

District 6000 News

Rotary International, District 6000, Iowa USA

Susan Herrick, Governor

– A Global Network of Community Volunteers –

June/July/August 2008-09



Governor's comments . . .

From 'Follow Your Dreams' to 'Make Dreams Real'

By DG Susan Herrick/Boone

Rotarians are historically dreamers. Paul Harris dreamed of fellowship with other businessmen and professionals, Arch Klumph dreamed of a Foundation that would accept endowments for the purpose of doing good in the world, and Rotarians world-wide dream of the eradication of polio and of Peace on Earth.

What are your dreams for this Rotary year?

D.K. Lee, Rotary International President, has asked us to "Make Dreams Real" for the children of the world. In his research to choose a theme for this Rotary year, D.K. discovered that at that time 30,000 children were dying EACH DAY from preventable causes. And so he set out to slash that number by inspiring projects around the Rotary world that would improve the lives of children.



Susan Herrick
District Governor

In developing countries that means water and sanitation projects, schools, and improved nutrition. In those countries that we would define as "developed" there still is not a single Rotary district where a Rotary project can't save lives. Children still need access to health care. Children still need a safe place to play. And children still need our protection from the ravages of drug abuse.

We have much to do.

In my Rotary journey I was challenged during the year of my club presidency to "Follow Your Rotary Dream." And now as district governor our theme is to "Make Dreams Real."

By the date of this article (August 18) Bob and I have visited 33 of our District 6000 Rotary clubs. You are a diverse and wonderful group of Rotarians, and I believe that you have the enthusiasm to do wonderful things this year.

Let me share some of the dreams I have for the 2008-2009 Rotary year:

The Polio Challenge: The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has given Rotary International a \$100 million Challenge Grant that reaches from Jan. 1, 2008, to Dec. 31, 2010. It is the belief of the Gates Foundation, along with Rotary International, the World Health Organization, UNICEF, and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, that this is now an unprecedented opportunity to finish the job of eradicating polio from our planet and insuring that no other child is ever again paralyzed or dies from the wild poliovirus.

A little more than 20 years after we promised the children of the world that we would eradicate polio, the job is nearly done.

GOVERNOR'S COMMENTS/
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Iowa tornados, floods call Rotarians to action . . .



When disaster strikes close to home, as it did with tornados and floods in Iowa in May and June, Rotary is called to action. From Rotary International to the local club level, Rotarians are responding, but the job of rebuilding our homes, neighborhoods, cities, roads and infrastructure has only begun. Read about it on pages 2-3.

PDG Roger Borup tabbed 'Flood Czar'

By DG Susan Herrick/Boone

The summer of 2008 will be another year that will go down in history as a season where Iowans have been stricken several blows by Mother Nature. The wonderful thing about Iowans and Rotarians is that we don't take these things lying down! We have responded by creating the Disaster Relief Fund within our District 6000 Humanitarian and Educational Fund (our 501(C)3 entity), and Rotarians across the Rotary world have been coming to our aid.

Without a full tally by the time we are going to press, Dick Kennedy of Iowa City, treasurer of FAMSCO, tells us that we currently have received over \$28,744 in flood relief aid as of Aug. 20. That figure includes \$10,000 from Texas Rotarians, \$2,500 from California Rotarians, and sums of \$500 or more from Rotarians in New Jersey, Wisconsin, Michigan and Maryland, as well as MANY generous donations from our own Rotary clubs.

District 6000 had also received \$15,793 as of Aug. 20 for tornado relief for Parkersburg. Rotarians in District 5970 will be administered those funds.

All donors are receiving personal thank yous from me on behalf of District 6000 and will receive a second acknowledgement when we can report how the monies were spent.

I have appointed a Disaster Relief Advisory Committee to determine how these monies will be distributed to do the most good for the greatest number of people. Under the guidance of committee chair PDG Roger Borup of the Rotary Club of Wellman, the committee is currently comprised of:

- Disaster Relief Committee chair Jim Riordan of the Rotary Club of Waukee;
- Committee person Keith Matke of the Rotary Club of North Scott;
- Rotary Volunteers chair Merle Anderson of the Rotary Club of North Scott;
- DGE Cal Litwiller of the Rotary Club of Mt. Pleasant;
- DGN Gary Welch of the Rotary Club of Ankeny.

This Advisory Committee will develop criteria by which to determine how these monies will be distributed, working with information gathered from County Emergency Management professionals.

If there are Rotarians who through their work experience feel that they have expertise that would help this Advisory Committee, we encourage you to contact Committee Chair PDG Roger Borup, (319) 646-2324, and volunteer to assist this Advisory Group.



PDG Roger Borup (1997-98) was recognized as "Rotarian of the Year" by the Wellman Rotary Club during DG Susan Herrick's official visit July 16. The former district accountant was appointed "Flood Czar" by DG Herrick to oversee the prudent disbursement of disaster relief funds.

Rotary Volunteers needed!

By Merle Anderson/North Scott

D-6000, Rotary Volunteers chair

The spring floods in the Midwest have been devastating. Our own state of Iowa has been hit particularly hard. Most of you know that Rotary is not a first-responder to a natural disaster, but Rotary makes itself available to help where and when we are needed.

There is a big need. Can you and your Rotary club help? There is an organization called "Hands On Disaster Response" that is calling us for our help in Cedar Rapids. It is a non-faith based charitable organization. They are set up in a work trailer in the parking lot of Cedar Hills Community Church, at the intersection of Stoney Point Road and E Avenue NW in Cedar Rapids.

Andrew Kerr is a Rotarian from Raleigh, North Carolina, and has taken a four-month leave of absence to do this volunteer work. Andrew has good news and bad news to report. Several clubs – including Keosauqua and Atlantic – have responded with volunteers. They have made huge progress. They will no longer need Volunteers for cleanup and demolition work. Now, they need Volunteers for carpentry skills such as hanging dry wall, taping and mudding. I'm sure they will also need other skilled workers.

Would your club be willing to volunteer for a day or two? Or even a half a day? There is much to do. They need workers every day. How do you go about it? First, get a commitment from your board and membership that you will volunteer. Then, determine how many members are willing to demonstrate "Service Above Self" for people in need right here in Iowa.

Next, contact Kerr at (919) 830-3573. Determine a date(s) that will work best for members of your Rotary club to volunteer.

PLEASE HELP. There is a saying something like this: 'You won't have a perfect day until you help somebody that you know can never repay you.' Here is an opportunity for you and your club to have a perfect day and demonstrate the motto of Rotary.



Trash from houses gutted by the June flood waits to be picked up in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

RI issues call for action for Iowa tornados, floods

The floods that inundated Iowa, shutting down Interstate 80 and other main highways, occurred at the time of the RI Convention in Los Angeles and caught the attention of the Rotary world. On June 25, Diana Schoberg of the Rotary International News Service posted this appeal on the RI Web site:

Funds have been established to assist Iowa residents who have been battered by this month's record-setting floods, which have caused billions of dollars in damage and forced the evacuation of nearly 40,000 Iowans from their homes.

Iowa RI districts 5970 and 6000, as well as the Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation, have established funds to help with relief and recovery efforts. Contact information is listed below.

"The flooding, it's been devastating," said Dan Baldwin, president-elect of the Rotary Club of Cedar Rapids and president of the Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation. "This has actually gone outside the 500-year flood plain. A hospital 10 blocks from the river had to be evacuated. The entire downtown was underwater, some areas with 9 [to] 10 feet of water right in our central business district. Our community has never faced anything of this magnitude in terms of an emergency and rebuilding effort."

Floods have also ravaged other parts of the Midwest, including Wisconsin, Indiana, Illinois and Missouri. The disaster has disrupted rail service in the Midwest and forced portions of interstate highways in several states to close, according to news reports.

The floods in Iowa coincided with a tornado that killed four Boy Scouts at an Iowa camp and just weeks after another tornado killed six people and nearly leveled much of the community of Parkersburg.

"Rotarians in Iowa responded in a magnificent way to the E5 tornado in Parkersburg, where 288 homes were destroyed," said Ken Kolek, a past governor of District 5970 and its current Rotary Foundation committee chair. "Now we turn around and are faced with 1,300 city blocks flooded, between 3,000 and 4,000 residences either partially or totally destroyed, close to 1,000 busi-



Nearly 40,000 Iowans were forced to evacuate their homes because of floods during June. The recovery will be long and difficult. Rotarians are asked to contribute financially and as volunteers.

nesses destroyed."

The donor advised fund being set up by District 5970, covers the northern part of Iowa, including Cedar Rapids, Kolek said. He said he's been inundated with "incredible offers of help from all over the world."

District 6000, which serves southern Iowa including Iowa City and Des Moines, is earmarking an account for flood relief within its Humanitarian and Educational Foundation Inc., established after devastating floods hit the region in 1993.

District Governor Diana Reed is encouraging Rotarians who want to volunteer to help out with immediate relief efforts to go through channels in their communities, such as the Red Cross and Salvation Army. She asks that those who want to help with future Rotary projects in the recovery process contact the district office, where they will be put in touch with the appropriate point person.

"Iowans are resilient," she said. "We'll come back."

District 6000 Fund: Make checks payable to "HEF Inc." and note "Iowa disaster relief" on the memo line. Mail to:

Dick Kennedy
1811 N. Dubuque Rd.
Iowa City, IA 52245

For information about volunteer needs for recovery efforts, e-mail administrator Carolyn Scharff or call (877) 976-8279.

District 5970 Fund: Make checks payable to "Rotary 2008 Flood Relief" and mail to:

Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation
200 First St. SW
Cedar Rapids, IA 52404

To wire funds, call (319) 366-2862 or e-mail Ken Kolek for details.



PDG John Jeter and Frieda of Longview, Texas (I) were at the RI Convention in Los Angeles when severe floods hit Iowa. A native of Maquoketa, Iowa, Jeters asked how Texas Rotarians could help. On July 18, he attended the Rotary Club of North Scott during DG Susan Herrick's official visit and said District 5830 would send \$10,000.

FAMSCO warehouse flooded

Replacement needed immediately!

By Linda Muston/Iowa City

FAMSCO Secretary

It would be impossible to estimate the number of people who have been helped by FAMSCO (Fire and Medical Supply Company) during its 20-year history. The more than 100 fire trucks and emergency vehicles and the hundreds of tons of usable medical equipment and supplies that have gone to Rotary partners in Mexico, Central America and New Orleans, are directly benefiting individuals and cities at this moment.

Now, FAMSCO (Fire And Medical Supply Company District 6000 program) has a serious need of its own: *To carry out its life-saving mission, FAMSCO needs a permanent warehouse.*

This need has become more and more obvious through the years as we are now in our fifth "home," but it was really brought to light again during the summer floods in Coralville.

When flood waters threatened the City of Coralville, warehouses "loaned" for FAMSCO storage of fire trucks and medical supplies, volunteers had to quickly and urgently move a warehouse full of vehicles, large packed gaylords or crates full of surplus medical equipment, loose miscellaneous items and a significant amount of equipment, including some portable x-ray machines and hospital beds. Two large semis were used for temporary storage of some of the medical items.

Then, after the water subsided, Coralville reorganized its warehouse space and FAMSCO volunteers had to move promptly and consolidate items in one warehouse – one that had been flooded.

Before the shelves could be erected in the new location, flood-damaged wallboard and flood-soaked interior walls had to be removed. Volunteers, assisted by Americorps workers and a very generous family from Illinois, did the demolition and filled two large dumpsters with the soaked, smelly interior walls, insulation and wood that were torn out during a hot and humid July day.



Iowa City Rotarian Dick Kennedy (r) and volunteers act quickly to relocate donated medical supplies.

Dozens of volunteers worked tirelessly to remove the items temporarily stored in the semis and place them in an organized fashion on the re-assembled shelves moved from the first warehouse, but this is only a temporary fix!

The volume and the sophistication of the equipment means FAMSCO needs a permanent home to continue to succeed in the mission that has gathered, packed, shipped and recycled usable fire and medical equipment for two decades.

IF YOU KNOW OF AN AVAILABLE WAREHOUSE OF 10,000 square feet or more in the greater Iowa City or Des Moines area that might be available for charitable gift, lease or purchase, please contact FAMSCO President Karin Franklin at kaf@xwires.net.



Keith Mattke (l), who organized the District 6000 Disaster Response Team in 2000 and represented Rotary on the Iowa Human Resources Disaster Council for seven years, met with DG Susan Herrick during her official visit to the Rotary Club of North Scott on July 18 to discuss projects.



Washington Rotarian Gary Murphy (r) and volunteers re-move damaged wallboard and flood-soaked interior walls.

Rotary's dreams for youth, membership

GOVERNOR'S COMMENTS

continued from p. 1

Rotary International is asking that each club in the Rotary world give \$1,000 a year for the next three years – that will meet the \$100 million Challenge. But in all fairness, as I travel across our district, I have spoken to clubs of 15 and to clubs of 300. It is hardly equitable to ask each club for the same amount of money. So, we have broken this down to the individual Rotarian.

To meet RI's challenge each of us must raise \$15 per member each year for the next three years. I believe that this a challenge we can all meet. And we are not being asked to reach into our own pockets for these funds – many of us have given for a number of years already. We are being asked to raise that money in our communities with a dual purpose – to educate our communities about the fight that Rotary has waged and continues to wage against this crippling killer and to educate them that this disease is still only a plane ride away from us.

My first and most important dream for this year is that we meet or exceed the challenge that has been put before us. All children deserve to live in a polio-free world.

Foundation and Membership: My next dream is in the related areas of Membership and Foundation. Rotary clubs in the United States have seen a decline in membership over the past few years.

With fewer hands and hearts involved in doing the work of Rotary, we have an ongoing challenge to achieve all that we wish to accomplish. Happily, the giving in District 6000 remains among the highest in our zone but we can't maintain that in clubs that are not growing or are losing members.

RI President D.K. Lee is asking each district to increase its membership by 10 percent and to develop two new Rotary clubs this year. It is his belief that in this way we will ensure that we will make a difference in the world.

One of the best ways to insure that your club is learning new approaches to Foundation and Membership is to bring a leadership team to the Foundation and Membership Seminar that is being held near your town. The dates and locations for these seminars are:

Sept. 23: Mt. Pleasant, Sirloin Stockade.

Sept. 25: West Liberty, West Liberty Community Center

Sept. 29: Pella, Third Reformed Church.

Sept. 30: Atlantic, Southwest Community College.

Oct. 1: West Des Moines, Connixions

These seminars will occur from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. at each location and a light supper will be provided.

Please work to take advantage of this opportunity to share information and support in the areas of Foundation and Membership.

Youth Programs: The future of Rotary lies in our youth programs. It is my dream that every club in District 6000 finds a way to be involved with young people. Rotary Youth Exchange is a wonderful way to be involved with International Service and share the vitality of young people from around the world.

Or Rotaract and Interact programs help high school and college students get some hands-on experience with Service Above Self.

And as a part of that effort, contributions to the Youth Fund Scholarship that fosters and supports the participation of youth (Rotaract & Interact) in humanitarian service projects will give high school and college students assistance in being involved in service.

Or assist your elementary schools in starting a RotaKids club that will create and handle small Rotary projects as they learn about Rotary and Service Above Self.

All of these programs will inspire and motivate our youth to join us in Making Dreams Real throughout our district and our world.

Substance Abuse Prevention:

As many of you already know, I have worked for the past 26 years as the director of a substance abuse prevention agency. I am asking, as part of the criteria to earn the Governor's Citation, that each club accomplish one new substance abuse prevention project that will reduce child mortality.

I believe that any time we reduce drug abuse we save lives. All of your counties are served by a comprehensive substance abuse prevention agency.

Those agencies have already been alerted that you'll be engaged in a prevention project and are standing ready to help you find a project that fits your community and your membership.

If all 62 of District 6000's Rotary clubs do something to fight substance abuse this year, imagine the good that we can do for our youth and our communities! This would be a dream that will save lives.

Ralph Waldo Emerson gave us a definition for success: "To laugh often and much, to win the respect of intelligent people and the affection of children, to earn the appreciation of honest critics and endure the betrayal of false friends, to appreciate beauty, to find the best in others, to leave the world a bit better, whether by a healthy child, a garden patch...to know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived. This is to have succeeded!"

May we all succeed to MAKE DREAMS REAL this year!

REGIONAL MEETINGS:

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The agenda:

6:00 p.m.: Arrive, enjoy light supper.

6:30 p.m.: General meeting for all.

7:15 p.m.: Break.

7:30 p.m.: Choose Breakout Session: Membership or Foundation.

8:45 p.m.: Reconvene, Wrap Up with closing remarks

9:00 p.m. - Adjourn

'To laugh often and much, to win the respect of intelligent people and the affection of children, to earn the appreciation of honest critics and endure the betrayal of false friends, to appreciate beauty, to find the best in others, to leave the world a bit better, whether by a healthy child, a garden patch...to know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived. This is to have succeeded!

– Ralph Waldo Emerson

Ambassadorial Scholars selected for 2009-10

By Jeff Bremer/N'West Des Moines
D-6000, Ambassadorial Scholars chair

The Ambassadorial Scholarship Committee is proud to announce our selection of scholars for the 2009-2010 academic school year. Applications were somewhat down this year and two of our winners are repeat applicants. Both of those scholars had interviewed very well two years ago, but didn't quite make it as one of the selections. They decided to try once again and this year proved to be the year where they would be awarded the scholarship opportunity.

The committee consists of Jeff Bremer, chair (Northwest Des Moines), Joe Walt (Indianola), Jason Summers (Albia), Dick Johns (Iowa City), Susan Christensen (Ames), Cindy Mays (West Liberty), and Ed Rogalski (Davenport).

The three students we have recommended to be Ambassadorial Scholars are:

- Jill Moeller is sponsored by the Rotary Club of Mount Pleasant. She graduated

from Truman State University and hopes to attend Rhodes University in Grahamstown, South Africa. She intends to make a lifelong commitment to environmental sustainability issues. This program will allow Jill to solely study on research as it relates to environmental management as it relates to local issues.

- Heidi Koester is sponsored by the Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines. She graduated from Northwestern University and hopes to attend the Universidad Torcuato Di Tella in Buenos Aires in Argentina. This opportunity will allow her to study international relations or sustainable development and corporate social responsibility. This will help her understand the political and economic factors of the region

- Ashley Allman is sponsored by the Ottumwa Rotary Club. She graduated from Iowa State University and hopes to attend Chinese University of Hong Kong in Hong Kong. This experience will allow her to work as an adviser or director in interna-

tional education and would also help her to promote the Rotary Foundation to other college students as they look at the possibility of foreign travel

Ambassadorial Scholarships, valued at \$27,000, are an Educational Program of The Rotary Foundation. Rotary District 6000 continues to support this wonderful scholarship opportunity.

As Rotarians, we need to keep our eyes and ears open to the students who would make a very qualified applicant to the program. We all know students from our hometowns who have demonstrated that they have the ability from an academic sense and who are very engaging with their goals and love for people that would benefit from this scholarship to study abroad.

If you have students who would be interested, please email me at jeffbremer@mchsi.com or call me at (515) 249-5366. Applications for 2010-11 scholarships are due to me by April 5, 2009.



The Training Committee was the first to meet at the office (l-r): DG Susan Herrick, Mike Ruby (Muscatine), DGN Gary Welch (Ankeny), Trainer Jack O'Leary (Nevada), DGE Cal Litwiller (Mt. Pleasant), Rita Perea (Des Moines), PDG Diana Reed (Northwest Des Moines), Bill Koellner (West Liberty), Norm VanKlombenburg (Newton) and PDG Don Goering (Ames).



District Governor Susan Herrick welcomes Rotarians to use the new District Office in Knoxville for meetings.

District finds a home in Pella



Pella Rotarians David Corbin, Jack Brockway and Dan Bogaard installed an outdoor sign.

District 6000 moved into its new office at 1915 Washington St., Pella, on July 1, thanks to the work and donations of many, including: A HON desk and file from Smith's Carpet and Furniture, Knoxville (brothers Calvin and Larry Smith, who is a Rotarian); and a 10'x4' board table and 25 chairs from the Boone County Hospital (Joe Smith, a Rotarian). DG Susan Herrick said the district is still looking for a donation of 50 stacking chairs. Call Carolyn Scharff, (877) 976-8279.



Members of the Public Relations Committee met in the spacious meeting room on Aug. 26: Marti Kline (East Polk), Loring Miller (Decatur County), Mark Osmundson (Marshalltown) and DG Susan Herrick and Bob.

Focus on Membership:

THE COMPELLING NEED FOR NEW CLUBS

By Bill Koellner/West Liberty

D-6000, Club Extension Committee chair

We need committed Rotarians to “Share Rotary” and mentor new members. It’s one thing to talk about commitment, but it’s another to do it.

Past Rotary International Themes included: “Create Awareness, Take Action” (2000-01); “A Time for Action” (1973-1974); and “Share Rotary - Serve People” (1983-1984).

The only real measure of commitment is action. Nothing is perhaps easier than saying words. How are we doing when it comes to following through on our commitment to bring new members into Rotary?

The total membership numbers in District 6000 as of May 2008 show only an increase of four new members from July 1, 2007. (Presently, RI is tabulating information sent in by club secretaries in July 2008, thus the total change in district membership will not be known until September.)

After joining Rotary and living Rotary, people will become better spouses, better employers in their businesses and professions and better citizens in their community. New Rotarians are usually excited as they in turn have invited others to join. Their commitment to Rotary’s growth is most evident in their willingness to share it. However, that growth is not being realized.

Rotary International data indicates that nearly all membership growth has come from organizing new clubs. Membership in existing clubs worldwide has, in many areas, been stagnant or decreasing.

Intuitively, it would seem that organizing a new club in an area where the existing club is shrinking, would further threaten the existing club. Take a closer look and we see that this is not necessarily the case.

Where the existing club chooses to get behind forming a new Rotary club, membership growth frequently comes on the heels of the new energy and excitement generated by the activities involved.

The world has evolved; our lives are different than those of our parents. Smart businesses change and innovate to stay relevant. Rotary does, too.

The decision to sponsor a new club is sparked by the notion that the meeting time or place doesn’t suit a range of potential members, or that there is opportunity for a club with a different culture.

As we consider the possibilities, we often take a fresh look at the community and an exhaustive look at the classifications – seeing new as well as traditional businesses and professions in our communities. We realize that there are young people who would be great Rotarians if they could belong to a club sometimes along with their spouse and not break the family budget doing so.

We meet qualified retired people who are energetic and moti-

vated to be involved. We even find, as we recruit members for the new club, that there are those who would like to be in our existing club and have somehow been overlooked!

In organizing a new club, we often generate the PR that we had neglected as we went about our projects and activities. And everywhere a new Rotary club appears, there are more opportunities for networking, fellowship and projects than there were before.

Today we expect choices, in our cars, computers, even coffee. Why not our clubs? Clearly, not every Rotary town needs another club, but many do. If there are potential members who are not able to be a part of Rotary because of time, venue, or club culture, perhaps it is time to energize your club and grow Rotary by starting a new club. If undertaken with a positive outlook, it will be “beneficial to all concerned.”

There is no ideal club size. In fact, most of us, whether our own club’s membership is 20 or 150, are sure that our club is the ideal size. Rotarians seem to prefer the status quo to the unfamiliar, even if something different might be better. Their reluctance to recruiting new members and resistance to helping their club grow is a significant obstacle to the growth of Rotary.

What is most distressing is the Rotarian who opposes membership development in their own club, and also impedes the formation of a new club.

Perhaps some Rotarians are not interested in membership development because an influx of keen, energetic members bringing new life, new views, new interests, pose a challenge to what is now a comfortable place to sit at Rotary meetings. At a recent

zone training session, we were told that the average size of a Rotary club worldwide is 38 members.

The District Extension Committee is looking for opportunities to extend Rotary in communities where there are existing Rotary clubs, but also in communities where there are few service organizations.

We are also looking at the idea of a New Generations Club. This idea would provide opportunities to people in their 20s and 30s. In addition, there are many Foundation alumni who are in this age category and already have the full knowledge of the successes of Rotary in the World.

Club Extension is working in the Des Moines area and in the DeWitt areas. We are also looking at expanding in areas where there are existing Rotary clubs to provide existing Rotarians and Rotarians who had to drop from the local Rotary club due to commuting. Club Extension is working to provide opportunities for as many people to serve and make Rotary ours as we share it with others.

Making Dreams Real with you, Bill Koellner, Club Extension



“Rotary International data indicates that nearly all membership growth has come from organizing new clubs . . . We expect choices, in our cars, computers, even coffee. Why not our clubs? Clearly, not every Rotary town needs another club, but many do. If there are potential members who are not able to be a part of Rotary because of time, venue, or club culture, perhaps it is time to energize your club and grow Rotary by starting a new club. If undertaken with a positive outlook, it will be ‘beneficial to all concerned.’”



Australian Friendship Exchange Rotarians Dawn and Jack Watson, John Lucas and Errol Healy visit the historic Salisbury House in Des Moines with Iowa Rotarians and spouses Richard and Marj Johnson, Jack and Jill Schreiber and John Lewis.

Friendship Exchange Committee keeps active

By Keith Whigham/Ames

D-6000, Friendship Exchange chair

The District 6000 Friendship Exchange Committee has a busy schedule for 2008-2009. In June and July, a delegation of four Australian Rotarians were hosted by Rotarians from Ames, Atlantic, Creston, Fairfield and Des Moines for two weeks. Al Orsborn of the Rotary Club of Ottumwa coordinated the exchange.

Aug. 15 was the departure date of an outbound Friendship Exchange delegation to visit District 2340 in Sweden for 10 days. Ten delegates made the trip and Walt Githens of Des Moines was the delegation leader.

On Sept. 12, a 20-member delegation from District 6000 will travel to District 1080 in England for nine days. John Lewis of West Des Moines is the delegation leader, assisted by Richard Johnson of Sheldahl.

An inbound delegation from District 2340 in Sweden will complete the exchange and come to District 6000 during 2009. Rotary clubs interested in hosting the Sweden delegation should contact Dennis Nygaard of Wellman (dennison@federationbankia.com).

World Food Prize Foundation invites Rotarians to Hunger Summit

By DG Susan Herrick/Boone

On Oct. 14 the second annual Iowa Hunger Summit, organized by the World Food Prize, will take place at the Downtown Marriot Hotel in Des Moines. Given Rotary's strong and consistent focus on issues of hunger and specifically because of Rotary International President D.K. Lee's emphasis on reducing child mortality and hunger globally, every club in District 6000 is being invited to have representation at this event, which will gather several hundred business and community leaders from across our state.



There is no charge for any part of this day, including the Hunger Luncheon, at which food service is that which is utilized in global hunger relief programs operated by Iowa organizations. The Hunger Summit will also feature several program sessions on hunger-related issues. A full program of events is available at www.iowahunger-summit.org.

The Hunger Summit is co-chaired by Iowa's three former governors: Bob Ray, Terry Branstad and Tom Vilsack. Governors Ray and Branstad are both Rotary members.

Ambassador (ret) Kenneth M. Quinn, president of the World Food Prize Foundation, is requesting that all club presidents send him an e-mail message in which they convey the amount of money, food and/or time committed by their club to combating hunger either at home or abroad. Quinn's email is wfp@worldfoodprize.com.

REPORT YOUR SERVICE:

Clubs are asked to report to the World Food Prize how much money, food, donations and volunteer hours they devote to hunger issues.

Additionally, address this message to Frank Swoboda of World Food Prize who is coordinating the effort to tabulate a statewide total amount of money, food

donations and volunteer hours devoted to this important topic. Frank's email address is fswoboda@worldfoodprize.org.

Quinn believes that the Iowa Hunger Summit represents one of the most focused state level events anywhere in America to bring attention to the need to alleviate hunger all around our globe. His message is that it would be a great honor to join with you in making this a great success and making people aware of what Iowa and Rotary is doing to fight this scourge.

February radio, TV ad blitz planned

The District 6000 Public Relations Committee, chaired by Loring Miller (Decatur County), looked at ideas from clubs for the \$10,000 2008-09 RI Public Relations District Grant. Thanks to a tip from Mark Osmundson (Marshalltown) we will explore a partnership in February with the Iowa Broadcasters Association.

Partnerships will also be sought with adjacent Rotary districts to expand the ad schedule. Through the Non-Commercial Sustaining Announcements (NCSA) program, broadcasters will multiply the number of ads for qualifying nonprofit organizations for commercial TV and radio stations in Iowa markets.

The messages will be Rotary's Humanity in Motion ads on peace, polio, literacy, scholarships and humanitarian service. If the grant is approved (we'll know by Dec. 1), the ads would air during February. Clubs are encouraged to use the campaign to support membership development, and to work with their local broadcasters to tell the stories of their community and world service.

Coon Rapids Great Places: Rotarians proud to lead the way for \$8 million projects

By Charlie Nixon/Coon Rapids

Club President

When Gov. Tom Vilsack announced Iowa's "Great Place" initiative in 2005, a group of Coon Rapids residents came together to develop and submit a Great Place plan which covered not only Coon Rapids but also the newly formed Whiterock Conservancy.

The Conservancy, located along the Middle Raccoon River just south of town, was included because of the huge recreational and research potential of the over seven square miles of land it incorporates.

The local group was led by Rotary members Rachel Garst and Doug Carpenter. It was supported by many other Rotarians who helped with community advocacy as well as plan and budget projects.

Much to the surprise of the local group, Coon Rapids-Whiterock was designated as one of the state's three pilot Great Places. With this designation came \$1 million to be spent on Coon Rapids and Whiterock Great Place projects.

Rotary members have continued to supply leadership and support to the Great Place team as plans have turned into projects. The seven-person Great Place Steering Committee includes five Rotarians.

Rotarians also serve as project managers for several projects,

including construction of a new 12-unit assisted living wing for the city-owned Thomas Rest Haven, a major project to transform the town's entrance with streetscaping and public art, a new public park shelter house, a Whiterock visitors center and miles of multi-use trail extensions.

Rotarians also played key roles in program advocacy at the local, state and national levels. Many community meetings have been conducted. The Great Place team has hosted state and national legislators.

Advocacy at the state level resulted in a Vision Iowa award of \$1.7 million. Additional funding for ongoing and planned projects has been obtained from local and regional donors.

In total, including a portion of the value of the Whiterock land donation, over \$8 million in funding and "in kind" support has been committed to Coon Rapids and Whiterock.

While several projects have been completed and others are underway, the

Great Place Team is not resting on its laurels. They continue to work to identify funding and pursue funding opportunities as necessary to achieve the community's long range vision.

The Great Place initiative has provided Coon Rapids with an opportunity to reinvent itself as a dynamic community with a diversified economy while retaining the best features of a small Iowa town. Our local Rotarians are proud to be part of this process.



A transformed entrance into Coon Rapids will reflect the city's pride in its past and confidence in its future. The art sculpture was designed by David Dahlquist of Des Moines.

Nominating Committee begins process for 2011-12 governor

By John Dasher/Ames

Chair, D-6000 Nominations Committee

The District Nominating Committee is beginning the process of selection of a nominee for district governor for 2011-2012.

On Sept. 1, a letter from the District Nominating Committee was sent to the club presidents seeking club nominations for candidates to be considered for governor nominee 2011-2012. The deadline for submitting your nominations will be Sept. 26, 2008, with all information being sent to Carolyn Scharff, district administrator, in the Rotary District 6000 office.

After the deadline for receipt of nominations, the District Nominating Committee will interview candidates in October. Subject to selection of a nominee at that meeting, the name of the nominee will be published to all Rotary clubs in District 6000, asking

for any objections. If there are no objections filed prior to the set deadline, the district governor will declare the nominee selection official.

According to the RI Manual of Procedure, a nominee may be selected no more than three years prior to the start of the district governor's term. Following the satisfactory completion of the selection process, the new nominee will begin serving on the District 6000 Executive Team, to gain experience for serving as governor.

Members of the Nominating Committee are: PDG John Dasher (Ames), chair; PDG Dale Belknap (Des Moines), co-chair; ADG Jacque Andrew (Jefferson); Dean Davis (Corning); Deb Pullin-Van Auker (Iowa City AM); and John Schroeder (Bloomfield). Alternates are Past AGs Gary Murphy (Washington) and Nancy Harms (Ottumwa).

GSE report: Business booms but grim poverty, disease linger

Promise and pitfalls: Resourceful Brazil takes its place on world stage

Des Moines Rotarian Lynn Hicks, who is business editor for The Des Moines Register, led District 6000's Group Study Exchange team which traveled to District 4500, Recife, Brazil, April 29-May 27. His report (below) is reprinted with permission from the July 6 issue of The Des Moines Register.

By Lynn Hicks/Des Moines

D-6000, GSE Team Leader

Recife, Brazil: Signs of Brazil's booming economy sprout everywhere in this city: Construction cranes tower over million-dollar, ocean-front apartments; advertisements promise easy credit at shining new malls; and massive container ships steam from a nearby port.

Less obvious are the signs of poverty that plague this area of 3.5 million people:

- Wooden and tin shacks teeter over open sewers and fetid rivers.
- Public schools struggle to prepare workers for the growing economy.

The District 6000 GSE Team:

- Kelli Andresen of Iowa City, communications coordinator of the University of Iowa's International Programs.
- Magali Marquez, owner of Mexico Antiguo restaurant in Marshalltown.
- David Patterson of Kalona, Washington County engineer.
- Michael Ott of Iowa City, executive director of BLOWA, a trade group that promotes biofuels.

Group Study Exchange is a program of The Rotary Founda-

- Hundreds of slums breed dengue mosquitoes and Brazil's highest murder rate.

Brazil leaves a lasting impression of a nation that has one foot striding confidently toward the global stage, yet the other mired in the Third World. Its ability to make the leap will depend on how it addresses its glaring social inequalities, many Brazilians believe.

"There are two Brazils," said Nubia Mes-

quita, a Rotary club president in Recife who runs two nonprofit programs aimed at supplementing the education of public school students. "As long as the rich Brazil closes its eyes to the poor one, nothing will work."

Brazil, with the world's 10th-largest economy, is cashing in on the global demand for commodities. Last week, the nation announced plans to boost agricultural production to help ease a global food crisis.

The nation is the world's largest exporter of beef, chicken, coffee, ethanol iron ore and other products.

New offshore discoveries may mean the United States someday could buy its oil, as well as its orange juice, from Brazil.

This export boom, combined with low inflation and other policies, helped millions move out of poverty. Its stock markets have soared. Bond rating agencies have upgraded the nation's debt, at-

tracting investors.

The good times have buoyed Recife and other parts of northeastern Brazil, one of the most underdeveloped regions of the country. It is a three-hour plane ride from So Paulo, the nation's capital of commerce and center of the growing ethanol industry.

But the world is taking notice: Europeans have started buying up properties on its Atlantic coastline, and foreign companies are setting up shop.

Port signals the nation's growth, challenges

One of the most dramatic signs of the growth is the port at Suape, south of Recife.

Petrobras, the state-owned oil company, is building a \$4 billion oil refinery at Suape. Americo Sul is creating a high-tech shipyard that is expected to be the largest in the Southern Hemisphere. Bunge, the U.S. agricultural giant, is building the biggest wheat mill in South America.

Suape officials plan to dredge the port to allow larger ships, making it the deepest port in South America. Already, giant cranes



GSE team members visit a beach south of Natal with two Rotary hosts (l-r): David Patterson, Kelli Andresen (in green), Magali Marquez (white shirt), Lynn Hicks (front) and Michael Ott.

load container ships with the equivalent of 3,800 semi-trailer trucks.

When the refinery is completed in 2010, Pernambuco state is expected to grow twice as much as the rest of Brazil, said Sidnei Jose Aires da Silva, director of new business at the state-owned port and industrial complex.

"It would set an example for the Chinese," he said, jokingly.

Places like Suape will help answer a critical question: Can Brazil's outdated schools supply the skilled workers its economy needs?

The refinery and other operations will require people with high-tech and professional skills that don't exist now in the region, Aires said. Initially, businesses must recruit engineers and others from elsewhere.

The Suape complex, owned by the state, plans to train more than 90 percent of the workers at the refinery and the shipyard, which together will employ about 6,500.

Aires said the first batch of trainees in a welding program, 350 students, graduated in the spring. All came from the local area, and for many the job at the shipyards is their first legal employment, Aires said.

The state of public schools remains one of Brazil's biggest problems. Brazil ranks low in many education statistics. Overwhelmed schools run half a day. Teachers barely make above-poverty wages.

Business is taking the problem in its own hands. Embraer, the world's third-largest commercial airline manufacturer, has started its own high school near its headquarters in So Paulo state to help ensure it has an educated workforce. Rotary clubs and other groups have started schools or before- and after-school programs to feed and educate students.

Brazil's president, Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, has launched a program to open more than 500 technical schools across the nation, helping fill the need for jobs in agribusiness, energy and other industries.

The government also has opened or plans to launch five universities in Pernambuco. Lula, who has an elementary school education, was born in the state and has invested billions here to help the region catch up with the richer and more industrialized southeast.

Buying the good life, one month at a time

The trappings of middle-class life seem within reach at malls and big-box stores like Hipermart, owned by Wal-Mart.

Prices here are often expressed in terms of regular payments, with the total price in small print. For example: A 42-inch plasma LG television is advertised as "10 x 330" – 10 payments of 330 reais (about \$197) – or a total of 3,300 reais (\$1,976). Pay in full now and get a 15 percent discount.

Jewelry, appliances, soccer jerseys – which can top \$100 – other clothing and even shoes can be purchased this way. Wal-Mart's Hipercard can be used in several stores. The market for mortgages and other loans also is growing.

The access to credit is one sign that more people are moving up into the lower-middle class in Brazil. Incomes have risen, and inflation and interest rates have declined during the last five or six years.

From 2000 to 2005, the number of households making \$5,900 to \$22,000 a year grew by 50 percent, and now makes up about a quarter of the population, according to statistics gathered by the Economist magazine. The number making less than \$3,000 a year has shrunk dramatically.

Still, a third of the nation remains in poverty, and the chasm between the social classes is one of the widest in the world.

According to Euromonitor International, a market research company, the richest 10 percent of the population took home 46 percent of national income in 2006, which was higher than a decade ago. In comparison, the share in the United States is 30 percent.

The share of the Brazil's poorest 10 percent is less than 1 percent of income and holding.

Poverty, crime plague those left behind

Nubia Mesquita wants Americans to see the other Brazil. Mesquita, a lawyer who owns an English language school, runs Kid's Place, a before- and after-school program for about 100 children who live in a Recife slum.

The nonprofit offers classes in reading, math, computer skills, art, physical education and other subjects. It gives students two meals a day and an oasis amid poverty and crime.

Recife is the murder capital of Brazil. There were at least 2,617 homicides in the metro area of 3.5 million people last year, according to the Associated Press. Recife has a homicide rate of 90.9 per 100,000 residents, more than twice as deadly as Rio de Janeiro.

Violence plagues the poor, who live in the more than 600 slums, or favelas, scattered throughout the Recife area.

Mesquita led visitors through a slum a few blocks from Kid's Place. Residents lived in a maze of scrap wood, tin and other materials. Mothers shared beds with three to four children in one- to two-room dwellings. Yet some homes had television sets and DVDs.

Mesquita suspects that the families used government payments to pay for the electronics. Brazil's poorest residents receive the small monthly cash payments as long as their children are enrolled in school. The government said the program, called Bolsa Familia, has helped lift families out of poverty.

Two students who attend Kid's Place, Joo Pablo and Mateus, welcomed visitors into their home. They live in a wooden shack that teeters on stilts above the Capibaribe River. Across the river lay shacks just like it.

The barefoot boys walked across rickety planks laid over open sewers. They pointed out the reeking waste just inches below their home. They watched the sewage trickle into the river. The muddy Capibaribe flowed toward the coast, past more construction cranes and the high-rise, high-dollar apartments of Recife.



Team members Lynn Hicks, Kelli Andresen and Magalli Marquez outside Rotary offices in Natal, where they did a presentation on Iowa and their professions.



Rotary Peace Scholar Wendi Boxx (r) greets German Chancellor Angela Merkel.

Peace Scholar meets German chancellor

On Aug. 8, Wendi Boxx, a native of Ottumwa and former Rotary Peace Scholar, shared this news. Her e-mail address is: wendi@globalboxx.com.

Dear Rotary Friends and Mentors,

I thought you might be interested in a recent meeting with German Chancellor Angela Merkel. She was just back from Japan and the G8 meeting. She was really warm, friendly and even joked with us. A wonderful personality, really!

As many of you know, especially those who supported my application, currently I am a Fellow of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation (specifically a German Chancellor Scholar, which is why we got to spend sometime with Chancellor Merkel).

I was lucky enough to be granted an extension with my research, so I will continue to conduct independent research on female migration and human trafficking in Germany. I am still based in Munich and am lucky to be living and learning in such a wonderful and historic city.

The best part of this year is the fact that I share the experience with ten Russians, ten Chinese and ten Americans. During this year we have really had a great chance to bond and share culture, food and experiences, all while trying to discuss – in our newly learned language of German. We are so lucky to be receiving German language training and participated at various cultural events around Europe.

It has been a wonderful year! I looking forward to this afternoon to attend a party thrown by my Chinese colleagues in celebration of the Olympic games. Then Alex and I are headed back to Ottumwa and Iowa to catch the State Fair! Summer is not complete without it.

I send you fond greetings and many thanks for helping me to have this opportunity.

With Kind Thanks and Best Wishes
-s- Wendi Boxx

Apply for District Simplified Grants: Rotary Foundation dollars for our communities

By DGE Cal Litwiller/Mt. Pleasant

D-6000, District Simplified Grants chair

District Simplified Grants (DSG's) allow districts to use a portion of their District Designated Funds (DDF) to support their own service activities or humanitarian endeavors. The District Simplified Grants will allow districts to use these funds, at their own discretion, for local humanitarian projects that improve the lives of the economically disadvantaged and/or for community improvement projects in our local communities in District 6000.

The maximum amount available for district use is 20 percent of the district's total District Designated Fund (DDF), that is, half of the contributions to The Rotary Foundation's Annual Programs Fund from our district three years prior. District 6000 allocates the full amount of 20 percent, for DSG projects.

All clubs need to be thinking about projects they want to apply for in the first three months of their Rotary year. The application deadline for the Rotary year of 2008-09 is Oct. 1. The DSG Committee will review these applications and select worthy proposals meeting all the DSG criteria shortly after the deadline. The early selection process with funding provided is to allow for clubs receiving a DSG to complete the project on or before the end of the Rotary year it was awarded in.

DSGs must adhere to the grant policies that govern all grant programs such as, they cannot be for bricks and mortar and cannot benefit Rotarians or a specific group of people. The DSG Committee asks that they be informed of the status of approved DSG Projects with brief interim reports every six months and with a final report within one month of completion.

The DSG Committee will notify club presidents when the DSG application has been received and will officially notify club presidents of the status of your DSG application after the DSG Committee review as to its selection or non-selection for funding. It is the goal of the committee chair that this will happen on or before Nov. 1, 2008.

The DSG Application, the Terms and Conditions document, Rotary Foundation Report Form and Individual Project Summary Form are all found on the home page of the District 6000 web site (www.rotary6000.org) on the left hand side of the home page under 'District', then click on 'Download Forms'.

Questions on the DSG's application, types of projects that are acceptable, possible funding, etc., will be answered at the District 6000 Foundation seminars, which will be held during the months of September and October.

Read about RotaKids on You Tube

The Rotary Club of Decatur County has a You Tube on the RotaKids program.

RotaKids is a program for elementary students, like Rotaract (college) and Interact (high school) that involves young people in ethical decision making and service. You can find it at:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D9ZPt5pcoAM>



Membership with a fury!

Bettendorf competition answers President Lee's call for action

By Nicole McWilliams/Bettendorf

Club President

And they're off!

Bettendorf Rotary kicked off its 2008-09 membership drive at its weekly meeting on Aug. 13. This membership drive, however, will be a lot different than membership drives of the past. Heeding the call of Rotary International President D.K. Lee, the club is attacking membership development with a fury.

Bettendorf Rotarian and Past District Governor Doyle McCully (1987-88) suggested to Membership co-chair Todd Larsen that the club make a competition out of it. McCully thought it might be fun to break the club into teams to compete for the top spot, with the winners enjoying a steak dinner prepared by the losing teams. The board of directors quickly embraced this idea and charged Larsen and Greg Blaske, Bettendorf's other Membership co-chair, to come up with teams and rules for the competition.

Larsen and Blaske used club attendance rosters to assemble four teams: Blue, Gold, Green and Red. When members arrived at the meeting that week, they were directed to their "assigned" seating. Each table was color-coded to indicate the teams. The meeting was conducted as normal, and the "program" portion of the meeting was dedicated to introducing the competition.

President Nicole McWilliams started things off by sharing RI President Lee's remarks to the Rotary Club of Chicago on July 1. He said, "Every Rotarian that we bring into our club helps to Make Dreams Real. Every single one is another pair of hands, and another mind, and another heart to do Rotary's work." She then introduced Todd Larsen and Greg Blaske, who introduced this year's membership initiatives.

Moments into their monologue, the meeting was interrupted by a grouchy old gym teacher looking to fire up the members about this membership drive. The gym teacher was Bettendorf Rotarian Scott Nauman, a talented theater enthusiast who uses his gift to create various personas to entertain and motivate the club.

"Alright you scumbags," Nauman declared. "The most important thing in any competition is to not suck!" His comments were greeted with hearty laughter and applause – he was quite a sight to see! After his razzing of the crowd, Nauman turned things over to Larsen and Blaske who explained the rules of the competition. The competition officially began that day, Aug. 13, and concludes on April 30. Any team bringing a prospective member to a meeting receives ONE point. The guest cannot be a spouse or a child (unless they are considering membership) and the guest must receive a membership packet. If that prospective member goes on to apply for membership and joins the club, the team receives TEN points. Any new member added to the club by a team automatically becomes a member of that team



"Coach" Nauman fires up the troops



Bettendorf Rotary membership chairs Greg Blaske and Todd Larsen kick off the club's aggressive membership drive.

for the duration of the membership contest. The two teams that have the most points on April 30 will enjoy steak dinners prepared by the two losing teams.

After the rules were explained, the teams got together to determine team names and captains. After ten minutes of discussion, the following teams emerged:

- Blues Brothers & Sisters: Team Captain Duncan Cameron;
- Golden Retrievers: Team Captain Carolyn Leutwyler;
- Green Machine: Team Captains Glenn Pelecky and Tony Calabrese;
- Red Menace: Team Captain Connie Mangler.

President Nicole encouraged the teams to look beyond their professional circles to seek out new members, as a diverse club is a strong club. Seeking members from vocations not currently reflected in the club's demographics will help Bettendorf to build a stronger club.

McWilliams closed by quoting Past DG Eldon Greer (Ontario) from the "Why I Am a Rotarian" Web site, www.whyiam.org:

"I like Rotary for its informality, its casualness, its friendly and cordial spirit; its placing of all people on a common plane for a genuinely friendly world through tolerance and understanding. I like to be called by my first name. I appreciate the hearty hand-claps and friendly smile. I enjoy the ribbing without malice. I am uplifted by the sentiments expressed by many Rotary speakers. I am proud of the accomplishments of our club. I thank Rotary for having made me a better man, for giving me a new insight into my responsibilities to my county and community, and for the opportunity afforded me to form new lasting friendships – community wide, nationwide and worldwide. And a little hard work never hurt anyone."

The president asked all members to do a bit of soul-searching to come up with their "whys," for if they can explain to others why they are Rotarians and what belonging to the Bettendorf Rotary means to them, they will be that much better equipped to identify potential Rotarians and continue to grow this organization.

Come May, some Rotarians will be grilling steak while other Rotarians will be eating steak. There are no real losers in this competition, however. As Bettendorf Rotary grows, along side clubs all around the world who are answering D. K. Lee's call to increase membership by 10 percent, the winners are the millions of people all around the world whose lives will be touched by the power of Rotary. And for that, we should all be very proud to be Rotarians.



DG Susan Herrick is proud to announce that Past RI President Frank Devlyn (2000-01) will attend District 6000 Conference, April 23-25 at the new Marriott Courtyard Hotel and Conference Center in Ankeny. Devlyn, of Mexico, is one of the most highly visible and sought Rotarians in the Rotary world. He is the author of "Frank Talk," an inspirational book about membership development, and other popular books. Mark your calendars now and watch for information about this very special District Conference!

Be an ambassador to Taiwan; GSE applications due Oct. 2

By Andy Knebel/Iowa City

Chair, D-6000 Outbound GSE Committee

Rotary District 6000 is looking for men and women to comprise a five-member Group Study Exchange team to take part in a professional development and goodwill exchange with District 3470 in Taiwan, March 1-29, 2009. The application deadline is Oct. 2.

- Four team members between the ages of 25 and 40 who are not Rotarians and are not related to Rotarians are needed to make up the team.
- One Rotarian (any age) will be selected to lead the team.
- Team members should be in a career or profession and committed to stay in that profession after the exchange.
- Team members must live or work in District 6000 (generally southern Iowa).
- Candidates will be selected who are personable, articulate, cooperative, flexible, and enthusiastic about their vocations.

Those interested may obtain application forms on-line at www.rotary6000.org or contact the Outbound Group Study Exchange Coordinator, Andy Knebel at (319) 338-1712 or andyknebel@hotmail.com.

All applicants must have permission from their employers prior to selection and must be available for interviews the weekend of Oct. 11, 2008. Visit www.rotary.org and enter Group Study Exchange in the search box for more information about the program.

Committee recommends Nigerian-raised Iowan for Rotary Peace Fellow

By PDG Ev Laning/Indianola

D-6000, World Peace Fellowships chair

Ms. Amidi Umanah captivated her interviewers for The Rotary Foundation Peace Fellow nomination in a process that began nearly six months ago.

Having threaded the maze of a Rotary Foundation application 20-plus pages in length and assembled documentation from former faculty, employers, linguistic specialists, and college registrars, Amindi then had to face down five strangers plus the Rotarian who had proposed she seek the nomination.

These five men and a woman pummeled her with more than an hour of questions regarding her past, present and future plans. To say that the interrogation left the team in awe is an understatement. Having demonstrated poise and maturity beyond her years, Amindi expressed the hope to continue her efforts to address long-held concerns for the well being of women and children that date back to her undergraduate years at the University of Iowa and were practiced during her service in the U.S. Peace Corps.

Amidi was born in Iowa City of Nigerian descent and raised in Nigeria. Her father was a graduate student in mass communications and sociology at the University of Iowa. She returned to the U.S. for undergraduate work at the University of Iowa, where she studied global studies and pre-law. She then served in the Peace Corps in Moldova, and is currently a cultural expert for the U.S. Department of State in Washington, D.C., where she prepares people who are posted to Southeast Asia.

If selected, she will be one of 60 Rotary Peace Scholars worldwide in the two-year master degree program valued at \$60,000.

Our District 6000 Peace Fellow Committee unanimously deemed her worthy of Rotary support. We await The Rotary Foundation's favorable action on her application.



Amidi Umanah,
nominated for
Rotary Peace Scholar

New times, locations for meetings

Muscatine: Weekly club meetings are Monday noons at the Pearlview Ballroom in the Hotel Muscatine, 101 W. Mississippi Drive, Muscatine Iowa 52761.

East Polk County: Meetings will continue at 7 a.m. on Wednesday mornings at Prairie Meadows, but at a different location. Visitors should enter through the west main entrance and go through the buffet to get their breakfast, then go through the buffet back door directly into AJ's Steakhouse, where we will eat and meet.

Ames Morning: Wednesday morning meetings have been moved from the ISU Memorial Union to the Ames Country Club.

Iowa City Downtown: Meetings are changed to Tuesday noon at the Robert A. Lee Recreation Center, 220 South Gilbert Street.

Bandstand energizes Fort Madison club

Rotarians lead the way on \$85,000 Victorian restoration project

By Bernie Stephenson/Fort Madison

Club President, April 2007-June 2008

Three years ago our then president, Bill Napier, decided that we needed to actually be involved in a community project (in our club at the time that was really a risk).

Our city was financially unable to maintain the parks in our community and had for years been directing funds away from the multiple small parks in town to the two large parks that have thousands of visitors each year. Most of the limited funds went to Rodeo Park where the Fort Madison Rodeo and other arena-related events are held each year, and to our Riverview Park where the Catfish Bend Casino was located.

Bill proposed that Rotary adopt Central Park, located one block from the downtown area, because that particular park and its bandstand was and still is the cultural center of our community. Weekly summer band concerts, multiple weddings each year, farmers market, art in the park, football homecoming kick-off and Christmas pageants are just a few of the events held there. The high usage and minimal upkeep was making the park an eyesore instead of the pride of the community.

The city allowed us to improve the park, but they could not contribute any major monies. It all started innocently enough with raking leaves, fertilizing grass and trimming bushes. However, after taking care of the obviously unattended landscaping, other glaring needs were unveiled.

The Victorian bandstand, built in 1889, was most sorely in need of repair, to the point that it might have to be condemned. It had been repaired and modified a number of times over the years but always just enough to get by.

Our Club Service Committee decided that Rotary needed to do the repairs. After some investigation, it appeared that about \$13,000 would gain some temporary relief. To some clubs that amount of money wouldn't seem too large, but to ours it was way and above anything attempted in our 85-year history.

I became president last April because the then current president left the community. Although a little panicky, our club had \$5,000 it could put in and there was the possibility of a \$5,000 Rotary District Simplified Grant that I heard about at PETS which made the remaining \$3,000 seemed doable with a little work by the club.

How quickly things change! The committee continued to meet and recognized that only about 10 years previously, other individuals had attempted to repair the bandstand and that deterioration had continued unabated. The committee was sure that was not the direction that made sense. A community icon was about to fall down or be torn down.

In the Rotary tradition of "if it has value, do it," the committee decided not to repair, not to rebuild, but to restore as closely as possible to the original and with materials that will meet the test

of time. For example, we have over 2,000 hand-cut pieces of steel roofing tile that are guaranteed to last 100 years, and wood imported from South America that also will last for 80 years.

At this point, I had been president for about a month and our club needed to raise not \$13,000 but \$80,000! I'm thinking chili suppers aren't going to get it done!

Fortunately, I had great committee members and they had a number of ideas on how to raise the money. They understood that people are more apt to give if we have seed money already invested and if we make sure that we have a way to recognize the individuals for their contributions. We had our \$5,000 and we hoped for the \$5,000 from a district simplified grant.

We started sending out letters to any who use the bandstand, to citizens who surrounded the park and to businesses and individuals who we believed were community minded. A permanent

marker will list contributors and the level of their contribution. We used the local newspapers to announce our project with photos of the deterioration and asked for contributions a number of times.

The money came in. By August we had over half and had a promise of \$15,000 matching funds. Also we had applied for a grant that would cover the rest. In February, less than one year after making the decision to restore the bandstand, we had successfully raised in excess of the \$80,000 which gave us some breathing room for the inevitable add-ons.

Construction started in September 2007, even before all of the money was raised. The committee continued to meet to oversee the construction and the complications that happen in restoration projects. On June 8, 2008, the band stand was rededicated at a City Band Concert. Approximately 300 people attended the event.

A big thank you to committee members Gene Enke (chair), Bill Napier, Merlin Hellman and Rich Mohrfeld! Loren "Andy" Andrews (who is not a member of Rotary) supplied much

historical information and authored timely press releases. Without their vision, dedication, and hard work our band stand would now be a pile of rubble, rather than the beautiful structure that it has become.

The excitement over the Central Park Bandstand has continued as our club has now started an \$85,000 project to replace a dry pond and fountain in Central Park which has been a defunct eyesore for many years. Fund raising has begun and we have well over half collected and already more committed, and that does not include the \$5,000 we hope to get from the Rotary District Simplified Grant (hint, hint!).

The Rotary Club of Fort Madison and the famous Rotary wheel emblem will be permanently enshrined along with the many generous contributions from our local citizens and businesses in the commemorative monument to be erected at the climax of the projects. Our club will keep Central Park as our permanent project with exciting future possibilities already on the drawing board.

— submitted by David Poland, Club President 2008-09



Assistant Governor Rachel Litwiller and DG Susan Herrick visit Fort Madison's restored Victorian bandstand.



Organizer Rev. Richard Pokora waits outside the stadium for the crowd to arrive.



Children of the Metro Youth Corps from Rock Island, Ill., performed before the game.



Presidents of Rotary clubs in the Quad Cities threw out the first pitch.



Rotary Night Public Relations

Modern Woodmen Park in Davenport became Rotary's Field of Dreams on Aug. 12 with Rotary Night at the Ballpark, sponsored by 11 clubs in the Iowa and Illinois Quad Cities. A crowd of 4,537 watched the Clinton Lumber Kings defeat the Quad Cities River Bandits, but the big winner was



Bettendorf Rotary president Nicole McWilliams enjoys banter with the River Bandits' mascot and club presidents from the Illinois Quad Cities' clubs.



Displays with Rotary information filled the mezzanine.



Governor Susan and Bob Herrick with past governors from Iowa: Don and Doris Goering, and Bill and Linda Tubbs.



Rotary's Humanity in Motion messages were played on the JumboTron.

at the Ballpark: wins, Polio loses

Rotary's global campaign to eradicate polio. Clubs raised \$12,000 for polio eradication with the sale of tickets and Bandit Bucks (for purchases in the stadium). Rotary garnered significant pre-game coverage in newspapers and on TV. The weather cooperated and it was a great night for Rotary!



Rotarian Carter Lebeau (Kay) led "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" during the seventh inning stretch.



Doug Peterson sang the National Anthem



D6000 Youth Exchange officials: Chris Knapp, Paul Kalainoff, Dennis Peterson.



Illinois PDGs: Anita Papich and Fred Luckenbill.



Challenger Little Leaguers met River Bandits players. Photos by Keith Riewerts and Bill Tubbs



District Governor Susan Herrick introduced Rotary leaders and told about Rotary's work in polio eradication.

Recognize Rotarians' outstanding achievement

By PDG Del Bluhm/Ames

D-6000, Clubs Awards & Recognition Committee chair

The purpose of the Rotary awards is to recognize an individual Rotarian or to recognize a Rotary club for outstanding accomplishment by meeting the award criteria or by making a significant achievement in a specified activity of Rotary International.

It is the committee's goal to give an overview all of the various awards that are available as club-based awards, and as Rotary International and district-based awards in this newsletter. The next two issues of *District 6000 News* will give more detailed descriptions of each award or recognition including the criteria.

Awards for clubs and members

There are many opportunities to recognize Rotarians and clubs for their hard work and dedication to help achieve the goals and ideals of Rotary in our clubs, communities, district and world. The following is a list of Rotary awards that can be presented this 2008-09 Rotary year.

I. Overview of Club Based Awards: Club-based awards are available for presentation at any time during the Rotary year:

Family and Community Service Award (for individuals or organizations). This award is a certificate that your club can present to individuals or organizations for outstanding service to families and communities or in recognition of positive contributions to individual Rotary clubs made by spouses and/or family members of Rotarians. Each club determines the number of certificates they present. Your Rotary club can present these awards any time during this Rotary year.

Four Avenues of Service Citation (for individual Rotarians). Each club may recognize one of their members for his/her outstanding efforts in the Four Avenues of Service. Clubs may submit requests for recognition at any time during this Rotary year.

II. Overview of Rotary International and District Awards:

External Relations Best Cooperative Projects Award (for clubs). This award recognizes clubs that conduct outstanding projects in cooperation with other local, national or international organizations. District Governor Susan may submit up to five nominations to RI.

RI Membership Development & Extension Award (for clubs). This certificate is given to recognize clubs for membership growth, retention of current club members, and the organization of new clubs. The annual RI Membership Development and Extension Award is given based on their achievements from July 1-May 15.

RI Recognition of Membership Development Initiatives (for clubs). This district-level certificate recognizes clubs for the development and implementation of a creative plan or strategy to support one of the three primary foundations of membership growth and development: retention, recruitment of qualified new members or the organization of new Rotary clubs.

Recognition of Smaller Club Membership Growth (for clubs). Certificates will be awarded to clubs that fall below the charter requirement of 20 members by recognizing the challenges and achievements of small clubs in three size categories that meet their membership goal from July 1-May 15.

Presidential Citation (for clubs). A certificate presented by RI President D. K. Lee for each club that achieves the standards he has set. Clubs received the criteria and application form at PETS. Copies can be downloaded from the RI web site. Club presidents must submit their application to DG Susan no later than April 1, 2009.

District Governor Susan's Club Recognition Award (for clubs). This year's district governor recognition program focuses on club involvement in public relations, literacy, matching grants, membership, and Rotary Foundation activities. A copy of the criteria and the certification form was placed in the 'D-6000 Presidents Notebook' that they each received at PETS. This information can also be downloaded from

District 6000 Web site at <http://www.rotary6000.org>. Club presidents must submit this certification form to DG Susan no later than April 1, 2009.

Public Relations Award (for clubs). Recognizes clubs for outstanding media campaigns that improve Rotary's public image. Only one nomination can be submitted by D-6000 to RI. Clubs interested in being considered for this award must submit their information no later than May 1, 2009 to DG Susan.

Significant Achievement Award (for clubs). This award recognizes clubs for outstanding local community service projects. One project will be nominated by DG Susan to RI. The nomination form is available from the RI web site and must be submitted to District Governor Susan by March 1, 2009.

RI Service Above Self Award (for Rotarians). As Rotary's highest honor for individual Rotarians, this award recognizes up to 150 Rotarians annually who have demonstrated exemplary humanitarian service, with an emphasis on personal volunteer efforts and active involvement in helping others through Rotary. The nomination form is available from the RI web site and must be submitted to District Governor Susan by September 1, 2009.

Rotary Volunteers Certificate of Recognition (for Rotary Volunteers). This certificate can be used to recognize outstanding volunteer service at the club, district, or international level. There are no deadlines for submission as it is ongoing recognition.

The Rotary Foundation District Service Award (for Rotarians). District 6000 can recognize 10 Rotarians for service to humanity through Rotary Foundation programs. Club presidents can nominate Rotarians they wish to be considered for this award to District 6000 Rotary Foundation Chair Don Goering by April 1, 2009.

The Rotary Foundation Citation for Meritorious Service (for Rotarians). The Rotary Foundation trustees recognize Rotarians who have rendered significant service to The Rotary Foundation. Only one Rotarian in District 6000 can be recognized. If your club has a Rotarian to be considered for this award, submit the Rotarian's name and supporting information to District 6000 Rotary Foundation Chair Don Goering by April 1, 2009.

The Rotary Foundation Distinguished Service Award (for Rotarians). Four complete years after receiving the Citation for Meritorious Service, a Rotarian becomes eligible for the Distinguished Service Award. Because this is the Foundation's highest service recognition, a recipient's exemplary service to the Foundation must extend beyond the district level and occur over an extended period of time.

The Rotary Foundation Global Alumni Service to Humanity Award (for alumni). This award honors outstanding Rotary Foundation alumni who have contributed to greater understanding and peace through service to humanity, and whose significant achievements have enriched their profession or vocation.

The Rotary Foundation Contribution Recognition (for Rotarians). The Rotary Foundation honors its members and friends for their generous support in several ways, including Paul Harris Fellow recognition and the Major Donor designation.

More information about RI awards (for clubs and Rotarians):

For additional information or questions, please contact D-6000 Club Awards and Recognition Committee, chair Del Bluhm at (515) 450-1110.

Information about these awards is always available on the District 6000 Website at <http://www.rotary6000.org> and the RI Website at <http://www.rotary.org/en/Members/GeneralInformation/Awards/Pages/ridefault.aspx>. It defines items such as who can be the nominator, the criteria, the deadlines, plus the downloads of the brochure covering the award description, guidelines of the award, the number of a particular award allowed per club or district per year, the application/submission forms, and/or the nomination forms.

GRATITUDE in GUATEMALA

Heartfelt thanks and the pain of turning a patient away

This is a followup report on the April 5-15 Iowa Miles Of Smiles Team (MOST) trip to Guatemala, where they performed cleft lip and cleft palate surgeries

By Melody Rockwell

Iowa MOST Photojournalist

Perhaps the most difficult part of the Iowa MOST medical mission in Xela, Guatemala, April 5-15, has been having to make decisions to turn people away; to say no to their requests for reconstructive surgery, because they are too young to undergo anesthesia, have respiratory problems that could compromise the patient during surgery, or require a procedure that is too complicated and lengthy to complete in the time the team has available in Xela.

The latter condition applied to Severiano, a young man who needed extensive dental surgery for a wide open cleft of the whole hard and soft palates. He had been scheduled early on Tuesday morning, because dentists Bill LaVelle and Steve Hedlund knew it would require four, possibly five days to complete the two impressions needed, the surgery, and the post-op checks to be certain that the appliance fit correctly so that it didn't cause a major sore and allowed a sufficient opening for appropriate speech sounds.

Unfortunately, when the dentists began work on Tuesday, they discovered they were in the midst of a hospital remodeling project that started that morning in the dental offices. Equipment, chairs, lights and supplies were removed, and a water pipe broke with a brownish water spreading across the floor. The Iowa MOST dental appointments had to be cancelled for the rest of day. Severiano's appointment was moved to 9 a.m. on Wednesday morning, but then was cancelled due to the length of time needed to complete his procedure. The time available was shortened even more, because painters would be arriving on Friday afternoon to paint the dental offices.



Iowa Rotarians were able to help Maricela (before and after), but the news wasn't so happy for Severiano.

Severiano arrived at 9 a.m. on Wednesday morning, even though he knew that his appointment had been cancelled. He pleaded to have surgery. He asked, "Could you do even part of what is needed and then finish the rest when you return another year?"

Jan Ahlberg, who was translating, reported, "He begged, really begged for over half an hour, because he wanted desperately to be able to speak clearly." The answer was sadly, but firmly given: no.

That afternoon, the young man returned and sat quietly in the waiting room. When Jan asked him why he was waiting when he had no appointment, he said he had a gift to give. Jan invited Severiano to come into the dental office and he began to pull beautiful Guatemalan weavings from his sack to present to Bill, Steve and Jan with thanks from his heart. He kept putting his hand to his chest and saying, "Thank you from my heart." Then he added, "Even though I know you can't help me this time, you are helping others. Thank you from my heart." It was an incredibly humbling, deeply touching moment in the life of the medical team at Xela.

Iowa MOST team members, April 2008

Gary Pacha	Deb Strike
John Canady	Jody Meyer
Drew Dillman	Jen Oliver
Jodi Jones	Ana Victoria Lopez
Juan Carlos Garcia	Mindy Bowen
Moran	Susan Adamson
Antonio Rosal Alvarez	Emily Berglund
Robert Forbes	Dee Grems
Jim Schuh	Ruben Zuniga
Chandra Beals	Karin Franklin
Tom Cannon	Francisco Fernandez
Bill LaVelle	Melody Rockwell
Steve Hedlund	Jan Ahlberg
Oscar Gomez	Pat Pohlman
Pete Wallace	Bill Olin
Natalie Freed	Sal Danial
Lael Stander	Maru Danial
Pat Wehrle	Rick Borchard

Iowa MOST team will return to Guatemala in February

By Nancy Pacha/Iowa City AM

Tentative dates for the 2009 Iowa MOST mission to Guatemala are Feb. 12-22. This will be the fourth Iowa MOST mission to Guatemala and the third time the District 6000 team will partner with the Rotary Club of Huehuetenango, Guatemala, to carry out cleft lip and palate surgeries for children and adults who cannot afford this surgery that is life-changing.

Club presidents will receive more information later in the fall concerning team positions that could be filled by Rotarian volun-

teers and application forms for interested potential participants.

Contributions of any size from individuals and clubs will help to continue these missions. Iowa Most contributions are tax deductible. It is important that checks be made out properly to District 6000 HEF, Inc., with Iowa MOST on the memo line. They should be mailed c/o:

Jim Lane – Treasurer
303 Highland Drive
Iowa City, IA 52246

Grant equips Brazil cancer rehab center

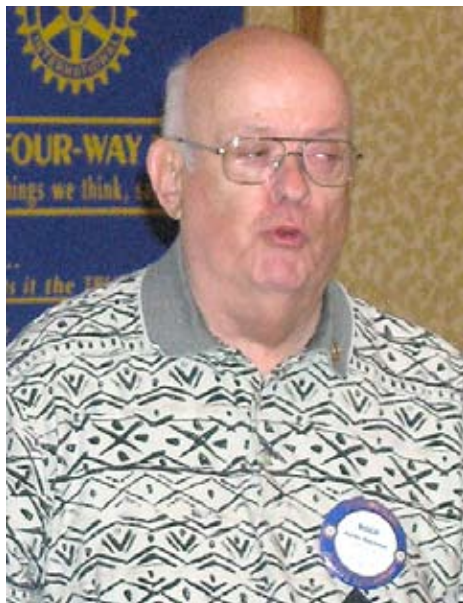
By Gerald Wickham/West Liberty Club President

The Rotary District Governor of 4480, southern Brazil, and Catholic Bishop of the Arch Diocese of San Paulo, cut the ribbon on an outpatient cancer rehabilitation center in Jales, Brazil. This was a matching grant between the Rotary Club of West Liberty and the Rotary Club of Jales Grande Lagos, Brazil.

There was a great need for an outpatient rehab clinic in the area. Clients recovering from cancer had to travel 200 to 300 kilometers for treatment, and this clinic was provided by the use of a Rotary Foundation Matching Grant.

This grant started in January 2008 with money provided by an honorary member of the Rotary Club of West Liberty and the Rotary Club of Jales Grande Lagos, and District 4480. The building was provided by the city of Jales and all the equipment for operation through the matching grant.

A Rotary alumnus who was a youth exchange student in mid-70s, now a Rotary club president, facilitated the grant in Brazil, and Bill Koellner, Rotary Club of West Liberty, coordinated the West Liberty portion. Cooperative district and club funding fast-tracked this needed project to the ribbon cutting in early July 2008. Cancer patients are now enjoying a Rotary sponsored treatment center. *Hats off to those who support The Rotary Foundation.*



Harold "Bisch" Bischman was named Rotarian of the Year by the Iowa Quad Cities Rotary Club. He was a charter member of the club and serves as Foundation director, sergeant-at-arms, Challenger Little League volunteer, and fireside chat leader.



The Rotary Club of West Liberty honored Ken Donnelly (r) with the Lester A. Royal Award, which is named for Lester A. Royal of West Liberty, who was district governor in 1940. The award for extraordinary service is not given annually. Donnelly, pictured with his club president Gerald Wickham, has been a leader in his club, community and District 6000, club president for two years, assistant governor, and wrote many articles for the West Liberty Index, including supplements for Cinco de Mayo and Rotary's 100th anniversary. He is a captivating speaker on Rotary.

14 Paul Harris Fellows awarded at West Liberty

At the annual changeover dinner, the Rotary Club of West Liberty awarded 14 new Paul Harris Fellows, keeping up the 100 percent Paul Harris Fellow Club status. The 14 new Paul Harris Fellows included nine non-Rotarians.

Ben Pohl, son of Peter Pohl, Rotarian of the Rotary Club of Gelsenkirchen, Germany, and originally a member of West Liberty club, was awarded a Paul Harris Fellow by Tom Brooke for completing his master's degree in public administration. Ben was in an automobile accident and was injured, but recovered and overcame the impairment against all odds.

Ms. Eloise Wright was awarded a Paul Harris Fellow for providing matching grant funds to a cancer rehabilitation center in Jales, Brazil. She is an honorary member of the Rotary Club of West Liberty.

PDG Herb Wilson and wife Janice were present at the meeting along with PDG Ken Noble and wife Jo.



Betty Akers (r), received the Rotary Club of West Liberty's "Community Service Award" from President Gerald Wickham for her volunteer service, from giving rides to doctors, the hospital, food pantry, Muscatine, Iowa City, Des Moines, or even Omaha, Nebraska, and never asking for reimbursement for expenses. Not only did she make distributions at the food pantry, but many people came to her house for help, regardless of the time of day or night. She has been a tireless helper to the Spanish community whenever they needed assistance of any kind.

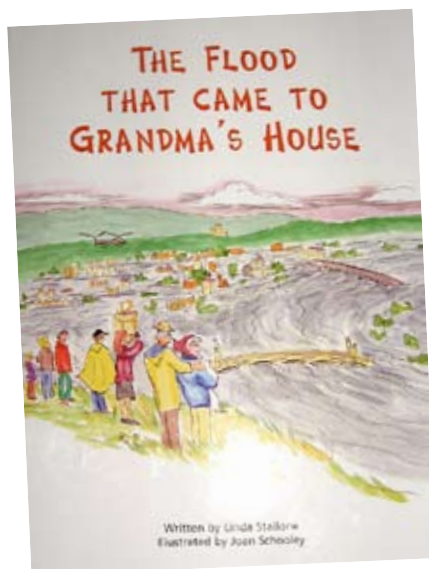


President Cindy Mays honored Gerry Wickham (r), past president of the Rotary Club of West Liberty, as Rotarian of the Year at the annual changeover dinner. Gerry served as club president for two years, was a speaker at District Leadership Training, led the club in several outstanding projects, including a Rotary clock in downtown West Liberty, and several fund raising efforts, including working with the with the Manzullo, Mexico, and Jales, Brazil, clubs for special projects. In addition, Gerry was recognized as one of the top 40 under 40 in the Corridor.

Clubs invited to distribute book by Fairfield Rotarian to comfort families affected by floods

By DG Susan Herrick/Boone

Fairfield Rotarian Linda Stallone wrote the children's book, "The Flood That Came to Grandma's House," after the flooding caused by Hurricane Agnes struck a path of destruction along the Susquehanna River.



"The Flood That Came to Grandma's House" was first published in 1991 and is now in its third printing. Linda has donated the book at the cost of printing and the Children's Hospital in Iowa City secured the funding.

Mary Ann Abrams, MD, MPH, of the Iowa Health System, anticipates that they will be distributing 1,500 books to children in communities impacted by the floods here in Iowa. It has been suggested that

members of service organizations like Rotary could be a tremendous partner in helping with distribution and putting the bookplates and bookmarks in the books.

If you would like to hear more about this service project, please contact Linda Stallone at lindastallone@gmail.com.



Rotary and RAGBRAI

Patrick Mullin, a past president of the Rotary Club of Oxnard, Calif. (the "Strawberry Capital of the World") looked for Rotarians when he rode RAGBRAI (Des Moines Register's Annual Great Bike Ride Across Iowa) July 20-26. Rotary clubs along the route rolled out the red carpet, including the Rotary Clubs of Ames and Ames Morning which sponsored an event for riders at Reiman Gardens with international cuisine, live music, hot jazz, air conditioned rooms, and of course, lots of flowers.

Outstanding Des Moines Police, Firefighter featured on billboards

One of the community outreach/vocational/public relations activities of the Rotary Club of Des Moines is naming an Outstanding Firefighter and Outstanding Police Officer of the Year.

This year's winners are Paul Storbeck of the Des Moines Fire Department and Ron Foster of the Des Moines Police Department.

SPO Foster has been a Des Moines Police officer since 1969 and assigned to the Detective Bureau since 1988.

Storbeck joined the Des Moines Fire Department in 2004. He is also a paramedic and now a member of the Medic Squad.

This year the Awards Committee added a new feature to winning this award. The recipients will be featured on a billboard that is moved throughout the Des Moines community at different billboard locations throughout the year.

In addition to the billboard, this year each winner receives \$1,000 donated from the Rotary Club of Des Moines to the charity of choice in their honor.

Police Officer Foster has chosen Blank Children's Hospital to be the recipient of his contribution. Fire Medic Storbeck selected the Alzheimer's Association of Greater Iowa.

— from Rotary Club of Des Moines newsletter
Kitte Noble, executive secretary



Members of the Rotary Club of Decatur County spruce up the Leon Founders Park on Aug. 11. Club members (l-r) Jack DePond, Donna Duerr, Phil Metcalf, Linda Chastain, John Henderson and Chris Coffelt planted flowers, pulled weeds and cleaned up the park. The club regularly makes sure that Founders Park looks its best.

Social Consciousness set Rotary Scholars on a course to **CHANGE THE WORLD:**

The vision of Rotary Ambassadorial Scholars Omar and Ramsey Tesdell to work for peace and change the world was featured in the Summer 2008 issue of VISIONS, the quarterly magazine of the Iowa State University Alumni Association. The story by Carole Gieseke and photos by Jim Heemstra celebrate this successful program of The Rotary Foundation and are reprinted with permission.

By Carole Gieseke

A child may not be born with a social conscience, but for Omar and Ramsey Tesdell, an emphasis on human rights and global awareness was passed down from their grandparents to their parents. And the brothers from Slater, Iowa, have embodied those ideals.

At Iowa State, Omar (journalism and mass communication '04) founded the organization Time for Peace on Sept. 11, 2001, to build awareness and create a forum for dialogue about the terrorist attacks on the United States. The group held a silent vigil and later continued to provide a place for reflection, discussion, education, and guest lectures on the world's changing political climate.

Ramsey (technical communication '06), who was still in high school during the Sept. 11 attacks, joined his brother in leading Time for Peace when he arrived as a student at Iowa State. The organization became "more intense" during the buildup to the Iraq war, and Ramsey helped organize a refugee campout and twice-weekly war protests on the corner of Lincoln Way and Welch Avenue in Campustown.

"People don't have all that much contact with the Middle East," Omar said. "It felt like it was really important to have a thoughtful and deliberate kind of space, to create space for people to think in other ways about their reactions to 9-11. Time for Peace really provided an important [outlet] for people to think and engage the issues we were dealing with, without the kind of knee-jerk politics."

Following graduation from Iowa State, both brothers have taken paths that are less about money and success and more about

working toward a world that is less violent and more tolerant of other people's differences.

Omar studied in Peru on a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship, working with an organization involved in urban agriculture in shantytowns on the outskirts of Lima. He did a case study with participants in the program who were growing vegetables and raising small animals. The goal was to help them set up local food systems within the community, providing linkages between farmers and local markets to improve the quality of their lives.

Ramsey also received a Rotary Scholarship. He studied Arabic, diplomacy, and peace studies at a university in Jordan. He also got a job at the Jordan Times as an assignment reporter,

and he helped set up a "citizen journalism" Web site called *7iber* to allow citizens to contribute to the news system in their own voices as an alternative to the state-run media.

Currently, both brothers are working on advanced degrees. Ramsey is pursuing an MS in technical communication and an MA in Middle East studies at the University of Washington in Seattle. Omar just finished his second year at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis-St. Paul, working toward a PhD in geography and sustainable agriculture.



Omar Tesdell



Ramsey Tesdell

They credit their grandparents and parents for giving them a solid base for becoming caring, socially conscious adults.

"Both sides of our family were pretty globally aware in the sense that they were either thrust in the mix of politics or made a conscious decision to be active in it," Ramsey said. "There's this long tradition on both sides of my family to be involved that kind of permeated the entire family."

Their mother's family was forced to flee as Palestinian refugees in the 1940s. The family later settled in Jordan. Grandparents on their father's side were involved in international relief work in China and in the Gaza Strip, helping in the aftermath of the same war that displaced their mother's family. Their father's father took a job in Egypt, and their dad later met and married their mother in Jordan.

The family moved to Iowa, and Omar was born in Ames. Two years later, Ramsey was born in Saudi Arabia, when their father,

Lee Tesdell (MA English '82, PhD '99), was teaching at a university there. After five years in the Middle East, the Tesdells moved back to the family farm in Slater, where both boys grew up and attended school.

As teenagers, the brothers' lives were inextricably altered when their mother died of breast cancer. Ramsey had just turned 17, Omar 19.

Omar says his mother's death had a profound impact on him.

"It affects every aspect of your life, and the kinds of feelings you have for suffering that's associated with that kind of pain, you have to redirect in some way. I think we really felt like we needed to find some ways to contribute. It was very much in her spirit that we were doing things."

At Iowa State, and since graduation, the brothers have followed similar but separate paths. Although they haven't lived near each other physically for a number of years, they remain in almost daily contact.

"If I don't talk to my brother or my dad in a day, it's an unusual day," Omar said.

Neither brother has concrete plans for the next steps following graduate school. Omar hopes to explore the implications of the human-environment-nature-society relationship. He might teach, or perhaps work for an international organization. Ramsey would like to use what he's learned about technical communication to bring together people in social networks. He'd also like to be a community organizer and work with children.

"I'd like to provide some flame of hope, some little spark of hope," Ramsey says. "It's like, if you give a woman in Indonesia 20 dollars, that takes her from dire poverty to something where she can succeed. Twenty dollars. Something that means almost nothing to us. And just like that, you give them this teeny spark and it's really powerful."

Both brothers are both open to the idea of working abroad, but they're equally rooted to the Midwest.

"I'm not in the 'Get Me Out of Iowa as Fast as I Can' Club," Omar says. "There are a lot of people in that club, but I'm just not in it. I feel like there's a lot of richness in living in a rural place."

When Ramsey graduated in 2006, he told an *Ames Tribune* reporter that on each of his "to do" lists, the last thing he always writes is, "Save the world."

Two years later, it's still on his list.

"It's still there," he says. "I haven't checked it off."

'People don't have all that much contact with the Middle East. It felt like it was really important to have a thoughtful and deliberate kind of space, to create space for people to think in other ways about their reactions to 9-11. Time for Peace really provided an important [outlet] for people to think and engage the issues we were dealing with, without the kind of knee-jerk politics.'

— Omar Tesdell,
Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar



Talking turkey . . .

Galina Lyshenko and Ion Cretu (c) came from the former Soviet republic of Moldova to learn about turkey production at the Ron and Susie Kardel farm south of Maysville on July 14. Their itinerary, which was arranged by Rotarian Merle Anderson (r), included major turkey breeding and hatching facilities at Willmar, Minn., West Liberty Foods in West Liberty, Iowa, the River Valley Coop Grain, Agronomy and Feed Departments, John Deere, Lock and Dam 15, and others. Anderson met Ion and Galina during his seven trips to Moldova as a Rotary Volunteer. The Moldovans were also guests of the their Twin Club, the Rotary Club of North Scott. Kardel (l) feeds 120,000 birds a year for sale at West Liberty Foods.



Rotary boosts PGA . . .

Rotary's involvement with the July 9-13 John Deere Classic PGA Tour event in the Quad Cities is evident throughout the week with Rotarians from both Iowa and Illinois boosting their contributions to local charities through Birdies for Charity (which is recognized on a large billboard at the clubhouse), and also serving as volunteer course marshals for the five-day event. Bettendorf Rotarian Decker Ploehn (r), who served as tournament chair, played a round of golf with Deere CEO Bob Lane on Pro-Am-Day..

Report from Los Angeles:

99th Rotary International Convention

By PDG Bill Tubbs/NorthScott

Editor, District 6000 News

Every Rotarian should attend a Rotary International Convention gavel-to-gavel sometime in their lifetime. You will have no idea of the width and breadth of your great organization until you do!

The only things that compare might be a United Nations gathering or an Olympiad. But unlike the political and sports emphases of those events, Rotary's focus is to bring people together to celebrate our worldwide oneness and build our "global network" for humanitarian service.

An RI Convention is inspiring and uplifting, and the key to better Rotarians – and better Rotary clubs.

It is an axiom in the Rotary world that clubs whose incoming presidents attend the RI Convention are lifted to higher service and have better years.

Approximately 40 Rotarians and partners from District 6000 were among the 20,000 at the June 15-18 convention in Los Angeles. Ask what they saw or who they met and you'll get 20,000 different responses.

For me, this was my seventh convention. These are some of my impressions. I hope there is something here that will spark your curiosity enough to attend a future convention (the 2009 convention is June 21-24 in Birmingham, England):



The Rotary flag covers the world after the flags of the nations are presented ceremonially at the Opening Plenary.

- At the Northland Breakfast, attended by Rotarians and friends from Zones 27-28 and 31-32 in the upper Midwest, Carolyn Jones, an African-American woman who served as attorney general for the state of Alaska, then Rotary district governor, told about her personal journey – “color wasn’t my greatest liability” – to become the first female trustee of The Rotary Foundation. Today, women comprise 14.5 percent of Rotary membership worldwide. “The face of Rotary has changed, but not its commitment to service.”

- At any RI Convention you’ll meet Peace Scholars like Matthew Ford, a graduate of the Rotary Peace Center at the University of North Carolina who works for the World Bank in Washington, D.C., on Africa development. It is hard not to be inspired by these outstanding alumni of our Rotary Foundation programs.

- The focal point of the entry to the Convention Center was a “mountain of books” brought by Rotarians for underprivileged children in the LA area. The Guinness Book of World Records certified the 242,624 books as the most ever donated in seven days.

- Sunday’s Interfaith Service was organized by RI Director Barry Rassin of Nassau, Bahamas, the man who is chairing President D.K. Lee’s Task Force on Child Mortality in North America. The service, with readings and music from five world



RI Director Mike Johns and Presidential Rep Karin Babins.

religions – Christianity, Judaism, Hinduism, Buddhism and Islam – created a sense of worldwide unity. The 110-voice choir included Rotarians from 50 districts in 39 countries and sang beautifully, having practiced together for only one hour prior to the service. Tears rolled down the cheeks of the woman at my left when they sang the Mexican folk song, “De Colores.” My heart, too, felt strangely warmed. After



The District 6000 Breakfast at the Los Angeles Rotary International Convention.



RI President Wilf Wilkinson greets soon-to-be DG Susan Herrick at the District 6000 Breakfast at the Los Angeles RI Convention.



A mountain of 242,624 children's books collected by Rotarians for children in the Los Angeles area was certified as a record for the Guinness Book of World Records.

the service I discovered that the gentleman at my right with whom I shared the hour, Steve Gradert, from Tulsa, Okla., is the director of the Will Rogers Museum. Meeting interesting people like this, whether on the bus, in the hotel, at the House of Friendship, or anywhere – is just one part of what makes Rotary so special! Every one of the 20,000 convention attendees has a story!

- The opening plenary session at any RI Convention with the ceremonial presentation of the flags of the Rotary world is a must-see. President Wilf Wilkinson, wrapping up his year of leadership, quoted the president of Poland, "Rotary has the right answer. What we need for peace is more Rotarians." To get more Rotarians, Wilkinson said it is every member's duty to get another member.

- Wilkinson lifted up the school projects after the tsunami in Sri Lanka as an example of Rotary not being content to replace things – but to make them better! Later that day, Wilkinson came to the Centennial Governors' Reunion hosted by 2004-05 RI President Glenn Estess, and I asked him for

guidance on how District 6000 can maximize the remaining money that we raised for tsunami relief in 2005. He pointed us to Ravi Ravindran, a trustee of The Rotary Foundation from Sri Lanka. District 6000 leaders met with Ravi and Sri Lankan Rotary leaders to discuss projects.

- President Wilkinson honored us by attending the District 6000 breakfast, an event that began with PDGs Ray Muston, Don Goering and others in a coffee shop in Indianapolis in 1998. Our breakfast has become one of the recognized convention activities. Our RI Director and Director-Elect, Mike Johns of Chagrin Falls, Ohio, and Tom Thorfinnson of Eden Prairie, Minn., joined us, as did Karin Babin of Cambridge, Mass., who was the RI President's Rep at DG Diana Reed's District Conference last April. Thorfinnson commented, "What you (District 6000) does collectively is as good as anywhere and makes a difference."

- It was a surprise and pleasure to walk into the room for the District 6000 Breakfast and see Darrell and Sharon Limkeman of Ottumwa. Darrell was one of my great

assistant governors in 2004-05 and tragedy struck the family when Sharon's car slid on the ice in 2006. Attending the convention after extensive physical therapy was a major achievement – to the delight of their District 6000 Family of Rotary!

- Miriam Birma was another special guest at the District 6000 Breakfast. She is the president of the Rotary Club of Kano, Nigeria, whom we met at the 2007 RI Convention in Salt Lake City. I was among the Rotarians who visited her club and saw their projects, including a bore hole (well) that will be built with a Rotary Foundation Matching Grant and will serve 100,000.

- Of Nigeria, Director Johns, who traveled to Nigeria in February, commented, "I was so convinced we are on the right track. We work for peace in the world but it will not be until all the basic needs are satisfied." Johns praised District 9110 in Nigeria by noting that Rotarians there averaged \$300 per capita giving to The Rotary Foundation last year!

- Michael Josephson, the founder and president of The Josephson Institute of Eth-



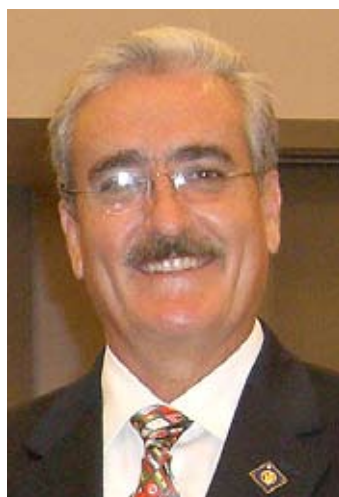
PDG Corliss Klaassen and Jeanne of Chariton (r) welcome Darrell and Sharon Limkeman to the District 6000 Breakfast.



The 110-voice choir of the International Fellowship of Musician Rotarians from 50 districts in 39 countries led the singing at the Interfaith service.



Ina Pontopiddan,
Denmark
–Micro-credit for Africa



PDG Manuel Herrero,
District 4180, Mexico
–Xicotepec connection



Mona Arslan,
Egyptian heritage
–Interact Coordinator



PDG Jerry Fortino,
District 6840, Louisiana
–New Orleans on the rise

Faces, reflections from RI Convention

ics and the creator of “Characters Counts,” was a speaker in the second plenary. He asked us to think about “what’s right to do and what you have a right to do.” The difference between “success” and “significance” was illustrated by Albert Nobel, the man who invented TNT. He saw his own obituary, which was positive, but he didn’t like it. So he created the Nobel Peace Prize.

• The ever-popular Cliff Dockterman, an RI past president, inspired with a talk about Rotary’s transition into world service. His enumeration of the organizations that Rotary has partnered with since 1960 to change lives was impressive: 3-H Grants, Jaipur Foot, Hunger Plus, Shelter Box, Avoidable Blindness, Wheelchair Foundation, Rotary Action Groups (Gift of Life), and an explosion of World Community Service Matching Grants. “Rotary can share with other organizations and volunteers,” he said, while urging Rotarians, “Don’t sit on the sidelines and watch the parade go by. Get on the bandwagon and be part of the parade

itself!”

• I was pleased to reconnect with Jerry Fortino, a Rotarian from New Orleans whom I met while attending the Zones 29-30 Rotary Institute last fall in Springfield, Mo. Jerry had given a somewhat bleak picture of Katrina recovery then, but was more upbeat in LA. “New Orleans is getting better. We still have to get our schools and hospitals back up and a good many people have relocated elsewhere permanently. The city will be smaller but with a better quality of life. The French Quarter – hotels and restaurants – are back. Tourism will be our industry.” The city will be ready for the RI Convention in 2011, he said.

• Those of us who traveled to Nigeria last year were invited to the Africa Breakfast and it was a delight. We were greeted by Past RI President Jonathan Majiyagbe and Saliu Ahmed, the district governor in District 9120 Nigeria whose providential meeting with DG Diana Reed opened doors of opportunity. The keynote speaker was

William Asiko, the director of the Coca-Cola Foundation that is leading the way in the battle against AIDS.

• Also impressive was Ina Pontopiddan, a young woman from Copenhagen, Denmark, who is head of investor solutions for the MYC4 entrepreneur program that is creating sustainable businesses through micro-credit financing – a program that many believe holds the key to ending poverty in the Third World by giving women control over their own economic well being (www.myc4.com).

• In his “credentials” report, General Secretary Ed Futa said 3,826 of 33,094 clubs were represented at the convention. Two thousand nineteen club delegates plus 182 delegates at large (super delegates?) cast 4,347 votes. A quorum is 10 percent. The proceedings were declared official.

• Bob Scott, the Canadian who chaired The Rotary Foundation, announced that \$20 million had already been raised toward the Gates Foundation’s \$100 million chal-



Dixie and Bill Burress, president
Davenport



AG Terry Geiger, Decatur County
Kitten Noble, Exec Sec, Des Moines



DG 2007-08 Saliu Ahmed of District
9120 in Nigeria reconnected with PDG
Bill Tubbs at the Africa Breakfast at the
Los Angeles RI Convention.

lenge for PolioPlus.

- For the first time, the directors of the three organizations who have partnered with Rotary in the global campaign to eradicate polio, appeared on the same stage: Ann Veneman, executive director of UNICEF; Dr. Julie Gerberding, director of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and Dr. Margaret Chan, the director-general of the World Health Organization.

- The big, exciting news from this convention was Dr. Chan's pledge that, "Today, I am making polio eradication the top operational priority of the WHO." The significance of Dr. Chan's pledge was not lost on Rotarians, but it was difficult to get the media to pay attention. Amidst other great coverage of the convention in the *Los Angeles Times*, the WHO commitment wasn't covered, to the great disappointment of the hard-working media specialists in the RI Public Relations Department.

- My landing spot at the convention hall was the media center with the PR staff and members of the RI Public Image Resource Group. They put on two well-attended breakout sessions, one on working with the news media and one on public relations. I gave a presentation about the Iowa Rotary Tabloid in the PR breakout. The section will be recognized with an RI "Success Stories" award for 2007-08. Two hundred-fifty copies that had been shipped to LA were gone in an instant, as were copies of "Success Stories" from around the world that I compiled for the Group last May.

- Ads for "Humanity in Motion V," Rotary's next multi-media campaign, were tested in focus groups. I led one of the focus groups and DGE Susan and Bob Herrick, and DGN Cal and Rachel Litwiller, participated.

- On the convention's final day, I felt privileged to sit in the plenary hall with District 6000's dutiful Rotary Foundation chair, PDG Don Goering and his wife, Doris. Don is constantly taking notes and organizing information for the betterment of Rotary and District 6000. According to his tally, District 6000's all-time contribution to polio eradication, as of Sept. 30, 2007, including campaigns in 1987 and 2003, was \$1,763,242. (The U.S. government has given \$1.32 billion. Some of that was ours, too!)

- President Wilkinson, a Canadian, got a phone call from the government of Canada, which announced \$60 million for PolioPlus! Dalton McGuinty, premier of Ontario Province and a dynamic speaker, advocated for literacy: "If we want a better, fairer world, we must promote literacy." He quoted Frederick Douglas: "Once you learn to read, everything will be free!"

- Past President Majiyagbe gave an over-

view of the five points in Rotary's Future Vision Plan, Polio Eradication; Annual and Permanent Fund Support; Our Foundation/Your Foundation; Enhance Rotary's Image; and Support the Future Vision Plan.

- Stephen Lewis, co-director of AIDS-Free World, said children get AIDS through the birthing process. Incidence can be cut by 50 percent with a simple pill given to the mother. Transmission can be cut by 90 percent if the mother gets the same pre-natal care as in the West. Twenty-three million lives are affected with the AIDS virus in Africa. Western countries funded just 15 percent of the commitment that they made



Rotarian Don Johnson, a former member of Muscatine Rotary, and Virginia, joined old friends all the way from North Carolina.



Michael Cavitt,
Minneapolis
Former Iowan



Karen Wayne,
Manassas, Va.
Red Cross aid

in 2005.

- The challenge of 2008-09 President D.K. Lee of Korea is to achieve all we can by keeping our clubs strong and increasing members, by supporting The Rotary Foundation, by meeting the \$100 million Gates

Challenge, and by reducing child mortality. "All the world's children are our children – we save them with our hearts, souls and minds." "Make Dreams Real," he said, by bringing members into Rotary.

- Throughout the convention, the news from Iowa was ominous. The levee breach in Columbus Junction appeared on page 1 of the *Sunday Los Angeles Times*. The *Times* devoted an inside page of its main news section to the floods, including a large photo of downtown Cedar Rapids under water, pictures of homeless people, houses slamming into bridges, and more. When Rotarians saw "Iowa" on our name badges, they expressed concern and wanted to help. We were able to tell them that DG Diana Reed, back in Iowa, had set up a flood relief account. The \$10,000 received from Texas, for one, is a result of these contacts.

- During an evening at the Hollywood Bowl, I met Karen Wayne, a Red Cross executive from Manassas, VA, who said she will either come to Iowa or send someone to help. At another event, I met Judith Prather, a Rotarian from Whittier, CA, who said the president of her Rotary club, Roger Stoltenberg, a retired disaster relief consultant, is headed to the Hawkeye state.

* * *

These notes barely scratch the surface. These are just some of the many people from other states and around the world I met or reconnected with who are part of our Family of Rotary:

- Michael Cavitt, a former member of the Rotary Club of Iowa City AM and former D6000 Inbound Scholars chair, is involved in Rotary leadership in Minneapolis.

- Mona Arslan, from Egypt, is the Interact Coordinator in District 2450, Los Angeles.

- At the Hollywood Bowl, I met Jacob Jurgensen of Hamburg, Germany. He is a friend of Gerd Imeyer, the 2004-05 District Governor in District 1890 who arranged a GSE with District 6000.

- Bill Miller, Frankfort, KY, represents Rotary at the U.N. and does TV tapings.

- PDG Hugh Summers, Palestine, TX, is treasurer of SCRYE, the South Central Rotary Youth Exchange organization which District 6000 joined last year.

- PDG Jose Manuel Herrero, the Centennial District Governor in District 4180, Mexico, which includes Xicotepec.

- Vivian Adams, Sioux City, who is the current governor in District 5610, which is in northwest Iowa, Minnesota and South Dakota.

- Monty Audenart, RI director and now vice president, from Red Deer, Canada, is a retired dentist who makes trips several times a year to the Hudson Bay area to provide care for the Inuit Indians.

- Any many, many more!

Use RI Web site to track your Foundation giving

By PDG Don Goering/Ames

D-6000, Rotary Foundation chair

Here is some information about Rotary Foundation reporting for club presidents, secretaries and Rotary Foundation chairs:

Access: There are some essential tools for you to use to track your club members' contributions to The Rotary Foundation, which are available to you through Rotary International's web site through the Member Access Portal.



Don Goering
District Rotary
Foundation chair

Your 2007-08 club secretary needs to go to your club's "officer" section of the Member Access site and simply specify the 2008-09 club president and secretary for your club. Once this is done, you as the 2008-09 Rotary club officers will have immediate access to your club's pertinent information. Only the club president and secretary can access these reports, and should share copies with the club Rotary Foundation chair.

Reports: 2008-09 presidents and secretaries, once registered, have access to Monthly Contribution Report, Club Recognition Summary and EREY Eligibility Reports. These reports have been updated to make them more useful and meaningful to all of us.

Monthly Contribution Report: This report is now dynamic. Contributions entered today will appear on the report tomorrow. You will be able to monitor your club's contributions on a daily basis.

Club Recognition Summary: The two right most columns of this report are now "Date of the Last Contribution" and "Contribution Designation." This will help you determine if your member's contributions have been credited to the correct fund of The Rotary Foundation. You will see a series of abbreviations for Rotarians contributions:

APF = Annual Programs Fund: These are contributions that are credited to the Every Rotarian, Every Year Goal.

Share = Contributions to be "shared" between D-6000 and the World Fund of The Rotary Foundation.

DAF = Donor Advised Fund: These are special funds established by the Rotarian who asked The Rotary Foundation to administer the fund.

Restricted = Contribution has been given to a specific fund or program such as a specific Matching Grant.

PP = Contribution has been designated to the PolioPlus campaign.

b. Every Rotarian, Every Year Eligibility Report: This is a brand new Annual Programs Fund report. This report identifies Rotarians who are Rotary Foundation Sustaining Members – members contributing at least \$100 per year, and D-6000 Paul Harris Society eligible members contributing \$1,000 per year. Through this report you will be able to monitor your progress toward achieving two club recognitions.

There are three definitions that you need to understand in order to interpret this report:

ERFY Member i.e.: Every Rotarian, Every Year - A Rotarian who personally contributes some amount each year to the Annual Programs Fund. Contributions count toward Paul Harris Fellow, Multiple Paul Harris Fellow, and Paul Harris Society and Major Donor recognition.

RFSM i.e.: Rotary Foundation Sustaining Member – A Rotarian who personally contributes \$100 or more each year to the Annual

Programs Fund. Contributions are cumulative throughout the Rotary year and the Rotarian receives a Sustaining Member badge sticker from the club. Contributions count toward Paul Harris Fellow, Multiple Paul Harris Fellow, and Paul Harris Society and Major Donor recognition.

PHS Eligible i.e.: Paul Harris Society Eligible – A Rotarian who contributes \$1,000 or more each year to the Annual Programs Fund. Contributions are cumulative throughout the Rotary year and donors are eligible for the membership in the D-6000 Paul Harris Society. Contributions count toward Paul Harris Fellow, Multiple Paul Harris Fellow, and Paul Harris Society and Major Donor recognition.

Every Rotarian, Every Year Banner Recognition: To achieve this recognition your club must achieve \$100 per capita and every active Rotarian in your club must make a personal contribution of some amount to the Annual Programs Fund.

100 Percent Rotary Sustaining Member Club Banner Recognition: To achieve this recognition your club must achieve \$100 per capita and every active Rotarian in the Club must make a personal contribution of \$100 or more to the Annual Programs Fund.

Rotary's Member Access Portal via www.rotary.org now requires each of us to provide a unique e-mail address that matches their records at Rotary International. Rotarians who have been sharing an e-mail account when logging into the Member Access Portal must get a new e-mail account, which is unique to only them. The Member Access portal allows Rotarians to update their own security profile (address, e-mail address, phone, etc.) view contributions and recognition history, and make online contributions to The Rotary Foundation. To log on to Member Access, we Rotarians need our Rotary ID Number, Club Number and our District Number – i.e. 6000. Club Secretaries can give each member their number and club number.

There are new "Guidelines for Reclassing Contributions" effective July 1, 2008. The Rotary Foundation has established "Contributions Reclass Guidelines" for the reclassing of contributions from one restriction to another, effective July 1, 2008. These guidelines follow accepted accounting and business practices and limits the time period in which contribution reclassifications (corrections) can be made. If a contribution has been sent in and the sender realizes that it was incorrectly designated, any corrections must be made within 90 days of the gift receipt date. This is the reason to check these reports closely and often. Corrections cannot be accepted or made following the close of that fiscal year. (June 30th)

Over the years, we have encouraged clubs to send Rotarians' contributions in quarterly or more often and definitely by June 15 of each Rotary year. In talking with personnel at The Rotary Foundation, they received over ONE million donations in June and at one point recording over a million dollars a day in contributions.

You are encouraged to view Rotary's new "mini" web site which gives us an opportunity to help end polio by contributing to Rotary's \$100 Million Challenge from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The address for this new web site is: www.rotary.org/endpolio. You are encouraged to visit this web site frequently and urge your members to include this Web site on their list of "favorites."

At the 2008 RI Convention in Los Angeles, those of us in attendance heard the Who Health Organization Director-General Margaret Chan state "I am making polio eradication the (WHO) organization's top operational priority on a most urgent, if not an emergency basis."

What a powerful statement from one of our partners in the fight to eradicate the poliovirus.

Raise awareness to meet Polio Challenge

By PDG Don Goering/Ames

D-6000, PolioPlus Challenge chair

Polio eradication remains Rotary's No. 1 priority and project!

Time is moving along for this Rotary year and also the deadline to meet the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Challenge to us as Rotarians.

Yes, I am talking about the goal of raising the dollars to match that \$100 million dollar gift received by The Rotary Foundation last November. The District 6000 share of that challenge is \$186,000.

Here are several questions for each of you. What is expected of each club for this Rotary year and the next two Rotary years? What is the time line? What plans has your club developed or have you already accomplished?

The Rotary Foundation Trustees have asked each of our 62 District 6000 Rotary clubs to accomplish the following: Plan and conduct some type of community fund raising event asking for contributions.

Why? We need to let our communities know of the tremendous progress that has been made since Rotary accepted the challenge to eradicate Polio in 1985.

Does your club have an annual community fundraiser such as a chicken barbecue or steak fry? Perhaps a percentage of the money raised from that event could go towards this challenge. During these events you could ask for a special collection to go towards the challenge. Could the planning and carrying out of this event be a project for your new members? The Rotary clubs of the Quad Cities gave us an excellent example with their Rotary Night at the Ballpark (pages 16-17).

Ask your members who have become Rotarians since 2003 to join your other members and make a significant gift to the polio eradication effort. One suggestion would be a gift of a dollar a year that they and their immediate family members have all been polio free. Ask all other Rotarians to make another contribution to meet this challenge leading to the eradication of polio.

For District 6000 to meet or surpass our share of this challenge, each club will need to raise and submit a total that is based on each Rotarian contributing \$15 annually for each of the next three years. The deadline to raise the \$100 million is Dec. 31, 2010.

The children of the world are counting on you and your fellow Rotarians to fulfill our promise of a Polio free world.



Rotary Foundation Annual giving

District 6000 Clubs • July 1, 2007 - June 30, 2008

CLUB (Members/Jul 07)	(1) 07-08 Goal	(2) Thru 6-30-08	(3) % of Goal	(4) Per capita
Adel (26)	\$ 2,700	1,672	62	\$ 64.33
Albia (34)	2,280	1,650	72	48.53
Ames Morning (70)	6,900	9,650	140	137.86
Ames (268)	35,750	36,606	102	136.59
Ankeny (69)	7,400	10,141	137	146.97
Atlantic (63)	3,300	5,475	166	86.90
Bettendorf (90)	9,100	14,648	161	162.76
Bloomfield (15)	1,400	560	40	37.33
Boone (61)	5,525	5,575	101	91.39
Burlington (103)	11,300	11,600	103	112.62
Carroll (56)	5,500	3,850	70	68.75
Centerville (49)	1,000	1,770	177	36.12
Chariton (55)	5,200	5,610	108	102.00
Clinton (110)	7,600	10,013	132	91.03
Coon Rapids (26)	2,600	160	6	6.15
Coralville-North Corridor (37)	6,300	5,700	90	154.05
Corning (53)	2,160	3,500	162	66.04
Corydon (18)	460	100	22	5.56
Creston (19)	475	50	11	2.63
Dallas Center (21)	2,400	2,100	88	100.00
Davenport (180)	13,650	17,334	127	96.30
Decatur County (15)	2,500	4,230	169	282.00
Des Moines AM (127)	14,850	11,745	79	92.48
Des Moines (353)	18,250	38,080	209	107.88
East Polk County (48)	2,250	3,250	144	67.71
Fairfield (75)	7,400	8,000	108	106.67
Fort Madison (49)	2,500	5,816	233	118.71
Grinnell (30)	2,500	1,966	79	65.53
Indianola (51)	5,400	4,890	91	95.88
Iowa City A.M. (54)	7,250	9,922	137	183.74
Iowa City Downtown (28)	3,000	2,600	87	92.86
Iowa City (300)	23,100	41,339	179	137.80
Iowa Quad-Cities (54)	1,500	3,225	215	59.72
Jefferson (53)	5,300	6,023	114	113.66
Johnston (42)	4,100	100	2	2.38
Kalona (45)	2,500	1,100	44	24.44
Keokuk (78)	3,950	6,800	172	87.18
Keosauqua (31)	2,300	2,303	100	74.29
Knoxville (66)	6,700	5,200	78	78.79
Lenox (28)	1,800	2,650	147	94.64
Manning (17)	1,200	1,450	121	85.29
Marengo (14)	1,000	351	35	25.11
Marshalltown (182)	10,000	14,425	144	79.26
Mount Pleasant Noon (36)	3,330	1,640	49	45.56
Mt. Pleasant (28)	2,520	4,756	189	169.86
Muscatine (132)	16,200	18,919	117	143.33
Nevada (61)	6,800	7,275	107	119.26
Newton (91)	9,500	9,550	101	104.95
North Scott (101)	10,800	10,540	98	104.36
Northwest Des Moines (70)	12,780	11,786	92	168.37
Osceola (34)2	2,160	700	32	20.59
Oskaloosa (56)	6,000	0	0	0
Ottumwa (111)	11,500	12,175	106	109.68
Pella (40)	4,000	5,960	149	149
Perry (33)	3,400	830	24	25.15
Tipton (32)	2,201	2,850	129	89.06
Washington (63)	6,200	6,115	99	97.06
Waukee (68)	6,800	7,937	117	116.73
Wellman (36)	3,400	5,440	160	151.11
West Des Moines (79)	7,200	7,600	106	96.20
West Liberty (36)	3,600	13,325	370	370.14
Winterset (37)	1,850	1,600	86	43.24
Total	\$ 382,591	\$ 452,232	118.20	\$ 105.00

News Briefs

Missourian Nominated: Ray Klinginsmith of the Rotary Club of Kirksville, Missouri is the selection of the Nominating Committee for President of Rotary International in 2010-11. He will become the president-nominee on Oct. 1 if there are no challenging candidates. He would succeed 2009-10 President John Kenny of Scotland.

Klinginsmith earned degrees in business and law at the University of Missouri and completed graduate studies at the University of Cape Town, South Africa, as a Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholar. He was general counsel and professor of business at Northeast Missouri State University in Kirksville (now Truman State University) from 1973 until his retirement in 1995, and also held the post of dean of administration for five years.

A Rotarian since 1961, Klinginsmith has served Rotary as district governor and as chair of the 1998 Council on Legislation in New Delhi and the 2008 Los Angeles Convention Committee. He

was a member of the RI Board of Directors for 1985-87 and chaired its executive committee in 1986-87. Klinginsmith joined The Rotary Foundation Trustees in 2002, serving as vice chair in 2005-06, and was a member of the Future Vision Committee from 2005 to 2008.



Ray Klinginsmith



Maggie Tinsman (r), a Davenport Rotarian and former state senator, was named "Citizen of the Year" by the Iowa Quad Cities Rotary Club in recognition of her work for health and human services. Presenting the award were 2007-08 president Tom Licea and health department director, Rotarian Larry Barker.

EREY: There are 1,540 Rotary clubs in the world whose per capita giving to the Annual Programs Fund of The Rotary Foundation is more than \$50. Fifty-one of those clubs are in District 6000, reports District Rotary Foundation chair PDG Don Goering. Congratulations!

Institute: District 6000 Rotarians who will attend the Zone 27-28 Governor-Elect Training Seminar and/or Rotary Institute Sept. 1-7 at Sandusky, Ohio, include: DG Susan Herrick and Bob (Boone); DGE Cal Litwiller and Rachel (Mt. Pleasant); future trainer Rita Perea (Des Moines); DGN Gary Welch and Colleen (Ankeny); and PDGs Diana Reed and Rick (Northwest Des Moines), Del Bluhm and Georgia (Ames), Corliss and Jeanne Klaassen (Chariton), and Bill Tubbs (North Scott). Reed will assist in training, and Tubbs will talk on public relations. Approximately 350 Rotarians from the upper Midwest USA and Canada



Rotary was visible at the Eldridge Summer Festival parade, thanks to Adrian Trent, a 2008-09 outbound Rotary Youth Exchange student, and Arthur Souza, a 2007-08 inbound student from Brazil, who built this float.

will meet President-Elect Kenny and hear the latest news from the Rotary world.

Project Fair: The 16th Uniendo-America Project Fair will be Jan. 29-31 at the Radisson Hotel by the Sea in Belize City. Clubs and districts looking for partners for World Community Service projects are encouraged to attend. Information: Jim Peterson, (319) 644-3018, or (319) 631-2992.

Report Your News! Clubs in District 6000 are invited and encouraged to submit news of past and upcoming activities for District 6000 News. Send Word documents and free-standing high resolution .jpg photos to: btubbs@northscottpress.com. The deadline for the next issue is Nov. 21. If you have questions, please call: DG Susan Herrick, (515) 432-5240; editor Bill Tubbs, (563) 285-8111; Jacque Andrew, (515) 386-2114; Karin Franklin, (319), 321-8261; or your assistant governor.



Outbound Rotary Youth Exchange students for 2008-09 held a picnic July 20 at Newton (l-r): Juliana Bunnell (Centerville, Thailand), Rebecca Moreland (Pella, France), Adrian Trent (North Scott, Brazil), Aaron Masover (Fairfield, Taiwan), Ramya Hipp (Fairfield, Brazil), Katie Lenger (Knoxville, Argentina), Kelsey Jensen (NW Des Moines, Brazil). Not pictured: Andrew Schilling (Burlington, Ecuador), Elinor Gaston (North Scott, Argentina). The District Youth Exchange fall picnic for 2008-09 inbound students and host families will be Sunday, Sept. 17 at Knoxville.



Julia Jenkins (Osceola) will join DGE Cal and Rachel Litwiller (Mt. Pleasant) on a polio National Immunization Day trip to Nigeria in November. Mariam Birma, president of the Rotary Club of Kano, Nigeria, greeted them in LA. DGN Gary Welch will join them.

the areas that we visited that we care about them and that we hope that they may soon be able to get back to a normal life.

I just do not know where you would start, but the Rotarians we met are strong people and we know they will rebuild their homes, their businesses and their lives.

Our warmest regards to all,

Bill and Lorna Boyd, New Zealand
(RI President, 2006-07)

Letter

Dear Governor Susan,

Last year Lorna and I had the chance to visit clubs in your district and we have been feeling for you as we have seen the disastrous impact of those terrible floods.

Would you please tell the Rotarians in

CLUB ATTENDANCE PERCENT AND RANK

May - July, 2008

CLUB	MAY		JUNE		JULY	
	Percent	Rank	Percent	Rank	Percent	Rank
Adel	62.00 %	33	55.00 %	41	61.00 %	23
Albia			56.80 %	37	46.70 %	41
Ames	57.00 %	42	52.00 %	48		
Ames Morning	53.13 %	47	54.00 %	42	55.90 %	29
Ankeny	77.00 %	14	65.00 %	28	80.00 %	8
Atlantic			58.00 %	36	50.16 %	40
Bettendorf	78.49 %	12	81.80 %	9	83.46 %	5
Bloomfield	67.00 %	26	70.00 %	23	75.00 %	12
Boone	62.00 %	32	63.00 %	32	55.00 %	31
Burlington	80.20 %	8	82.40 %	7	85.60 %	4
Carroll	61.73 %	35	60.74 %	35	50.46 %	39
Centerville	43.00 %	53	51.00 %	50	51.00 %	37
Chariton	75.00 %	16	72.00 %	20	69.00 %	19
Clinton	61.70 %	36	56.52 %	39	56.59 %	28
Coon Rapids	62.00 %	31				
Coralville-North Corridor	100.00 %	1	95.00 %	1	80.00 %	7
Corning	67.94 %	25	68.75 %	25		
Corydon					51.00 %	36
Creston	78.00 %	13	53.00 %	45	52.00 %	34
Dallas Center	69.00 %	22	69.00 %	24	72.00 %	16
Davenport	45.05 %	51	52.07 %	47	40.30 %	44
Decatur County	56.00 %	45	68.50 %	26	54.00 %	32
Des Moines	65.34 %	28	38.19 %	54	50.68 %	38
Des Moines A.M.	58.00 %	41	49.00 %	52		
East Polk County	61.00 %	37				
Fairfield			50.79 %	51	40.54 %	43
Fort Madison	65.00 %	29	62.40 %	33		
Grinnell			80.00 %	12		
Indianola	61.81 %	34				
Iowa City	48.00 %	50	68.00 %	27	60.00 %	24
Iowa City A.M.	68.00 %	24	75.00 %	17	72.00 %	15
Iowa City Downtown						
Iowa Quad-Cities	59.64 %	39	70.37 %	22	55.56 %	30
Jefferson	56.00 %	44	71.00 %	21		
Johnston	72.67 %	19	73.24 %	19	67.11 %	21
Kalona	88.89 %	4	86.90 %	5	70.05 %	17
Keokuk	60.51 %	38	53.57 %	43	44.24 %	42
Keosauqua	52.90 %	48	63.50 %	29	68.00 %	20
Knoxville	65.53 %	27	63.26 %	30	59.40 %	25
Lenox	79.00 %	11	75.00 %	16	100.00 %	1
Manning	74.00 %	17	79.00 %	13	75.00 %	11
Marengo	72.00 %	20			76.00 %	10
Marshalltown	56.82 %	43	51.91 %	49	53.95 %	33
Mount Pleasant Noon	62.90 %	30	56.70 %	38		
Mt. Pleasant	82.00 %	5	82.00 %	8		
Muscatine	43.92 %	52	52.18 %	46		
Nevada	75.90 %	15	78.87 %	14	69.83 %	18
Newton			63.00 %	31		
North Scott	80.50 %	7	80.26 %	11		
Northwest Des Moines	70.75 %	21	84.21 %	6	74.52 %	13
Osceola	50.00 %	49	53.09 %	44	51.85 %	35
Oskaloosa						
Ottumwa	59.00 %	40	55.00 %	40	59.00 %	26
Pella	73.00 %	18	78.00 %	15	72.00 %	14
Perry						
Tipton	68.23 %	23	61.00 %	34	61.00 %	22
Washington	54.40 %	46	44.44 %	53		
Waukegan	81.14 %	6	91.06 %	4	76.90 %	9
Wellman	94.30 %	2	94.70 %	2	94.38 %	2
West Des Moines	79.93 %	9	74.47 %	18	57.30 %	27
West Liberty	79.00 %	10	81.00 %	10	81.00 %	6
Winterset	90.97 %	3	92.77 %	3	88.39 %	3



Bound for Birmingham!

The "town crier" at the Los Angeles convention welcomed Rotarians to the 2009 convention in Birmingham, England. Here are the dates of future Rotary International Conventions:

- Birmingham, England, June 21-24, 2009;
- Montreal, Canada: June 20-23, 2010;
- New Orleans, USA: May 22-25, 2011;
- Bangkok, Thailand: 2012;
- Lisbon, Portugal: 2013;
- Sydney, Australia: 2014.



Paul Kalainoff received the "William F. Tubbs Honor Rotarian Award" presented annually to an outstanding new member of the Rotary Club of North Scott. In addition to his volunteer activities with the club, he is a new member of the District 6000 Youth Exchange Committee.

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

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



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

Dong Kurn Lee, Seoule, Korea

DISTRICT 6000 • Iowa USA

www.rotary6000.org

DISTRICT GOVERNOR

Susan Herrick
703 14th St., Boone, IA 50036-1523
(515) 432-7995; (515) 298-1536 (c)
s.herrick@mchsi.com

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR

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

ASSISTANT GOVERNORS

PDG Dale Belknap, NW Des Moines (coordinator)
Gary Anderson, Knoxville
Jacque Andrew, Jefferson
Ted Carpenter, Coralville-North Corridor
Ros Dunblazier, Nevada
Terry Geiger, Decatur County
Linda Hartkopf, Atlantic
Ginny Hughes, Fairfield
Harvey Kadlec, Des Moines
Rachel Litwiller, Mt. Pleasant
Carol Machael, Clinton
John McNeer, Newton
Dave Reiff, Fairfield
Jim Stein, Muscatine
John Tone, Des Moines
Gary Welch, Ankeny

'DISTRICT 6000 NEWS' EDITOR

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

District 6000 News is published four times a year, in August, November, February and May, as a supplement to monthly electronic communications. District 6000 News is mailed to District 6000 club presidents, assistant governors, past and future district governors and committee chairs. It is posted in PDF format with the pictures in color at our district website, www.rotary6000.org. We encourage and urge you to share your copies with club leaders and Rotarians in your clubs and to use it as a resource for club newsletters and in any way possible for the advancement of Rotary. Clubs are invited and encouraged to submit news to editor Bill Tubbs at the above address.

Club leaders' checklist



From DG Susan Herrick . . .

- Ensure that your RI and district dues are paid, including voluntary contributions to FAMSCO and M.O.S.T.
- Register club members to attend one or more Regional Rotary Foundation/Membership seminars (p. 5).
- Lend a hand for Iowa flood relief and encourage your club and members to provide financial support (p. 2-3).
- Help FAMSCO find a warehouse (p. 4).
- Plan community activities to create awareness of polio eradication and meet or exceed your club's three-year goal for PolioPlus Partners (p. 29).
- Send an e-mail to Ken Quinn at the World Food Prize Foundation (wfp@worldfoodprize.com) to report how much money, food, donations and volunteer hours your club and its members devote to hunger issues (p. 8).
- Determine significant community projects that might be aided with a District Simplified Grant and apply by the Oct. 1 deadline (p. 12).
- Nominate candidates by Oct. 2 for the outbound GSE team to Taiwan, and notify district leadership if you wish to host the team from Taiwan next spring (p. 14).
- Assist the Club Extension Committee to help Rotary grow with new clubs in District 6000 (p. 7).
- Identify and support projects that address the needs of youth, including substance abuse, child mortality, Rota-Kids and the Youth Services Fund (p. 5).
- Review criteria for district and international awards, including the Presidential Citation and District Governor Club Recognition, and work to achieve them (p. 18).
- Let the Friendship Exchange Committee know if you would like to host the team from Sweden in 2009 (p. 8).
- Personally invite a member to Rotary and plan membership development strategies for 2008-09 (p. 13).
- Encourage members to attend the 2009 RI Convention in Birmingham, England (p. 24-27, 31).
- Consider nominations for district governor (p. 9).
- Ask your members to distribute the children's book, "The Flood That Came To Grandma's House" (p. 21).
- Lead by example, and ask members to increase giving to The Rotary Foundation, including Sustaining Members (\$100/year); Paul Harris Society Members (\$1,000/year); Major Donors (combined personal outright or cumulative giving to the Annual Programs Fund of \$10,000); Benefactors (minimum \$1,000 to the Permanent Fund as an outright gift or in an estate plan); and Bequest Society Members (\$10,000 or more for The Rotary Foundation in an estate plan) (p. 8, 10, 29).
- Submit news of your club's successes or upcoming events by Nov. 21, 2008 for the next issue of *District 6000 News* to PDG Bill Tubbs, or Karin Franklin (Iowa City) or Jacque Andrews (Jefferson).