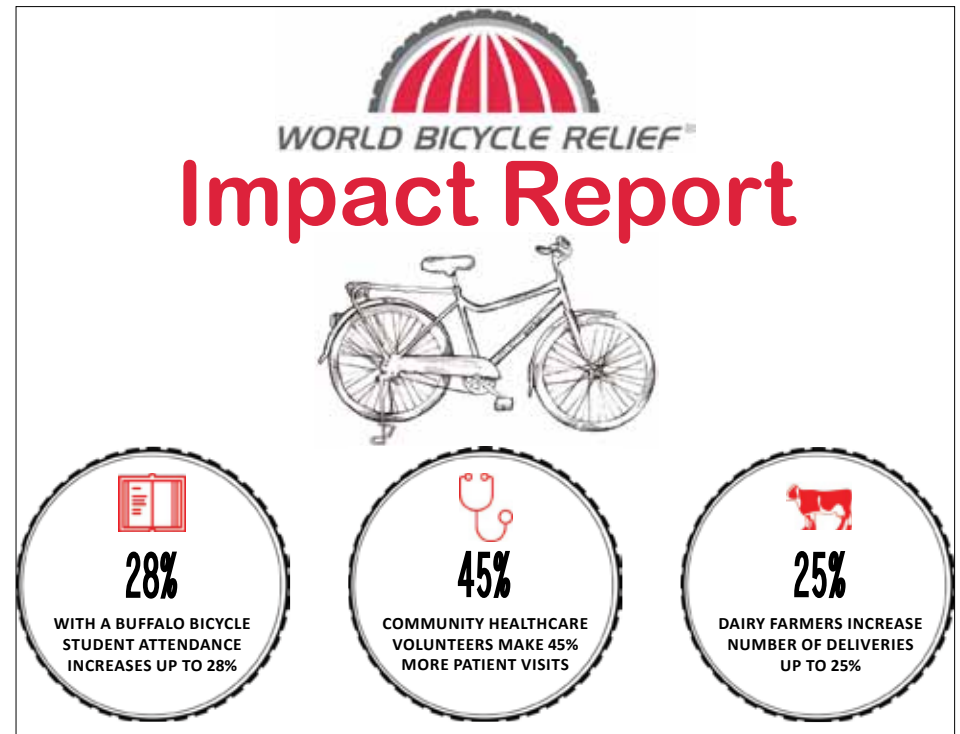
About 70 percent of these donations qualified for a 1:1 match by WBR, so that means we have provided approximately 1,750 bikes to deserving students, farmers and health care workers in Zambia, Africa. Each bike changes the economic family tree for an average of five persons, so about 8,750 citizens will benefit from your generosity.

The project continues until June 30, the end of this Rotary year. One of the highlights at all five locations of our April 12-14 Toast to Rotary District 6000 will be a featured speaker from World Bicycle Relief, Mary Beth Johnson. This will be a great opportunity to learn more about this project.

May is National Bicycle Month, so look for special fundraising incentives that WBR may be offering.

Several ways to participate

Personal check: (tax deductible gift) make payable to World Bicycle Relief. Give check to club treasurer to be bundled with others and sent to World Bicycle Relief (1000 W. Fulton Market, 4th Floor, Chicago,



IL 60607). Be sure it clearly states the check is from Rotary District 6000.

Give Online: <http://rotary.worldbicyclerelief.org/rotary-district-6000>

Remember: This is a great way for Interact students, scouts, church youth, and other community groups to support a global project. Have these groups submit their

donations to the local Rotary club who will forward them to World Bicycle Relief.

This is a great opportunity for District 6000 Rotarians to implement this year's theme of *Rotary: Making a Difference*.

We can make a life-changing difference for well-deserving students, farmers, and health care workers in Zambia, Africa.



Clubs climb aboard bicycle challenge ...

Rotarians across District 6000 have embraced the Bicycle Project. At left, Matt Lafrenz and Fort Madison Rotarians were active supporters. Above, Ottumwa Rotarians (l-r): AG Lora Ashby, president Bonnie Campbell, DG Mike Ruby, Alesia Van Velsor, and Rotarian Darrell Limkeman.

Photo at left by Alka Khonalkar; above by Ottumwa Rotary

Timely responses promised for Community Grants

By Norlan Hinke/Clinton

District 6000 Community Grants Chair

Norlan Hinke, chairperson of the District 6000 Community Grant Committee, and Kris Ockenfels, District 6000 Community Grant Committee coordinator, presented training sessions Saturday, Feb. 17 at the West Liberty Grant Training Seminar, and Saturday, Feb. 24 at the West Des Moines Grant Training Seminar.

Deadline for grants is June 1

The deadline for clubs to apply for Rotary Foundation Community Grants for the 2018-19 Rotary year is June 1. The application form can be found at www.rotary6000.org.

Hinke's and Ockenfels' emphasis was on the fact they intend to provide each club with timely, effective responses to grant applications, grant final reports or basic questions. They emphasized they intend to make the grant and final report process efficient and as easy as possible for Rotary clubs.

Ockenfels reviewed the grant application process in detail with particular emphasis on local rules, point system, use of sweat equity and the project budget.

The deadline is June 1 for Rotary Foundation Community Grant applications for the 2018-19 Rotary

year. The application form can be found at www.rotary6000.org.

Hinke reviewed the final report, likewise in detail, with discussion concerning documentation applicable to the grant check deposited to the individual Rotary club account, contributions of third parties, if applicable, documented and to assure the income and expense budget balanced. He also discussed documenting expenses with copies of the paid invoices, copies of checks or credit card payments or the club account bank statement validating payment in full to the various vendors, and to be sure the full amount of the grant was invested in the project.

Rotarians in attendance shared individual club projects for shared discussion and to generate ideas for the clubs in attendance.



Nolan Hinke of Clinton and Kris Ockenfels of Iowa City AM will provide new leadership to the Community Grants Committee, emphasizing timely communication.

Photo by Bill Tubbs

There were 35-40 Rotary club members in attendance at each session.

Hinke and Ockenfels suggested Rotary clubs with past grant final reports still outstanding, review the information presented at the session and then submit the final report to complete their projects.

They also asked any Rotarian or Rotary club to be sure to contact them with any questions or suggestions related to the Community grant application, final report or grant program: Norlan, at norlan.hinke@clintonnational.net, or (563) 219-5020; and Kris, at origcavy@hotmail.com, or (319) 541-3540.

Another Grant Management Seminar will be held Friday evening March 23 at Newton starting at 5:00 p.m.

Have a 'Service Above Selfie' contest in your club

And submit your winning entry for publication in District 6000 News

By Peggy Geiger/Decatur County

District 6000 Public Image Chair

Encourage your club members to have that camera ready at events, activities, fundraising for a project, or simply a Rotarian helping a Rotarian.

Consider having a club contest with possible categories such as community event, youth activity, members in action, or make your own category.

Always include the Rotary brand in all photos. Submit your

club's winning photo to the next District Newsletter and identify it as a 'SERVICE ABOVE SELFIE' with a description of the photo!

This is to encourage public image awareness and have fun doing it. Always include the Rotary brand somewhere in the photo. In the February issue of The Rotarian it states, "Rotarians have turned their cameras on the world to tell Rotary's many stories." The contest has lasted for 90 years. So let's continue to tell our Rotary story through pictures here in District 6000. We are "People of Action."



Leader training and visioning

District Assembly

Club Leaders' Training March 24 at Newton



Tom Narak
Governor-Elect

DGE Tom Narak asks Rotarians to mark your calendars to attend the District Training Assembly on Saturday, March 24 at the Newton DMACC campus.

This training is especially for incoming club officers and board members, but every Rotarian is welcome and there is no cost to attend.

Registration is at the district website, www.rotary6000.org.

The itinerary:

| | |
|-------------|---|
| 8:30-8:55 | Check in: Coffee, Juice, Rolls |
| 8:55-9:15 | Welcome and Introductions |
| | District Trainer Ron Heideman, Indianola |
| | District Governor Mike Ruby, Muscatine (Toast to Rotary) |
| | District Governor-Elect Tom Narak, West Des Moines |
| | District Governor Nominee Erna Morain, Waukee |
| | District Governor Nominee-Designee Steve Dakin, Boone |
| | District Administrator Carolyn Scharff, Pella |
| 9:15-9:30 | Membership |
| | District Membership Chair 2018-19 Chris Nelson, West Des Moines |
| 9:30-9:40 | PolioPlus |
| | PDG Susan Herrick, District PolioPlus Chair, Boone |
| 9:40-9:55 | Rotary Youth Exchange |
| | District Youth Exchange Chair Doug Peterson, Iowa Quad Cities |
| 9:55-10:10 | RAG4Clubfoot |
| | PDG John Ockenfels, Iowa City AM |
| 10:10-10:25 | Break |
| 10:25-10:40 | The Rotary Foundation |
| | PDG Chris Knapp, Iowa City AM |
| 10:40-11:00 | Theme, Goals, Fun Opportunities |
| | DGE Tom Narak, West Des Moines |
| 11:05-11:35 | Roundtable Breakout Sessions (Round 1) |
| | Membership: Chris Nelson |
| | Rotary Foundation: PDG Chris Knapp |
| | Innovation and Flexibility: Ron Heideman |
| | Secretaries and Treasurers: Carolyn Scharff and Doug Hillman, West Des Moines |
| | Rotary Youth Exchange: Doug Peterson |
| | Public Image/District Newsletter: PDG Bill Tubbs, North Scott |
| 11:40-12:10 | Roundtable Breakout Sessions (Round 2) |
| | Membership: Chris Nelson |
| | Rotary Foundation: PDG Chris Knapp |
| | Innovation and Flexibility: Ron Heideman |
| | Rotary Youth Exchange: Doug Peterson |
| | District Newsletter: PDG Bill Tubbs, North Scott |
| 12:15-12:30 | Begin Lunch and Table Sharing |
| | continue lunch with District 6000 program speakers |
| 12:30-12:45 | Xicotepec Project: Jim Peterson, Iowa City AM |
| 12:45-1:00 | RYLA, Mark McAndrews, Northwest Des Moines |
| 1:00-1:25 | Celebrate What Is Right With the World |
| | DGE Tom Narak |
| 1:25-1:30 | Wrap-Up, Adjourn |

West Des Moines

Foundation trustee to lead Vision 2020

By Wayne Steen/West Liberty

District 6000 Membership Development Chair 2017-18



**Mary Beth
Growney-
Selene**

The second annual Vision 2020 event will be held Wednesday evening, May 2 at the Shive Hattery Office in West Des Moines.

This year's special guest will be former RI Director Mary Beth Growney-Selene. This event will focus on all areas of membership issues.

Last year's event in West Des Moines received rave reviews and this year's event will be even better. We encourage all Rotary club presidents for 2018-19 and 2019-20 to attend. We also encourage club membership chairs to attend this outstanding event.

Please mark your calendars to attend this information packed event to learn how to increase your club's membership and increase the fun of your club's activities. Please register at www.rotary6000.org.

* * *

Mary Beth is the founder and President of Ryan Signs, Inc., in Madison. Mary Beth is a supporter of the What If? Foundation, which works to feed and educate children in Haiti.

Mary Beth Growney Selene has been a member of the Rotary Club of Madison West Towne-Middleton, WI, USA since 1987 and she served her club as President in 1993-1994. She has been a host parent to four Rotary Youth Exchange students.

In her District 6250 she served as Governor in 2000-2001; District Membership Chair and District Rotary Foundation Chair.

Mary Beth served as a Training Leader at the International Assembly in San Diego and was the District 6250 Representative to the Council on Legislation in 2004, 2007 and 2010.

She served as the General Chair for a 2005 Zone Institute, a Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator, Public Image Resource Coordinator, and Rotary Coordinator. Mary Beth is serving as a Rotary Foundation Trustee in 2016-2019, and served as Rotary International Director in 2013-2015. She is currently serving on the Finance, Program and Stewardship Committees of The Rotary Foundation, RI-USAID Partnership Committee and the PolioPlus Advocacy Committee. She is also a member of the Water & Sanitation Rotarian Action Group (WASRAG) Operations Team.

She has received Rotary International's Service Above Self Award and The Rotary Foundation's Citation for Meritorious Service.

Mary Beth and her husband Alan, who is a past district governor of District 5970 in northern Iowa, are Major Donors and Bequest Society members to The Rotary Foundation's Endowment Fund and they are both Sustaining members to the Annual Fund.

Now's the time to recruit students for RYLA

By Mark McAndrews/Northwest Des Moines

District 6000 RYLA Chair

A big thank you to the clubs of District 6000 for sponsoring students to Rotary Youth Leadership Awards 2018 (RYLA). Your consistent support for RYLA over the years demonstrates your commitment to the development and betterment of the youth of our district.

Applications are online now at IowaRYLA.org. Deadline for students to apply is April 30th. Clubs will have until May 15th to make the final selections of students they wish to sponsor.

Recruiting students is the next task for most clubs to complete. Many clubs have found the students who have recently completed RYLA are the best source of finding great students to attend this year. Ask them for their help. They know your target audience and know RYLA. If you have an Interact club at your school, that is a natural place to recruit, as they have already shown an interest in Rotary and service.

Guidance counselors are a natural point of contact with your schools. Many clubs have contacts in the schools that can be used to get a foot in the door and find the best students to send to RYLA.

RYLA begins on the afternoon of July 15th and concludes at noon on July 20th at Grinnell College. One scheduling issue to be aware of is the Iowa High School Baseball playoffs will be happening the week of RYLA. If one of your candidates is on a team that may qualify, you should consider recruiting an alternate who can attend if a student becomes unavailable. The RYLA experience is one that builds through the week which is why we require students to be present for the entire week.

Once your club selects students to attend, invite them with their parents to a club meeting. This will both emphasize to them the importance of this award and get them more familiar with your club. The familiarity will make it easier to return after RYLA and make a presentation to the club. This gives you a chance to invite them into your service projects and engage these future leaders.

We also need Rotarian volunteers for RYLA to be successful. This is the best job at RYLA. The main qualifications are having life experience and a desire to see young people succeed. If you would like to discuss this opportunity, either individually or through a presentation to your club, contact Mark McAndrews at (515) 371-0863 or markmcandrews@msn.com.



RYLA is a life-changing experience for students. Applications are online now at IowaRYLA.org. Deadline for students to apply is April 30th, and clubs have until May 15th to make final selections of students they wish to sponsor.



The sign says it all!

District 6000 Assistant Governor team for 2018-19



Assistant District Governors for 2018-19 who attended training March 8 at Rochester were, front (l-r): Lora Ashby (Centerville), Greg Kenyon (West Des Moines), team leader PDG Susan Herrick (Boone), DGE Tom Narak, DGN Erna Morain (Waukee), Dolly Bergmann (Atlantic) and Michelle Cassabaum (Nevada). Back: Brad Vollstedt (Manning), Bob Maurer (Pella), Chris Bertelson (Winterset), Bridget Davis (Decatur County); Bob Freeman (Wellman), Libby Goodman (Clinton), Corinne Lambert (East Polk), Dennis Drager (Marshalltown), and Gary Loss (Davenport). Not present was Alka Khanolkar (Keokuk) and not pictured was Peggy Doerge (Iowa City AM).

Photo by Jacque Andrew



RI Director Robb Knuepfer from Hinsdale, Ill., urged PEs to plan, delegate and have fun!



Rotary scholar and Korean native Wooj Byun from Minneapolis wants PEs to "have the best year of your life."



Rotary Foundation Trustees vice chair Brenda Cressy from Paso Robles, Calif. (second from left) was welcomed by PDG Jacque Andrew, DGE Tom Narak and DGN Erna Morain.

Photos by Bill Tubbs



'Be the Inspiration': Record 340 attended President-Elect Training Seminar



Past RI President and keynote speaker Rick King from Fremont, Calif., was hosted by DGND Steve Dakin of Boone.



2018-19 district trainer Ron Heide from Indianola and membership chair Chris Nelson of West Des Moines.



2018-19 district public image chair Liz Cox from Des Moines AM and administrator Carolyn Scharff from Pella.



During Friday's District 6000 training session, Mark Ruggeberg of Iowa City Downtown (c), was recognized as the district's newest Paul Harris Society member for a commitment of \$1,000 a year to The Rotary Foundation, by PDGs Corliss Klaassen of Chariton (l), and Chris Knapp of Iowa City AM (r).

Photo by Jacque Andrew



The leadership team for NCPETS (l-r): PDGs Tim Murphy (Lakeville, Minn., treasurer), Jill Olsen (Mt. Vernon, Ia., vice chair), Gary Campbell (Champlin, Minn., chair), Jacque Andrew (Jefferson, Ia., past chair), Ken Crabb (Woodbury, Minn., treasurer).



Presidents-elect for 2018-19 from 47 of District 6000's 65 clubs attended the four-district NCPETS at Rochester, Minn. Do you see your club's incoming president? Overall attendance from Districts 6000 and 5970 in Iowa, and Districts 5950 and 5960 in Minnesota and Wisconsin, was a record 340. Mark your calendars for next year's NCPETS, which will be at Iowa State University in Ames, March 14-16, 2019. The AG team for 2018-19 is pictured on page 9.

Photo by Bill Tubbs

Sixty-five presidents to lead District 6000 clubs in 2018-19

DISTRICT 6000 2018-19 Club Presidents:

Adel Doug Pfeiffer
 Albia Wes Aeschliman
 Ames Brian Dieter
 Ames Morning Scott Sankey
 Ankeny Benjamin Digmann
 Atlantic Ted Robinson
 Bettendorf Bill Daley
 Bloomfield Karoleen Hammel
 Boone Lisa Mount
 Burlington Leah Galvin
 Carroll Nicholas Greteman
 Centerville Neil MacArthur
 Chariton Joe Gaa
 Clinton Jennifer Graf
 Coon Rapids Jon Heydon
 Coralville-N. Corridor John Calacci
 Corning Guy Brace
 Corydon Denice Gradeless
 Creston Steve Crittenden
 Dallas Center Robert King
 Davenport Annette Horvath

Decatur County Shannon Erb
 Des Moines Shawn Mullen
 Des Moines AM Joe Stopulos
 East Polk County Michael Hartwig
 Fairfield Joshua Laraby
 Fort Madison Sara "Jan" Garza
 Greater Des Moines Tyler Phelps
 Grinnell Julie Beach
 Indianola Todd Kielkopf
 Iowa City Steven Quigley
 Iowa City AM Richard Huber
 Iowa City Downtown Mark Ruggeberg
 Iowa Quad Cities Emily Shenk-DeMay
 Jefferson Carol Durbin
 Johnston Geno Nelsen
 Kalona Pat Anderson
 Keokuk Joyce Taylor
 Keosauqua Sam Polonsky
 Knoxville Larry Formanek
 Lenox Doug Junker
 Manning Deborah Ranniger
 Marengo Susan Davis

Marshalltown Matt Garber
 Mount Pleasant Noon Rich Mueller
 Mount Pleasant Mersihda Dyer
 Muscatine Shane Orr
 Nevada Sara Clausen
 Newton Jessica Petersen
 North Scott Jeffrey Ashcraft
 Northwest Des Moines Penny Luthens
 Norwalk A.J. Samuelson
 Osceola Thomas Andersen
 Oskaloosa James Feudner
 Ottumwa Marc Roe
 Pella Scott Visser
 Perry David Finneseth
 Tipton Lynne Pinegar
 Washington Lynn Koch
 Waukee Drew Strube
 Wellman Carol Miller
 West Des Moines Bill Fry
 West Liberty Tomeka Petersen
 West Polk Jason Kerndt
 Winterset Dan Nielsen

Eighteen club presidents for 2019-20 attended NCPETS!



Photo by Jacque Andrew

Hats off to 18 presidents-nominee (2019-20) who attended NCPETS! Front (l-r): Jessica Wittman (Muscatine), Rod Rosburg (Grinnell), Karen Wilker (Chariton), Gretchen Nollman (West Liberty), John Loin (Fairfield), Jeremy Kaiser (North Scott), DG 2019-20 Erna Morain (Waukee). Back: Barb Ranck (Norwalk), Benjain Loeb (Davenport), Hazel Seaba (Iowa City AM), Jeanne Vogel (Decatur County), Amber Hoffman (Centerville), Carolyn Jons (Ames Morning), Jean Kresse (Ames), Connie Smith (Tipton), Jim Johnson (Kalona), Vicki Greco (Boone), Eric Christensen (Oskaloosa) and Carol Foster (Bettendorf).



RAG4CLUBFOOT

Ponseti presented at Global Health Conference

By PDG Jacque Andrew/Jefferson

RAG4Clubfoot

The Rotarian Action Group 4 Clubfoot (RAG4Clubfoot) was invited to present a breakout session at the Global Health Conference Midwest 2018 sponsored by Creighton University in Omaha, Neb., Feb. 3.

Following the theme of the conference, "Imagining Partnerships: A Step Towards Global Health Equity," a team of three RAG4Clubfoot board members, Patty Roberts (Iowa City) and PDG Jacque Andrew (Jefferson) and R4C co-chair PDG Jill Olsen (5970), detailed the many ways the action group partners with Rotary clubs, Rotary International and Ponseti International to provide Ponseti Method treatment globally. PDG John Ockenfels (Iowa City AM), R4Clubfoot co-chair also attended.

More than 300 medical students, masters and doctoral candidates and other health professionals attended the annual event which is organized by student leaders. The endowed keynote speaker was Dr. Geetha Jayaram, senior faculty member of the Johns Hopkins Hospital department of psychiatry, who was the recipient of the esteemed Rotary Alumni Global Service Award in 2014-15.

As a Rotary alumni, she was a Rotaractor as an undergraduate and recipient of a Rotary grant for university teachers in 2005. Honored for her work in psychiatry, she developed an innovative global mental health program in southern India which has served patients for two decades in 206 villages with a population reach of over several million households.

Other keynotes included Steve James, CRNA, founder of the Kenya Relief organization who annually organizes 20 medical and surgical missions to care for orphans and children in Migori, Kenya, and Dr. Jean Gardy Marius, a native Haitian who has developed an innovative concept of global health and implementation in developing countries.

Students in various disciplines, including medicine, nursing, physical and occupational therapy, presented findings through a research symposium, and more than a dozen breakout sessions and panel discussions completed the agenda.

The RAG4Clubfoot session description follows:

"Every child born with clubfoot deformity deserves to walk and run! This disability occurs in one in 750 live births resulting in 200,000 children annually worldwide needing treatment. To this end the global Rotarian Action Group (RAG4Clubfoot) is dedicated to ensuring these children receive the University of Iowa's low-cost, non-surgical Ponseti treatment of casting and bracing, proven to end the clubfoot disability."

"The Ponseti method can be used all over the world! The RAG4Clubfoot serves as the voice and the point of contact for all projects related to the provision of the Ponseti Method, the work of Iowa's Dr. Ignacio Ponseti. To provide adequate access to this treatment modality, 4,000 physicians world-wide need to be trained with hands-on mentoring."

"This international RAG4Clubfoot collaborates with the Univer-

CLUBFOOT/continued on next page



Iowans promoting the Ponseti Method of clubfoot repair at the Global Health Conference Midwest at Creighton University in Omaha were (l-r): Patty Roberts of Iowa City, PDG John Ockenfels, PDG Jacque Andrew and PDG Jill Olsen.



Dr. Geetha Jayaram (l), the 2014-15 Rotary Alumni Global Service Award winner, was the keynote speaker at the Global Health Conference Midwest at Creighton University. She is pictured with PDG Jacque Andrew, RAG4Clubfoot board member and member of the breakout session team. Dr. Jayaram is a charter member of the Rotary Club of Howard West in Maryland.

'Every child born with clubfoot deserves a chance to run!'

CLUBFOOT/continued

sity of Iowa Ponseti clinic team, Ponseti International Association, and Clubfoot Solutions, manufacturer/distributor of low-cost braces, to encourage Rotary clubs, businesses and not-for-profits to support training of healthcare professionals in the Ponseti Method through centers and clinics, the provision of braces, education for families and public awareness that clubfoot is treatable.

"Building the organization from inception in 2014 required

preparation, planning and local/regional/international networking. Integral to every successful plan is the careful groundwork, legal considerations and understanding of the meshing of various agency, corporate and country cultures, and appreciation for the goals of each entity. This presentation will highlight the benefits, challenges and results of partnerships and the ongoing Rotarian global training grants to train physicians in Nigeria, Brazil, Mexico and South Africa."

Rotarians and Rotary clubs can support RAG4Clubfoot

The RAG4Clubfoot Campaign: "IOWA'S GIFT TO THE WORLD"

To Advance The Ponseti Method of Clubfoot Treatment



With your help, we can bring the Ponseti Method to thousands of children.

The Ponseti Method is a low-cost, non-surgical, highly effective treatment developed right here in Iowa.

The RAG4Clubfoot campaign, "Iowa's Gift to the World", furthers the work of Iowa's Dr. Ignacio Ponseti in treating children of the world.

Need

To provide adequate access, 4,000 physicians worldwide need to be trained in the Ponseti Method.

Take Action

Iowa Rotarians and Rotary Clubs have a unique opportunity to raise funds to facilitate training in the Ponseti Method.

Campaign Goal

- To raise \$125,000 by July 2018.
- Matched dollar to dollar by a generous Iowa Rotarian.

What You Can Do

- Rotary Clubs and members can make a gift of any size.
- Partner with other Rotary Clubs to train a physician.
- Join RAG4Clubfoot www.rag4clubfoot.org
- Tell our story.

www.IowaGifttotheWorld.org

IOWA'S GIFT TO THE WORLD

Your Dollars Could Support:

- \$30 provides a foot model for casting practice and a DVD with electronic educational resources.
- \$50 provides Dr. Ponseti's clubfoot resource book for physician education.
- \$900 provides a case of clubfoot braces (\$25/brace).
- \$5,000 funds Ponseti Method training for a physician in a low resource country.

Rotary Clubs can partner to sponsor a physician's training.

\$25 or more includes an annual RAG4Clubfoot membership.

Payment Methods (please complete information below and send with payment)

- Cash/Check (payable to **Iowa's Gift to the World**)
- For credit card, visit: www.IowaGifttotheWorld.org

____ Please send an invoice

Printed Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Rotary Club: _____

Rotary District: _____

Mail to:

Iowa's Gift to the World,

c/o Phil Peterson, Treasurer RAG4Clubfoot

330 Butternut Lane

Iowa City, IA 52246

Iowa's Gift to the World is a 501(c)(3) non-profit under Humanitarian Educational Foundation (HEF) D6000. All donations are tax-deductible.



Project Team of 49 off to Xicotepec!

By Jim Peterson/Iowa City AM

Xicotepec Project Team Leader

The 2018 Xicotepec Project Team has been chosen and is preparing for a week of work and fellowship alongside Rotarians, Inner Wheelers, Rotaractors, Interactors, schoolchildren, parents, teachers, doctors, dentists, governmental leaders and many other citizens of Xicotepec.

The team departed early in the morning of Saturday, March 10, arriving in Xicotepec that evening after a long day of travel by air and charter buses. Team members were scheduled to depart from Mexico City on Sunday, March 18, having spent Saturday afternoon and evening there, arriving home late on Sunday.

This year's project team comprises 49 members: Rotarians, Interactors, University of Iowa Service-learning faculty and students, and their family members.

Ages of this year's project team members range from 15 to 74. Of the 49 team members, 35 are women and 14 are men; 15 have participated previously, and for 34 it will be their first time serving on a Xicotepec Project spring break team. Including the 2018 project team, 978 project team participants will have gone to Xicotepec since the first project team went in 2003.

As usual, participants' Spanish skills range from that of native speakers to having little or no Spanish. Also as usual, language is not expected to present difficulties, since both English and Spanish speakers of various abilities are found in Xicotepec as well as on the Iowa project team. As the week in Xicotepec goes on, both Mexicans and Gringos will be improving second-language skills as they work alongside each other and enjoy the company of one another.

XICOTEPEC/continued on next page

2018 Xicotepec Project Team

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Zoe-Ella Anderson | Interactor, WDM ValleyHS |
| Hannah Gim | Interactor, WDM Valley HS |
| Riley Hubbard | Sponsored by Rotary Club of Clinton |
| Bihotza James-Lejarcegui | Interactor, Iowa City City HS |
| Isabelle Kalinkin | Sponsored by RC of W Des Moines |
| David Keffala-Gerhard | Interactor, Iowa City City HS |
| Emmeline Kraus | Interactor, Iowa City City HS |
| Ava Otoadese | Interactor, Iowa City City HS |
| Jameson Reineke | Interactor, Iowa City City HS |
| Zadie Smith | Rotary Family, Davenport Central HS |
| Eric Thomas | Interactor, Iowa City City HS |
| Haley Wojciechowski | Interactor, Iowa City Liberty HS |
| Carole Custer | Rotarian, Rotary Club of Ames |
| Deborah Galbraith | Rotarian, Rotary Club of Iowa City AM |
| Keith Hobson | Rotarian, Rotary Club of Nevada |
| Alka Khanolkar | Rotarian, Rotary Club of Keokuk |
| Robert Main | Rotarian, Rotary Club of Newton |
| Thomas Mott | Rotarian, Rotary Club of Newton |
| Thomas Narak | Rotarian, Rotary Club of West Des Moines |
| Beth Peterson | Rotary Family, Rotary Club of Iowa City AM |
| Jim Peterson | Rotarian, Rotary Club of Iowa City AM |
| Philip Peterson | Rotarian, Rotary Club of Iowa City AM |
| Ana Rodriguez | Rotarian, Rotary Club of Greater Des Moines |
| Mario Rodriguez | Rotary Family, Rotary Club of Greater DM |
| Nancy Stroborg | ex-Rotarian, Rotary Club of Jefferson |
| Richard Barajas | U of I Service-learning faculty, Pharmacy |
| William Doucette | U of I Service-learning faculty, Pharmacy |
| Brandi Janssen | U of I Service-learning faculty, Public Health |
| Daisy Patino | U of I Service-learning faculty, Dentistry |
| Natalia Restrepo-Kennedy | U of I Service-learning faculty, Dentistry |
| Isabella Brauhn | U of I Service-learning student, Public Health |
| Cindy Chavez | U of I Service-learning student, Public Health |
| Guadalupe Chavez | U of I Service-learning student, Pharmacy |
| Erich Eichwald | U of I Service-learning student, Dentistry |
| Zhiting (Jack) Feng | U of I Service-learning student, Public Health |
| Lauren Halloran | U of I Service-learning student, Dentistry |
| Megan Helms | U of I Service-learning student, Engineering |
| Sherlie Llorens | U of I Service-learning student, Pharmacy |
| Mackenzie Meade | U of I Service-learning student, Pharmacy |
| Nichole Nidey | U of I Service-learning student, Public Health |
| Michael Parisi-Mercado | U of I Service-learning student, Public Health |
| Ruju Patel | U of I Service-learning student, Pharmacy |
| Rutu Patel | U of I Service-learning student, Pharmacy |
| Addison Schmitz | U of I Service-learning student, pre-Dentistry |
| Rebecca Schneider | U of I Service-learning student, Dentistry |
| Alyssa Spilski | U of I Service-learning student, Dentistry |
| Kenni Sterns | U of I Service-learning student, Public Health |
| Kate VanFosson | U of I Service-learning student, Dentistry |
| Flora Yen | U of I Service-learning student, Dentistry |



On a visit to the Casa Hogar Victoria orphanage in October, DGE Tom and Carol Narak and Teté Gonzalez (wife of Xicotepec Rotary Club president Millo Fosado) speak with director Elizabeth Salazar (at right) and Karina Aguilar (at left), for whom the Naraks have paid her expenses to attend beauty school. Relationship building is an important component of the Xicotepec project, as well as service.

Xicotepec: 978 project team participants have gone since 2003

XICOTEPEC/continued

Water projects

D6000's crack Water Team, led by Rotarians Bob Main and Tom Mott of Newton and Keith Hobson of Nevada, will once again be installing, maintaining and testing clean water systems (mostly in schools), as well as working with the municipal water utility to help provide cleaner water and better service to Xicotepec ratepayers. They will also be renewing friendships in the local coffee shop which they are known to frequent, where they enjoy the excellent local coffee, served with pan dulce.

Schools, library, Red Cross, de-worming

D6000 youth and Rotarians will be working on projects to benefit various schools, a public library, and the Red Cross, as well as assisting U of I service-learning students with ongoing projects for de-worming school children and promoting good dental hygiene to children and their parents through programs in schools.

These two projects address needs that were identified by community members such as health care professionals and school administrators, and they have benefited thousands of preschool and elementary school children and their parents since the de-worming project began eleven years ago in 2007 and the dental health project began a few years later, in 2011.

Public Health

The U of I College of Public Health is participating for the first time in 2018 and will be working with the students and staff at the Universidad Tecnológica de Xicotepec de Juárez and various local officials to investigate issues related to food and food security, and to identifying needs that future Public Health teams will be able to address.

As Iowans prepare for a trip to Mexico, Rotarians in Xicotepec are arranging for a full week's worth of transportation, food and lodging for their 49 guests, as well as addressing a myriad of details involved in notifying schools, obtaining parental permissions and arranging appointments to meet with government officials, university administrators and community leaders.

By the end of their week in Xicotepec, many visiting Iowans will recognize the extraordinary contribution made by the Rotary Club of Xicotepec, Inner Wheel, Rotaract, Interact, their family members and many other citizens of Xicotepec to the success of The Xicotepec Project. The long-term success of The Xicotepec Project, the beginnings of which go back to 2001, belongs as much to the Rotary Club of Xicotepec as it does to those from our district who have gone in every year since the initial visit of the D6000 "Discovery Grant Team" in 2002.

For more information on any aspect of the project or to make a tax-deductible contribution, please see the xicoproject.org webpage. Information can also be found on Xicotepec Project Facebook page and/or by emailing info@xicoproject.org.

Wear your Rotary pin with pride!

Still time to catch up!

Membership, Foundation giving lag from 2016-17

By DG Corliss Klaassen/Chariton

Zone 28 Assistant Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator

How do our contributions to The Rotary Foundation compare to last year?

In business as well as in service organizations, we like to compare where we are today with last year at the same period of time. As an assistant to our Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator (RRFC) Newell Krogmann, I have the ability to see a number of reports that are made available to our committee.



**Corliss
Klaassen**

Membership

We started the Rotary year on July 1, 2017 with 3,793 members. As of Feb. 1 we had 3,755, so that means we are down 38 members. Membership affects total giving to The Rotary Foundation. The more members we have no doubt will mean there will be more money contributed to the foundation

Annual Fund

Last year at this time (Jan. 31) the amount given to the Annual Fund was \$251,808, and this year we were at \$238,603, which is down 5.2 percent.

Annual Fund Per Capita

Last year at this time our average contribution was \$65.35 per member and this year it is \$62.91 – down a little but not a lot. Last year our giving for the entire year ended up at an average of \$124.47 per member. I'm sure we can reach that level again this year, and hopefully we will exceed that figure by June 30!

Sustaining Member Donors

Seven hundred thirty-seven Rotarians, or 19.4 percent of our members, have contributed at least \$100 to the Foundation this Rotary year. Of that number, 61 have given \$1,000 or more.

Overview

As you can see, we are running a little behind last year. We do need to remember, however, that last year we had the Legacy Dinner Fundraising Drive where many Rotarians gave a one-time gift above and beyond their normal yearly contribution.

Will we reach our goals? I am sure we will, because Rotarians first of all are dedicated to eliminating polio from the world. We also make these gifts to support positive changes in our local community and communities around the globe.



Des Moines area clubs' fundraiser 10 years, \$101,930 for polio eradication

By Ed Arnold/Northwest Des Moines

In November of 2008, Ed Arnold of the Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines met with Patrick Kelly and Chris Makris of the Iowa Energy D-League basketball team and formulated a plan to raise funds to assist in the worldwide eradication of polio.

The plan was relatively simple: Iowa Energy provided the mechanism (a D-League basketball game) to enable the Des Moines area Rotary clubs to sell tickets discounted from 20 to 40 percent, and in addition, receive an \$8 per ticket rebate to be sent to The Rotary Foundation for Polio Eradication.

This provided the clubs an opportunity to collectively raise funds in a social fun atmosphere while providing positive public exposure of the Rotary brand, while giving non-Rotarians a chance to financially support eradication efforts in a fun and inexpensive family event.

In 2017, the Minnesota Timberwolves acquired the Iowa Energy franchise and enthusiastically embraced the Polio eradication effort under the guidance of chief revenue officer Kyle Davy, who has worked with us for the past five years.

Coincidentally, the year 2008 was a year marked by increased polio cases in 15 African countries, as well as Pakistan and India, as the virus was imported into areas which previously had little or no new activity. There was an increase of new cases to 1,652 from the previous year; whereas the previous 10 years had seen a steady decline.

So, the partnership of the area Rotary clubs and the Iowa Energy (now the Iowa Wolves) was consistent with the renewed collaborative efforts of the World Health Organization (WHO), the United States Center for Disease Control (USCDC), UNICEF, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, many governments and Rotary International. Only four countries remained where polio was endemic: Pakistan, Afghanistan, India and Nigeria.

The Global Polio Eradication Initiative continued to be supported by 145 laboratories, using new methods to test for existence of the virus, allowing improved responses to outbreaks.

In 2014, we were able to announce to the basketball audience that India had gone three years without a new case of polio, leaving only three endemic countries.

In 2016, Nigeria had gone two years without a new case, when four new cases were imported from Pakistan/Afghanistan, reinforcing the need to completely eradicate the virus from all parts of the world. Concomitantly, new cases were reported in Syria, Sudan, and Somalia, all previously polio free.

Since the 2016 outbreak was met with quick and thorough response, the number of new cases has dropped dramatically. There were only 37 in 2016 and 23 in 2017. Nigeria has again gone 18 months without a new case.

Des Moines area Rotary clubs have actively supported the polio eradication effort. This year's committee members were: Ed Arnold, Northwest Rotary; president Leray Glendennig, Northwest; Vernetta Riley, Perry; Kristin Pike, West Des Moines; Christopher Dean, West Des Moines; Tom Downs, East Polk; Luke Vogel, West Polk; Brad Kobernusz, Waukee; and Jeff Stickel, Des Moines.

They met with Kyle Davy, the Iowa Wolves chief revenue officer, to plan the Feb. 3 event.

One of the largest crowds of the year witnessed the Wolves beat the Oklahoma Blue, 117-90. Fans also enjoyed the NBA quality halftime entertainment by "K9's in Flight." Fans were encouraged



Northwest Des Moines Rotarians Brenda Auxier-Mailey and Ed Arnold collected donations at game and gave out "End Polio Now" stickers provided by Rotary Club of Indianola.

to bring their own dogs to the game for "Hoops and Hounds" night.

Rotary gained much exposure to its polio eradication efforts throughout the game by highly visible Rotarians collecting donations in yellow buckets and many PSA's shown on the Jumbotron, and by on-the-floor announcements before the game and at halftime.

More than \$10,000 was collected from donations and ticket sales, making the 10-year total collected \$101,930.58 – enough to immunize approximately 160,000 children.

During this 10-year partnership, five of the area clubs raised enough money, in one or more years, to satisfy their club's per person commitment to Rotary International. For the fourth year in a row, the Rotary Club of West Polk won the Arnold Cup for selling the most tickets per member. All told, 1,188 tickets were purchased/sold by Rotarians in 2018 (11,934 for the 10 years), including more than 100 tickets provided to youth groups and other 501(c)3 groups who would not otherwise be able to attend a game.

Polio statue coming to District 6000!

By Peggy Geiger/Decatur County

District Public Image Chair

Artist Dave Biehl reports that the polio statue will be completed on March 27. He will be going out to the foundry in Loveland, Colo., to put the "final patina touches" on it.

If all goes as planned, he will transport the statue back to his gallery in Elkhorn, Neb., on March 28. There, it will await placement in District 6000. There has been a lot of work this past year and a half that has gone into this effort to tell our Rotary story. That includes the artist, the statue, branding, placement, Rotarian volunteers, fundraising, passion, care – and to all I say "thank you."

Once placed, there will be a time of dedication, as this statue commemorates not only the global campaign but our district's commitment to polio eradication.

Thanks to all who have given their time and efforts in making this possible. We will give cause to celebrate this beautiful statue in recognition of those efforts.

However, we will not have reason to celebrate the eradication of polio until the last three countries of Afghanistan, Pakistan and Nigeria are polio free. As you know, the vaccination of children worldwide must continue for three years after the last case is reported before being placed on that list.

At the time of this writing, there have only been three cases this calendar year which were reported in Afghanistan. Our longtime goal of eradicating this paralyzing disease from the earth is close. We are less than "This Close," as we are almost at ZERO with our global efforts. We must continue our goal until the job is done.

The next time you see a photo of our polio statue it will be bronzed – WooHoo!

An awesome public image visual in the eyes of our public, this statue will proudly represent District 6000 Rotarians and those who have fought the fight in polio eradication



The polio statue, in progress. Photo by Peggy Geiger



We're on the Harris Trophy!

District 6000's name will be affixed to the Harris Trophy at RI Headquarters, recognizing \$8,140 that was raised in last fall's Ride to End Polio, in which riders from the Rotary Clubs of Boone, West Des Moines, Decatur County, Johnston, Fort Madison and Iowa City AM raised \$8,140 for polio eradication. The trophy is shown here with RI General Secretary John Hewko showing we are "this close" to eradicating polio!

Provided by Susan Herrick

Rotary Foundation in top 1 percent of charities for 10 consecutive years

For the 10th consecutive year, The Rotary Foundation has received the highest rating – four stars – from Charity Navigator, an independent evaluator of charities in the U.S.

In the most recent ratings, the Foundation earned the maximum of 100 points for demonstrating both strong financial health and commitment to accountability and transparency.

In a letter to the Foundation, Charity Navigator notes that "only 1 percent of the charities we evaluate have received at least 10 consecutive 4-star evaluations, indicating that The Rotary Foundation outperforms other charities in America."

"This exceptional designation from Charity Navigator sets The Rotary Foundation apart from its peers and demonstrates to the public its trustworthiness."

The rating reflects Charity Navigator's assessment of how the Foundation uses donations, sustains its programs and services, and practices good governance and openness.

Be proud that you give generously to the Foundation! And please continue giving.

Rotary Foundation Giving: APF, Polio, Endowments

District 6000 Clubs • July 1, 2017 - March 13, 2018 (Interim Report)

| | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) | (7) |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| (Members: Jul 15/16/17) | 17-18 APF Goal | % of Goal | Per capita | Thru 12-3-17 | PolioPlus | Other (*) | TOTAL |
| Adel (37/37/34) | \$ 2,200 | 165 | \$ 106.99 | \$ 3,638 | \$ 100 | \$ 0 | \$ 3,738 |
| Albia (22/28/28) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 52 | 0 | 52 |
| Ames Morning (55/55/59) | 0 | 31 | 47.46 | 2,800 | 4,115 | 0 | 6,915 |
| Ames (224/226/217) | 29,000 | 58 | 78.04 | 16,935 | 14,551 | 0 | 31,486 |
| Ankeny (61/77/85) | 7,500 | 84 | 73.88 | 6,280 | 695 | 0 | 6,975 |
| Atlantic (58/58/58) | 5,500 | 46 | 43.69 | 2,534 | 0 | 0 | 505 |
| Bettendorf (103/101/102) | 11,000 | 86 | 92.65 | 9,450 | 2,000 | 0 | 11,450 |
| Bloomfield (10/10/10) | 500 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 50 | 0 | 50 |
| Boone (42/34/41) | 3,500 | 49 | 41.71 | 1,710 | 3,455 | 0 | 5,165 |
| Burlington (80/79/80) | 3,000 | 77 | 28.75 | 2,300 | 0 | 3,000 | 5,300 |
| Carroll (46/44/43) | 4,500 | 48 | 50.58 | 2,175 | 728 | 0 | 2,903 |
| Centerville (50/46/45) | 5,000 | 26 | 28.33 | 1,275 | 0 | 0 | 1,275 |
| Chariton (41/41/34) | 3,400 | 98 | 97.79 | 3,325 | 0 | 0 | 3,325 |
| Clinton (98/97/94) | 10,000 | 48 | 50.80 | 4,775 | 1,120 | 0 | 5,895 |
| Coon Rapids (27/31/34) | 1,500 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Coralville-North Corridor (20/21/22) | 2,100 | 1 | 1 | 25 | 100 | 0 | 125 |
| Corning (34/33/32) | 1,000 | 122 | 38.22 | 1,223 | 2,000 | 0 | 3,223 |
| Corydon (18/15/15) | 1,200 | 25 | 20.00 | 300 | 0 | 0 | 300 |
| Creston (23/19/17) | 100 | 75 | 4.41 | 75 | 0 | 0 | 75 |
| Dallas Center (27/29/26) | 2,700 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Davenport (112/113/110) | 13,000 | 81 | 95.97 | 10,557 | 50 | 224 | 10,831 |
| Decatur County (30/32/31) | 5,000 | 121 | 195.18 | 6,050 | 1,025 | 0 | 7,075 |
| Des Moines AM (170/170/179) | 13,000 | 34 | 24.94 | 4,465 | 0 | 0 | 4,465 |
| Des Moines (276/270/269) | 21,000 | 76 | 59.47 | 15,997 | 2,250 | 0 | 18,247 |
| East Polk County (34/31/29) | 2,500 | 41 | 35.34 | 1,025 | 538 | 0 | 1,563 |
| Fairfield (74/60/57) | 5,500 | 18 | 17.54 | 1,000 | 0 | 0 | 1,000 |
| Fort Madison (49/53/55) | 6,000 | 45 | 49.09 | 2,700 | 2,797 | 1,500 | 6,997 |
| Greater Des Moines (12/12/11) | 1,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Grinnell (38/40/35) | 5,500 | 86 | 135.71 | 4,750 | 0 | 0 | 4,750 |
| Indianola (54/53/54) | 6,500 | 62 | 75.02 | 4,051 | 0 | 0 | 4,051 |
| Iowa City AM (66/69/74) | 15,900 | 45 | 97.30 | 7,200 | 10,138 | 0 | 17,338 |
| Iowa City Downtown (23/21/23) | 4,000 | 74 | 128.04 | 2,945 | 1,207 | 0 | 4,152 |
| Iowa City (312/329/333) | 45,000 | 87 | 117.61 | 39,163 | 1,475 | 0 | 40,638 |
| Iowa Quad-Cities (41/42/38) | 5,000 | 12 | 15.53 | 590 | 0 | 0 | 590 |
| Jefferson (59/59/56) | 6,500 | 42 | 48.21 | 2,700 | 203 | 0 | 2,903 |
| Johnston (60/49/52) | 5,400 | 121 | 125.77 | 6,540 | 1,125 | 0 | 7,665 |
| Kalona (42/41/43) | 3,000 | 87 | 60.47 | 2,600 | 1,000 | 0 | 3,600 |
| Keokuk (66/71/57) | 3,500 | 73 | 44.74 | 2,550 | 125 | 0 | 2,675 |
| Keosauqua (24/22/23) | 1,200 | 76 | 39.57 | 910 | 270 | 0 | 1,180 |
| Knoxville (61/58/48) | 4,500 | 52 | 48.44 | 2,325 | 2,405 | 0 | 4,730 |
| Lenox (29/28/27) | 2,000 | 81 | 59.75 | 1,613 | 0 | 0 | 1,613 |
| Manning (19/25/21) | 100 | 1,300 | 61.90 | 1,300 | 0 | 0 | 1,300 |
| Marengo (11/10/10) | 150 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Marshalltown (150/147/145) | 10,000 | 40 | 27.67 | 4,012 | 1,393 | 0 | 5,404 |
| Mount Pleasant Noon (52/55/47) | 5,000 | 67 | 71.70 | 3,370 | 2,000 | 0 | 5,370 |
| Mount Pleasant (20/20/18) | 800 | 25 | 11.11 | 200 | 1,479 | 1,500 | 3,179 |
| Muscatine (79/77/69) | 13,000 | 75 | 141.54 | 9,766 | 1,516 | 0 | 11,282 |
| Nevada (71/69/61) | 12,500 | 21 | 42.62 | 2,600 | 1,525 | 0 | 4,125 |
| Newton (60/55/49) | 3,000 | 10 | 6.12 | 300 | 3,191 | 1,024 | 4,515 |
| North Scott (85/86/89) | 12,500 | 85 | 119.64 | 10,675 | 550 | 22,500 | 33,725 |
| Northwest Des Moines (34/40/36) | 8,000 | 47 | 103.47 | 3,725 | 0 | 0 | 3,725 |
| Norwalk (0/0/20) | 500 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 60 | 0 | 60 |
| Osceola (28/29/25) | 800 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Oskaloosa (56/55/57) | 4,500 | 83 | 65.61 | 3,740 | 0 | 0 | 3,740 |
| Ottumwa (97/98/92) | 11,000 | 101 | 121.20 | 11,150 | 0 | 0 | 11,500 |
| Pella (29/30/29) | 4,000 | 48 | 66.25 | 1,921 | 741 | 0 | 2,662 |
| Perry (26/26/26) | 1,000 | 74 | 28.31 | 736 | 204 | 0 | 940 |
| Tipton (30/26/27) | 2,500 | 3 | 2.96 | 80 | 0 | 0 | 80 |
| Washington (49/48/43) | 4,900 | 41 | 46.51 | 2,000 | 0 | 0 | 2,000 |
| Waukee (58/64/69) | 8,000 | 120 | 138.55 | 9,560 | 1,470 | 25 | 11,105 |
| Wellman (36/34/30) | 3,100 | 49 | 51.00 | 1,530 | 0 | 0 | 1,530 |
| West Des Moines (62/63/52) | 5,000 | 62 | 59.62 | 3,100 | 50 | 0 | 3,150 |
| West Liberty (43/44/46) | 18,000 | 78 | 303.98 | 13,983 | 1,500 | 0 | 15,483 |
| West Polk County (31/18/19) | 500 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Winterset (25/30/33) | 5,000 | 52 | 78.18 | 2,580 | 3,745 | 0 | 6,325 |
| District Contributions | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 615 | 0 | 115 |
| Total (3,854/3,853/3,793) | \$ 412,550 | 64.21 | \$ 69.83 | \$ 264,878 | \$ 73,613 | | \$ 368,315 |

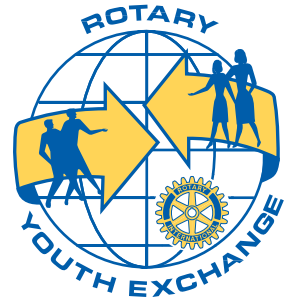
(*) Other includes endowment fund and restricted giving for grants



District 6000 Inbound and Outbound Rotary Youth Exchange students with District Governor Mike Ruby and JoAnne at the winter retreat, Jan. 13-14 at the Christian Conference Center at Newton. Turn the page for more photos!

Rotary Youth Exchange

Making the world smaller: ONE SMILE AT A TIME



Inbound from France: Marie Hanoire (Ankeny) and Lena Bergougnan (Decatur County.)



Inbound from Spain: Paula Momplo Martinez (Iowa City AM) celebrated her birthday at the winter retreat.



Inbound from Germany: Josefina Teuber (Waukee) with cards "Be First" and "Drinking."



Inbound and Outbound Rotary Youth Exchange students and District 6000 RYE committee members found the Christian Confer

In the world of Rotary You

By Doug Peterson/Iowa Quad Cities
District 6000 Youth Exchange Chair

In the world of Rotary Youth Exchange (RYE), there is never any down time. The District 6000 committee has activities going on year round, which makes it one of the busiest committees in the district.

But it is not only the district committee that is busy with organizing events, training students and volunteers, monitoring State Department (DoS) required activities and documentation, and keeping in contact with Outbound students.

The hosting clubs also maintain a busy schedule during their students' inbound exchanges. Helping the students enjoy what many describe as "the best year of their lives" requires the club RYE com-

mittee to be proactive with the student and host families in their communities. The good news is that there will be few if any clubs and host families who won't admit to an enjoyable, and in some cases a life changing, experience.

A review of this year's past and future committee activities will demonstrate what I mean.

In January, we began the training of our new group of Outbound students. Thirteen young men and women were selected through the interview process to begin preparation for their exchanges in 2018-19. There, students, along with our 14 Inbound students, Rotexers, and committee members, spent a weekend together in Jan. 13-14. The Christian Conference Center in Newton is a great venue for the training, socializing and relationship-building necessary for



Outbounds, fun with Oreos (l-r): Elise Beukelman (Pella), Kyler Johnson (Waukee), Kate Malkusak (Iowa City), Conner Grau (Ankeny) and Inbound Alessandro Lomaestro (Italy, Bettendorf).



Friends through Rotary with homelands from three continents: Lena Bergougnan (France, Decatur County), Dani Lozano (Chile, Keokuk), and Claudio Zertuche (Mexico, Ankeny).



Youth Exchange Outbound student (Rotex, i.e. RYE a and Andrea Rodrig



ence Center at Newton an excellent venue for the winter retreat. RYE Committee Doug Peterson is at left, waving his right hand.

Youth Exchange, it's 12/24/7

successful exchanges. The pictures in this newsletter capture some of the moments of that weekend.

'Toast' in Ottumwa

A "Toast to Rotary" will find our students in Ottumwa, where they will present the traditional flag ceremony, enjoy the fellowship of Rotarians, including a home stay, and then participate in a tree-planting service project. Each of these activities will not only help promote Youth Exchange, but will also help RI President Ian Riseley achieve his tree planting goal, something that all of our students can be proud of as they recall and share their exchange experience with their clubs, families and other students.

Late winter and early spring is an exciting time for our district

because this is when we begin to receive applications from our exchange partners around the world. Many clubs have responded to our program by committing to host an exchange student. Their selection process for a student is done on a first-come, first-served basis. When certain criteria are met, the clubs can choose a student that they would like to host for the school year 2018-19.

Once that is done, preparations for the students' arrival in August can begin. This includes the vetting of club volunteers and host families. The DoS has strict requirements for anyone wanting to participate in the exchange program. The DoS and District 6000 take student safety very seriously, and the vetting process includes refer-

YOUTH EXCHANGE/continued on next page



e Committee member Lou Peterson (l) with Lisa Truong (Davenport), McKayla Sturtz (Alumni), Josi Teuber (Germany, Waukee), and Andrea Rodriguez (Mexico, Ankeny).



More fun with Oreos (l-r): Jordan Peck (Waukee), Elisa Brownrigg (Brazil, West Liberty), Kayla Babcock (Winterset), Yajatra Kulkarni (Iowa City), Maddy Merydith (Rotex), Dani Lozano (Chile, Keokuk), Andrea Rodriguez (Mexico, Ankeny), and Elise Beukelman (Pella).



Finding their flags: Alessandro Lomaestro (Italy, Bettendorf), Matej Vukic (Croatia, Boone), and Claudio Zertuche (Mexico, Ankeny).



Clockwise from lower left: Taylor Wertheim (Rotex), Karen Wertheim (committee), Daniel Campos (Brazil, Marshalltown), Lena Bergougnan (France, Decatur County), Kayla Babcock (Winterset), Lara Murray (Ames), and Dani Lozano (Chile, Keokuk).

Youth Exchange: Get involved!

YOUTH EXCHANGE/continued from p. 21

ence checks and criminal background checks on all adult volunteers.

Additional training sessions for Outbound students are held in April. A final meeting in July includes a last minute Q & A session for students and parents before the students' departures in August. Then during that same month, we welcome a new group of Inbound students and the process begins all over again.

New clubs and communities are always being sought so that we can continue to grow our program and enable more Rotarians and non-Rotarians alike to experience the joys of hosting an exchange student. If your club is interested in participating, call chairman Doug Peterson at (563) 210-9072 or email him at louanddoug@mchsi.com.

You will not regret it!



M&Ms and chopsticks! (l-r): Evren Sasmazer (West Liberty), Vana Slattery (Iowa City), Lara Murray (Ames), Lisa Truong (Davenport), Minerva Patterson (Waukee), Paula Mompio (Spain, Iowa City AM), Dani Lozano (Chile, Keokuk), Zach Perry (Mt. Vernon), Yajatra Kulkarni (Iowa City), Jordan Peck (Waukee), Elisa Brownrigg (Brazil, West Liberty).



Lena Bergougnan (France, Decatur County), Leo Shio-kawa (Brazil, Wellman), Vana Slattery (Iowa City), James Trettin (Rotex), and Rotarian John Schultz.



Rotexers are Youth Exchange alumni who volunteer to help the program, (l-r): Nicole Nabity, McKayla Sturtz, Taylor Wertheim, James Trettin and Maddy Merydith.

Four Paul Harris Fellows awarded by Rotary Club of Carroll

At the meeting of the Rotary Club of Carroll on Monday, Feb. 12, four Paul Harris Fellows were awarded by club foundation chair Bob Fasbender, at left. Receiving a PHF +1, second from left, is Adam Schweers. Receiving their first PHF awards for \$1,000 each contributed to The Rotary Foundation are (l-r): John Grundmeier, Sonia Walsh and Dennis Molitor. Also receiving a PHF +1 was Doug Burns, who was unable to attend.

The presentation was made prior to a club assembly led by president Chris Polking to discuss its hosting of the TOAST to District 6000 on Saturday, April 14 at midday. The club invites all district Rotarians to attend the Carroll TOAST for special treats, including a winery tour of the Santa Maria Winery, the event's location.

Photo and text by Jacque Andrew



Grant Management Seminars

By PDG Terry Geiger/Decatur County

District Rotary Foundation Chair

There are a lot of reasons Rotarians in District 6000 should attend a Grant Management Seminar (commonly referred to as GMS) but I am going to give you just three:

1. An opportunity to learn about the ins and outs of both Community Service Grants (CSG) as well as Global Grants (GG).
2. An opportunity to make new Rotarian friends from around the district and exchange ideas on what other clubs are doing to improve lives both in their communities and around the world through the use of grants.
3. Because The Rotary Foundation says you have to attend a GMS if you want to generate either a CSG or a GG.

Let's expand on the reasons a little more.

First, to learn more about grants. The grant process, and when I say grants I am speaking in general terms of both Global Grants and Community Service Grants, can have some complicating factors. When you attend the GMS you will learn the processes and the pitfalls that may arise when you are writing a grant. This is a key component when we speak of stewardship regarding the use of Foundation money. When we give to The Rotary Foundation we want assurance that our donations are used prudently to improve lives. We learn at GMS how important this is and how, in the process of grant writing and final reporting, the importance of the stewardship process is.

Reason No. 2 is fellowship. Fellowship is one of the five core values of Rotary and when we attend a GMS, fellowship is in abundance. We like to give Rotarians an opportunity to share their ideas, which in turn may give rise to new ideas or let other clubs learn of something they would like to get involved with. Some clubs have not been involved in Global Grants and sharing of ideas may possibly give them opportunities to get involved in something new. So many things and projects we do in Rotary were the idea of one person and these ideas, like a stone ripple on a lake, can spread to others and improve lives in new areas which would not have been possible had the idea not been shared with other Rotarians.

And finally, reason No 3, because you are required to attend. As I said, this is the least important of the reasons but it is required if you are going to be writing grants.

We have already held two successful GMS sessions and the third will be March 23 at DMAC at Newton at 5 p.m. I would hope that when all is said and done, we will have had a large number of Rotarians attend, primarily for reasons 1 and 2 above.



Carol and DGE Tom Narak with RI President-Elect Barry Rassin and Esther at the International Assembly.

Naraks represent D-6000 at International Assembly

By DGE Tom Narak/West Des Moines

District 6000 Governor Elect Tom Narak and his wife Carol attended the Rotary International Assembly Jan. 14-18 in San Diego, Calif. Rotary's annual training meeting gives incoming district governors the chance to share ideas for strengthening clubs and improving communities with Rotary leaders from around the world. There was also a program for governors-elect partners.

The opening session of the International Assembly began with Rotary President-Elect Barry Rassin sharing the 2018-2019 theme: BE THE INSPIRATION. This session began full of energy as the participants were engaged in a coordinated, seated drumming activity under the leadership of the professionals from the Drum Café.

General session topics included: Leading with Vision, Inspire Clubs, The Future is Now, The Magic of our Foundation, Transform the World, Share Rotary with the World, and Time to Act.

In addition to the general sessions, there were many motivational and instructional breakout sessions during the assembly.

Both Tom and Carol enjoyed the International Assembly very much. They said, "It was a fantastic opportunity to learn more about Rotary and to meet and network with Rotary leaders from around the world."

BRIDGING CONTINENTS

Seven Des Moines AM Rotarians serve in Uganda

By Tara Connolly/Des Moines AM

Club President

The Rotary Club of Des Moines AM (RCDMAM) International Committee has a dedicated focus to connect with fellow Rotarians to demonstrate Service Above Self for the purpose of positively impacting the lives of others in less fortunate parts of the globe.

RCDMAM fully embraces the Fourth Object of Rotary that states: "The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster: The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service."

This ideal of service is taken seriously by RCDMAM with a goal to identify specific opportunities to build long-term relationships and self-sustaining efforts to serve those in our global community that are less fortunate with enhanced living conditions, educational opportunities, medical/dental facilities, housing, and micro-loan programs to provide economic opportunities.

Investments

Investments in Uganda projects from 2012 to date include:

- Funds raised for Clinic Project - \$138,000
- Medical equipment - \$374,000 (in-kind)
- Container and shipping of equipment - \$22,290
- Health Clinic Days - \$13,000
- Mama Kits - \$9,100
- Sure Prospect School projects - \$13,082
- Micro-loan - \$1,500

RCDMAM has focused efforts in China and Africa over the last two decades.

Most recently, a team of seven members of RCDMAM along with an Iowa State University Industrial Design student spent 12 days in Uganda working on partnership projects with the Rotary Club of Kampala South and Rotary Club Kampala Sunrise.

We were accompanied on the trip by a Drake University professor who is also a member of the RC Kampala South.

UGANDA/

continued on p. 26



Bev McLinden and Scott Raecker of the RCDMAM delivering dental equipment to the Mukono Hospital in January 2018.



Members of RCDMAM met with Rotarians from RC Kampala Sunrise in January 2018.



Members of the RCDMAM travel team and leadership from RC Kampala South met in Kampala in January 2018.



Members of RCDMAM and RC Kampala Sunrise at Sure Prospects School with the Rotary water project.



Patients lined up to enter the medical clinic in Kikandwa for the Rotary Health Day in January 2018.



In January 2018 members of RCDMAM partnered with members of RC Kampala South for a Family Health Day at the medical clinic in Kikandwa, Uganda. Over 600 patients were seen for services that included pre-natal exams, infant immunizations, HIV/Malaria testing, eye tests, dental exams and general physical exams.



Members of the RCDMAM travel team with members of Rotary Club Kampala South in front of the nearly completed maternity center in Kikandwa.

Partner support

The RCDMAM collaborates with multiple partners to implement these significant projects. They include:

- Drake University students, faculty and alumni
 - *Project lead, fundraising and research*
- Rotary Club of Des Moines AM
 - *Partner and financial support*
- Shining City Foundation
 - *Funding, liaison and fiscal agent for Drake student fundraising*
- Rotary Club of Kampala South
 - *Partner and financial support, architectural work, construction supervision, health days and accountability*
- Matter, Inc.
 - *Medical equipment*
- Mukono Diocese – Church of Uganda
 - *Clinic staffing, operational funding and land donated for clinic*
- Village of Kikandwa
 - *Project implementation*
- Rotary Club Kampala Sunrise
 - *Partner, financial support and accountability*
- Rotary District 6000
 - *Financial support to transport medical equipment in 2014*
- Sure Prospects School
 - *Project implementation*
- Makerere University Business School, Kampala
 - *Fundraising and in-kind services*

Projects include water, medical clinic, school, micro-credit financing

UGANDA/continued

The Uganda projects were initiated in 2012 and include the building of a medical clinic in the rural village of Kikandwa and support for a school that serves students with special needs.

The projects were initiated by Drake University students as part of an annual sustainable development class that travels to Uganda every year. To date, the students have raised over \$200,000 in cash and over \$370,000 of in-kind medical equipment for the projects (District 6000 helped support funding of the transportation of medical equipment in May 2014).

Team members

- Rotary Club of Des Moines AM members: Dan Keller (International Committee Chair), Emily Raecker (International Committee Chair-Elect), Chris Korte (Past President), Chantry Devries, Bev McLinden (Club Administrator), Jacob Kirpes and Scott Raecker.
- Rotary Club of Kampala South (traveling with the group): Drake University professor Jimmy Senteza.
- Iowa State University Student Mary Murphy.

completed a new kitchen facility and water retention project at the school. A braille printer was recently purchased with funds raised by Drake University students.

Following the trip, RCDMAM has raised and invested \$16,750 to complete the maternity center in Kikandwa along with financially supporting the next Rotary Family Health Day and a micro-finance loan fund for Kikandwa.

RC Kampala South and RC Kampala Sunrise are identifying joint needs for a RI Global Grant that will be implemented with partnership from RCDMAM.

RCDMAM is committed to continued project work in Uganda with Phase Three of the Kikandwa Clinic to be initiated after the maternity center is complete and partnership with a Rotary Foundation Global Grant for needs identified by RC Kampala South and RC Kampala Sunrise.

The project template can have significant international impact as a model for Rotary clubs to partner with students doing international service learning. The ultimate outcome is enhanced project opportunities and introducing the power of Rotary to the next generation of global leaders.

If your club would like to learn how they can be involved in this life changing work please contact Emily Raecker, RCDMAM International Committee Chair-Elect, at Emily.raecker@gmail.com

RCDMAM and RC Kampala South are also financially invested in the work with the second phase of the clinic project – a maternity center that is nearing completion – and a Rotary funded water-well providing water for the clinic and local villagers.

Project work with RC Kampala Sunrise has focused on a micro-finance loan program and support for a school that serves special needs students. Most recently, RC Kampala Sunrise



Rotarians celebrate a safe water supply at the Rotary water project in Kikandwa, Uganda.



The new braille printer at Sure Prospects School is demonstrated to members of RCDMAM and RC Kampala Sunrise.

\$25,000 grants awarded in Des Moines

By Kitte Noble/Des Moines

Club Executive Director

The Rotary Club of Des Moines Foundation awarded \$25,000 in community grants in December to the following organizations.

- **\$5,750** award to the **Food Bank of Iowa's School Pantry Program and Back-Pack Program.** The funding to be used to purchase refrigerator freezers and shelving for the School Pantry Program. Existing school pantries will be able to expand their capacity of food that they distribute as a result of this award.

- **\$5,750** award to **Catholic Charities of Des Moines.** The funding to be used to purchase health and safety equipment including steam cleaners for each of the three levels in the emergency family shelter house plus safe and suitable furniture, fixtures, storage cabinets/bins/boxes, and specialized equipment to facilitate education and socialization of the children and families seeking shelter.

- **\$2,250** to **City Voices** – an emerging program that provides music education to low income students. The funding to be used to provide musical equipment, music and support instruction to expand the program beyond its current capacity of ten. This will give students attending funding constrained schools increased opportunity to pursue college scholarships and enrichment opportunities. They have offered the program once



The Rotary Club of Des Moines Foundation awarded grants to five organizations totaling \$25,000 in December.
Provided by Kitte Noble

as it is a new effort. A Rotary grant enables program to continue and grow.

- **\$5,500** to **Youth Emergency Services & Shelter (YESS).** To replace twelve seat cushions located within their living unit that serves hundreds of young girls over time needing a safe environment in a time of great need. A well-kept clean and comfortable space contributes much to creating an

environment of security and care.

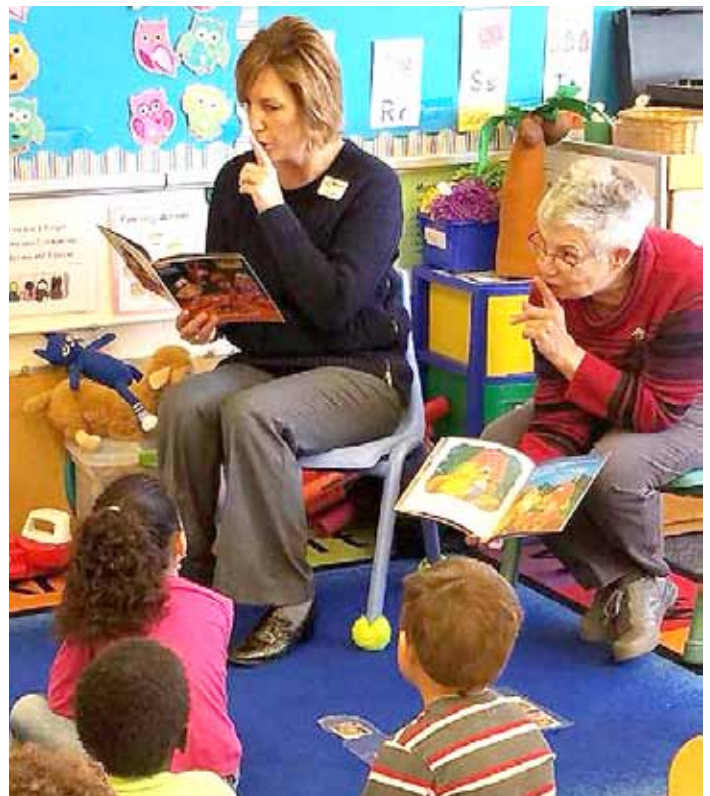
- **\$5,750** to **St. Vincent de Paul of Des Moines.** To provide critical baby care items and monthly coaching session for parents. Items include cribs, car seats, bassinets, formula, diapers, blankets, etc. Coaching session topics to be led by doulas, psychologists, counselors and family story time leaders.



Rotary readers ...

Supporting literacy is one of the many missions of the Rotary Club of Burlington. President Leah Galvin commented, "We are committed to children and the importance of reading and learning. Burlington Rotary gives a book to each child to take home and keep. This month was a lot of fun with glow-in-the-dark pages that prompted a mini-field trip! Rotary Readers in top photo are Win and Gail Boyd. At right, Leah Galvin and Kay Weiss make the quiet gesture.

Provided by Leah Galvin



Burlington

Rotary club warms the lives of more than 100 children

By Julia Mericle

Burlington Hawk Eye, Nov. 21/reprinted with permission

Local elementary schoolers have to walk up to a mile to get to school. For middle schoolers, it's up to two miles.

In the winter, that trek can become unbearable for students without a winter coat. Even those who take a school bus have to wait outside at bus stops.

That's what motivated club president Joel Sieren and the Burlington Rotary Club to donate 108 winter coats to the Burlington public school district, and ensure those children keep warm as the temperature drops.

Rotary members Sieren, Ed Whitham, Tim Lundgren, Mallory Riffel, Theresa Thielen and Matt Rinker dropped the coats off at Edward Stone Middle School, and school nurse Kathryn Menke will ensure those coats are sorted and divided up between ten schools in the district.

Menke said the coats are given to any children in need, identified by parents or teachers.

"I personally look at the people with families and little ones," said Menke. "And I did it when my kids were growing up, but it seems to get harder and harder. I look and say 'Wow, how do some of these families do it?' Especially if you are living on minimum wage."

Through Rotary member donations, the organization raised about \$2,000 to buy the coats from a company in Philadelphia, PA. With a leftover \$350, the club will also provide sweatpants for the school's clinics.

This is the second year the Rotary has donated coats to the students, and Whitham said Rotary hopes to keep the donations coming every winter. Thousands of coats are given out by Rotary clubs across the country.



Burlington Rotarians delivered coats to kids, (l-r): Theresa Thielen, Tim Lundgren, Mallory Riffel, Joel Sieren and Matt Rinker. Rotarian Leah Galvin commented, "So proud to join forces with Tim Lundgren and The Coat For Kids project to distribute over 100 coats to the Burlington Community School District. Keeping kiddos warm!"

Sieren said the Rotary club will also be distributing more than 2,000 books to students from pre-school to second grade in the spring. Since the book program began five years ago, Rotary members have given out about 30,000 books.

"The sad part is the need," said member Lundgren. "The amazing part is how much everybody gives."



Service opportunities on Martin Luther King Day ...

On Jan. 12, Martin Luther King Day, Rotarians from Iowa City AM and the Rotary Club of Iowa City joined District Interact chair Steve Hanson at the new Liberty High School in North Liberty to share with students some possibilities for service they may have never considered, including District 6000 projects like Xicotepec, Ponseti and the Iowa Miles Of Smiles Team. Jim Peterson, at left, speaks with students at one of many displays. A student is pictured at right with Rotarians (l-r): PDG Gary Pacha and Nancy, Jim Peterson, PDG John Ockenfels and Patty Roberts. Liberty High School has INSHOC Interact sponsored by the Rotary Club of Iowa City.

Provided by Jim Peterson



✓ Join Leaders ✓ Exchange Ideas ✓ Take Action

Shults & Co. musical boosts Grinnell projects

By Effie Hall/Grinnell

Club President

"As Time Goes By and Other Great Movie Songs," a musical revue featuring the Grinnell singing group Shults & Co., will be a major fundraising event this spring for the Rotary Club of Grinnell.

The production, written and directed by Rotarian Frank Shults and his wife, Sherry Shults, will take place April 12, 13 and 14 in the Hotel Grinnell Auditorium, formerly the Voertman Theatre, 925 Park St., Grinnell.

"We are excited to be presenting the first major production in Grinnell's beautiful new Hotel Grinnell Auditorium. Like the building itself, the auditorium has been completely redesigned and renovated," said the Shultses.

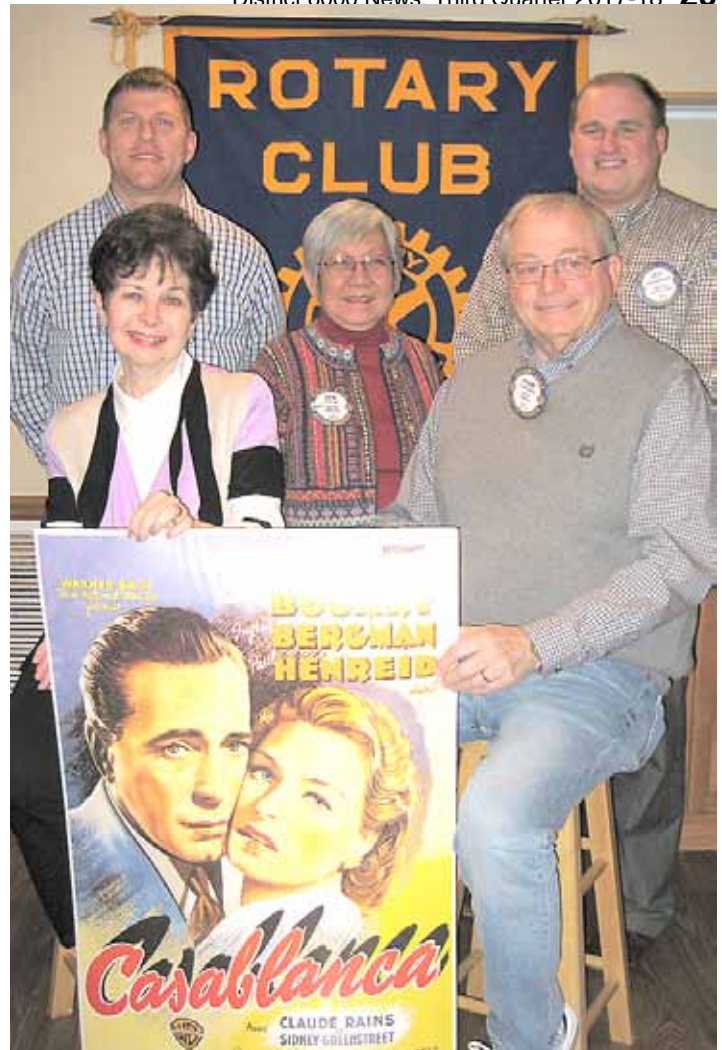
Among the well-known and beloved movie songs to be presented will be: "As Time Goes By" from Casablanca; "Take My Breath Away" from Top Gun; "Soul Man" from The Blues Brothers, and "Over the Rainbow" from the Wizard of Oz.

Shults & Co. vocalists are Frank and Sherry Shults, Tim and Gailanne Dill, Debby Pohlson, Austin Jones, George Drake, Bill Hammen, JoAnn Britton, and Keith Briggs. Combo members are: Mary Fopma, piano; Rick Young, bass guitar and vocals; Kent Kastendick, keyboard; Adam McFee, percussion, and Anthony Nieuwsma, guitar and vocals.

Proceeds from the show, augmented by a Rotary Foundation Community Service Grant from District 6000 awarded this fiscal year, will be donated to UnityPoint Health-Grinnell Regional Medical Center's Paul W. Ahrens Fitness Center for the purchase of new equipment.

Tickets are available at Brown's Shoe Fit store, 937 Main St., Grinnell, or by contacting Effie Hall, Grinnell Rotary Club president at effiehall@mchsi.com or (641) 236-8296.

This will be the 12th fundraising production for the partnership between the Grinnell Rotary Club and Shults & Co. The first show was in March 1995, and shows have been presented every two or three years since, raising \$87,000 to date that has been donated to various local projects. Past beneficiaries have included: Drake Community Library; Grinnell Regional Medical Center (Medical Lab and Chemo Unit); Grinnell-Newburg School District (Music Department and Grinnell Middle School Music Lab); Grinnell Arts Council; and Grinnell Senior Center.



The Rotary Club of Grinnell and Shults & Co. are collaborating to present "As Time Goes by and Other Great Movie Songs" in April at the Hotel Grinnell Auditorium. Proceeds will be donated to purchase new fitness equipment for the Paul W. Ahrens Fitness Center at UnityPoint Health-Grinnell Regional Medical Center (UPH-GRMC). Pictured are, front, seated (l-r): Sherry Shults and Rotarian Frank Shults, directors of Shults & Co; back: Chad Nath, UPH-GRMC director of wellness, fitness, and integrated health; Effie Hall, Grinnell Rotary club president; and Rotarian and UPH-GRMC decision support analyst and project manager.

Iowa City Downtown partners with the Children's Museum ...

Continuing a great relationship! For many years, the Rotary Club of Iowa City Downtown has had a great partnership with the Iowa Children's Museum. The club was thrilled to give a little back recently to their valued partner as they committed funds to help illuminate the main stairway at the museum, providing a brighter space for all. Presenting the check to the Iowa Children's Museum were (l-r): Eric Govers, Tony Lee, Iowa Children's Museum Director and Rotarian Deb Dunkhase, Paul Nichols, Angie Brown, Roger Jensen, Mark Ruggeburg, club president Kim Shillig, Bob Hardy and James Phelps.

Provided by James Phelps



Fellowship and fundraising

Iowa City Downtown: Have grill, will travel

By James Phelps/Iowa City Downtown

Club Public Relations Chair

The Rotary Club of Iowa City Downtown is trying a new approach to club fundraising and community support.

The club has invested its own dollars to purchase a commercial-style grill, and plans to use it for future fund-raising efforts and support of community events. In the past few months, the club has already provided grilling for nine different community events.

Most recently, the club provided grilling services for the Iowa City Shelter House's annual fund-raiser. The club's grill team went all out, serving both BBQ pulled pork and beef briskets. The team even made its own BBQ sauces for the event. It was a fantastic evening with one great organization helping another.

Please contact the club if you wish to partner in bringing great BBQ to one of your events! Call (319) 471-4924 or email: jphelps@rohrbachassociates.com.



The new grill with Rotary event recognition sign.



Grill Team (l-r): Eric Goers, Tim Conroy, James Phelps, Jeremy Richardson, Kristopher Ackerson, Kim Schillig and Bart Brown. Not pictured: Paul Nichols.



Club Grill team's Paul Nichols and Bart Brown put the finishing touches on a full beef brisket.



A tip of the hat for Tipton ...

Past District Governors supporting the Rotary Club of Tipton Auction on Oct. 20 were (clockwise from left): Ken and Jo Noble of West Liberty, Rachel and Cal Litwiller of Mount Pleasant, Becky Patterson (spouse of the late PDF Don Patterson of Washington), Vernetta and Chris Knapp of Iowa City AM, and the photographer, Bill Tubbs of North Scott.



DG Ruby, auctioneer Jeff Wallick and Tipton Rotary president Rick Fleshin.



An video of athletes competing on a Miracle Field inspired Rotarians and guests.
Photos by Bill Tubbs



With athletes signalling "thumbs up," mayors and leaders presented a symbolic check for \$65,000.

Quad Cities' clubs step up for \$1 million Miracle Field

By PDG Bill Tubbs/North Scott

Editor, District 6000 News

Efforts to build a \$1 million local adaptive sports field got a major boost Jan. 25 from Rotarians from the 12 clubs in the Quad Cities.

The Rotarians were joined at the Rogalski Center at St. Ambrose University by mayors and city officials from Iowa and Illinois, and District 6000 District Governor Mike Ruby and his wife, Jo Anne.

The vision is to build a handicapped-accessible home field for the Quad City Challenger Little League, which was started by the Rotary Club of the Iowa Quad Cities in 1992. There are 250 children in the Quad Cities Challenger League. The field is planned for Prairie Heights Park in Davenport, alongside three traditional fields near 53rd and Eastern.

Scott Hock, director of Davenport Parks and Recreation, who will oversee the project, said the goal is to allow athletes of all abilities to gather in one place. "This field will provide a safe and inclusive environment for athletes to enhance the recreational experience of all participants," he said.

The field will feature a custom-designed synthetic surface which will accommodate wheelchairs and other assisted devices. The bases will be at field level. There will be no raised areas. The fences will be 125 feet.

"The Miracle Field says 'you are welcome in the Quad Cities,'" said Hock.

"This tells kids they are no different," said Sara Griffin, the parent of a special athlete.

Support flowed equally from Illinois and

Iowa. "It's not a Davenport thing; it's a Quad Cities thing," said mayors on both sides of the river.

"All kids are equal in our eyes, and we want to give all a chance to participate," said Davenport mayor Frank Klipsch, a Rotarian.

"The city of Bettendorf pledged \$50,000, even though it's not in Bettendorf," said Bettendorf city administrator Decker Ploehn, another Rotarian. Support was also voiced by Moline mayor Stephanie Acre, Rock Island mayor Mike Thoms, Bettendorf mayor Bob Gallagher and Eldridge mayor Marty O'Boyle, a Rotarian.

Pledges and gifts received thus far are \$600,000 – more than halfway toward the goal. The 150 Rotarians and member pros-

pects in attendance on Jan. 25 made outright gifts and pledges of an additional \$6,000.

The first Miracle Field was a project of the Rotary club in Conyers, Ga. Since its inception in 2000, Rotary has played a role in many of the more than 200 Miracle Fields around the country, serving the needs of more than 200,000 differently-abled athletes, both children and adults. The nearest Miracle Field to the Quad Cities is 2-1/2 hours away, in Des Moines.

The participating Rotary clubs are: Bettendorf, Davenport, Iowa Quad Cities and North Scott, in Iowa; and East Moline/Silvis, Illinois Quad Cities, Milan, Moline, River Cities, Rock Island, Twin Rivers RAH and Valley Sunrise, in Illinois.



The Rotary mark of excellence will be plain to see when the \$1 million handicapped-accessible Miracle Field is completed in the Quad Cities.

'Tis the season for Marshalltown

Fireside chats stress member engagement

By Curt Hoff/Marshalltown

Taking a page from Franklin D. Roosevelt, the Rotary Club of Marshalltown continues the tradition of “fireside” chats to “onboard” new members.

Marshalltown club president Dennis Drager hosted over two dozen Rotarians and guests for this reason over the holidays. The Dragers are hosting a Rotary Youth Exchange student from Brazil, so it seemed fitting to mix in some Brazilian favorites into the hors d'oeuvres. The group was treated to Pao de queijo (cheese bread) and brigadeiro, a chocolate delicacy.

The club recently celebrated its 100th anniversary and the group viewed a 12-minute video illustrating the history of the club. In a relaxed setting, new members were exposed to Rotary projects, goals and beliefs among their more veteran peers.

Marshalltown Rotary Foundation president Curt Hoff described the scholarship focus of the local foundation that transitioned into a discussion of district grants. The club's Rotary Foundation chair, Scott Neff, had presented a testimonial of giving to The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International the previous day at the club's regular meeting.

Club treasurer Roger Groteluschen presented a general overview of the financials of the club.

When Drager took the reins this year, he noted the Marshalltown Rotary club's level of engagement and pledged to continue to promote this level to ensure the club's relevance. Past president and membership chair Bill Fitzgerald picked up on the idea of engagement and made it the centerpiece of the meeting.

All members were encouraged to do more than just “take it in” by proactively getting involved. “There is no better time than the present,” said Fitzgerald, as he encouraged the new members to not waste any time. Fitzgerald is the immediate past president of the club and his theme was built around bringing community and



New Rotarians, alongside veteran members, view the Marshalltown Rotary Club 100th anniversary video during a recent holiday “fireside” chat centered on the theme of engagement.

future leaders together to make central Iowa (and the world) a better place to live.

Reaching this goal requires engagement, and he stressed the need for members to reach out and be proactive in our efforts. He ended the evening suggesting the crop of new members take on a related class project. A Santa's “hats off” to the Dragers for providing a relaxed setting to engage with other Rotarians.



'Rotary Rallies for Youth' raises \$82,340 ...

At their Jan. 19 meeting, North Scott Rotarians celebrated their most successful fundraiser, the Nov. 17 “Rotary Rallies for Youth” auction, with a large symbolic check. The auction was attended by nearly 400 at the Rogalski Center, St. Ambrose University. Net proceeds for the club's service projects were \$82,340. From left to right: Cody Allen, Bob Bainter, Richard Horst, Ryan Davis, Jeremy Kaiser, Tom Messer, Paul Holzworth, Charlie Jones, Ryan Varner, Tracy Lindaman, Josh Cobie, Kelly Meyer, Eric Langan, Matt Maiers, Patrick Olsen, Jeff Helms, Fred Mulch, Dennis Peterson, Ken Tank, Tricia Kane, Jeff Ashcraft, Miles Thompson, Tyler Bindrum, Becky Bray, Jan Touney, Don Sierk, Jan Trimble, Richard Golinghorst, Jim Smith, Josie Seymour, Scott Case, Leroy Paustian, Dick Cole, Jack Schinckel, and Kathy Pezley. The 88-member Rotary Club of North Scott meets Friday noons at the Best Western Steeplegate Inn. Proceeds support projects in the local and world communities, including scholarships, Special Olympics, the Rotary Inspiration Play Zone in Eldridge, global polio eradication, the God's Mercy Orphanage in Kisiro, Uganda, and many more.

Photo by Bill Tubbs



Rotarian Steve Rose helps the first child get a book at the Free Little Library which was provided to the community by the Rotary Club of Indianola.

Rotary club provides 'Little Free Libraries' for Indianola

By Ron Heiderman/Indianola
Club President

"Little Free Library" is the name of a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that inspires a love of reading, builds community, and sparks creativity by fostering neighborhood book exchanges around the world. The organization helps people around the world start and maintain free "take a book, return a book" book exchanges called "Little Free Libraries." (LittleFreeLibrary.org)

Indianola's first Free Little Library has been placed at Indian Ridge Trailer Park at 309 West Second Avenue. The Rotary Club of Indianola will maintain the Library and keep it stocked with books.

Vocational visits a tradition at Rotary Club of Atlantic

By Dolly Bergmann/Atlantic
Club Public Relations Chair

The Rotary Club of Atlantic has continued visiting local businesses this winter, visiting Henningsen Construction. The following information comes from the business's website: "Coke was just five cents, hamburgers were only 25 cents and E. C. Henningsen along with his son T. G. Henningsen decided to start a 'seal coat' and asphalt paving business in Atlantic, Iowa. This is quite an undertaking today or in 1949 at just 49 and 22 years of age."

Today, Henningsen Construction, Inc. is still based in Atlantic, and has grown to over 200 employees and 350 pieces of equipment. The same ideals of honesty and hard work that show up in our company today are directly related to our history. At our Rotary visit we were welcomed by Brad Henningsen, the fourth generation leading the company. The company includes Asphalt Paving, Metal Building Construction & Metal Roofing, and ECHO Concrete. The company works primarily in Iowa but has many projects completed in the surrounding states.

The Rotary club members attended the Atlantic Area Chamber of Commerce Lighted Christmas Parade in December. The parade is kicked off with fireworks over the Depot (chamber office). All the entries in the parade are lighted. With the many lights in the trees along "Main Street" and on all the parade entries it is a beautiful sight in

the downtown. After the parade Rotarians and their families enjoyed a soup and sandwich supper. Joining everyone at the supper was Santa. He gave the younger children a Christmas book and listened to their Christmas wishes. The event is a nice way to "kick off" the Christmas season.



Festival of Trees – and the Rotary logo!



Rotarian Kent Hanson in front of one of the pieces of equipment used by Henningsen Construction – check the size of that tire!



Santa and two of the "big" kids

The Cass County American Cancer Society sponsors the Festival of Trees in December. The Rotary Club of Atlantic helps this event with a \$1,000 donation. With these funds they are able to purchase more extension cords, floor covers and other items to keep the event safe and enjoyable for the entire county. The Rotary club also helps with the event by decorating a tree. Many groups in the community decorate trees to help this worthwhile event.



Democrats Jon Neiderbach and John Norris were two of the candidates for Iowa governor at the West Liberty Rotary forum. Also attending were Andy McGuire, Cathy Glasson, Ross Wilburn, and Emiliano Martinez representing Nate Boulton. The forum was well attended and the reach was extensive.

Governor candidates attend Rotary forum

The Rotary Club of West Liberty joined with LULAC Iowa to sponsor a gubernatorial forum on Jan. 30 in West Liberty. Five of the seven Democratic Party candidates for governor of Iowa came to the forum; one candidate sent a representative.

Approximately 150 people attended the forum, and another 850 watched the live-streaming video in real time from the club Facebook page. Within 24 hours of the event, a total of 1,100 had viewed the video recording of the forum.

A similar forum had been planned for Republican Party candidates, but neither Gov. Reynolds nor Ron Corbett were available on the date selected.



Support for the Cub Scouts ...

The Rotary Club of West Liberty sent bidders to support the local Cub Scout pack at their cake auction. The pack sold 26 cakes, ranging in price from \$25 to \$250 each, with a median price of \$45; they raised \$1,545.



'Fresh Start' at Ankeny ...

Dave Kissinger of Project Fresh Start was a guest at the Oct. 3 meeting of the Rotary Club of Ankeny to receive a check for \$1,500 to be used to purchase snow pants for local children in need within the Ankeny community. The club also purchased 96 "Warm Coats" that will be donated to Project Fresh Start and distributed with the snow pants. Pictured (l-r): Dave Mercer, Dave Kissinger of Project Fresh Start, and President Sally Schroeder.

Provided by Jody Savage



Interactors support bicycle project

Members of the West Liberty High School Interact Club introduced themselves to Rotarians and talked about some of their activities. One of their accomplishments was to sponsor 12 bicycles (cash for 6, plus 1:1 match) for DG Mike Ruby's World Bicycle Relief project.

Rotary Club of Muscatine

Preview of luxury hotel highlights club's 98th anniversary celebration

By Paul Fitzpatrick/Muscatine

Being a member of the Rotary Club of Muscatine brings many blessings to business and non-profit leaders here in "The Pearl City." Those blessings do not merely happen at the lunchtime meetings of the club. Sometimes members receive opportunities to see the newest changes to our hometown; changes for the better.

On Feb. 1, members of the Rotary Club of Muscatine and guests celebrated the club's 98th birthday with a late afternoon social in downtown Muscatine. Club members were given an advanced first look at the newest pearl, the six-story luxury Merrill Hotel.

Lori Denney and Leanna Resetich ushered the 40 Rotarians in two groups to see the top floor ballroom, with a wraparound deck overlooking the mighty Mississippi. This could well become the most rented site for wedding receptions and other family and community celebrations. The "money sight" is truly a sight to behold.

The Rotarians were escorted to the elegant suites on other floors, the salt water swimming pool, made especially for lap swimmers, the main kitchen and the foyer, where, when the hotel opened on March 12, guests had their first welcome to this newest Pearl of the Pearl City.

The reactions of the Rotarians was overwhelmingly positive.

The Merrill Hotel has changed the waterfront landscape of Muscatine, and when it opens, will change even more than the landscape. The Merrill will change the economics and lives of residents as we welcome new visitors and acquaintances, some anticipated to travel from as far as China.

The members moved to Wine Nutz for a reception celebrating the 98th anniversary of the founding of the Rotary Club of Muscatine, and sat with other members where the experience at the Merrill Hotel was shared. The smiles were joined with good conversation and visions of even more blessings coming as guests arrive from around the world, receiving a very topflight welcome to The Pearl of the Mississippi – Muscatine.



Muscatine Rotary birthday cake with club president Erika Cox.



Past (and current) presidents of the Rotary Club of Muscatine (l-r): Erika Cox (current), Judi Holdorf, Mary Odell and Tony Joseph.

Muscatine Rotarians volunteer at meal site

The Rotary Club of Muscatine met Monday, Jan. 15 at a local meal site. After hearing a program given by Bill Dyar, director of the Muscatine Food Pantry, the club helped serve meals to several residents on a very frigid day. Club members serving food, from right to left, include Jim Stein, Mayor Diana Broderson, Rick Gosney, Larry Hetzler, club president Erika Cox, and Mike Fry.

Provided by Mike Ruby





Students (l-r): Madeline Fox, Nicole Cullen, Santa, Olivia Smyka, Audra Schultz and Anna Fox.



Rotarians (l-r): Bryan Stolz, club president Vicki Struzynski-Olson, Geoff Willming, Michele Brandstatter, Steve Laughlin, Santa, Judy Joyce, Todd Nash, Keith Jones, Jeff Koeppel and Judy Meyer.

Interactors assist at Breakfast with Santa

By Victoria Struzynski Olson/Coralville North Corridor Club President

The Rotary Club of Coralville North Corridor held its annual Breakfast with Santa at the Coralville Marriott on Dec. 9.

The CNC Rotary Club members were very happy to have several terrific Clear Creek Amana SAT/Rotary Interact Club members become our elves for the morning to help ensure the event was a success! This fundraising event began in 2014 and helps CNC Rotary support local libraries, club projects at CCA and more.

Coralville North Corridor Rotary supports the following:

- Clear Creek Amana SAT/Interact Club
- CCA Scholarship Award

- Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA) for 10th & 11th grades
- Tiffin Roadside cleanup
- Operation Warm coats
- Judy's Jammies (DVIP)
- Crisis Center/Food Pantries
- Dictionary Project for elementary students
- CCA High School Library
- Local Libraries- books and donations
- Xicotepec Mexico school
- Polio Plus
- Rotary Youth Exchange program

Thank you to the SAT/Rotary Interact Students at CCA!!



The Ohde Funeral Home team won the first prize.

Rotarians 'Pack the Pantry'

By Kara Stadtander/Manning

The Rotary Club of Manning hosted the first annual Pack the Pantry event. Businesses, churches, organizations, families, friends, individuals were asked to form three-person teams to participate in the event that took place at the local grocery store, West Street Market.

The competition was stiff but good-natured as all 16 teams had one goal in mind: to shop for items to donate to Manning Food Pantry totaling as close to \$250 without going over. Teams were given five minutes to shop for items from various categories that the food pantry is regularly in need of. 1,103 items were purchased by the 16 teams including 38 pounds of beef. Altogether close to \$4,600 in items and money was donated to the Manning Food Pantry. Ohde Funeral Home was awarded the traveling trophy as well as a year of bragging rights as the team total came to \$249.95.



Manning Rotarians donated 1,103 food items valued at \$4,600 with their "Pack the Pantry" event.

Bettendorf Lobsterfest: 15 grants, \$25,000

It was an opportunity for all 100-plus members of the Rotary Club of Bettendorf to “take a victory lap” as we presented proceeds from our 12th annual Lobsterfest to help support our Rotary programs and scholarships, in addition to grants to 15 charitable organizations of the Quad Cities.

In introducing the presentations, club president Tim Lane noted many of the other ways this Rotary club, alone or together with others, makes an impact on communities worldwide; these are some examples:

In Bettendorf and the Quad Cities: dictionaries for every 4th grader in every school in Bettendorf, scholarships to grads of Pleasant Valley, Bettendorf, Rivermont and Scott Community College, food and gift baskets to needy families at Thanksgiving and Christmas, planting trees in city parks, the installation of Harmony Park at Faye's Field, as well as partnering with other Rotary clubs in the development of Miracle Field, an inclusive sports facility that will serve special needs children and adults across the region.

With a more global approach, proceeds from Lobsterfest are supporting latrines in Nicaragua, clean water in Haiti, our ongoing support for PolioPlus, the Ponseti project, MOST, and most recently the purchase of 30 bicycles with World Bicycle Relief.

President Tim individually thanked each of the sponsors of Lobsterfest for their support, which supplies much of the funding for the club's philanthropy. He especially thanked John DeDoncker of Triumph Community Bank and Bill Daley of Abbey Carpet Gallery, presenting sponsors for 2017, and both will be returning as title sponsors for 2018.

John DeDoncker and Bill Daley personally presented each check to this year's grant recipients:

- 41st Iowa Composite Squadron of the Iowa Wing, Civil Air Patrol: **\$500**. The project, entitled “Youth cyber-security and public affairs,” will support creation and upkeep of a youth-oriented website and dissemination of news of general CAP activities. Receiving the grant: Lt. Col. Donald Hahn of the CAP's 7-state North-Central region and Harry Coin, QC Squadron adviser (and Bettendorf Rotarian).

- Boys & Girls Club of the Mississippi Valley: **\$2,000**. Funds will help pay for one of two new 15-passenger vans used to transport youths from Moline and Davenport Teen Centers to learning and enrichment opportunities throughout the QC. Elizabeth Zimmerman received the grant check.

- Center for Active Seniors, Inc.: **\$2,000**. The grant will help improve the safety and appearance of CASI's reception area and help Winnie's Place Emergency Shelter for women and their children. City Manager Decker Ploehn (a Bettendorf Rotarian) accepted the check for Laura Kopp, who was ill with flu.

- Child Abuse Council: **\$1,100**. The council purchased a newshaken-baby simulator doll to aid in training new fathers-to-be, and repaired an existing doll. Brooke Hendrickx received the grant check.

- Christian Care: **\$1,200**. Funds provide support for “Caring for Our Community,” a partnership with Unity Point-Trinity to serve

Christian Care clients. Pam Hauman accepted the check.

- Dress for Success Quad Cities: **\$2,000**. The grant will help support purchase of professional or specialized work attire and shoes for low-income women who have an interview or new job. Regina Haddock received the grant.

- From Cover to Cover: **\$2,000**. The group's “Snuggle Up and Read” campaign promotes literacy by providing at-risk students with new books and donated blankets. A representative was not in attendance.

- Greater Bettendorf Community Foundation: **\$2,000**. The group's Agape Center in Devils Glen Park provides food, furniture, clothing and more to those in need. Grant recipient Donald Wells reported 425 volunteers served more than 128,000 meals in 2017.

- Habitat for Humanity Quad Cities: **\$2,000**. In its 25th year in the QC, Habitat needs to upgrade the video technology in the classroom where it conducts meetings and training, such as orienting and teaching partner families and volunteers. Elesha Gayman received the grant.

- Hope at the BRICK House: **\$1,500**. After school programs for kids need more space, and the

grant will help with rental of additional classroom and gym space. Joyce Klopp accepted the check.

- Junior Achievement of the Heartland: **\$1,500**. “JA BizTown” helps students – tomorrow's workforce – develop the workplace skills they will need when they go to work. The grant to help fund that training was received by Dougal Nelson and Tawnya Hambly.

- River Music Experience: **\$1,500**. RME “stepped up music-education programming by 30% last year,” and the grant will purchase two computers and related equipment to aid in that work, according to Deb Powers, who accepted the check.

- St. Florian Fire and Burn Foundation: **\$2,000**. Funds aid the “Family Burn Group,” a camp-style weekend retreat that supports both burn victims and their family members. Andy Sheehan and Steve Knorrek received the grant.

- Supplemental Emergency Assistance Program: **\$2,500**: SEAP works with 54 social-service and health agencies whose clients may face unexpected expenses. The grant will help in such cases with emergencies ranging from rent to car repair or moving expenses. SEAP. Director Diane Sonnevile and Patricia Bird, a member of her board, received the grant check.

- The Sparkle Effect: **\$1,200**. Begun 10 years ago by Pleasant Valley High School students, The Sparkle Effect now unites students regardless of their limitations on the same cheer squads at more than 200 schools in 30 states. This grant, which Linda Mullen accepted, will aid training of two teams at PV and one at North Scott High School.

The Bettendorf Rotary Club's Charities Board consists of several past presidents and representatives from the Lobsterfest Committee.

The 12th Annual Lobsterfest will be held June 9th, 2018, at Tanglewood Pavilion. For tickets, or more information, contact President Tim Lane at (563) 320-9161.

– provided by Tim Lane, club president



Bettendorf Rotary grant recipients received checks totalling \$25,000 at the annual celebration in January.



PDG's Pueblo art at West Liberty ...

PDG David McPherrin (1979-80) gave a presentation to West Liberty Rotarians of some of the works of art he has created. Most of the pieces he showed were connected to the Pueblo people in Arizona and New Mexico, where McPherrin lived many years until returning to Iowa last year.

Provided by Steve Hanson

News briefs

Looking Ahead: DGE Tom Narak has set these dates for 2018-19: Rotary Foundation Dinner will be the evening of Saturday, Nov. 3. The District Conference will be May 2-4, 2019. Both events will be at the Sheraton West Des Moines. In lieu of the fall One Rotary Summits, DGE Narak will give clubs a flash drive with messages on Membership, Rotary Foundation and Public Image to present as the program at a club meeting.

Iowa M.O.S.T.: The Iowa Miles Of Smiles Team of District 6000 Rotarians and medical professionals completed the 13th consecutive annual mission trip to Guatemala Feb. 22-March 4, where they performed cleft lip and cleft palate repairs. Watch for a report of their service in the next issue of District 6000 News!

Goals: This is new! In order to be eligible to receive a Rotary Foundation Community Grant through District 6000 (p. 7), clubs must have turned in their goals for Membership, and giving to the Annual Fund and Polio.

Annual Meeting: At the annual business meeting of District 6000, which was held at NCPETS, clubs: 1) Approved the financial statements for Rotary year 2016-17; 2) Officially elected DGND Steve Dakin of the Rotary Club of Boone as District Governor for 2020-21; and 3) Approved DGE Tom Narak's district budget of \$133,850 for 2018-19, which had been sent to presidents-elect prior to the meeting. The budget is based on membership of 3,875. District dues will remain at \$30, which are among the lowest in our zone.

Coats: Rich Lalley of Operation Warm said at NCPETS that since 2014, District 6000 Rotarians have provided warm coats for 25,000 children. "Your impact is immeasurable," he said. The project is ongoing. Information: Deb Ockenfels, (319) 321-7461.

RI Rep: Best wishes to PDG Chris Knapp, who will be the official representative of RI President Ian Riseley at the District 5390 District Conference April 25-28 at Billings, Montana.

Gala: Blessman Ministries' 6th annual Gala with the theme, "Teach a Child to Fish," will be Thursday, April 26 starting with a 5:30 p.m. social hour at the Holiday Inn, 6111 Fleur Drive, Des Moines. The dinner and program start at 6:30. Tickets are \$150 and support Waukee Rotarian Jim Blessman's humanitarian work in South Africa. RSVP by March 26th at (515) 343-5920, or online at www.BlessmanInternationalGala.PlanningPod.com.

Foundation: Incoming District Rotary Foundation Chair, PDG Chris Knapp, gave presidents-elect a schedule of visits he will make to clubs in 2018-19, during which he will use the program time to present about the Foundation and the club's giving.

Peace: RI President Ian Riseley invites any or all Rotarians and friends to the Presidential Peacebuilding Conference Saturday, June 2, 2018, at the Chicago South Shore Cultural Center. The event is hosted by Zones 28-29, which includes District 6000. The theme is "Peacebuilding through Education and Literacy." The conference will be host to over 150 students engaged in a Rotary-UN Model Day. Additional information and registration are at www.rotaryliteracy.org.



Packaging meals for Puerto Rico ...

Waukee Rotarians, spouses, family and friends gathered on Nov. 29th at the Outreach facility in Des Moines to package 12,000 meals to be sent to those in need in Puerto Rico. Financial support came from club members and their spouses and the Waukee Rotary Foundation.

Provided by Erna Morain

A question led three RYLArrians to start a community service project in Knoxville

By John Mertz and
T. Waldmann-Williams/Knoxville

Change starts with a new question. And, a question is what brought three Knoxville RYLA recipients to initiate a project that served Knoxville's community food pantry – Helping Hands.

In mid-October, two RYLArrians, Trevor Poundstone and Bailey VandeKamp, distributed student dictionaries to elementary schools in southern Marion County along with Gary Anderson, chair of the Rotary Club of Knoxville's dictionary project, and club president, T. Waldmann-Williams.

On the return to school, Waldmann-Williams asked the students, "How do you think you could serve the world by participating in our Rotary PolioPlus campaign?" This question got the two RYLArrians thinking how to get students and the community involved. Poundstone envisioned a run, and he and VandeKamp were friends with RYLArrian and cross country runner, Joey Kesteloot, so they asked him to be part of the leadership team.

After talking with Knoxville High School teacher, Mr. Gibbons, the team decided it was too late to organize anything in two weeks for the PolioPlus campaign (World Polio Day was Oct. 24) so they focused on a late November or early December run event. However, through their journey, they decided on Dec. 30, calling the event "New Year's Resolution Run," with the belief that people would be motivated to end their year by serving others.

With guidance from Rotarians, Kevin Wadle and Pennie Sommar, the team of three obtained insurance, obtained the county's and city's OK, solicited sponsors, established a Facebook page, decided on an entry fee, and designated the recipient of the proceeds.

There were four primary sponsors: McK-



Rotarians, RYLArrians are pictured the runners and walkers who organized the event and raised funds for projects in Knoxville, front (l-r): Rotarian Kevin Wadle and RYLArrians Joey Kesteloot, Bailey VandeKamp and Trevor Poundstone, and Rotarian Pennie Sommar. Many of the runners, walkers, sponsors, and volunteers are in the remaining rows.

ay Insurance (a Rotary business member), Peace Tree Brewing Company, Ramaeker Enterprises, and Rotary. The RYLArrians shared how the leadership skills they learned focused them with Poundstone having the vision and organizational skills, VandeKamp using her technical and writing skills, and Kesteloot organizing the route and social media.

Rotarian Kevin Wadle said, "I learned how to step back and let them lead. They did an incredible job."

"We were thankful for the guidance of Mr. Wadle and Ms. Sommar because we could bounce ideas off of them, which helped organize us," said Poundstone. Each gathered several sponsors and volunteers through their work, relationships, and luck.

Kesteloot commented, "We were Ramaeker Enterprises' 10,000th customer and they decided to do something big. We were

there at the right time and they donated all our T-shirts and fliers.

VandeKamp added, "We have eight other sponsors donating hot chocolate, gift cards, and other merchandise for awards. With our sponsors, runners and walkers, and volunteers from Rotary, Knoxville's food pantry – Helping Hands will receive 100 percent of the monies and canned goods."

While they hoped for 100 runners/walkers on Dec. 30, the minus 22-degree weather was the deciding factor to postpone the run/walk to Jan. 6, 2018, which showed that it was going to be 30 degrees warmer. However, despite the minus 2-degree temperature on Jan. 6, quite a number of the original registered 70 participated or volunteered.

Helping Hands received \$970 plus canned goods and many, including the organizers, are resolved to advance their New Year's resolution.



ROTARY CONVENTION
TORONTO, ONTARIO, CANADA
23-27 JUNE 2018

Register for Toronto and join friends at the District 6000 Breakfast!

Rotarians traveling to the RI Convention June 23-27 in Toronto will be able to connect with Iowa friends at the popular District 6000 Breakfast on Monday, June 25th from 7:30-9:00 a.m. at The National Club, 303 Bay Street, Toronto. Hosts are DGN Erna and Steve Morain. The cost is \$40 per person. The registration form can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/yawx4e4n>. Questions? Carolyn Scharff at (877) 976-8279. Convention pre-registration ends March 31 at www.rotary.org.



Let's keep our eye focused on the goal of a polio-free world! There were 22 cases of polio in 2017; and 3 so far in 2018, all in Afghanistan. The last reported case was Feb. 9, 2018.

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Club leaders' checklist

From DG Mike Ruby . . .

- Attend the March 24 **District Assembly** at Newton and urge Rotarians to join you! (p. 8).
- Sign up **NOW** and urge your members to attend one of the five **Toast to Rotary District Conferences** (p. 4-5).
- Encourage members to register for the **RI Convention and District 6000 Breakfast in Toronto** (p. 39).
- Make a Difference with your support of **World Bicycle Relief** (p. 6).
- Apply for a **Rotary Foundation Community Grant** on or before the June 1, 2018 deadline (p. 7).
- Enter our "**Service Above Selfie**" photo contest (p. 7).
- Recruit students for **RYLA** (p. 9).
- Show members how they can support **RAG4Clubfoot** financially and schedule a speaker to help members learn about it (p. 12-13).
- Make plans and urge members to help your club meet or exceed your **Rotary Foundation** and **PolioPlus** goals! (p. 15-18).
- If your club has not been represented at at **Grant Management Seminar**, attend on March 23 at Newton (p. 23).
- **Plant a tree** for every member of your club in support of RI President Ian Riseley's challenge.
- Report your club's **volunteer hours and monetary contributions** to Rotary International.
- Set a specific **Membership Goal** and invite quality new members to become a part of Rotary.
- Choose and carry out club and service projects to qualify for Ian Riseley's **Presidential Citation**.
- Share your copy of **District 6000 News** to show others what Rotary is about!
- **Submit news** of your activities by May 25th for the next issue of *District 6000 News* to PDG Bill Tubbs at btubbs@northscottpress.com. Send text as a Word file or in the body of the email; and free-standing high resolution .jpg images.



The Object of Rotary

The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

FIRST: The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;

SECOND: High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;

THIRD: The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;

FOURTH: The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

The Four-Way Test (of the things we Think, Say or Do)

1. Is it the TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?