

Denny Skinner, District Governor, 2003-2004



Lend a Hand

*Loose Change...
May 2004*



XICOTEPEC PROJECT

2004 Project Team Trip to Xicotepec, Mexico: March 15-23, 2004

The second annual project team trip to Xicotepec was completed in March of this year; altogether 51 Iowans traveled to Xicotepec to participate in different ongoing projects, where they were joined by RYE student Amelia Carman of Jefferson, who has spent this school year in Xicotepec (see "Epilogue" below).

Everyone on the team was involved in the most important goal of The Xicotepec Project, which is to build understanding and peace between people of different nations and different cultures. Beyond this overarching goal, the Project Team had several "sub-teams", which focused on a different project. These were:

The Medical Team - participated in the Xicotepec Rotary Club's "Just in Time" project to screen poor women for cervical cancer and to provide exams to 300 elementary school children at the Rotary Club los Tezontles School. Data was entered into a spreadsheet and will be available in coming years. The Medical Team doctors - Chuck Hesse, Bill Olin and Pete Wallace - also attended a number of "walk-in" cases. Bert Olin, Marie Carman, Deanna Zinno, Becky Mather, Kathy Wallace and many of the Interactors and Rotaractors from Iowa assisted by translating, record-keeping, etc.

The Educational Research Team - U of I PhD candidate Nicholas Wysocki and three other team members used their week in Xicotepec to gather research data and other information from the children, staff and parents of the Rotary Club los Tezontles School. Nicholas plans to write his dissertation on education in Xicotepec and his hope is that his work will lead to an exchange between Iowan and Mexican educators, helping to prepare both to become better teachers.

The U of I Engineering Team - Professor Craig Just and ten students from the University of Iowa, mostly from the College of Engineering, spent their week educating the public in Xicotepec on the importance of water quality, how to protect water resources, and how to protect themselves from water-borne pathogens. The team visited elementary and secondary schools in Xicotepec to give presentations, and at the end of the week a Drinking Water Fair was held in the town square with help from students of Xicotepec's two universities. The Fair was a participatory, hands-on event; for example, various techniques to purify water were demonstrated and attendees were able to see pathogens through a microscope. With help from the Mexican university students, the U of I Team hopes to reach over 100,000 Xicotepec-area residents within five years with the information and know-how that was exhibited at the Drinking Water Fair.

ISU Engineering Team - Professor Stephen Jones of Iowa State University's College of Engineering led three of his advanced students as they helped to develop plans for the new Tele-secondary school. This team learned about building materials, design criteria, regulatory requirements and financial projections in connection with the Tele-secondary school project. They were also able to analyze the site for suitability for building an on-site waste treatment facility for which they will be providing the design. During the week this team worked closely with Mexican architects, government officials and each other to advance plans for the Tele-secondary project. Since returning to Iowa, they have continued work on this project in collaboration with engineering students at the ITESM (a prestigious Mexican private university system, based in Monterrey).

District 6000 News...

The Literacy and School Library Team - Many of the Rotarians, partners, Rotaractors and Interactors had a part in this project during the week. Pat Schnack coordinated much of the effort that went into converting a bare room at the Rotary Club los Tezontles School into a library, complete with shelves, posters, a fantastic wall mural with characters from children's books, furniture, stuffed animals and many brand-new books that were given plastic covers, card pockets and check-out cards and were catalogued and shelved by the Library Team. The library was dedicated on Friday and school children crowded into their new library to read and be read to by their friends, teachers, parents and Iowa visitors.

So many other things - The week in Xicotepec was full of other encounters, events, activities, fun, laughter and sharing. Project Team members were on the radio, in the papers and on TV in Xicotepec. The Inner Wheel Club (a women's Rotary Club in areas where Rotary Clubs have only men as members) received a donation from Iowa Rotarians and were actively involved throughout the week. A parents' meeting was held at the school. The Project Team was treated to a presentation on local history. Throughout the week we had the usual delicious Mexican food prepared for us each morning, noon and night by a team of fun-loving cooks. There was a Rotary Club meeting with the exchange of several banners. Two birthdays were celebrated during the week, complete with piñatas and the "mordida". A wonderful performance of folkloric dancing was presented. There were fiestas and meals. The Iowa Interact girls adopted a puppy, "Lupita". Everyone got balloon hats. There were tours of coffee plantations and processing plants and trips to nearby small towns. And, as usual, there were a lot of tears shed as we said good-bye.

More Project Fallout - West High School and Lincoln Elementary School students in Iowa City helped raise \$1,000 in pennies last fall which was used to buy books for the new school library in Xicotepec. After

returning, Ray Muston and others gave a program for the Lincoln students and presented them with notes and letters written by the students at the Rotary Club los Tezontles School in Xicotepec. The Lincoln students plan to continue to correspond with their Mexican counterparts, with West High School students lending a hand to help with translation. They have also made a video that they plan to send to the Xicotepec students.

The range of efforts in Xicotepec and in Iowa have broadened as more D6000 Rotarians, Rotaractors, Interactors, students and others have become active supporters of the project. The Xicotepec Rotarians are outstanding hosts and have worked hard to make sure that we are well taken care of and that the proper pre-arrival preparations are made so that the Project Team's week in Xicotepec is a productive one. At the same time, relationships with city government, the media, the Universidad Xicotepeatl and the Technological University, the schools and the entire community of Xicotepec have grown and strengthened. We look forward to years of productive collaboration with our Rotarian brothers and sisters in Xicotepec.

Note: The next Project Team trip to Xicotepec will be during Spring Break week in March of 2005. Applications should be available in Fall, 2004. If your club would like a presentation on The Xicotepec Project, contact Margaret Wilson of the Ames Rotary Club at (515) 382-8000 (w) or (515) 964-9909 (h). For additional information on, or to contribute to The Xicotepec Project, contact Jim Peterson or Ray Muston at (319) 644-3018 and (319) 354-0241, respectively.

Epilogue: Shortly after our return from Xicotepec, we were all stunned by the news of 20-year old Ben Carman's death in the fighting in Iraq. Ben is the brother of RYE student Amelia Carman and son of Marie Carman, who was a member of the 2004 Xicotepec Project Team. Amelia has returned to Jefferson for the remainder of the school year and is making college plans. Amelia, her parents Marie and Nelson, and her grandmother Adabelle attended the D6000 Conference banquet and received on Ben's behalf a Paul Harris Fellowship award from D6000.

Jim Peterson, Xicotepec Co-Chair

Chariton Fundraiser

The Rotary Club of Chariton had a Donkey Basketball Fundraiser. It was very successful. We had four teams..the Rotarians, firemen, high school faculty & grade school faculty. Our club set up concessions too. It drew a lot of people & we had a lot of fun.



District 6000 News.... CENTENNIAL PROJECTS

Many clubs in District 6000 have taken on significant Community Service Projects to celebrate Rotary's Centennial. However, only 16 clubs have registered their projects as Centennial Community Service Projects with Rotary International. We urge all clubs to register your projects! Please do it today online at www.rotary.org/centennial/cent_proj.html. Whether you register or not won't change the good works that you are doing, but it will reflect positively on your club and district as we attempt to tell Rotary's story and create a positive image to carry out the Centennial theme, "Celebrate Rotary!" RI has also requested photos of your projects to display to the 59,500 people who attend the big Centennial RI Convention, June 18-22 in Chicago.

It is also my goal to list all the Centennial Community Service projects in our District 6000 2004-05 directory that will be mailed to 4,500 Rotarians throughout Iowa. Will you PLEASE register your projects with RI and send a 1-2 paragraph description of it to District Administrator Jerri Uitermarkt. Her address is: P.O. Box 46,

GSE-2004-MEXICO

Although the Group Study Exchange (GSE) with Mexico started much earlier in its preparation, the exchange officially started with the arrival of the team from District 4180 in Mexico at the Des Moines airport on Monday, April 26th. It was a late arrival (10:40 PM!) after a windy welcome to the States in Chicago, but the team arrived eager for their month in Iowa.

Our friends from Mexico are Alvaro Beristain, the team leader from the Tehuacan Manantiales Rotary Club; Enrique Badillo, a tracker for international goods; Claudia Gonzalez, a teacher at Centro Escolar Xicotepec; Juanita Velazquez, a computer specialist at Universidad Xicotepec; and Teresa Ortiz, an English teacher at Universidad Xicotepec and Universidad Tecnologica de Xicotepec de Juarez.

The team was whisked off to Boone and then immediately immersed in the District 6000 Unconventional Convention. Their stay will take them

Knoxville, IA 50138. Or you may e-mail the information to: dis6000admin@lisco.com. We need this information immediately!

Congratulations to the clubs who have registered their projects with Rotary International: Ames, Bettendorf, Burlington, Chariton, Fairfield, Indianola, Iowa City AM, Keosauqua, Knoxville, Marengo, Marshalltown, Nevada, North Scott, Ottumwa, Waukee and West Liberty.

Rotary's Centennial is our greatest public relations opportunity ever! Let's not hide under a bushel! Two simple steps will make the difference: 1) Register your project with RI; and 2) Describe it to the District 6000 administrator.

Celebrate Rotary!

– Bill Tubbs, Governor, 2004-05



to the North Scott Rotary, Iowa City, Pella, Corydon, Indianola, and North West Des Moines before they return to Mexico on May 29th. All reports from the clubs are that the team members are a delight and everyone is always sad to see them leave.

Unfortunately this year, due to last minute cancellations by a couple of team members, we were unable to send a reciprocal team to Mexico. This was very disappointing but we are gearing up for next year and two fantastic trips in the Centennial year.

District 6000 News...

Our Centennial Exchanges will be with District 9810 in Australia and District 1890 in Germany. The district in Australia is near Melbourne and east, and the district in Germany includes Hamburg and north to the boundary with Denmark. Outbound teams will travel Feb. 17 to March 22, 2005 to Australia and May 10 to June 6, 2005 to Germany. The Inbound teams will be with us from May 20-June 24 for the Australian team and the German team will be here from June 6-July 8. All teams will have the opportunity to attend the Rotary International Centennial Convention in Chicago June 18-22.

Recruiting for 2005 has begun! If you are interested in being a Rotarian team leader, go to the RI web site, www.rotary.org, enter "group study exchange" in the search box, and download the application. When completed send the application to Andy Knebel, GSE Outbound Coordinator, at Knebel Windows, 700 S. Capitol, Iowa City, IA, 52240. Otherwise, **recruit** non-Rotarians, ages 25-40, who would be good ambassadors for the U.S. and for Rotary. Team member applications may be found at the same RI web site. Questions contact andy@knebelwindows.com, or Karin Franklin, District GSE Coordinator at kaf@avalon.net

KARIN FRANKLIN, GSE CHAIR



The Club is presently hosting the GSE Team from Mexico and having a delightful time. The Team was met in Iowa City and brought to Pella by Thursday noon, May 13. They were greeted by the Mayor and given a tour of the Vermeer windmill and the Visitors Center as their introduction to the community. Pella Corp, maker of Pella Windows and Doors, provided an excellent guide for a visit to their headquarters and local manufacturing plant. Club members and spouses met with the Team for an evening "family" meal and social time at The Market Place, Central College's food service facility. The Team's video presentation of the home areas was a colorful highlight of the evening. Ana Martinez, a student from Mexico whose parents are active Rotarians, described her experience at the College.

The opportunity for vocational contacts was arranged for Friday morning. Club President-Elect David Corbin, a Vice President at Vermeer Mfg. Co was the leader for a tour of the museum and the Environmental Division plant in the afternoon. That plant produces stump cutters, wood chippers and tree planters. The director of *Positively Pella*, a part of the Chamber of Commerce program, described the services provided for new residents. This was followed by a visit to the beautifully renovated Opera House and a return to the Visitors Center to see the miniature Dutch village and to stroll around the Historic Village.

Saturday, the team will be given a tour of the Central College campus and meet several professors as well as the College President, Dr. David Roe. The Neil Smith Wild Life Center near Prairie City will be the destination for this afternoon. The Team will experience the

"hands-on" exhibits of the Iowa environment, learn of the effort to preserve wild flower seeds and view the bison and elk that are residents of this recreated prairie land.

It has been a pleasure to be one of the host clubs for this year's Exchange Team and we wish them well as they travel next to Corydon.

Another significant recent event was the development and completion of the Club's Centennial Project. The Club, with a grant from the District, arranged for the purchase of a collection of international flags and presented them to Central College in recognition of the College's Sesquicentennial Year. The flags will be on display in the Douwstra Auditorium and will be carried by international students at commencements and other special occasions. A plaque in the Auditorium will recognize the commitment to international education shared by Rotary and the college. The presentation took place at the Honor's Convocation and the presenter noted that "the 'Flag Project' would support the principle that we do not exist in isolation from the rest of the world but in and through strong relationships with other countries, communities and peoples." Applause by the students and faculty at the time of the presentation affirmed that the project would have a lasting impact on the college community and the Pella community.

JIM EBBERS, PRESIDENT

District 6000 News....
MUSCATINE

Muscatine Rotary has
"Lent a Hand" in many areas:

YOUTH

Beth Orr and Andrew Temple were sponsored by Muscatine Rotary Club to participate in RYLA. Rick Stammer is sponsored to represent Muscatine High School at the 2004 World Affairs Seminar for High School Students, June 13-15 in Whitewater Wisconsin. Muscatine Rotary has sponsored an INTERACT CLUB at Muscatine High School. Contributions were made to Mississippi Athletic Conference Sportsmanship Banners to recognize outstanding sportsmanship.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Contributed \$4000 to sponsor 4 \$1000 scholarships to Muscatine Community College, 3 based on academic achievement, 1 based on need.

Targeted \$500 to Rotary Centers for International Studies in Peace and Conflict Resolution from their Rotary International Annual Programs Fund.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

MR contributed:

\$10,000 for the American Spirit Plaza Memorial honoring public servants and volunteers who provide safety for our community.

\$200 to Pearl City Outreach for school supplies and clothing for needy Muscatine children.

\$600 to purchase a new freezer for the Food Pantry

\$5000 for the Children's Dental Clinic portable equipment

WORLD COMMUNITY SERVICE

MR contributed:

\$500 to FAMSCO

\$500 to Rotaplast

\$1937.45 for five scholarships for young African students to the School of St. Jude in Tanzania

\$800 to sponsor Caitie Mather and Katie Press to participate in the Xicotepec, Mexico project. Mark and Becky Mather also participated in the project.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

MR contributed \$155 towards printing of the paper for billboards broadcasting Rotary's concern for children and its polio eradication efforts.

ROTARY FOUNDATION

MR contributed \$50.00 to the Rotary Foundation in honor of the District Governor, and to the Rotary Foundation for Paul Harris Sustaining Members (PHSM) -We pay for the first (\$100.00) for someone's PHSM and match the first \$50.00 of a member's new PHSM.

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH EXCHANGE

Hosted Ester Donie a Foreign Exchange Student from Germany. Sponsored 3 outbound students this year: Katie Press, Mexico; Amanda Hirsch, Switzerland; and Leslie Brooker, Germany.

VOCATIONAL SERVICE

Contributed \$200 to the Muscatine Community College Opportunity Expo.

SARAH LANDE, PRESIDENT

*****Foundation & Membership Seminars*****

Regional Foundation & Membership Seminars.....are coming back! The meetings are tentatively scheduled for July and August 2004. Look for the exact dates and locations to be announced in June 2004 Newsletter.

**Foundation Chair, Del Bluhm
Membership Chair, Bill Koellner**

District 6000 News...

April Attendance

Name of Club	No. of Meetings	No. of Members	Attendance %	Rank for April
Adel				
Albia				
Ames				
Ames Morning				
Ankeny				
Atlantic				
Bettendorf	4	89	73.11%	17
Bloomfield				
Boone	4	72	56.60%	31
Burlington	4	109	84.30%	5
Carroll	4	63	68.78%	20
Centerville	3	54	74.00%	11
Chariton				
Clinton	4	123	66.72%	25
Coon Rapids				
Coralville No Corridor				
Corning	4	59	76.72%	10
Corydon				
Creston	4	38	56.00%	32
Dallas Center				
Davenport	4	210	47.27%	35
Decatur County	4	19	79.00%	9
Des Moines	5	381	67.80%	23
Des Moines AM	5	153	67.00%	24
East Polk County	4	42	68.00%	22
Fairfield				
Fort Madison				
Grinnell				
Indianola	5	51	73.55%	14
Iowa City				
Iowa City AM	4	59	62.00%	27
Iowa Quad Cities	5	43	73.46%	16
Jefferson				
Johnston	4	32	80.17%	8
Kalona	4	37	80.47%	7
Keokuk	5	98	46.30%	36
Keosauqua	4	31	57.00%	30
Knoxville	4	69	65.03%	26
Lenox	4	37	69.00%	18
Manning	4	26	74.00%	12
Marengo				
Marshalltown	4	192	73.74%	13
Mount Pleasant				
Mount Pleasant PM				
Muscatine				
Nevada				
Newton	4	102	68.71%	21
North Scott	5	104	86.59%	3
Northwest Des Moines				
Odyssey	1	23	61.00%	28
Osceola	4	42	59.38%	29
Oskaloosa				
Ottumwa	4	112	73.54%	15
Pella	4	41	89.60%	2
Perry				
Tipton				
Washington	5	63	56.00%	33
Waukee	5	48	81.66%	6
Wellman	4	36	95.79%	1
West Des Moines	4	80	69.00%	19
West Liberty	4	43	55.00%	34
Winterset	5	35	85.71%	4