

Denny Skinner, District Governor, 2003-2004



Lend a Hand

Register today for the
District Conference Celebration!



LEND A HAND
IN THE SPIRIT OF ROTARY

APRIL 29 – MAY 1, 2004 AMES, IOWA

*****WARNING---DO NOT MISS!!!!*****

“An Unconventional Convention” for Rotary District 6000 at The Hotel at the Gateway Center in Ames, Iowa.

It all starts Thursday, April 29th with golf at Coldwater Golf Links or a tour of beautiful Reiman Gardens and continues with many other activities through Saturday, May 1st.

Friday and Saturday are filled with fun, fellowship and



sharing the accomplishments of Rotary for the 99th year.

Celebrate the past and look to the 100th year of Rotary in 2005! Please join us for a day or the complete conference. Note special events for families with children. Don't be late, register on line at www.rotary6000.org or check with your club president or secretary. Sign up early and save!! See you at the Rotary Conference in Ames!

Dean & Sharon Axland, Conference Chairs



District 6000 News...

UNCONVENTIONAL CONVENTION Rotary District 6000 Conference Agenda April 29-May 1, 2004 • Gateway Center, Ames, IA

Thursday, April 29

- 1:00-5:00PM Golf, Coldwater Creek Links, Ames Iowa
2:00-4:00PM Tour of Iowa State University's Reiman Gardens optional
5:00PM Fellowship
6:00PM Brats and more at Coldwater Creek golf course for golfer, guests, and early arrivals.

Friday, April 30

- 7:30AM-5:30PM Registration at Gateway Center
8:30-10:00AM Governor's Breakfast, for Past/Future Governors, Assistant Governors by invitation
8:30-9:30AM President Elect's Breakfast for new Pres. Elects, by invitation
8:00AM-9:30AM Rolls, coffee, House of Friendship
10:00AM Press Conference

Ongoing 8:00AM-5:00PM

Hands-on book projects, for all to help with this literacy project

Ongoing 12:00pm-5:00pm

Silent Art Auction. Come and bid on art objects from all of the 62 Rotary Clubs in this district!

- 10:30-11:30AM Panel of Current Club Presidents. Hear what they did right and what they wanted to improve. Especially for new Presidents and other officers.
10:30-11:30AM Xicotepac Mexico Project—nearly every club has contributed in some way to this project. Celebrate the results and learn what lies ahead.
10:30-11:30AM Rotary District Business meeting. All welcome, see the business of Rotary with the Dist. Gov., Committee chairs and Rotary International representative.
11:30AM-12:00PM International, All-Club Luncheon, impressive Youth Exchange Flags, Keynote Speaker. Hosted by Ames Noon Club.
12:00-1:30PM Special Session: ISU Research Park, featuring technology and new companies
2:00-3:15PM "Success Stories" and Other Good Things. Catch the enthusiasm!
2:00-3:15PM Repeat of Special Session: ISU Research Park, featuring technology and new companies
3:30-5:00PM Rap (not rhyming or dancing) with the Rotary International Representative and District Governor
3:30-5:00PM Fellowship-Gather at Gateway to depart to Home Hospitality. Enjoy ragtime music with Rod Biensen.
5:00-6:00PM Home Hospitality—enjoy dinner in the home of a Fellow Rotarian. Hosted by Ames Morning Club
6:00-8:30PM

9:00PM on "Afterglow" at Gateway Center with surprise activity!

Saturday, May 1

- 7:00-8:00AM "Volkswalk" starting at Gateway. For those experienced walkers who love early morning exercise.
7:00-8:00AM 1 km walk starting at Gateway. An easier walk. Motorcycle ride—Bring your motorcycle. Ride with new Rotarian friends (and Denny and Kathy) for a short invigorating ride in the country.
7:00-8:00AM

Ongoing 8:00AM-5:00PM

Silent Art Auction. Come and bid on art objects from all of the 62 Rotary Clubs in this district!

- 7:00-9:00AM Breakfast buffet. Special sessions: Interact, Rotaract, Ambassadorial Scholars. There has been tremendous interest in starting new groups for young people interested in Rotary. Come and hear how to do it.
8:00-9:30AM Awards Program. Recognition for your club's attendance, Membership, website, club bulletin, Foundation giving, etc.
9:30-10:30AM Group Study Exchange. Greet our friends from District 4180 in Mexico and see how you can be involved in this wonderful program.
10:40-11:50AM Special Session—"Leave a Legacy: Promote Early Literacy" for parents, grandparents, volunteers and caregivers.
11:00-11:50AM Celebrate with Your Mentor! (The person who proposed you in Rotary) Luncheon-hosted by Marshalltown Rotary
12:00-1:30PM Tour of Iowa State University's Reiman Gardens.
2:00-3:00PM Special Session-Poverty: Hands-on session for club leaders and family members interested in working on poverty in their communities.
2:00-3:00PM Family Activities: Bowling, 'Puttin on the Paint' (ceramics) (Off-site)
2:00-5:00PM Personal Health—For all, treat yourself to refresher breathing, fitness, good life survey, tai chi.
3:00-4:00PM Reception-Hosted by Home Club of the District Governor-Nevada, Iowa
5:00-6:00PM Governor's Banquet, Entertainment by the Kuhlman Sisters before dinner, and dance after dinner. Hosted by Nevada Club (black tie optional).
6:00-11:00PM

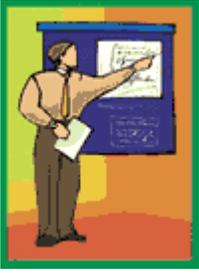
Join



Us!!

District 6000 News....

TRAINING



March is the month for training new officers for next year in Rotary. Next year is a special year in that it is the Centennial year for Rotary. On March 6, the Assistant District Governors were trained at the DMACC Conference Center in Newton. There were 36 people on the District Leadership

Team who participated in this event. New President-Elects will be trained on March 26 at the DMACC Conference Center. The training will cover topics like leadership, Every Rotarian – Every Year, Rotary Foundation, Centennial Celebration, and Membership. In addition, there will be a breakout session where Assistant District Governors will work in a small group with their cluster of clubs. RI Past

President James Lacey called P.E.T.S. "the most important meeting in Rotary."

Saturday, March 27 is the District 6000 Assembly at the DMACC Conference Center. Among the 14 topics that will be covered at this meeting are District 6000's specific and very exciting plans for celebrating Rotary's Centennial, as well as detailed strategies developed at the district level in consultation with The Rotary Foundation leaders in Evanston to achieve RI's goal of Every Rotarian, Every Year. If your club is looking for fund raising activities, this is the place to be.

Register online at www.rotary6000.org. You can't beat the price – it has been paid with District dues. See you there!

Bill Koellner, District Trainer

Retention Ideas...

Establish a partner or buddy system. Team every member of the club up with a partner. The partner contacts their partner if they miss a meeting, committee meeting, service project or social event. This strategy ensures an incentive to maintain attendance and keep members active.

- Establish a separate position of Chair of Club Retention committee. This member will oversee all club retention strategies.
- Identify the 3 members of the club who are most likely to resign and the reasons they may resign. Eliminate the potential cause of their loss to Rotary.
- Review when and where your club meets. Are the weekly meetings held in a comfortable and attractive venue?
- Keep members active in the club and actively involved in service projects. Hands on service projects keep members in Rotary.
- Keep club programs informative and lively. Ensure the weekly program is relevant to club members and their interests.

Bill Koellner, District Trainer/Membership Chair

District 6000 News...

Family of Rotary

Expanding your family through Rotary

I thought this month I would write on a subject that probably does not fall under the umbrella of the Family of Rotary committee, but it is by far the greatest way to get your entire family involved in Rotary. This year we decided that we would host a youth exchange student through Rotary. Bruna is a 17-year-old young woman from Brazil and has she ever made an impact on all of our lives. We have three young girls ages 10, 7, and 6. We weren't sure that we would be an ideal host family because we didn't have any teenagers, but I am here to tell you that is such an invalid argument for not being a host family. The only requirement I believe a family needs to host is a desire to open their homes and hearts. This is an opportunity that you all should consider. There isn't a day that goes by now that Rotary is not on our minds because without Rotary we would have never had the opportunity to know and love Bruna.

Having another person join your family heightens your awareness of your actions not only as an individual, but also as a family unit. You are going to leave a lasting impression on this young individual that will affect them for the rest of their lives as well as shaping your own life. It made us more acutely aware of the things we consider important as a family and what we wanted Bruna to know and think of an American family. We realized that even in our crazy busy

lives, we need to make time to sit down to a meal together everyday, to share our stories and to pray together. I know this may all seem like routine, but it is so easy in these busy times to get our priorities mixed up. When you see the things that you do everyday through the eyes of a person from another country and culture, you become more aware of the many blessings you possess and how sharing them with others is the greatest reward.

There are also many benefits that you will receive as a family, this has been such a growth experience for my girls, they are always asking Bruna about Brazil and her family, her culture, her customs, her language. Right now we have little post-it notes all around our home labeling items in English and Portuguese. They are looking forward to some day visiting Bruna in Brazil. My children now know that the rotary family is much larger than just Nevada, Iowa or the United States, that we are a global community, with many things in common. At the same time, the diversity that sets all of us apart is something they have come to respect and desire to understand instead of judging those that are different. I could go on about the many lessons we have learned, but the point that I am trying to make is that you can make your family stronger by opening your hearts to the idea of expanding your family through Rotary.

**Michelle Cassabaum,
Family of Rotary, Co-Chair**



District 6000 News....

Membership

Membership – Why I Stay in Rotary!

Thoughts of a Rotarian...

I stay in Rotary because it allows me to make a small contribution back to the community that has given me such a wonderful life. I have the opportunity to share my prosperity, skills and education to change a few lives in my neighborhood. An essential tenet of Rotary is the recognition of the worth and importance of the individual. When I was invited to join my Rotary club, I was not asked are you a Protestant, a Hindu, a Muslim, a Jew, a Catholic or a Buddhist, or a Sikh. I was not asked because all religions are welcome in the Rotary family. I stay in Rotary because I belong to an inclusive, not an exclusive, club.

I was introduced to Rotary through the GSE program as a team member to India. This exposed me to the international and humanitarian side of Rotary before I was invited to join a Rotary Club. This introduction gave me a sound foundation in what Rotary accomplishes and gave me the opportunity to meet the people whose lives Rotary changes. Everything since has been a bonus—the friendships that have flourished, the opportunity to serve and the professional contacts that I have made.

I stay in Rotary because I have found a group of people who share my values, ethics and philosophy.

As a police officer, Rotary gave me the opportunity to meet, share a meal and work with leaders from my community that I would otherwise never encounter. These contacts gave me a view of our city that I would not have seen without Rotary. The Rotary clubs in my city have always been a welcome source of candid critiques of the conduct of my police department. Some times the comments are critical, but are never made with animosity.

I stay in Rotary because we change lives. Rotary endeavors to create confidence where there is disarray, understanding where there is suspicion, fellowship where there is loneliness, and health where there is sickness and despair.

I stay in Rotary because I get more from Rotary than I give to Rotary.

Bill Koellner, Membership Chair

Marshalltown Rotary Club

The Marshalltown Rotary Club is hosting a FUN event!!

What: Bunny Harper Golf

When: June 21, 2004

Where: Elmwood Country Club



District 6000 News...

Washington Club has successful year!

As we come close to the end of our Rotary year, the following are our major accomplishments, which have kept us very busy.

- We have experienced a growth of 10% in our membership.
- In addition to our student scholarships, we presented two awards to Rotarian of the Year, and Rotary Community Service.
- Held special appreciation luncheons for Business and Agriculture.
- Hosted another exchange student this year from Australia.
- Sponsored two "matching grants" for drinking water wells in India.
- Conducted our annual Christmas Party for the needy.
- Participated in RYLA.
- Sponsored our annual Blood Drive.
- Sponsored a child reading project.
- Promoted "Family of Rotary"

And, whew!!!! All of this with one big fund raiser, a Turkey Dinner in September. We have a second fundraiser of attending the gates at our County Fair, but we turn in the proceeds of our work to the 4H.

We have a very active Club, and are happy and honored to serve our Community. If you are passing through, or visiting in the area, please join us for lunch on Thursdays - at noon - at the Community "Y".

Don Patterson, President
Washington Rotary Club

Fooling Around in April

Waukee Rotary Club will be sponsoring their 5th Annual "Fooling Around in April" Variety Show.

Details are as follows:

When: Saturday, April 17th

Where: Waukee High School Auditorium

Time: 7:30 PM-- Dessert bar and social hour following production

Show: Variety of Music and Comedy, tickets-- \$10.00

Special Music by: Waukee Big Band

For more information please contact : **Craig Butterfield**
Shrink61@aol.com

Or visit www.waukeerotary.org



District 6000 News....
February Attendance

Name of Club	No. of Meetings	No. of Members	Attendance %	Rank for Febrary
Adel				
Albia				
Ames				
Ames Morning	4	71	58.96%	30
Ankeny	4	62	70.00%	18
Atlantic	5	63	70.20%	17
Bettendorf	4	91	79.30%	10
Bloomfield				
Boone	4	71	35.75%	37
Burlington	3	111	88.29%	4
Carroll				
Centerville				
Chariton				
Clinton	4	125	60.90%	28
Coon Rapids				
Coralville No Corridor	4	47	98.00%	2
Corning	4	58	69.40%	21
Corydon	4	27	56.54%	31
Creston	4	36	60.00%	29
Dallas Center				
Davenport	3	210	48.33%	35
Decatur County	3	17	73.00%	14
Des Moines				
Des Moines AM	3	150	63.00%	27
East Polk County	4	40	73.00%	15
Fairfield				
Fort Madison	4	49	44.00%	36
Grinnell				
Indianola				
Iowa City				
Iowa City AM	4	57	63.73%	25
Iowa Quad Cities	4	44	75.31%	12
Jefferson				
Johnston	4	29	75.00%	13
Kalona				
Keokuk				
Keosauqua	4	31	70.00%	19
Knoxville	4	67	68.31%	22
Lenox				
Manning	3	26	85.00%	7
Marengo	4	12	85.64%	6
Marshalltown	4	193	64.09%	24
Mount Pleasant				
Mount Pleasant PM				
Muscatine				
Nevada	4	68	84.63%	9
Newton	4	105	63.65%	26
North Scott	4	104	84.69%	8
Northwest Des Moines	4	83	95.34%	3
Odyssey	2	24	50.00%	34
Osceola	4	42	54.65%	32
Oskaloosa	5	56	70.00%	20
Ottumwa	4	111	64.46%	23
Pella	4	45	78.40%	11
Perry				
Tipton				
Washington				
Waukee				
Wellman	4	35	98.53%	1
West Des Moines	4	83	71.00%	16
West Liberty	4	22	52.00%	33
Winterset	4	34	88.24%	5