



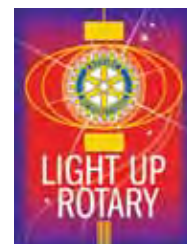
# District 6000 News

Rotary International, District 6000, Iowa USA

John Ockenfels, Governor

– A Global Network of Community Volunteers –

Second Quarter (October-November-December 2014)



## Keep the kids warm and Light Up Rotary!



*The weather outside is frightful,  
A warm coat is so delightful!  
Rotarians and kids both glow!  
Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow!*

By Deb Ockenfels/Iowa City AM

**R**otary District 6000, working with Operation Warm, and assisted greatly by the WalMart Distribution Center in Mount Pleasant and Pete Clausen Trucking in Clinton, with a boost from the Ockenfels Family Foundation and numerous outside supporters across the district, is responsible for helping 9,061 children be warmer this winter!

Our preliminary “final” number was 8,808; clubs who have joined in the project and clubs who have ordered additional coats are increasing the number.

Distributions took place at Summit Productions in Altoona and at the FAMSCO warehouse in Coralville. Some took place out of the back of a horse trailer and others were along Highway 30 on the way to the Jefferson Dinner/Auction. Boxes of coats have been seen in cars, vans, pickups, enclosed utility trailers, straight trucks and stock trailers.

Welcome to Iowa, where we just get this stuff done!

Several clubs assisted by picking up orders for other clubs in their

**COATS/continued on p. 17**



District Governor John Ockenfels at the FAMSCO warehouse in Coralville with some of the 9,061 coats that Rotarians have delivered to children in Iowa schools. Photo by Bill Tubbs

## ‘Unbelievable opportunity to visit each club’

By DG John Ockenfels/Iowa City AM

This is now the end of November and Deb and I have visited 61 of the 64 clubs since July.



**John Ockenfels**  
District Governor

We have met with the boards of each club prior to the club meetings and have been impressed with the level of activities undertaken by most of the members in our district.

We have had the opportunity to see each club and get to see what their cultures are.

Some clubs are very relaxed and informal. Some clubs have set traditions that are adhered to tightly. Most clubs are open and inviting; some are not. Some clubs are growing; some are trying to figure out how to grow.

We have club members who participate in

all types of community and global support programs as well local club programing. We have found that each club has developed its own special culture and has its own programs for which they are passionate.

Clubs also have their own ways of funding the projects they want to do. There are many auctions and each one has a different format. We have found out that there are indeed many ways to cook a chicken, barbeque beef and pork and flip a pancake to bring in the local community for that important meal ticket. We have seen a few raffles, some “Happy Bucks” and experienced a “Fine” here and there. We have seen a lot of important checks being written in support of your projects, and have written a few as well.

We know that are a lot of kids going to RYLA, or receiving a scholarship to tech school and college. Somewhere in the world

**GOVERNOR/continued on p. 5**

# Bowlsby, Thomas headline 100th District Conference

## By DG John Ockenfels/Iowa City AM

I would like to invite all Rotarians and guests to come join us at our annual District Conference April 16-18, 2015, at the Marriott Hotel and Conference Center in Coralville.

We have been able to get an outstanding rate of \$98 per night for our hotel rooms in order to help keep the costs reasonable.

Our theme this year will focus on the celebration of our district's 100th Anniversary of Rotarian service to the world. We will also be highlighting the impact of our district's youth and young Rotarians to the success of our clubs and our mission.

We have lined up some very good speakers who really know the power of community service and the impact our young people can make in Rotary and throughout the world. In addition to our Rotary International Presidents' Representative, whose name we will learn in the near future, we have;

### Priyanka Rao - Saturday

Priyanka was on the district's first trip to Xicotepec, Mexico, and has made many more return trips as a high school and college student to continue to serve where she could. Priyanka has been a Rotary Scholar and graduated from the University of Iowa School of Medicine. She is currently doing her internship at the University of Michigan. Priyanka will talk about Rotary's impact, from high school Interact to the present.



### Aaron Thomas - Saturday

Aaron Thomas is the son of Ed Thomas, from Parkersburg, Iowa, who was known as a great high school football coach and leader of young men as well as an outstanding community leader. Ed was

shot and killed by a mentally disturbed young man while he was working with some of his players. Aaron Thomas was also a teacher and coach in the same area as his father and is currently the principal at the same school where he grew up and his father coached. Aaron will be telling the story of the life lessons about mentoring young people and teaching them how achieve their greatest goals.

### Bob Bowlsby - Friday Lunch

Bob Bowlsby has gained the reputation as one the most highly respected athletic administrators in the country. He is currently the Commissioner of the Big 12 Conference. Prior to becoming the Big 12 Commissioner Bob spent six years at Stanford University. He spent the previous 15 years at the University of Iowa, where he was also a member of the Rotary Club of Iowa City. Bob's Iowa connection stretches back to the early days when he was the Athletic Director at the University of Northern Iowa.

Bob has been active at all levels of intercollegiate sports management including serving as president of the NCAA Division I-A Athletic Directors Association. He has also served on numerous appointed committees including the U.S. Olympic Committee Board of Directors and the Commission on Opportunities in Athletics.



Bob Bowlsby

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If you can't find the time on schedule to attend the whole conference I would ask you to consider registering to join us for lunch on Friday and get to enjoy part of the conference.

On Friday evening we are also bringing back a favorite experience from past conferences. Local Iowa City and Coralville area Rotarians will be opening up their homes for "Home Hospitality Dinners." There is no additional cost for these meals. You will be able to choose this option or take advantage of some of the fine dining opportunities in the region on your own.

I would especially like to encourage all Rotarians who have never been to a District Conference before to make plans to attend our 100th anniversary celebration. There really is something to interest almost everyone.

This conference will definitely be a good time to enjoy meeting old friends and making new ones as well. We will celebrate the many successes and highlights of our past year and prepare to move into the next chapter of our district's history.

I look forward to meeting you there!

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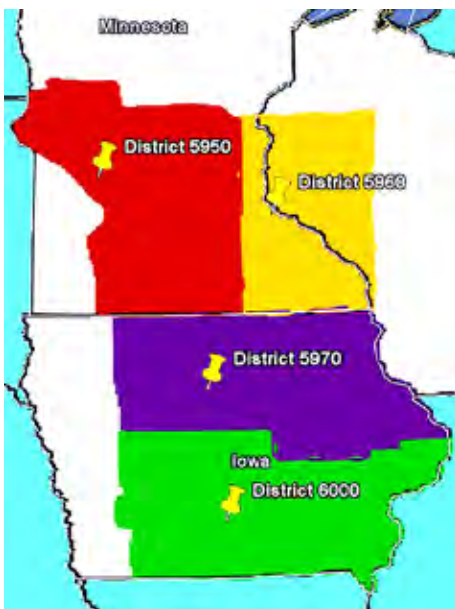
# President-Elect Training Seminar

## March 12-14

By PDG Jacques Andrew/Jefferson  
NC PETS Committee

Club president ...one of the most important roles in Rotary and some consider it the best! Training Rotarians to lead their clubs as president is the focus of North Central Presidents-Elect Training Seminar (NCPETS). This event will help every president-elect be better prepared for a successful year and have FUN doing it!

Set in Rochester, Minn., at the Mayo Civic Center, the event will start Thursday evening, March 12, continue on Friday, March 13 and conclude before noon on Saturday, March 14, 2015. The venue has been the site for several years and features hotels conveniently connected to the center via a skywalk system.



Incoming club presidents from these four districts will participate in PETS training March 12-14 in Rochester, Minn.

via a skywalk system.

NCPETS should already be on the calendar of every club PE! Watch for informative emails sent to the presidents-elect and AGs with program agenda and event and hotel registration information. You do NOT want to miss this event!

Held annually with Minnesota/Wisconsin Districts 5950 and 5960 and the Iowa Districts 5970 and 6000, the NCPETS will be inspiring, relevant, practical and fun. Providing an atmosphere in which



King



Growney-Selene



Ravindran

PEs can network with and learn from each other is a priority for the NCPETS steering committee. Thanks to the collaboration of multiple districts, it is possible to attract top-level presenters.

NCPETS featured speakers are headlined by Rotary International President-Elect K.R. "Ravi" Ravindran of Sri Lanka; Past RI President Richard King of California; and RI Director Mary Beth Growney-Selene of Madison, Wis.

What a lineup! "Our PETS event is fortunate to host RIPE Ravi as he is in demand around the world. PEs will not want to miss these inspiring speakers!" said DGE Loring Miller of Decatur County.

In addition, skilled facilitators from the districts will lead the presidents-elect through breakout sessions on club leadership, best practices for club meetings and technology along with general sessions on building stronger clubs, Foundation strategies and sharing the Rotary story and enhancing its public image.

The four districts will each have a several hour session when district specific topics will be presented and discussed. There will be dedicated time for the assistant governors to work with their clubs' PEs. DGE Loring and district trainer John Schultz are planning a lively and information-packed session to help PEs have the best club year ever.

Registration is now open at [www.ncpets.org](http://www.ncpets.org) so do not wait. Go online to register now! Networking, collaboration, inspiration and resources add up to a phenomenal PETS experience preparing leaders for successful clubs! See you in March!

### PRE-PETS WEBINAR FEB. 9

In preparation for North Central Presidents-Elect Training (NCPETS), a "Go To Meeting" Webinar for presidents-elect will be held on Feb. 9, 2015, at 6:00 p.m. This valuable training will give presidents-elect a jump start on planning. It will not replace the PETS experience. More information on this webinar will be sent by email to the District 6000 presidents-elect early in January, 2015.

## Guardian of Integrity nominations encouraged

By PDG Bill Tubbs/North Scott  
D-6000, Vocational Service chair

Here is your chance, Rotary clubs, to recognize a member whose life exemplifies Rotary's Four-Way Test.

Since 2011, District 6000 has invited clubs to nominate one member per year for the "Paul E. Hellwege Guardian of Integrity" Award. The award was created to encourage Rotarians and clubs to focus on Rotary's core value of integrity, and to honor the memory of the late PDG Paul Hellwege.

Every club has members who fit this criteria, but in the past, not nearly as many nominations have been received as there are worthy candidates!

A nomination form has been posted at the District website. The deadline for nominations is Jan. 31, 2015. The nominations will be

submitted to the District 6000 Vocational Service Committee and nominees will be recognized at the District Conference, April 16-18, 2015, at the Coralville Marriott and Convention Center.

The award is named for Boone Rotarian and Past District Governor (1954-55), Judge Paul E. Hellwege, and is established to promote the ideals of ethics and integrity which were Paul's fervent passions.

The award will be presented annually to Rotarians in District 6000 who have been a member for a minimum of three years and who exemplify the attributes and passion for ethics and integrity in his or her vocation, business and personal life that Paul exemplified.

This award recognizes individuals who have made contributions in business, media, academia or government and who have by their actions, writing, policies and public pronouncements strengthened and fostered development of integrity and ethical practices.





Inbound Rotary Youth Exchange students met one another at the Fall Picnic Kick-Off Sept. 21 at Iowa City, front (l-r): David Wilches Serrano (Ecuador, Knoxville), Eleonora Cherubini (Italy, Iowa City), Timea Schweiger (Austria, Mount Pleasant), Elena Rodrigues Juliani (Spain, Decatur County), Sophie Horstmann (Germany, Iowa City AM), Francisca Inostroza (Chile, Centerville), Ivona Stefanac (Croatia, Boone), Agustina Mateo Talavera (Paraguay, West Des Moines), Gilles Vandereecken (Belgium, Iowa Quad Cities). Back: Emma Grosjean (France, Ottumwa), Alberta Buffa (Italy, Nevada), Manuela Huscher Daluz (Brazil, North Scott), Tania Carrion Serrano (Ecuador, Burlington), Maria Jose Torres Pino (Chile, Fairfield), and Ignacia Gacitua Francovich (Chile, Des Moines). We will be adding a student in January that will be staying in Winterset from New Zealand. She will stay for the calendar year instead of the academic year.

Provided by Rebecca Schultz, Iowa City AM

## Rotary Youth Exchange off to good start



The Rotary Club of Decatur County was well represented at the Rotary Youth Exchange Fall Kickoff on Sept. 21, standing (l-r): Local Coordinator and DGE Loring and Phyllis Miller, DG John Ockenfels, and club counselors Peggy and PDG Terry Geiger. Seated are first host family parents Corey and Tanya Lindsey, Rotary Youth Exchange student Elena Rodriguez Julian from Spain, and second host family Cat and Scott Bethards with Carson and Keegan on the floor. It was a very good training for host families, local coordinators and counselors, and students.

Provided by Peggy Geiger



Youth Exchange students were involved in many activities, including carving pumpkins, at the Student Fall Fun Day Oct. 25 at Indianola, front (l-r): Eleonora Cherubini (Italy), Francisca Inostroza (Chile), David Wilches Serrano (Ecuador), and Sophie Horstmann (Germany). Back: Tania Carrion Serrano (Ecuador), Gilles Vandereecken (Belgium), Ivona Stefanac (Croatia), Alberta "Bibi" Buffa (Italy), Agustina Mateo Talavera (Paraguay), and Elena Rodriguez Juliani (Spain).

Provided by Doug Peterson



# Three Grant Management Seminars slated

By DG John Ockenfels/Iowa City AM

Our district has a very good reputation for supporting The Rotary Foundation. In fact, we continue to average over \$400,000 in direct donations to The Rotary Foundation annually.

As a result of that support and the new Rotary funding model, we have been able to receive over \$200,000 in District Designated Funds annually for use by the clubs in our district. These funds are split with half to be used by the district for supporting the match of approved Global Grants and half to be used for District Community Service Grants.

The direct impact of these funds is in our control, especially when used here in District 6000. Our recent District Grant process was used by 34 clubs to apply for District Community Service Grants that used almost \$97,000 of grant funding from The Rotary Foundation for direct use here in District 6000. Eighteen of these clubs were able to use grant funding to help purchase coats for kids in their communities when this project became available on short notice.

Every club has an opportunity to use these Global and District grants, as long as they follow a few simple requirements of the Foundation. One of these rules is the requirement that somebody from your club MUST attend a Grants Management Seminar each Rotary year. This is one of the few rules that are not negotiable. If nobody from your club attends, and signs into, a Grants Management Seminar, then your club is not eligible to receive a Global or District Grant.

I have been on the Grant Selection Committee when we had to turn down a very good application because none of the club members attended the seminar.

In order to ensure that every club has an opportunity to be eligible next year we have scheduled three FREE seminars in three different locations across the district.

- **Saturday, Feb. 28:** West Liberty Community Center, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- **Saturday, March 7:** DMACC in West Des Moines, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- **Friday, March 27:** DMACC in Newton, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.

There is no cost to attend these seminars and we will serve a meal.

There will be more information about the specific agendas and other topics when we get closer to the scheduled dates.

I look forward to seeing you there!



Ray Klingensmith of Kirksville, Mo., who is Rotary International Past President and Chairman-Elect of The Rotary Foundation (TRF) trustees, was the speaker at the Rotary Club of Centerville meeting on Sept. 24. Always inspiring, PRIP Ray's message included encouraging support of The Rotary Foundation and the importance of developing future leaders for Rotary. Pictured after the meeting were (l-r): PDG Gary Welch; PRIP Ray Klingensmith; Centerville club president Kim Beals; PDG Jacque Andrew; DGE Loring Miller; and Centerville club member Andy Woodrick. Not pictured: Judy Klingensmith, Phyllis Miller and Colleen Welch.

Photo provided by Jacque Andrew

## Clubs really do 'Light Up Rotary!'

GOVERNOR/continued from p. 1

some kids are receiving the polio vaccine, or clean water, or getting a chance to go to school. We heard about your clubs' involvement with projects to help people you will never meet, in other countries and right here at home. We saw and experienced the passions that our members have for their own special projects to support people in need throughout our district. We were thrilled to see so many clubs go out of their way to help put coats on kids in need of some warmth on these cold days.

There is no question that visiting each

club is time consuming and tiring. There is also no question that we have found it to be the highlight of our year so far. We have heard about Rotarians doing good things for many years. It is an unbelievable opportunity to be able visit each club and see what you are all doing and how you make it happen.

I can tell you that this district really does understand the concept of "Light Up Rotary." We still have over six months to go in this Rotary year. Deb and I continue to look forward to meeting with Rotarians throughout the district as we attend many of the other functions in the future.

We will see you there.



Volunteers sort crutches and other materials donated Habitat Restore of Davenport at the FAMSCO warehouse in Coralville on Nov. 16 included (l-r): Bo Nock, Jeff Nock (Iowa City), Bill Burress (Davenport), Barb Thomas (Iowa City), Phil Peterson (Iowa City AM), DG John Ockenfels (Iowa City AM), PDG Don Patterson (Washington), Jane Doucette (Iowa City), Greta Doucette (Rotaract), Becky Patterson (Washington), Pat DeLuca (North Scott), and Merle Anderson (North Scott).

Photo by Bill Tubbs



PDG Terry Geiger watches as District Governor John Ockenfels signs the agreement for District 6000 to become a member of the Rotary Leadership Institute which will train future Rotary leaders.

Provided by Terry Geiger

*District 6000 will participate:*

## Rotary Leadership Institute aim: Train future leaders

**By PDG Terry Geiger/Decatur County**

Recently, District Governor John Ockenfels signed an agreement for District 6000 to become a member of the Heartland Division of Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI). The Heartland Division was formed by Rotary District 5650 of southwest Iowa and eastern Nebraska, and they have welcomed us to become a part of their RLI Division.

Chair of the Heartland Division, Nicki Klein, said "We are happy that District 6000 has decided to join us and the Heartland Division of RLI. This partnership will be a great benefit to both our districts in helping develop future Rotary leaders."

So what does this mean to District 6000? District Governor Ockenfels felt strongly that the RLI program was something that was needed in District 6000 for our future. The philosophy of RLI is, "Having leadership skills does not assure good Rotary leadership. An effective Rotary leader must ALSO have Rotary knowledge, perspective about where Rotary has been, where it is now and a vision of what it should be."

The success or failure of a Rotary club depends primarily on the quality of club leadership. RLI is a program to train and prepare future Rotary leaders for our clubs.

You will be hearing more about RLI as we move forward, but in the meantime, if any of your clubs have an interest in hearing a presentation about it, please contact me and I will be glad to arrange a time when I can visit your club. Please contact me at: [tlgeiger@grm.net](mailto:tlgeiger@grm.net).

## 'Polio Awareness Month' proclaimed in Waukee

**By Frank Hayer/Waukee**

The city of Waukee gave an endorsement to the Polio Plus campaign supporting the work of the Rotary Club of Waukee by proclaiming December as the "Polio Eradication Awareness Month." The Waukee club has set a goal to provide enough doses of the polio vaccine equal to the 8,600 students enrolled in the Waukee Community School District. Waukee is using the Iowa Energy basketball ticket promotion and cash contributions to achieve its goal. The Gates Foundation's 2:1 matching grant means that for every \$1 of

donations, five doses of vaccine will be purchased.

"The support of the city is a great aid in bringing this program to other Waukee businesses and individuals. It helps to visualize the impact of any donation when you consider that for \$5 you can provide vaccinations for an entire classroom of students," said Frank Hayer, program coordinator. Asked about the likelihood of reaching the goal, Hayer said, "No doubt about it. When this club is determined to do something, amazing things happen."



### Banking on polio eradication

The Hills Bank & Trust in Iowa City proclaimed World Polio Day on Oct. 24. THANK YOU Hills Bank & Trust!!! Photo by Mark Patton, provided by Vicki Struzyński Olson



Proclaiming December as Polio Eradication Awareness Month in Waukee were (l-r): Ron Robbins, Pat Robbins, Devin Boyer, Frank Hayer (chair), Bill Peard (Waukee mayor), Curt Fett and Tim Moerman.

Provided by Ron Robbins





Jim Baker, McDonald's



Carl Bern, ag engineer

Mark Greufe, Express  
Employment

Cathy Adams, US Bank

## World Polio Day observed in Ames ...



Terry Stark, Chocolaterie Stam

### By Carole Custer/Ames

Club Public Relations Chair

Members of the Rotary Club of Ames promoted World Polio Day by posting messages at their offices and on outdoor signage at their businesses on Friday, Oct. 24.

Club president Jeff Iles wrote a letter to the editor about World Polio Day that was published in the Ames Tribune on Friday, Oct. 24.

A proclamation was signed by Ames Mayor Ann Campbell, making Oct. 24, 2014, World Polio Day. And school children in Ames took Rotary canisters with them on Halloween to Trick-Or-Treat for Polio."



Display at Mary Greeley Medical Center.

## ... and in Iowa City-Coralville

### By Vicki Struzynski Olson/Coralville-NC

Assistant District Governor

In recognition of World Polio Day on Oct. 24, 2014, Rotarians from all four of the Iowa City/Coralville area Rotary clubs gathered at the University of Iowa Medical Museum. The museum's Polio displays include braces, photographs and an Iron Lung which was used in the treatment of this debilitating and deadly disease.

Since 1985, Rotary has contributed nearly \$1.2 billion and countless volunteer hours to the protection of more than two billion children in 122 countries. The disease remains endemic in three countries: Afghanistan, Nigeria and Pakistan. The world is "This Close" – 99 percent – to eliminating polio from the planet and the effort is receiving an additional US\$ 44.7 million from Rotary to support activities aiming to end the disease worldwide by 2018.



Pictured with an iron lung at the University of Iowa Medical Museum are (l-r): Chloe Goers; Iowa City Downtown president Eric Goers; Assistant District Governor Vicki Struzynski Olson (Coralville-North Corridor); Iowa City past president Jody Braverman, Iowa City AM president Mark Patton, Iowa City AM president-elect Myrene Hoover, and Nan Johnson.

Provided by Vicki Struzynski Olson





# ‘Nothing could have made me prouder than to have had a hand in this Rotary grant’

Dear District 6000 Rotarians,

The year has come and gone, and I write to you during the last week of my Rotary Peace Fellowship Applied Field Experience (AFE). You may remember that since



Peace Scholar Cilia María Ruiz-Paz with Colonel Maria Antonia Sanchez Forero, Chief of the Environmental and Ecological Police within the Environmental Protection Directorate of the Colombian National Police.

July of this year I have been in Bogotá, Colombia, working with the Colombian Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development on wildlife conservation efforts focused around curbing wildlife trafficking. As all of the Rotary Peace Fellows wrap up and return to Japan from the AFEs (you can read about them in the June edition of the Rotary Peace Center newsletter - <http://rotaryicu.files.wordpress.com/2014/07/newsletter-june-2014-volume-6-issue-2.pdf>), I must

say that I am very satisfied with my AFE as it has been quite the exciting ride with a whole lot of new professional experience acquired.

During my AFE, I was able to interact and work hand in hand on multiple projects and meetings with the Colombian National Ecological Police, Colombian Mounted Rangers and Rural Security Police, the INTERPOL National Central Bureau Bogota, the Forensic Wildlife Genetic Identification Laboratory, the National Taxes and Customs Directorate, the District Attorney’s Office and the District Environmental Secretariat among various others. The two most important things I take away revolve around the emphasis that professional networks are of incredible importance to achieving any goal within this field, and that wildlife trafficking and biodiversity issues in Colombia are multi-layer and extremely complex – much more so than I dealt with at the international level.

While in Colombia, I have attended a few Rotaract meetings and was able to visit the Rotary Club of Cartagena, a coastal city within the country. Here, I presented myself and spoke about the wonderful work being done around the “New Heart Project” Rotary grant to bring cardiovascular services



Peace Scholar Cilia María Ruiz-Paz with members of the Rotary Club of Cartagena, a club that sponsors the “New Heart Project” in a global grant with the Rotary Club of Fairfield, Iowa, and others.

to impoverished children of the area as an initiative of the Rotary Club of Fairfield and District 6000.

I am happy to share that my Rotary Exchange Student host district in France, and two clubs in my current host country district in Japan joined forces alongside multiple other clubs and districts around the world to make this happen. I visited the facilities and got a first hand look at the development and the hard work of the hospital staff and local and international Rotarians. Nothing could have made me prouder than to have had a hand in this Rotary grant, and I hope to continue to serve the grant and Rotary in other ways in the near future!

In the meantime, please visit my blog <http://ciliamaria.blogspot.jp/> to follow my Rotary Peace Fellowship and learn more about my AFE in Colombia and about life in Japan!

¡Felices Fiestas! Happy Holidays!

**Cilia María Ruiz-Paz**

Rotary Peace Fellow Class XII  
International Christian University -  
Tokyo, Japan  
[ciliamaria.rp@gmail.com](mailto:ciliamaria.rp@gmail.com)  
Blog: Searching for Peace  
Twitter: @Cilly26  
+81 (0)90 3436 1292 - Japan



# With Rotary, Ponseti Method goes global

Information about the Ponseti Method of treating club foot was featured at the District Rotary Foundation Dinner in Iowa City on Nov. 8 by John Buchanan, and District 6000 will have a booth at the Rotary International Convention in Sao Paulo, Brazil, June 5-8, 2015.

The Ponseti Method is featured in December issue of *The Rotarian* magazine (article below), and was the program at the Rotary Club of Iowa City meeting on Nov. 6. The Iowa City club newsletter reported that Rotarian John Buchanan introduced club member Tom Cook who expanded on his presentation of last May about clubfoot deformity and the role of the Ponseti Method in its treatment.

Ponseti Intentional was formed at the University of Iowa in 2006 to provide every child everywhere with the Ponseti Method of treatment which uses a series of casts to reshape the foot back to normal.

Clubfoot Solutions was created as a non-profit to develop and distribute braces needed by children to prevent the foot from returning to its clubfoot orientation. It is recommended that the braces be worn at night through the age of 4 at minimum.

The cost of training each health-care person in the Ponseti Method developed at the University of Iowa by Dr. Ponseti is about \$5,000. It is now possible to “buy” a Ponseti International share for \$5,000 as a contribution towards this training. Rotary Clubs around the globe are supporting this effort as well as serve as local advocates for the training.

\* \* \*

*Here is the article from The Rotarian:*

## Jose Morcuende has a gentler way to treat children with clubfoot.

Clubfoot, a congenital condition that affects about 200,000 children globally each year, used to be treated with surgery – until an orthopedist named Ignacio Ponseti pioneered a nonsurgical approach in the 1940s. In 1991, a fellow Spaniard, Jose Morcuende, arrived at the University of Iowa to work with Ponseti (who died in 2009), and 23 years later, the pediatric orthopedic surgeon is still in Iowa City, with 70 percent of his practice focused on treating clubfoot with Ponseti’s method. “In many cases,” Morcuende says, “treatment makes the difference between being normal and being ostracized, unable to walk, carry water, or go to school.” A member of the Rotary Club of Iowa City, Morcuende is chief medical director of the Ponseti International Association, which trains health workers to treat clubfoot.

**THE ROTARIAN:** What is clubfoot?

**MORCUENDE:** It’s an abnormality that keeps some muscles from developing properly, causing the feet to turn in. If it’s not treated, when a child starts walking, he will walk on the sides or tops of his feet. It is relatively frequent – it’s seen in about 1 of 750 newborns – and because the treatment isn’t available everywhere, there are people living with this, especially in developing countries.

**TR:** How does the Ponseti method work?

**MORCUENDE:** It uses a series of plaster casts to gently stretch the foot into the right position. What is amazing is, if you start with a newborn and change the cast regularly, in about four weeks the foot is corrected without surgery. The child will need to wear a brace at



Iowa City Rotarian Dr. Thomas Cook is a member of the American Physical Therapy Association and a professor at the University of Iowa College of Public Health. In his role as chief of operations for Ponseti International, he has traveled to Latin America and Africa to promote Ponseti’s non-surgical method of treating club foot. He was among 100 who attended the District Rotary Foundation Seminar Nov. 8 at Iowa City, where this photo was taken.

Photo by Bill Tubbs

night and naptime to keep the muscles stretched until he or she builds coordination, at about three to four years of age. Because the brace is worn at night only, the children don’t feel any effects of disability.

**TR:** Is this treatment only for infants, or can you treat clubfoot at any age?

**MORCUENDE:** The oldest patient I know of was a 29-year-old from Nicaragua. It took about eight casts over two months.

**TR:** How are Rotarians involved?

**MORCUENDE:** Our club is funding training through Ponseti International for doctors in Guatemala and Colombia. We are also a sponsor of the Ronald McDonald House in Iowa City, where families stay for two to three weeks during treatment.

Like polio, clubfoot disables people. With the tremendous amount of experience that Rotary has with polio, Rotarians can help build awareness that clubfoot is treatable. Until now, many people thought it had to be surgically corrected and didn’t have the money to pay for it. This method is low-cost – you need only hands and plaster casts. Rotary clubs can help identify patients and help kids get to clinics. A child needs to be in a place where treatment is available for about a month, or be able to go back and forth. Another way to help is to facilitate the training of local professionals – adopt a clinic to provide support for a doctor to be trained. Finally, the brace has to be used every night for three to four years. It must change as the child keeps growing. That can be a problem for families.

**TR:** What can clubs do?

**MORCUENDE:** Contact Ponseti International at [www.ponseti.info](http://www.ponseti.info). The key is not to go to another country and do your own thing. Eventually you want the country to do this by strengthening the health care system. It has to be a coordinated effort, like the fight against polio. – Vanessa Glavinskaskas

# Rotary Foundation Community Grants awarded

**By Douglas Flournoy/Fairfield**

Chair, District Grant Committee

This year the deadline for receipt of District Grant applications was Aug. 1. The committee received 34 applications for various club projects, an all-time high for this program. The total request for matching funds (DDF) was \$83,316.

Because of the large number of applications, the review process was delayed and an abbreviated review process was implemented. Eleven Rotarians reviewed the applications and the committee met on Sept. 7 in Pella to discuss them face-to-face.

After a rich and vigorous debate, the committee voted to recommend 32 applications for funding in the amount of \$78,431. One application was denied because the committee felt it represented a recurring project. The second was denied because the club had already been awarded the maximum funds allowed in their first application. This funding recommendation was then made to the Foundation Committee and it was accepted without modification.

The district wrote a spending plan which describes each club project and the amount of support approved for such and submitted it to The Rotary Foundation. The spending plan has been approved and the district is now waiting to receive funds. We are hopeful that by the time you read this article the funds will have been received and distributed to the respective clubs.

Officially for The Rotary Foundation, this is District 6000 Grant No. DG1517643.

**District 6000:** To provide winter weight coats to disadvantaged school-aged children. \$27,122 (clubs receiving grant money for coats are named at end of this article).

**Wellman:** To provide landscaping improvements to the entrance of the city's community center. \$2,000.

**Decatur County:** To provide a shelter for bicycles available to the campus and community for local travel and exercise. \$2,468.

**Fairfield:** To provide educational signage for the trail system around Fairfield. \$4,582.

**Clinton:** To provide handicap accessible playground equipment to a community playground. \$5,000.

**Grinnell:** To provide chairs for the staff and patients of Grinnell Regional Medical Center. \$2,500.

**Ottumwa:** To provide a "Centennial" garden for the community of Ottumwa with the express purpose of promoting Rotary ideals. \$5,000.

**Des Moines AM:** To provide equipment and instruments for the YESS music therapy program. \$2,688.

**Mount Pleasant:** To provide math materials developed by "Math

Perspectives" for young learners. \$1,055.

**Keokuk:** To provide special-needs accessible swings and music play station for a public park in Keokuk. \$4,884.

**Ames:** To provide a food and enrichment program to reduce or eliminate summer learning loss in children from low income families. \$5,000.

**Iowa Quad-Cities (Davenport/Bettendorf):** To provide a bicycle safety class and bicycle helmet for elementary aged children. \$1,500.

**Albia:** To provide a picnic shelter at the Albia Reservoir Facility. \$5,000.

**Ames Morning:** To provide a tool kit and webinar to share successful community-based strategies for promoting early literacy and grade level reading. \$5,000.

**North Scott (Davenport):** To provide renovation of a home and its grounds used by less fortunate families. \$3,300.

**Oskaloosa:** To provide for the renovation and landscaping of Center Grove Cemetery in Oskaloosa. \$1,333.

**Contingency (maximum 20 percent):** To provide relief in the case of a natural disaster within the geographic boundaries of D6000. \$15,686.

**Administration (maximum 3 percent):** To provide for administrative expenses for DG1517643. \$2,824.

**Spending plan total:** \$96,942.

## District 6000 Coats for Kids "Operation Warm"

Knoxville.....	1,125
Iowa City A.M. ....	2,500
Marshalltown .....	2,000
Kalona .....	693
Des Moines AM #1 .....	2,313
Burlington .....	500
Newton .....	3,000
Nevada .....	2,500
Dallas Center.....	243
Coralville North Corridor .....	1,242
Waukee.....	4,205
Ankeny .....	2,000
Iowa City Downtown.....	500
North Scott .....	1,700
NW Des Moines.....	1,000
Adel.....	500
Jefferson .....	540
Mount Pleasant Noon.....	561
Total DDF requested .....	27,122



The Community Grants Committee (l-r): Doug Flournoy (Fairfield), DG John Ockenfels (Iowa City AM), DGN Chris Knapp (Iowa City AM), Karin Franklin (Iowa City), Steve Waterman (Osceola), Mary LaHay (Des Moines AM), Carolyn Jons (Ames Morning), Norlan Hinke (Clinton), and DGE Loring Miller (Decatur County).

Photo by committee member PDG Jacque Andrew



*New program of RI:*

## Clubs encouraged to recognize members who propose members

**By Kitte Noble/Des Moines**

Club Executive Secretary

The Rotary Club of Des Moines Membership Development Committee is implementing the new Rotary International (RI) New Member Sponsor Recognition program.

This is an exciting new initiative approved by the RI Board of Directors. It honors Rotary members who sponsor new members. All sponsors of members admitted to Rotary on or after July 1, 2013, are eligible to receive a specially designed membership pin and colored pin backer from Rotary in recognition of their commitment to the organization's membership growth.

A current member who sponsors one new member will receive a recognition pin with a blue backer. As additional members are sponsored, new colored backers will be awarded to signify the sponsor's achievement.

Some of you have already received emails about this and were wondering if it was a legitimate email. It is.

Members who earn gold backers (6-plus) members and beyond and who are in attendance at the Rotary International Convention will be invited to join the RI President for a special recognition event. This year's convention is in São Paulo, Brazil June 6-10, 2015.



### *Drones at West Liberty*

Members of the Rotary Club of West Liberty who were present for the meeting on Sept. 16 enjoyed hearing Tom Hillyer talk about the use of drones in agriculture. A drone is also known as an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV). During the presentation, Tom demonstrated the use of his UAV and took a photo of West Liberty club members.

Provided by Steve Hanson



### *'Water wall' at Washington*

Representatives from the Rotary Club of Washington were proud to present a check for \$5,000 to the Washington Community School District for the "water wall" installed in the garden atrium of the Washington High School on Sept. 18. The garden area is a work in progress that still needs more community support and donations, but the water wall is a tranquil and relaxing addition to the school. Pictured (9;-r): WCSD's Scott Danielson, Robin Flattery and Tammie Schultz, Rotary District Governor John Ockenfels of Iowa City, Washington Rotary Club president Susan Wellington, Ed Raber, Cheryl Kurtz, and PDG Don and Becky Patterson.

Provided by Ed Raber

## Iowa Miles Of Smiles turns 10 years old with 2015 trip to Guatemala

**By PDG Gary Pacha/Iowa City**

Iowa M.O.S.T. Project Leader

Iowa M.O.S.T. (Miles Of Smiles Team) turns 10 years old with our next trip, which will be from Feb. 5-15, 2015.

Deadlines for application process have passed, and we have again selected a great team of medical/dental professionals to correct cleft lips and palates at the private hospital in Huehuetenango, Guatemala that is owned by Oscar Marroquin, our long time Rotarian friend and pediatrician. We have also chosen a small group of non-medical volunteers to complement the medical folks.

We wish to thank all the Rotarians in district 6000 who over the years have been generous in their support of our team through voluntary donations when submitting club dues, as well as other separate donations. We are wholly volunteer, and your support allows us to continue this service to those in need.

Those of you unfamiliar with our mission to the western highlands of Guatemala can get a great deal of information about us by going to [www.iowamost.com](http://www.iowamost.com) or [Facebook.com/IowaMOST](https://www.facebook.com/IowaMOST), and I encourage all to do so, as there is a link to our blog which tells our story in pictures and narrative.

# Rotary Foundation Dinner held in Iowa City

By PDG Jacque Andrew/Jefferson

Each of us is invited by RI President Gary Huang to “light a candle” to illuminate the good work being done by clubs to “Light Up Rotary.” So the theme of the Rotary District 6000 Foundation dinner evolved naturally to share the good done around the world and around the corner by The Rotary Foundation.

The third annual Foundation dinner drew 91 attendees on Saturday, Nov. 8 to the Holiday Inn Hotel and Convention Center in Coralville. Part celebration and part fundraiser, the event raised \$890 for the polio eradication effort. With matches from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation this contribution will become \$2,679 to immunize over 4,000 children!

The event was chaired by Deb Ockenfels, Rotary Club of Iowa City AM (spouse of DG John Ockenfels), and PDG Corliss Klaassen of the Rotary Club of Chariton. Serving on the committee were Bill Koellner, West Liberty; PDG Don Goering, Ames; Deb Pullin-Van Auken, Iowa City AM; PDG Jacque Andrew, Jefferson; and DG John Ockenfels, Iowa City AM.

DG John served as emcee for the event and introduced DGE Loring Miller and DGN Chris Knapp. Donors to The Rotary Foundation annual fund and endowment fund were recognized by the District Foundation Team, DRFC Cal Litwiller, Koellner, Goering and Klaassen. A special presentation was made by John Buchanan, Iowa City, on The Ponseti Method of Club Foot Treatment. (See more on this project elsewhere in this newsletter.)

Presenting remarks on behalf of The Rotary Foundation were Rachel Greenhoe, Major Gifts Officer for TRF, Chicago; PDG Richard Galitz, Naperville, IL, Regional Rotary Foundation Chair and PDG William Tubbs, North Scott, Assistant Regional Rotary Foundation Chair for Zone 28.

Introduced by DG John, the featured speaker for the event was The Rotary Foundation Trustee and Past Rotary International Vice President Noel Bajat of Abbeville, La.

## District shines for support of Foundation, Peace, Polio

By PDG Jacque Andrew/Jefferson

During the Saturday evening celebration dinner at the Zones 28-29 Institute, held this year on Sept. 11-14 at LaCrosse, Wis., recognition is given for District's Rotary Foundation contributions.

District 6000 has a long tradition of 100 percent of its clubs submitting Foundation and membership goals, important to staying on track with giving. District 6000 was recognized by Zone 28 as second in Annual Programs Fund Giving at \$441,556 in 2013-14, and first in Total Rotary Foundation Giving at \$1,122,662. The Annual Funds giving amounted to \$112.73 in contributions per member, the highest level of giving ever in the District per capita.

District 6000 was also recognized as a Polio Champion with \$61,000 in DDF contributed to Rotary's No. 1 goal of polio eradication.

District 6000 is also a Peace Builder district with support of \$50,000 in DDF contributed to the Peace Initiative in honor of peace scholar Cilia Maria Ruiz-Pas. These awards were presented at the Zone Institute by RI Director Mary Beth Growney-Selene of Madison, Wis., and Kalyan Banerjee of India, a past RI president and current Rotary Foundation trustee. Presentation of these awards was repeated at the District Foundation Dinner on Nov. 8 (at right).



PDG Corliss Klaassen (c) of the Rotary Club of Chariton was recognized at the Zone Institute and again at the District 6000 Rotary Foundation Dinner as the recipient of the Rotary International Award for a Polio Free World. At the District Foundation Dinner, the award was presented by Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator Dick Galitz of Naperville, Ill. (l) and Rotary Foundation Trustee Noel Bajat of Abbeville, La. At the Zone Institute in LaCrosse, Corliss was recognized by Kalyan Banerjee of India, a past RI president and current Rotary Foundation trustee. Photo by Bill Tubbs

Kristin Ockenfels, new member of the Iowa City AM club and daughter of DG John and Deb Ockenfels, contributed to the design of the event program.

The heartfelt fellowship and pride in Rotary filled the room with a glow while those attending were sent forth to continue to “Light Up Rotary” by lighting a candle to show the good works of Rotary.



At the Rotary Foundation Dinner in Iowa City, Zone 28 Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator Dick Galitz (r) of Naperville, Ill., thanked District 6000 Rotarians, represented by District Foundation Chair Cal Litwiller of Mount Pleasant (l) and immediate PDG Jacque Andrew of Jefferson for top support of The Rotary Foundation and polio, in Zone 28.

Photo by Bill Tubbs





Litwiller (l) and Koellner (r) recognized new members of the Bequest Society (l-r): DGN Chris and Vernetta Knapp of Iowa City AM (Level 1, \$10,000), Janice and Herb Wilson of Iowa City (Level 7, \$1,000,000), and Lorraine Lynch of North Scott (Level 5, \$250,000).



DGN Chris Knapp and Vernetta (l), with Litwiller and Koellner, received two pins and crystals: Major Donor Level 1 (\$10,000), and Bequest Society Level 1 (total \$10,000).

## Donors recognized at Foundation Dinner



Litwiller (l) and Koellner (r) presented pins and crystals to Level 3 Major Donors for gifts of \$50,000, (l-r): Tom and Mary Pat Brooke of West Liberty and Lorraine Lynch of North Scott.



Jim and PDG Jacque Andrew of Jefferson were recognized as new Level 2 Major Donors (\$25,000) by District Rotary Foundation Chair Cal Litwiller of Mount Pleasant (second from right) and Fundraising Chair Bill Koellner of West Liberty (r).

Photos by Bill Tubbs



**Rachel Greenhoe**  
Major Gift Officer



**Amanda Runge**  
Annual Giving Officer

## Meet your Foundation staff

District 6000 Rotarians and clubs will be working with these two new staff members at The Rotary Foundation.

Amanda Runge replaces Natalia Bonfante Ginez as the Annual Giving Officer for the 12 districts in Zone 28.

Rachel Greenhoe, who spoke at the District 6000 Rotary Foundation Dinner, replaces Jamie Revord as the Major Gifts Officer for Zone 28. Jamie and Natalia remain at The Foundation but in new positions.

Amanda can be reached at (847) 425-5612 or email: [Amanda.Runge@rotary.org](mailto:Amanda.Runge@rotary.org). Rachel can be reached at (847) 866-3476 or email: [Rachel.Greenhoe@rotary.org](mailto:Rachel.Greenhoe@rotary.org).

—ARRFC Bill Tubbs



Litwiller (l) and Koellner (r) presented chevrons and certificates to new Paul Harris Society Members Brock Earnhardt of Davenport and PDG Diana Reed of Northwest Des Moines for their commitment to give \$1,000 annually to the Rotary Foundation Annual Fund.

# Rotary Foundation Annual giving

District 6000 Clubs • July 1, 2014 - Dec. 6, 2014\*

(Members: Jul 13/Jul 14)	(1) 14-15 Goal	(2) Thru 12-6-14	(3) % of Goal	(4) Per capita
Adel (26/27)	\$ 0	515	0	\$ 17.76
Albia (24/30)	0	10	0	.33
Ames Morning (54/56)	7,680	2,825	37	50.45
Ames (235/232)	38,500	12,527	33	54.00
Ankeny (66/61)	10,500	4,055	39	66.48
Atlantic (55/56)	5,050	656	13	11.71
Bettendorf (101/107)	15,750	6,823	43	63.77
Bloomfield (11/11)	0	0	0	0
Boone (47/45)	7,000	1,320	19	29.33
Burlington (77/75)	5,250	2,525	48	33.67
Carroll (50/45)	13,700	0	0	0
Centerville (48/50)	3,600	1,950	54	39.00
Chariton (49/50)	5,200	2,550	49	51.00
Clinton (112/103)	12,575	3,435	27	33.34
Coon Rapids (31/27)	0	0	0	0
Coralville-North Corridor (19/17)	2,000	0	0	0
Corning (43/36)	1,700	1,307	77	36.31
Corydon (21/21)	300	0	0	0
Creston (19/23)	200	50	25	2.17
Dallas Center (26/27)	2,700	10	0	.37
Davenport (123/120)	0	8,870	0	73.92
Decatur County (25/26)	5,000	2,475	50	95.19
Des Moines AM (153/160)	11,520	2,050	18	12.81
Des Moines (278/278)	21,500	11,125	52	40.02
East Polk County (37/38)	0	1,275	0	33.55
Fairfield (63/58)	7,150	0	0	0
Fort Madison (42/45)	3,040	0	0	0
Greater Des Moines (19/16)	4,700	0	0	0
Grinnell (36/37)	4,000	0	0	0
Indianola (55/57)	0	400	0	7.02
Iowa City AM (57/62)	13,800	2,334	17	37.65
Iowa City Downtown (19/19)	1,700	0	0	0
Iowa City (304/302)	63,000	12,375	20	40.98
Iowa Quad-Cities (44/40)	0	0	0	0
Jefferson (55/56)	8,500	3,500	41	62.50
Johnston (51/56)	4,100	0	0	0
Kalona (39/42)	0	1,500	0	35.71
Keokuk (77/68)	4,762	2,305	48	33.90
Keosauqua (21/23)	0	858	0	37.30
Knoxville (59/61)	0	0	0	0
Lenox (27/27)	0	1,332	0	49.32
Manning (19/19)	0	0	0	0
Marengo (12/11)	110	30	27	2.73
Marshalltown (157/157)	10,000	(300)	-3	(1.91)
Mount Pleasant Noon (58/55)	2,200	1,308	59	23.78
Mount Pleasant (25/22)	2,200	0	0	0
Muscatine (112/99)	7,000	500	7	5.05
Nevada (69/73)	9,400	100	1	1.37
Newton (65/57)	6,500	950	15	16.67
North Scott (81/81)	11,004	5,080	46	62.72
Northwest Des Moines (41/43)	7,500	2,090	28	48.60
Osceola (31/30)	2,095	0	0	0
Oskaloosa (53/49)	3,200	0	0	0
Ottumwa (104/105)	0	0	0	0
Pella (27/28)	3,800	400	11	14.29
Perry (29/26)	810	0	0	0
Tipton (30/31)	2,000	50	3	1.61
Washington (48/52)	5,200	0	0	0
Waukee (52/63)	5,900	2,625	44	41.67
Wellman (37/38)	2,500	2,395	96	63.03
West Des Moines (76/76)	14,500	0	0	0
West Liberty (39/36)	9,600	5,740	60	159.44
West Polk County (23/30)	0	0	0	0
Winterset (30/27)	1,500	0	0	0
<b>Total (3,900)</b>	<b>\$ 391,496</b>	<b>\$ 114,547</b>	<b>29.36</b>	<b>\$ 29.37</b>

(\*) Interim report

## Foundation news

### Goals needed!

As we approach the mid-point of the Rotary year, we find that Rotary clubs have entered goals into Rotary Club Central of \$391,496.00. This accounts for 49 clubs who have entered goals. If your club needs assistance in entering goals, please either contact PDG Jacque Andrew or Bill Koellner. At writing of this newsletter, only slightly over \$114,500 has been given to the Annual Fund. Our District leaders as well as Rotary International need to know club estimates of giving. Fifteen clubs need to call district leaders with those estimates.

— Bill Koellner, Fundraising Chair



District 6000 sponsored fall training seminars Sept. 25 in Ankeny and Oct. 15 at West Liberty that were attended by 75 Rotarians from 35 clubs and covered the topics of Rotary Foundation, Membership, Youth Exchange and secretary training. District Foundation Chair PDG Cal Litwiller of Mount Pleasant talked about programs of The Rotary Foundation at the West Liberty seminar.

Photo by Bill Tubbs

### Year-end deadlines

Please note the cutoffs for gifts to be credited to The Rotary Foundation for the calendar year ending Dec. 31, 2014:

**Checks:** Both the postmark on the envelope and the date written on the check must be no later Dec. 31, 2014, and received by Jan. 8, 2015.

**Credit Card Payments:** Via rotary.org – must be authorized by midnight on Dec. 31, 2014. Via fax, phone or mail to World Headquarters – must be received prior to the close of business on Dec. 31, 2014.

— ARRFC Bill Tubbs



# Donor Advised Fund benefits Rotarians, clubs

By PDG Don Goering/Ames

District 6000 Endowment Chair

Have you ever wondered if there is an easier way to manage your giving to all the charities such as Rotary, your community's United Way, your religious affiliation, or the many other requests you get in the mail or even on line?

There is! It is called Rotary's Donor Advised Fund.

Rotary's Donor Advised Fund allows you as a Rotarian to create a special account at The Rotary Foundation that is set up specifically for your charitable giving. You may open an account with a tax-deductible contribution of \$10,000 or more to The Rotary Foundation. Distributions from the account are made at your recommendation to IRS-approved charities of your choice. No minimum balance is required and there is no limit on the number of grants you request. The Rotary Foundation benefits from your Rotary Donor Advised Fund with annual transfer of \$250. Fees for managing your account and completing the necessary paper work total 1 percent annually.



Nancy Hoffman

You make your contributions to your Rotary Donor Advised Fund when the tax deductions will benefit you the most. You may be able to limit capital gains or income tax with gifts of stock, mutual funds, and retirement plan assets.

Your Rotary Donor Advise Fund provides you the opportunity to have your contribution invested in any combination of four professionally managed

portfolios. You can change your investment strategy in response to market conditions or changes in your charitable giving plans.

Each grant to your selected charities bears your Donor Advised Fund selected name and the name of The Rotary Foundation. This shows your support for Rotary and serves as a reminder of the many ways Rotarians and The Rotary Foundation are working to make a better world.

## Statistics as of 30 June 2014

Endowment Fund Net Assets	\$352.8 M
Endowment Fund Expectancies	\$569.5 M
Net Assets and Expectancies Total	\$922.3 M
Bequest Society Commitments	10,057
Bequest Society Expectancies	\$469.7 M
TRF DAF Individual Accounts	95
TRF DAF Group Accounts	138
TRF DAF Legacy Accounts	2
TRF DAF Accounts Total	235
TRF DAF Fair Market Value	\$17.5 M



Major Donors, who were recognized by the Rotary Club of Davenport on Nov. 10 for their cumulative gifts of \$10,000 to The Rotary Foundation, are pictured with club president Paul Johnson (l), Assistant Governor Doug Peterson (third from left), and District Governor John Ockenfels (fourth from left). Major Donor are (l-r): Doug Garner, Mark Zimmerman and Bill Burress. Major Donor Bill Ashton was not present.

Photo by Bill Tubbs



Carroll Rotarian and Assistant District Governor Gerald Clausen and his wife Beverly were honored as new Major Donors at the club's meeting on Nov. 10. Clausen is the longtime secretary of the club and city administrator of Carroll. District Annual Fund Committee chair PDG Corliss Klaassen of Chariton (l), and District Annual Fund Committee co-chair PDG Jacque Andrew of Jefferson (r), made the presentation. The Clausens were presented with The Rotary Foundation crystal for Major Donors Level One (\$10,000), along with a pin and pendant.

Photo by Carroll Rotarian Doug Burns, provided by Jacque Andrew.

## Rotary Foundation Mission and Areas of Focus:

The mission of The Rotary Foundation is to enable Rotarians to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through the improvement of health, the support of education, and the alleviation of poverty.



- Maternal and Child Health
- Water and Sanitation
- Disease Prevention and Treatment
- Basic Education and Literacy
- Economic-Community Development
- Peace and Conflict Resolution

# \$500,000 Des Moines Riverwalk Park: Centennial Project complete: Rotary leaves it mark on central Iowa

By John Bouslog/Des Moines AM

Rotarians do good in every community in which they exist. From coats and scholarships for kids at the local schools to honoring fire-fighters, policemen and teachers on the front lines of our society, to orphanages, health clinics and polio vaccines for kids in faraway lands, Rotarians are doing good every time they set their minds to it.

Service above self. It is not just a slogan. It requires Rotarians to act. Nearly 1,000 central Iowa Rotarians acted recently when they bonded together to complete a project in the works for nearly a decade.

In 2004, Principal Financial Group, Des Moines' largest employer, was going to celebrate its 125th anniversary. As a special gift to the city of Des Moines, it donated much time, talent and money to develop a river walk along the west banks of the Des Moines River which winds its way through the center of town.

In 2004-05, Tim Wolf was the president of the Rotary Club of Des Moines AM. Wolf indicated that in celebration of Rotary International's 100th anniversary (to be celebrated in 2005), RI's International President, Glenn E. Estess, Sr., of Shades Valley, Alabama, was encouraging all Rotary clubs to accomplish a special project in their communities in celebration of this milestone. Several members of the Rotary Club of Des Moines AM saw these two special occasions as an opportunity to celebrate Rotary, thank Principal Financial Group for its donation and to make a gift to the city of Des Moines. The idea of a park on the river walk was born.

From 2004-07, the Rotary Club of DMAM was busy developing plans and raising money. This park had to be special. It was going to sit on a river. Rotary was going to build it. It was going to bear Rotary's name. The planning committee had dozens of meetings with architects and park planners. DMAM member Phil Hodgkin, a principal at RDG Planning and Design, agreed to be the lead architect on the project. RDG was very patient with its client. Meeting after meeting, the DMAM members rejected ideas. The ideas were not rejected because they were not good. They were not yet good enough. It had to be very special. By 2007, DMAM agreed on a conceptual design: a 65-foot fishing pole arching towards the river with a 12-foot wide bobber at the end. Swings would hang from the fishing pole. Kids would have a soft surface on which to play. LED lighting would illuminate the pole and bobber at night. Perfect. Price tag: \$500,000! Ugh!

During the first three years, DMAM raised about \$100,000. Then in 2008, the recession hit. Asking members for money during

tough economic times did not seem like the right thing to do. So the plans were shelved. In 2011, the economy was beginning to rebound. DMAM president Bill Burma approached past DMAM president and planning committee member, John Bouslog, about trying again. The two of them spent over a year trying to secure major gifts with modest success. In the spring of 2012, incoming DMAM president Jeff Russell attended his PETS Training. During the training, incoming DG Terry Geiger encouraged incoming presidents to connect with one another and to do a project together. Incoming DMAM

president Russell immediately reached out to other club presidents in central Iowa. He had just the project.

In August 2012, all of the DMAM past presidents voted unanimously to go forward with the project. That group of previous leaders of DMAM were asked again to lead. They served as DMAM's fundraising committee for the project and within six months reached its goal of \$300,000! The DMAM Foundation committed to fund 60

percent of the Rotary Riverwalk Park, if other clubs would fund the balance. DMAM members John Bouslog and Phil Hodgkin made presentations to 12 central Iowa clubs. Nine of those clubs joined DMAM and made the Rotary Riverwalk Park reality. The participating clubs were Des Moines AM, Des Moines, Northwest Des Moines, West Polk County, East Polk County, Waukee, West Des Moines, Johnston, Indianola and Adel. Without the support of all of these clubs, Rotary Riverwalk Park never would have been built. Each of these clubs saw the benefit of building something tangible to help spread the good news of Rotary. Thanks to all of the members of these clubs for their commitment to this great project.

On Nov. 7, 2014, the ribbon was cut on the Rotary Riverwalk Park in downtown Des Moines. It is located on Second Avenue immediately east of the Wells Fargo Arena. It is not only a playground, but it is a monument to all Rotarians in Iowa, the United States and around the world. As children swing and play on the Rotary Riverwalk Park, we want the children and their families to know what Rotarians stand for. Engraved in the retaining wall is the Four-Way Test of the things we think, say and do:

*Is it the truth? Is it fair to all concerned? Will it build goodwill and better friendships? Will it be beneficial to all concerned?*

Rotary has made its mark in central Iowa.







Preschool children from the Broadway Neighborhood Center at the Iowa Children's Museum at Coral Ridge Mall like their new coats! Photos provided by Deb Ockenfels

# 9,061 coats!

## COATS/continued

area. We had help from several Rotarians who helped sort boxes of coats into individual club orders. Some clubs split boxes between them in combined orders to eliminate opening some boxes. Multiple trips were made to deliver to individual schools by several Rotarians in the Iowa City area (those who delivered on Nov. 10 were much warmer than those on the 11th!) Many of the coats were received by the local schools or relief agencies to pass on to parents, others were given directly to the children by Rotarians.

We're continuing the coat project until District Conference in April for any clubs who would like to order more coats and those who would like to join in for the first time. Operation Warm is continuing our quantity discount price of \$90 per box of six (\$15 per coat) minimum order of five boxes, delivered to your specific address. We can add orders together to get to the five boxes.

If you have photos, news clippings, thank you notes or anything else, please save them! We're going to make a display for district conference and would like to showcase them. Thank you!

If you're interested, please contact Deb Ockenfels, crabbyo@hotmail.com, or call (319) 321-7461, for information.

*More pictures and a list of clubs are on the next five pages*



District Governor John Ockenfels with Des Moines AM Rotarian Mary LaHay, who is taking her second load of coats.



Former Hawkeye lineman Jeff Koeppel, president of the Rotary Club of Coralville/North Corridor, loading his truck for a delivery to CCA school and North Liberty Food Pantry.



Carolyn Gross (second from right), Iowa City Downtown club, with Shelter House employees.



President Steve Fahrenkrog and executive secretary Dennis Peterson of the Rotary Club of North Scott receive a shipment of coats. Provided by Dennis Peterson





Rotary Club of Clinton president Libby Goodman (l) distributes coats at the elementary school in Fulton, Ill.

Provided by Jennifer Graf

## Coats, park, Mardi Gras, 'Getting Ahead' at Clinton

By Jennifer Graf/Clinton

Club Publicity Chair

Presently we have a very active Facebook page called Rotary Club of Clinton. I would invite you to become "friends" with us to see (by photo) and read the good works our members are carrying out on an ongoing basis!

Most recently, we have undertaken a children's coat project which was lead by president-elect Rich Klahn. We have recently been distributing these coats to area schools.

We have also installed a zip-line at our 1st Avenue Rotary Park. Mind you, this was done with some help from the city workers, but also by our own Rotarians.

We were also a presence at our local Mardi Gras parade held the week of Halloween. This parade has an attendance of several thousand along the route!

Additionally, as part of our Community Service activities, we presented the meal to the attendees on Oct. 15 for the "Getting Ahead in a Just-Getting'-by-World" Clinton Program. This is a program to enlighten others on the plight of homelessness and poverty issues people face every day in our community. Our members were very active in hosting this benevolent event. And we learned much.

Thank you for reading this. If I can be of further assistance in sharing the good news about the Rotary Club of Clinton, please let me know!



Coralville-North Corridor Rotarians delivering coats to kids at area schools on Oct. 31 were Assistant District Governor Vicki Struzynski Olson, Clear Creek Amana staff Kathy Campbell and Tess Knox, Rotary club president Jeff Koepel, club Secretary Mary Anne Lenning, student Carter Roy, elementary principal Dan Dvorak, and club president-elect Keith Jones.

Provided by Vicki Struzynski Olson

## Coats for Clear Creek-Amana

By Vicki Struzynski Olson/Coralville-North Corridor

Assistant District Governor

The Rotary Club of Coralville North Corridor delivered 38 coats to the staff at Clear Creek Amana Elementary in Oxford as part of their Operation Warm-Coats for Kids project.

The club will be distributing 170 coats to children in the area. Additional coats are being distributed by other area Rotary clubs, totaling about 1c270 coats in the Iowa City/Coralville and surrounding area, and 8,808 coats total so far in Rotary District 6000.



## Decatur County fundraiser for coats

The Rotary Club of Decatur County held a 'Pork Kabob' tailgate fundraiser at a home football game in Leon on Sept. 19 with proceeds going to the Operation Warm coat project. Workers pictured in this photo are: standing at left (l-r): club members John Henderson, PDG Terry Geiger, Linda Chastain and volunteer Sue Vondrak. Standing at right: Rotary Yuth Exchange student Elena, Chris Coffelt, Bobette Lindsey and DGE Loring Miller. Kneeling are club members Jack DePond, Peggy Geiger, Bill Morain and club president Sean Saxton. Approximately \$800 was made to go toward the purchase of winter coats for Decatur County youth.

Provided by Peggy Geiger





Kalona Rotarians with coats that were distributed to children in local schools by the Rotary Clubs of Kalona and Wellman.

Provided by Jeremy Statler



Preparing to hand out coats at Newton were (l-r): Rotary Club of Newton president Craig Armstrong, principal Carol Farver, Ethan Nasalrod, Margaret Dimon, superintendent Bob Callaghan and Bob Main.

Provided by Craig Armstrong

## Newton School Board thanks Rotary for coats

**By Craig Armstrong/Newton**

Club President

On Nov. 13, members of the Rotary Club of Newton presented 280 new winter coats to the Newton Community School District as a community service to students through "Operation Warm." The coats were delivered to the Central Office at Emerson Hough, where they have been sorted for distribution to students.

Operation Warm was founded in 1998 by Dick Sanford, and over the years numerous Rotary clubs have joined the effort to help expand fund raising and assistance with coat distributions. The Rotary Club of Newton has committed \$4,000 via its treasury and a District 6000 Rotary Foundation Community Grant to make this donation, exemplifying "Service Above Self."

The school district recognized Newton Rotary at its board Meeting on Nov. 10, and publicly thanked the organization for impacting the Newton community through Operation Warm.

## Kalona, Wellman clubs distribute coats for kids

**By Jeremy Statler/Kalona**

Club President

Above is a picture of the boxes of coats we received for Operation Warm. Our shipment was combined with the Rotary Club of Wellman so that we could optimize the number of coats we received and not have to split up any boxes of coats. Because of our efforts doing this, we actually received 24 extra coats! Between the two clubs we received 169 coats for youth in the Kalona, Wellman and Keota areas that may have gone without them this year!

I need to send out a huge and special THANKS first to our District Governor John Ockenfels and his wife, Deb, for the idea and lining everything up to make this a reality! Second, to Mitch Swartzentruber for his work in putting together and submitting the Rotary Foundation Community Grant application from that doubled our club's efforts! And last but not least Kelly Galiher and Teresa Hartley as our contacts at Mid-Prairie Schools to help find homes for these coats. They told me that they have commitments for all the coats to go right into our communities! It can be a bit eye opening to know that we have that much need right around us, but I am so thankful that we have been able to play a part in Operation Warm and helping 169 kids stay a little bit warmer this winter! My guess is that those coats will be handed down to others and warm even more than we will ever know.

Thank you all for your financial support in making this happen with another special thanks to Tina Hershberger for kicking in an extra \$100 to help us reach our club goal in honor of her new grandson, Tegan Cole! Thank you Rotarians, you helped make a difference!!

*District 6000 Rotarians are the largest provider of coats for kids through Operation Warm – more than any Rotary district's previous order! Congratulations and thanks to all the Rotarians and clubs who participated. A list of clubs is on page 22.*



# Urbandale schools show appreciation of coats

*Urbandale School District communications partner Dena Soenke posted this news release in appreciation of winter coats received from the Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines.*

On Nov. 3, the Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines distributed 133 winter coats to students in need throughout the Urbandale Community School District as part of the “Light Up Rotary – Keep Kids Warm!” initiative. Rotary members donated funds to purchase the winter coats and collaborated with UCSD Facilitators of Family Outreach (FFO) to determine the gender and sizes needed to help support students in elementary, middle and high school.

“Service above self is what Rotary is all about and it is our club’s honor to be able to partner with the Urbandale Community School District to assure that every student has a warm coat this winter,” said Brenda Auxier-Mailey, Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines Director of Youth Focus and Coat Chair.

The generous donations by the Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines were part of a larger vision of the Rotary District 6000. Each Club within District 6000 raised money to supply coats to students within their own communities. In total, Rotary District 6000 raised enough money to purchase and donate 8,790 winter coats for students in need throughout the nation.

“I am overwhelmed with the amount of winter coats that were donated to the Urbandale School District. Our goal is to make sure every student stays warm during our cold winter months. Thank you to the Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines for helping us reach our goal,” Christy Stroope, Urbandale High School (UHS) Juvenile Court Liaison and FFO.

The UCSD provides a multitude of services and programs designed to better support the needs of students. In 2009, UHS students with intellectual disabilities and the Urbandale Chapter of Best Buddies brought to life a district-wide program called The Clothing Closet. The Clothing Closet is a student-run, non-profit business that accepts clothing donations in order to provide clothing free of charge to those in need. With the help of teachers and associates, students manage The Clothing Closet by accepting donations, laundering clothing received, responding to order requests, managing inventory and interacting with customers. The Clothing Closet has been so successful that it has outgrown its space at the high school and has expanded to a satellite location next door to The Urbandale Food Pantry.

“Urbandale is blessed to have such a giving community. While we have many in the community with ongoing needs, we also have individuals and groups stepping forward to share what they have. We are thankful to the Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines for the support of our students through this project,” said Dr. Keri Schlueter, Coordinator of Student Services, Urbandale Community School District.

The UCSD extends a heartfelt thank you to the Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines for the generous donation of 133 winter coats. The District believes the significance of these coats is much more than outerwear as they serve to not only help keep students warm throughout the winter months, but also serve an even greater, though often unspoken, need which is to feel valued, respected and supported.



Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines Rotarians Ed Arnold, Brenda Auxier-Mailey and Jim Arthur deliver coats to students in the Urbandale School District.



Coats for Kids at Urbandale (l-r): Michele Hamilton, Urbandale School District Coordinator of Student, Family and Community Services; Rotarian Brenda Auxier-Mailey; UCSD Facilitator of Family Outreach Abby Canfield; and Rotarians Christy Stroope and Ed Arnold.

Provided by Ed Arnold



Rotary

Core Values

- Fun and Fellowship
- Service
- Diversity

- Integrity
- Leadership Development



# In Marshalltown, 'Coats came just in time for winter'

**By Curt Hoff/Marshalltown**

Winter coats typically aren't something that people are tuned into during the middle of the summer; but when Rotary District Governor John Ockenfels addressed the Marshalltown club by video last July to explain the 2014-15 "Keep Kids Warm" service project, President Bonnie Lowry was listening. She immediately began exploring a community service grant to leverage over \$2,600 pledged by the Marshalltown club's members. Lowry's committee set a goal of 240 warm winter coats for children in the Marshalltown area, which translates to about 1.5 coats per Marshalltown Rotary Club member.

By the end of September, Lowry was able to announce the club was awarded a community service grant and that over 200 boys and girls coats and more than 75 coats for MHS students were being ordered. The 284 coats, part of over 9,000 new warm coats in the District 6000, would arrive at the end of October. Rotarian Mary Giese synchronized with local partners such as the Salvation Army and school personnel, and also lined up the transportation of the coats to Marshalltown. Local business MinuteMan chipped in some boxes that helped with coordination.

Before distribution, Giese and Lowry brought samples of the coats to a weekly Rotary luncheon so that the membership could see first-hand the quality and styles of the coats. Members Rhonda Miller and Jeff Badger were given the rewarding task of delivering the coats to where they were



President Bonnie Lowry displays toddler-sized coats.

needed the most. "These coats arrived just in time for the early blast of winter we received in early November," said Lowry. The coats are all new, well lined, and come in a combination of colors. The following note of gratitude was indicative of those received from students, parents, teachers, and counselors who appreciated the warmth and safety of the coats:

"My family would like to express our appreciation for the coats. We have four children and two adults in our house, and this past year has been a real struggle financially. Coats make a huge difference. It really has relieved a lot of worry from us. Now we can focus on other things. God Bless You!"

Lowry expressed her gratitude for the generosity of the club during a recent meeting where she shared the results of this service project. Borrowing from District Governor Ockenfels, she adds, "In the true spirit of Rotary, we are banding together here in Marshalltown to do what we cannot do individually."

"My family would like to express our appreciation for the coats. We have four children and two adults in our house, and this past year has been a real struggle financially. Coats make a huge difference. It really has relieved a lot of worry from us. Now we can focus on other things. God Bless You!" — *Note of gratitude*

## West Polk delivers coats to DC-Grimes

**By Brian Buethe/West Polk**

The Rotary Club of West Polk County had a great opportunity to benefit some of the students in the Dallas Center-Grimes (DC-G) Community School District. Led by President Dee Kading (Charles Gabus Ford), members of the club successfully raised funds and purchased more than 40 winter coats for area students who otherwise might not have access to nice new coats to keep them warm during the impending winter season.



West Polk Rotarians taking coats to children of the Dallas Center-Grimes School District were (l-r): Michael Bonnett, Dee Kading, Mark Watson and Larry Lyon.



Rotarian Rhonda Miller has some coats to deliver!

# Coat orders by club

Club	Coats Ordered		
Adel .....	146	Iowa City Downtown ..... 67	
Albia .....	42	Iowa Quad Cities..... 76	
Ames .....	336	Jefferson..... 80	
Ames Morning.....	74	Johnston..... 49	
Ankeny .....	275	Kalona .....	76
Bettendorf.....	108	Keokuk .....	49
Bloomfield .....	25	Keosauqua .....	30
Boone .....	60	Knoxville .....	171
Burlington .....	209	Manning .....	43
Carroll.....	318	Marshalltown.....	311
Centerville .....	147	Mount Pleasant and	
Chariton.....	60	Mount Pleasant Noon ...	121
Clinton .....	137	Muscatine.....	165
Coon Rapids .....	36	Nevada.....	360
Coralville/North Corridor	171	Newton.....	282
Corydon.....	42	North Scott .....	249
Creston.....	29	Northwest Des Moines...	131
Dallas Center .....	47	Osceola .....	27
Davenport.....	294	Oskaloosa .....	136
Decatur County .....	107	Ottumwa.....	302
Des Moines .....	214	Pella .....	98
Des Moines AM.....	602	Perry .....	137
East Polk County .....	42	Tipton.....	78
Fairfield.....	84	Washington .....	79
Fort Madison .....	78	Waukee .....	435
Grinnell.....	146	Wellman .....	76
Indianola.....	99	West Des Moines.....	82
Iowa City.....	438	West Liberty .....	130
Iowa City AM .....	611	West Polk County.....	125
		Winterset.....	162



On Nov. 3, Russ Jensen and Jane Fogg were among ten Des Moines AM Rotarians who visited Capitol View Elementary School in Des Moines to distribute 600 coats to needy children. The coats were donated and paid for by private donations from Rotarians that totaled more than \$10,500. The children and teachers mailed dozens of thank you notes thanking Rotarians for their contributions.

Provided by Jeff Hatfield

## Oskaloosa Peer Helpers distribute coats

### from the Oskaloosa Herald

Children in need in Oskaloosa will be a little warmer this winter, thanks to the Oskaloosa Rotary Club.

The club donated 60 coats to Oskaloosa High School's Peer Helpers.

Peer Helpers, led by Scott Moore, has already started distributing the coats to local elementary students.

"Winter can be a hard time for families in need," said Dawn Collins, Oskaloosa Rotary president. "Utilities go up, kids need new clothes, not to mention something for Christmas. We wanted to help take one thing off their list of worries."

Oskaloosa Rotary Club works to support people in need both in Oskaloosa and internationally. The 2014 Rotary District 6000 Governor challenged each local club to contribute at least one coat per Rotarian to local youth as part of Rotary District 6000 Operation Warm.

Over 8,000 coats are being distributed (now 9,016 – ed.) throughout the state. For more information about the Oskaloosa Rotary Club, go to [www.oskaloosarotary.org](http://www.oskaloosarotary.org) or contact Dawn Collins at (641) 673-8411.



Peer Helpers at Oskaloosa High School get coats ready for distribution.

Provided by Carri Vande Ree



***Wear your Rotary pin with pride!***



# RYLA committee plans for the future

**By PDG Gary Welch/Ankeny**

District 6000 RYLA chair

The first meeting of the combined 5970/6000 RYLA Committee (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) was held Nov. 15 at Grinnell College, to work on the RYLA structure and develop an oversight committee. This committee will be tasked to work on the overall budget, review recommendations for change, develop policies and procedures, update the manual, develop ideas for public relations, review the Youth Protection Policy, training for Youth Counselors and Rotary volunteers, work on an agreement between D5970 and D6000, create a vision for the future, and develop goals and objectives. There is much work to be done to make this the World Class RYLA program your students deserve!

One of the many issues that are paramount will be to review and determine the RYLA fee. Currently the fee is set at \$400 and we know that will not cover expenses into the future, let alone allow us to develop a reserve for the unexpected. RYLA will need capital to be on a firm financial footing. The expenses at Grinnell College are increasing and what was easy to do with 50 students is much more difficult and complicated to do with over 200 students, plus volunteers.

Keep in mind that D6000 does have a RYLA scholarship fund available to assist any club in the transition. You will need to include a line item in your future budget to address a fee increase. You will be notified as soon as it is determined.

We need you to be Rotary Volunteers to make the RYLA program function successfully both on the committee and at the RYLA event. If you are interested in being on the committee or being a Rotary Volunteer, please let us know. We want you involved in the process because RYLA belongs to you.

If I may be of any further assistance, please contact me at e-mail: gwelch3002@msn.com or phone (515) 419-3707.



The two-district leadership team for RYLA, top (l-r): DGE Jozsef Gitta (D5970), DGN Chris Knapp, Chuck Jons, and Linda Nudd (D5970). Middle: PDG Terry Geiger, PDG Jim Patton (D5970), Mary Ellen Stanley, T. Waldmann-Williams, David Kutter (D5970), Barb Gannon and Mark McAndrew. Front: Colleen Welch, Peggy Geiger, Mary Shepard (D5970), Shari Bender, Kathy Sibbel, Phyllis Miller, PDG Gary Welch, Vernetta Knapp and Mike Babcock. Attending but not pictured: DGE Loring Miller, Amber Jedlicka (D5970) and Carolyn Jons. Members unable to attend: PDG Susan Herrick, Lee Holmes, Stephanie Kitchen, DG John Ockenfels and Brandon Stascak (D5970). Provided by Gary Welch

## 100 percent of District 6000 clubs support RYLA!

**By PDG Gary Welch/Ankeny**

District 6000 RYLA chair

You are amazing. 100 percent of the clubs in District 6000 have committed to send students to RYLA in 2015. Now is the time to begin the recruiting process to select applicants. This is the most difficult step. Even though this is a world-class leadership experience, the students will not come to you. Your RYLA representative will need to develop a working relationship with the school district. It has been very helpful to meet with the superintendent to explain and offer this opportunity to their students. Next you need to meet with the principals and counselors to get their support. They have many priorities on their agenda and until they are convinced that RYLA will benefit their students, it does not become a priority for them.

After you have met with the school, ask them to select 5-6 students who they think would benefit from the leadership experience. Briefly explain RYLA to the students and make sure they understand this is a selection process to receive the awards. Treat it much like you would a college scholarship and not everyone qualifies.

It is also helpful to write articles in the local newspaper indicating that your Rotary club is seeking applicants for a Rotary Youth Leadership Awards. If the school has a district newsletter or website, request that they include an article regarding RYLA. Put posters

in the schools, libraries, churches and other public places. We are developing a number of promotional materials that we would gladly share with you.

It is the responsibility for all club members to help recruit applicants. Everyone has friends, family, neighbors and associates that have youth who are candidates during their sophomore and junior year. If you have a student who has attended RYLA in previous years, they are required to help you recruit and consider making them part of the selection committee. The reality is their peers have more influence than adults.

Keep in mind that it will take considerable effort to get the selection process working effectively, but should become easier after two to three years. Bottom line, if you do not work to recruit qualified youth, it will not happen and your youth will miss out on a life changing opportunity. Your youth deserve this opportunity.

We need you to be Rotary Volunteers involved in making the program function successfully at the RYLA event. If you are interested in being a Rotary Volunteer, please let us know. We want you involved in the process because RYLA belongs to you.

We are here to help and assist you anyway we can. If we may be of any further assistance, please feel free to contact PDG Gary Welch at e-mail: gwelch3002@msn.com or phone (515) 419-3707.

# WHY ARE YOU IN ROTARY?

*It's OK to join Rotary for personal, professional and family growth; 'Service Above Self' will follow*

*On Oct. 11, PDG Bill Tubbs, as the official representative of RI President Gary Huang to the District 6690 District Conference in Shawnee Resort in southern Ohio, shared this message about membership. If portions of the message sound familiar, it is because they were adapted from remarks by Brad Howard at the May 1, 2014, District 6000 District Conference in Ames. Howard challenged Rotarians to view membership in a new way.*

**By PDG Bill Tubbs/North Scott**

**W**hy are you in Rotary?  
Why did you say YES when you asked to give up your time to be part of a group called Rotary?

Is it the food? When Linda and I were doing our club visits 10 years ago, we joked about the "vegetable of the month." First it was green beans, then corn. Or was it Breadeux Pizza? I like green beans, corn and pizza, but that's not why the members of those clubs were in Rotary. A club I attend in my old hometown that struggles to maintain its membership at half of what it once was has the BEST food – two meat and vegetable entrees, salads, desserts, the works! And another club I visit – which is one of the most dynamic in my area – until recently had the same Chinese buffet every Wednesday. I like Chinese, too, but REALLY??

So is it the food? Probably not.

Is it Service Above Self? That's our motto, and I do believe that our members value their community service, but recently I heard a talk by Brad Howard – a Past District Governor from Oakland, Calif., who will be a director of RI next year – that challenges that notion. He said, and I quote, "I absolutely believe that the reason most people stay in Rotary has remarkably little to do with Service Above Self."

At first, that sounds like blasphemy. Upon reflection, maybe NOT! I don't presume that's your value, but think about it. Our organization has grown remarkably. We are in over 200 countries and geographic regions. We have over 34,000 clubs in 534 districts and 1.2 million members. And beyond the concept of helping people, we took on an extraordinary cause. We decided we could eradicate a disease – in our spare time!

## Polio

Flash back to 1988. There were over 350,000 cases of polio in almost 130 countries – almost 1,000 every DAY. Last year there were 416 cases in six countries – and the wild polio virus was endemic in only THREE – Pakistan, Afghanistan and Nigeria. So far this year – as of the first week of October – there were 209 cases in nine countries, but 174 of the 209 were in one country – Pakistan. Nigeria, which had 53 cases in 2013, has had only SIX so far this year!

So we are WINNING. The most amazing achievement of all is the eradication of polio from India. I was in that country – with Rotary – in February 2012 when it was pronounced that India was no longer an endemic country. It was a historic time! It was long believed that because of its size and the logistical issues that India would be the last country, but what we witnessed during one three-day sweep was almost unbelievable. Consider the numbers. In three days 172 MILLION children under 5 received the oral



PDG Bill and Linda Tubbs (r) with District 6690 District Governor Randy Davies and his wife, Kristi, at the District 6690 District Conference, Oct. 10-12 at the Shawnee Resort near West Portsmouth, Ohio.

polio vaccine. This was delivered by 2.5 million vaccinators who carried 225 million doses that were refrigerated in 6.3 million ice packs and transported in 2 million vaccine carrier bags. These were delivered to 209 million homes by 155,000 supervisors with 155,000 vehicles – cars, motorcycles, mopeds, bicycles, boats, elephants, camels – or whatever it took!

The commitment was 100 PERCENT – demonstrating that it CAN be done. Earlier this year, all of Southeast Asia was declared polio free!! So we are quite literally "This Close." You've seen the ads and maybe you've been in them!

In northern Pakistan, immunizations were halted because of political strife and distrust with the Taliban. But the government of Pakistan is our ally. New strategies are being implemented and leaders believe it's not a matter of IF, but WHEN. And it MUST happen. The Ebola outbreak is an ever-present reminder that until a disease is eradicated everywhere, it can be quickly transmitted anywhere. So we press forward. And we need to tell our stories on World Polio Day – Oct. 24!

continued on next page



# Clubs must focus on members' needs!

## Peace

We as an organization also think we can have an effect on peace. We take the best people from our communities and send them to study abroad. One state – Georgia – receives 75 international scholars every year in a program founded in 1946 by a WWII veteran named Will Watt who saw the ravages of war and believed there had to be a better way. The Georgia Rotary Student Program (GRSP) was the forerunner of Rotary's Ambassadorial Scholars program that was the forerunner of our Peace Fellows program which might one day be an even greater legacy to the world than the eradication of polio. Anyone who has met and talked with the graduates of our Rotary Peace Centers will understand why.

One of the best articulations of peace is in this room – our Youth Exchange students. I congratulate your district for having 28 active Interact and 13 active Rotaract clubs! We have a plan to make the world a better place.

We house the homeless, we feed the hungry, we improve literacy and numeracy in our schools. We teach our children – whether they be our children or others – the right way to work with other cultures, to extend our hand in friendship, and the very principals of doing things right. Back in July, for example, I witnessed young people's lives changed before my very eyes at a state-wide RYLA in Grinnell, Iowa, that brought together 175 members of the New Generations that Rotary likes to talk about.

They put the Four-Way Test in practice and embraced our Core Values, which are second to none: Fellowship, Leadership, Integrity, Diversity and Service.

I love the way the essence of Rotary has been distilled into six words – that we Unite Leaders, Exchange Ideas and Take Action. Surely this is true, but anyone – even Hitler – can unite leaders, exchange ideas and take action. The difference is our core values – EMBRACE them!!! Fellowship. Leadership. Integrity. Diversity. Service. Hitler didn't have those!

Our Past President Richard King has said that Rotary is the greatest non-governmental, non-religious organization in the world. We see this at our club meetings where men and women of different religions and political persuasions exchange ideas in friendship around the tables. At a higher level, those who have attended an Inter-Faith Service at the beginning of a Rotary International Convention have witnessed members of the world's five great faiths – Christianity, Judaism, Hinduism, Buddhism and Islam – set aside their differences and focus on the things we all share in common – and it works!

## Lines at the door

You would think that for all the remarkable things we do there would be a line at the door of people wanting to join our clubs. That they would want to be part of that, too.

But the only lines that form are people on the inside trying to get out. Over the past eight years Rotary has lost 1.2 million members. Seventy-five percent of our clubs have lost members. District 6690 has lost members – from 4,204 in 2006-07 to 3,660 in 2013-14, according to the Official Directory of RI. The cumulative effect of this has meant loss of representation from North America on the RI Board of Directors – from seven two-Zone pairings to six. North America was once the face of Rotary but our Past President D.K. Lee of Korea at one of our training meetings at Evanston observed that this is changing and it makes him sad.

The question for us is WHY? Is it because they heard of our FOOD? Or the COST? Or the TIME it takes? Why is membership

**'We have been so wrapped up in Service Above Self that we have lost sight of the people we serve.'**

in Rotary a low priority?

Howard argues, and I agree, that the line is headed in the wrong direction because we have been so wrapped in Service Above Self that we have lost sight of the people we serve.

If you doubt this, answer this question: WHO are Rotary's customers? Is it the children we immunized? Those we educated? The people whose lives we have changed? WHO do we have to satisfy first?

OUR MEMBERS. The people sitting in the room. The secret to Rotary's growth is to recognize how Rotary serves our customers (members) and to EXPRESS it.

If it were not for that annual decision of writing a check to say "I will stay in this club," we would be able to do none of the Service Above Self that we do for others. The people who walk through our doors every week are the most important people, and if we address them well, they will look outwardly.

## Meeting members' needs

The secret to long-term growth is to meet the needs of our members. We need to make it clear to them that they cannot afford to leave Rotary because WE HAVE SOMETHING TO OFFER THEM THAT THEY CAN'T FIND IN ANY OTHER ROOM IN OUR COMMUNITIES.

We need programs that are lively and engaging, including politics. Some may disagree and I respect your views, but I submit that Rotary will die of boredom before it dies of controversy. Bring the top speakers in your community to your meetings and "Wow" your members – when their spouse asks, "Honey, who spoke at Rotary today?" – make it memorable!

Your clubs should have fellowship activities of, by and for the members, too. My 88-member club had a full schedule this summer, when 260 came to our Corn Boil, 170 to our Zoo party, and there were others – baseball game, Fair, Installation Party, golf outing – and our young members came with their families.

So who is our competition? Is it the Lions? Kiwanis? How many times have you tried to bring someone into Rotary who said, "No, the Kiwanis are making me a better offer!" No.

My town has an active Lions club that has produced two recent District Governors and the relations between our clubs couldn't be better. When the mayor was unable to attend the Lions club's 75th anniversary celebration, I gave the official welcome. I was asked to speak at the Lions District Conference. Their past governor – a friend of mine – made a Quilt of Valor for my Rotary's club's fundraiser.

Our competition isn't each other. Our competition is LIFE.

Ever tried to invite someone to Rotary and heard the excuses? Career challenges. Family challenges. Too much money. Too much time. One word: PRIORITY.

## Competing with LIFE

We need to show people that what we have in Rotary is completely compatible with life; that what we offer can find a place in anybody's life. We need to show non-members that we have some

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# Rotary makes ordinary citizens global citizens

## **MEMBERSHIP**/continued from p. 25

thing that they cannot get anywhere else, and existing members that Rotary is too valuable and they cannot afford to leave.

And while we do that we will do what we naturally do in Rotary, and that is help other people.

There is a simple way to grow membership – but the question is whether you want to do it! Tell prospective members that you'll give them a \$100 bill if they come to your meeting. Would you have good attendance that week?! Yes. And your members would ask their friends and neighbors and by the third week you'd be broke.

But you who gave up your weekend to come to this District Conference recognize that what you get is far greater than \$100. Your cost of registration and lodging alone is more than that! So why are you here?

To attract new members, you must know the reason why YOU became and remain a Rotarian. To keep your members, you need to recognize what we provide to our membership and talk about it – and allow them to join and continue as members for SELFISH reasons.

I've seen many retirees join Rotary out of their passion to give back – and that's important – but we can attract younger members, too. They will join because we are offering what they need at this time in their lives.

Forty-one years ago this week, I was a 26-year-old publisher of a five-year-old newspaper when I was asked to be a charter member of a new Rotary club. I remember the day and the invitation and looking back, I cannot imagine my career unfolding without the connections and friendships. Rarely has there been a Rotary meeting where I didn't learn something about my community that was a lead for a news story or a tip for an ad or that helped me in my family or personal life. The same is true for others in their vocations.

So I propose, as did Brad Howard, that Rotary can give members something they can get nowhere else. He says there are at least three unique and distinct benefits:

- 1) Personal Growth.
- 2) Professional Development.
- 3) Family Growth. Please hear me out.

### **Personal growth**

First: Personal Growth. Rotary takes ordinary people and gives us the chance to do extraordinary things. First, with access to people and places in my own community that I would not otherwise have had, and then the world. The second largest private residence owned by the U.S. government – next to the White House – is Quarters One at the Rock Island Arsenal, in my own back yard. Residents of the Quad Cities don't get to go there, but WE got a guided tour by the wife of the commanding general when he hosted a Group Study Exchange – thanks to Rotary!

I have traveled to five continents and seen the world – literally – because of Rotary. From the beaches of Nice, France, to the slums of India and Mexico. Your Rotary pin is like a passport that opens doors anywhere you go. In November 2007 our plane landed in Kano, a city of 9 million in the Muslim section of northern Nigeria where polio was rampant. In the darkness of night we walked across the tarmac to the customs area which was a room with concrete walls and a high ceiling with a single light bulb. It was eerie and intimidating, but we were with Rotarians, and we were met in that tiny airport by Tunji Funsho, the Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator, who is now the head of polio eradication for Nigeria. Upon his direction, the agent opened one suitcase and waved all of us through. Upon

exiting the customs area, were met by our hosts and their families displaying a large banner that was illuminated with bright lights that said, "Welcome North American Rotarians!" The picture taking and greetings ensued. In an otherwise scary place, we were in good hands. The next day we were guests in the throne room of the Emir of Kano – the highest ranking Muslim in the region – a rare invitation that is not even offered to the people who live there.

Where else do you go to buy that? To have instant friendships with people from another culture you have just met – whether through Friendship Exchanges or at International Conventions. What I get out of Rotary is relationships – the presumption of good in others that I cannot get anywhere else; the chance to develop social skills across a broad base.

Some become Rotarians so they can make a difference in their local community, with scholarships and literacy programs like the Dictionary Project. Some want to make a difference internationally, and it is The Rotary Foundation that makes that possible. Rotary makes ordinary citizens global citizens. It allows us to do things we couldn't do in any other way. My travels in Rotary have enabled me to see my own community in new ways, which is often expressed in the columns I write for my newspaper. One of those columns – about an 85-year-old lawyer who integrated his racially divided town in Alabama the day of the Birmingham bombings 51 years ago – who I traveled with when doing polio immunizations in India – received a first-place award last week from the National Newspaper Association in San Antonio, Texas. It wouldn't have been possible without Rotary. I'm not making this up!

### **Professional development**

Next: Professional Development. That was the founding principal when Paul Harris – a graduate of the University of Iowa Law School – called friends together for the first Rotary meeting in 1905. It was to learn about each others' businesses, and we still do that.

Remember that the founders were YOUNG – in their 30s and 40s. They were trying to make their businesses better and they knew they could trust these people. We still do. A good way to find a trusted professional in any community is to look at the roster of the Rotary club. And the best way is to join. One young professional, for example, said what she enjoys most about Rotary is the chance to sit at a table with people she would otherwise have to spend \$250 an hour to meet!

So we have a tremendous product to sell to the 20s and 30s. They don't want to sell their product; they want to know what it took for you to be successful! Where else can you go to get advice from people who are leaders in their community?

So when someone says they're too busy to be in Rotary, we need to help them see that they can't afford NOT to be in Rotary! And when business gets bad, they need Rotary even more!

Indeed we do a tremendous amount for professional development. Rotarians learn public speaking. It's part of our protocol. The leadership training at President-Elect Training Seminar is something that people would spend a lot of money to attend. We help people become better leaders. We do project management, fund promotion, non-profit management and continuing education and relationship development.

In Rotary, we learn to negotiate our differences with people with whom we may not necessarily see eye-to-eye. (Of course, your club doesn't have anybody like that!) But Paul Harris himself said, "There

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# Young people can't afford NOT to be in Rotary!

is enough atomic energy in any Rotary club to blow it to a thousand bits were it not for the tolerance of the members."

## Family growth

Next: Family Growth: President Jonathan Majiabi in 2003-04 gave us the expression "Family of Rotary" to remind us that membership needs to be compatible with family life. "Family of Rotary" means a lot of things to a lot of people, but when I hear that expression I picture Sophie Muston, the granddaughter of one of the great PDGs in my district. Since 2003, District 6000 has sent teams of 75 Rotarians and family members to the mountain village of Xicotepec, Mexico, during spring break where Rotarians, Rotaractors, Interactors, Youth Exchange students and family members have engaged in sustainable projects in a partnership with the local Rotary club. Sophie, age 6, was a third-generation family member who was there with her parents, learning Service Above Self – and translating Spanish to English for the rest of us!

In my own family, our 6-year-old granddaughter, Clara, said "I have some money" when we said that we would be sponsoring the education of a 13-year-old orphan named Grace who excelled in school but could not afford to continue her education after graduating from seventh-grade, and without education she might be sold for a dowry or worse. My club is supporting these students because my friend, Merle, a Rotary Volunteer who is putting together a Global Grant for the orphanage, created awareness. Already, Clara wants to help others. Grace is my mother's name and Clara's middle name.

We see it in our local community, too, when members bring their children to volunteer with the Special Olympians, which has been a longstanding project of my club. Before each competition, the athletes recite their motto: *"Let me win, but if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt."* It is indeed a life changing moment when they look in the eyes of these special athletes who have severe disabilities but hearts of gold – and the children are there because of the "Family of Rotary" – soon they embrace the true meaning of Service Above Self.

Rotary offers extraordinary programs for families: Youth Exchange, Interact, Rotaract and RYLA – in addition to the family events and socials that every Rotary club can sponsor.

There are spontaneous things, too: a recent example in my club was when club members rallied around our longtime member, Keith, who was forced to sell his beautiful acreage because his wife was not well and they were moving to a care facility. Club members bought T-shirts and volunteered at the auction – a token of our appreciation of what Keith had meant to our club for many years.

Or the visits that members of my club made to Gary, who was hospitalized for more than six months several years ago. The day he eventually returned to a Rotary meeting – in a wheelchair – the members stood and applauded when he entered the room! Gary died six years ago and his widow joined the club and paid it forward back in February when she made an Arch Klumpf Society level commitment to The Rotary Foundation! I'm not making this up either!

## Focus on the well

What Rotary offers families is unparalleled anywhere else. We need to make Rotary membership more compelling and start focusing more on our customers. We need to start telling our members how they can help themselves by joining Rotary – and at the same time we need to express the stories of service that I've heard at this District Conference – and a line will form at our door.

Mike McQueen, in his book, "Australian Outback," tells about

the problem the settlers had keeping their cattle together on large tracts of 12,000 square miles. The traditional methods of building a fence wouldn't work. It was expensive and the fence was only as good as its weakest link. But weather and geography gave them the answer: They dug a watering hole. They never needed to build a fence. The animals had a reason to stay on the farm.

Our Rotary clubs need to forget the fence and focus on the well. Make it deep and rich and put good food around it so our members stay. They don't want to leave. They need us. They need our sustenance.

Once we have articulated THAT, it's obvious that we are offering more than \$100 bills. Most people think we are a service organization that has members. Yes, we do service, but service doesn't define us. We need to realize that we are a membership organization that does service.

We need to recognize the values that brought us together. To realize the first value of our organization was for members. When we can start to express to non-Rotarians why they need Rotary more than we need them, those lines will begin to change.

Ralph Waldo Emerson once said, "It is one of the most beautiful compensations of life that no person can sincerely try to help another without helping themselves."

Our organization is ready for change. Clubs need to set this new direction of our organization. We need to stop thinking that we need to RECRUIT, and start realizing we need to ATTRACT.

We need to recognize who we serve and begin to serve them. And then we will truly Light Up Rotary. Thank you and God bless.



These big, beautifully carved pumpkins were auctioned with the proceeds for PolioPlus at the District 6690 Conference.

# Book Fest a big hit at Des Moines Library

**By Kitte Noble/Des Moines**

Club Executive Secretary

Nearly 150 Des Moines youngsters were given a crash course on how to make a book as part of the fourth annual Hands-On Book Fest in November.

Sponsored by the Rotary Club of Des Moines in partnership with the Central Library, the event has become a beloved right-of-passage for area fifth-graders. Students from McKinley and Capitol View Elementary schools spent the day learning all about books. Forty-four volunteers from area businesses, most with the Rotary Club of Des Moines, plus staff members from the Des Moines Public Library helped to make the event a success.

Students learned about writing from award-winning Iowa author Jacqueline Briggs Martin and enjoyed illustrations by Tim Read. They turned pulp into paper with assistance from graduate students at the University of Iowa Center for the Book. They also learned about different kinds of ink and made bookmarks on a printing press.

The Iowa Center for the Book and the State Library of the Blind hosted a display on the history of books that included a copy of the Rosetta stone, scrolls and other ancient



Volunteers from the Rotary Club of Des Moines and staff members of the Des Moines Public Library taught fifth-graders how to make a book. Provided by Kitte Noble

artifacts, plus modern books including audio and e-books. Making paper is always a highlight for the students, as well as writing their names in Braille, learning to write a book, and attempting to illustrate a book.

As the students arrived, one of them exclaimed, "Rotary, you gave us our coats!"

Little did the students know, their coats were furnished by Rotary Club of Des Moines AM. To them, it's just Rotary.

With the unveiling of the Rotary Riverwalk Park last week (also spearheaded by DMAM in cooperation with ten area clubs), it was a big week for Rotary!

## Interact: A growing program in District 6000

**By Nancy Pacha/Iowa City AM**

District 6000 Interact Chair

Interact is a Rotary high school-age organization that is catching fire in District 6000. There are presently 13 Interact clubs in our district. Last January the Des Moines AM Rotary Club sponsored the new Des Moines Roosevelt Interact Club and currently the West Liberty Rotary Club is helping to establish Interact in their community. Other clubs are showing interest in making Interact a reality in their towns and cities. Why not? There is nothing to lose and everything to gain.

Interactors are full of enthusiasm, cre-

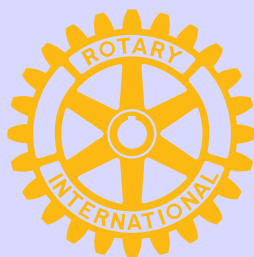
ativity and energy to carry out all manner of projects. They volunteer in elementary schools, at local food pantries, and in retirement homes. They fundraise for Habitat for Humanity, Dance Marathon, and for international projects. Many participate in RYLA and the Xicotepec mission trip each year. Others go on after high school to become involved in Rotaract clubs at universities and colleges in the country. Interactors are Rotarians in the making.

Any community can benefit from a cadre of high school students who want to improve their neighborhoods, their towns and their

world through acts of volunteerism, and any young person can benefit from the satisfaction his or her personal other-centered outreach brings. Interact is a blueprint for a winning experience for everyone – for young people, for society and for Rotary.

Could your community profit from an Interact club? The answer is a resounding YES! Is there support and assistance in the district to help you establish an Interact Club? Again, the answer is YES! Contact Nancy Pacha at [npacha@aol.com](mailto:npacha@aol.com) to begin the process. The District Interact Committee is here to help guide you.

# Rotary



- ✓ **Unite Leaders**
- ✓ **Exchange Ideas**
- ✓ **Take Action**



# 2013 GSE team from Chile, revisited

## ■ Galena Rotarian, arranging for VTT, connects with D6000

*Editor's note: Rotarian Carter Newton is a native Iowan and graduate of Grinnell College who is publisher of the Galena, Ill. Gazette. He has been a GSE team leader from District 6420 to England, hosted numerous Rotary Youth Exchange students, and arranged for two Rotary Foundation Vocational Training Teams. During his recent trip to Chile, where his club has projects and his district is planning a VTT, he had the small world experience of meeting Rotarians who were involved with District 6000's 2013 GSE team from Chile. This is his account:*

**By Carter Newton/Galena, Ill.**

District 6420 VTT Chair

It's a small, small world ...

Quickly, just three weeks in advance, I was planning a trip to Chile. The purpose of this trip was to visit Rotary colleagues in Combarbala, a small town which is a 250-mile bus ride north of Santiago. Over the past nine years, my Rotary club, the Rotary Club of Galena, has worked with Combarbala Rotarians on a number of projects including public restrooms in their town square as a celebration of Rotary's centennial, providing unused firefighter turnout gear for their volunteer firefighters; and contributed money to assist Combarbala schools.

But that is in the past. My eye, this time, was on something bigger.

One of my Rotary roles is serving as chair of the District 6420 (northwest Illinois) Vocational Training Team Committee (VTT). This June, District 6420 will be sending a bilingual team of six teachers to Combarbala to help their English language teachers build new and stronger skill sets in the teaching of English so their students are better prepared to take national tests and have better educational and career opportunities. In this small, rural and poor community with many social problems, knowing English is seen as a ticket for a better future.

Through these past nine years, I've learned that I get more work done when I



Carter Newton (r) exchanges banners with Chile Rotarian Roberta Silva, who arranged the GSE with District 6000 in 2013.

can interact with my Combarbala colleagues face to face rather than rely on emails. With enough airline points to fly there and back, the decision seemed like a "no brainer" as the saying goes.

It was!

And here, my District 6000 colleagues, is where the "small, small world" bit comes into play.

I knew that I would be in Santiago for a couple of days to recuperate from jet lag and enjoy Chile's capital city. I looked for a Rotary meeting to attend and sent a short note to a Roberta Silva, president of the Rotary Club of Huelen, which met at the Hotel Militar, a relatively short subway ride from my hotel. Roberto wrote back and I joined his club for their 8:30 p.m. meeting – 8:30 meeting meant that's when the pisco sour (pisco is a distilled grape spirit) followed by dinner and then the meeting.

It turns out that Roberto and I have some shared Rotary experiences. We've both served as GSE team leaders. He traveled

to Canada and I traveled to England. We've both been district GSE chairs.

It just so happens that Roberto chaired the District 4340 GSE program for its exchange with District 6000. In attendance that evening was a young man, an English teacher, David Gonzalez, who was part of the GSE team to Iowa.

Through the years, I've spent much time within District 6000: College at Grinnell College, a tennis tournament in Ottumwa, basketball in Oskaloosa, Iowa Newspaper Association meetings in Des Moines and jobs in West Burlington and Mediapolis, football games at the University of Iowa and medical appointments at University Hospitals, and various meanderings through Wilton, Mount Pleasant, Washington, Wapello, Keokuk, Fort Madison, Muscatine and others. Oh....and I can't forget attending a couple of North Scott Rotary Club meetings at the invitation of my colleague Bill Tubbs.

It never surprises me how people are connected. It's over 5,000 miles from my home in Galena to Santiago and here, through Rotary, I find someone with whom I have something in common.

And there was one other little surprise: Roberta Silva came up with one of the most intriguing Rotary public image projects earlier this year. District 4340 is one of the largest Rotary district in the world. That's because it includes the southern part of Chile, as well as Easter Island, which is 2,336 miles from Santiago.

Roberto came up with the idea of promoting Rotary's polio eradication campaign on Easter Island by projecting the "End Polio Now" message on a few of the moai, the large stone statues that are so famous. Rotary International provided a public image grant for this project. Rotary dignitaries, Rotarians and exchange students flew to East Island for the public image event. The pictures, included with this note tell the story and have been published in the Rotary world all around the world. It's a great example of the creative spirit.



The GSE team from Chile at D6000 Conference, 2013.



"End Polio Now" on the moai stone statues in Chile.



# RV Fellowship gathers at Dubuque

By Sue Rasmussen/Waukee

One of 66 Rotary Fellowships is the Rotarians for Recreational Vehicle Fellowship. The Central Zone Fall RV Rally was held in the Dubuque area Sept. 24-28. Wagon Masters Dick and Sue Rasmussen of Waukee and Terry and Peggy Geiger of Decatur County welcomed 11 rigs to the Rustic Barn Campground and RV Park in Kieler, Wis.

The first event of the rally on Wednesday evening was a 2½-hour cruise on the Mississippi River, with a prime rib dinner aboard the paddleboat "Spirit of Dubuque" (owned by Dubuque Rotarian Walt Webster). On Thursday we went to the National Mississippi River Museum and Aquarium and learned the history of the Mississippi River and enjoyed observing some of the fish and wildlife that call the river home. Thursday evening's dinner was at Breitbach's Country Dining Restaurant, which is a historic restaurant established in 1852, overlooking the beautiful Mississippi River Valley. Friday we attended the Rotary Club of Bellevue meeting where Sue Rasmussen presented a program on Rotary Fellowships in general, the RV Fellowship, and the Australian RV Fellowship Tag-a-Long.

Rotarian Bill Hainstock, lockmaster of the nearby Mississippi River Lock and Dam No. 12, gave us a tour following the meeting. We were able to learn about the locks as a boat passed through, then we walked across the work space above the dam while the lockmaster explained the operation of the dam's floodgates. We were also surprised to be met at the lock by Rotarian Jeremy Putman in his tug boat, who explained his tug operations and his business of providing provisions to other boats passing through the locks. We then made our way to Brush Creek Winery for a wine tasting before returning to the campground. Saturday was a free day. Several toured historic Galena, Ill., the home of Ulysses S. Grant prior to the Civil War, and a delightful town for shopping and visiting. Others visited a local lead mine or other area museums.

Saturday evening's potluck dinner was an enjoyable time of conversation and great food. Wagon Masters Terry and Peggy Geiger served Sunday morning's break-away breakfast as a delightful end to our rally. If you have an interest of joining a Rotary Fellowship, please contact Dick or Sue Rasmussen, or Terry or Peggy Geiger. All four serve on the Rotary Fellowship District Team.



Wagon Masters Dick and Sue Rasmussen and Peggy and Terry Geiger on the "Lock and Dam" tour.



RVers attending the rally in Dubuque were from Iowa, Nebraska, Illinois, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, Connecticut, and Florida. A great group!



Pictured at the Rotary Club of Bellevue meeting were (l-r): Sue and Dick Rasmussen of Waukee, Barry and Linda Nudd of Bellevue, and Peggy and Terry Geiger from the Rotary Club of Decatur County. Bellevue Rotarians were our gracious hosts for the afternoon's activities.

Provided by Peggy Geiger



# Wide variety of Fellowships is available

**By PDG Terry Geiger/Decatur County**

District 6000 Fellowships Co-chair

Rotary Fellowships began informally in 1928 when Rotarians with a shared interest in the international language Esperanto joined together. In 1947, a group of Rotarian boating enthusiasts began flying the Rotary flag from their crafts, calling themselves the International Yachting Fellowship of Rotarians. The scope of fellowships has changed significantly over the years, but their purpose remains the same: to unite Rotarians in friendship and provide opportunities to enjoy favorite recreational activities, hobbies, sports, vocation, and most recently Rotary history and culture.

Sixty-four different Fellowships are currently available (see below). If your recreational or vocational interest isn't represented in the list above, contact RI staff at [rotaryfellowships@rotary.org](mailto:rotaryfellowships@rotary.org) to

learn how you can start a Rotary Fellowship. All groups are subject to approval by the Rotary International Board of Directors.

*And why join a Rotary fellowship? Here are some of the benefits.*

- Opportunities for Rotarians to make lasting friendships outside of one's own club, district and country.
- Contribute to the advancement of world understanding and peace.
- Serve as an incentive for attracting new members and for retaining existing members.
- Further vocational development through acquaintance with others of the same profession.
- Explore new opportunities for service

**FELLOWSHIPS/continued on ???**

## ROTARY FELLOWSHIPS

Interested in a particular subject? Visit the group's website to learn more.

<b>Amateur Radio</b>	<a href="http://www.ifroar.org">www.ifroar.org</a>	<b>Jazz</b>	<a href="http://www.rotaryjazz.com">www.rotaryjazz.com</a>
<b>Antique Automobiles</b>	<a href="http://www.achafr.eu">www.achafr.eu</a>	<b>Latin Culture</b>	<a href="http://www.rotarioslatinos.org">www.rotarioslatinos.org</a>
<b>Authors and Writers</b>	<a href="http://www.authorsandwritersrif.org">www.authorsandwritersrif.org</a>	<b>Lawyers</b>	<a href="http://www.rotarianlawyersfellowship.org">www.rotarianlawyersfellowship.org</a>
<b>Beer</b>	<a href="mailto:rotarymartin@comcast.net">rotarymartin@comcast.net</a>	<b>Magicians</b>	<a href="http://www.rotarianmagician.org">www.rotarianmagician.org</a>
<b>Bird Watching</b>	<a href="http://www.ifbr.org">www.ifbr.org</a>	<b>Magna Graecia</b>	<a href="http://www.fellowshipmagnagraecia.org">www.fellowshipmagnagraecia.org</a>
<b>Bowling</b>	<a href="mailto:fratev@noviz.com">fratev@noviz.com</a>	<b>Marathon Running</b>	<a href="http://www.rotarianrun.org">www.rotarianrun.org</a>
<b>Canoeing</b>	<a href="http://sites.google.com/site/canoeingrotarians">http://sites.google.com/site/canoeingrotarians</a>	<b>Motorcycling</b>	<a href="http://www.ifmr.org">www.ifmr.org</a>
<b>Caravanning</b>	<a href="http://www.rotarianscaravanning.org.uk">www.rotarianscaravanning.org.uk</a>	<b>Music</b>	<a href="http://www.ifrm.org">www.ifrm.org</a>
<b>Carneval Parades and Festivals</b>	<a href="http://www.ifcpf.org">www.ifcpf.org</a>	<b>Old and Rare Books</b>	<a href="http://www.rotaryoldbooks.org">www.rotaryoldbooks.org</a>
<b>Chess</b>	<a href="http://www3.sympatico.ca/brian.clark">www3.sympatico.ca/brian.clark</a>	<b>Past District Governors</b>	<a href="http://www.pdgsfellowship.org">www.pdgsfellowship.org</a>
<b>Computer Users</b>	<a href="mailto:jkalassery@gmail.com">jkalassery@gmail.com</a>	<b>Photographers</b>	<a href="http://www.ifrp.info">www.ifrp.info</a>
<b>Cooking</b>	<a href="http://www.rotariangourmet.com">www.rotariangourmet.com</a>	<b>Police and Law Enforcement</b>	<a href="http://www.polepfr.org">www.polepfr.org</a>
<b>Convention Goers</b>	<a href="http://www.conventiongoers.org">www.conventiongoers.org</a>	<b>Pre-Columbian Civilizations</b>	<a href="mailto:jaim.jimenez.castro@gmail.com">jaim.jimenez.castro@gmail.com</a>
<b>Cricket</b>	<a href="http://www.rotarycricket.org">www.rotarycricket.org</a>	<b>Quilters and Fiber Artists</b>	<a href="http://www.rotariansquilt.org">www.rotariansquilt.org</a>
<b>Curling</b>	<a href="http://www.curlingrotarians.com">www.curlingrotarians.com</a>	<b>Railroads</b>	<a href="http://www.ifrr.info">www.ifrr.info</a>
<b>Cycling</b>	<a href="http://www.cycling2serve.org">www.cycling2serve.org</a>	<b>Recreational Vehicles</b>	<a href="http://www.rvfweb.org">www.rvfweb.org</a>
<b>Doctors</b>	<a href="http://www.rotariandoctors.org">www.rotariandoctors.org</a>	<b>Rotary Global History</b>	<a href="http://www.rotaryhistoryfellowship.org">www.rotaryhistoryfellowship.org</a>
<b>Doll Lovers</b>	<a href="http://www.rotarydlf.org">www.rotarydlf.org</a>	<b>Rotary Heritage and History</b>	<a href="http://www.rhhif.org">www.rhhif.org</a>
<b>E-Clubs</b>	<a href="http://www.rotarianclubfellowship.wordpress.com">www.rotarianclubfellowship.wordpress.com</a>	<b>Rotary Means Business</b>	<a href="http://www.rotarymeansbusiness.com">www.rotarymeansbusiness.com</a>
<b>Editors and Publishers</b>	<a href="http://www.ifrep.com">www.ifrep.com</a>	<b>Rotary on Stamps</b>	<a href="http://www.rotaryonstamps.org">www.rotaryonstamps.org</a>
<b>Environment</b>	<a href="http://www.envirotarians.org">www.envirotarians.org</a>	<b>Scouting</b>	<a href="http://www.ifsr-net.org">www.ifsr-net.org</a>
<b>Esperanto</b>	<a href="mailto:bonaespero.brasil@gmail.com">bonaespero.brasil@gmail.com</a>	<b>Scuba Diving</b>	<a href="http://www.ifrsd.org">www.ifrsd.org</a>
<b>Fishing</b>	<a href="http://www.facebook.com/groups/InternationalFellowshipofFishingRotarians/">www.facebook.com/groups/InternationalFellowshipofFishingRotarians/</a>	<b>Shooting Sports</b>	<a href="http://www.rotaryclayshoot.com">www.rotaryclayshoot.com</a>
<b>Flying</b>	<a href="http://www.iffr.org">www.iffr.org</a>	<b>Singles</b>	<a href="http://www.rsinternational.net">www.rsinternational.net</a>
<b>Geocaching</b>	<a href="http://www.ifgr.org">www.ifgr.org</a>	<b>Skiing</b>	<a href="http://www.isfrski.org">www.isfrski.org</a>
<b>Go</b>	<a href="http://www.gpfr.jp">www.gpfr.jp</a>	<b>Social Networks</b>	<a href="http://www.rosnf.net">www.rosnf.net</a>
<b>Golf</b>	<a href="http://www.igfr-international.com">www.igfr-international.com</a>	<b>Tennis</b>	<a href="http://www.itfr.org">www.itfr.org</a>
<b>Home Exchange</b>	<a href="mailto:jmensinger@hotmail.com">jmensinger@hotmail.com</a>	<b>Total Quality Management</b>	<a href="http://www.rotarytqm.it">www.rotarytqm.it</a>
<b>Honorary Consuls</b>	<a href="mailto:kappenberger@gmail.com">kappenberger@gmail.com</a>	<b>Travel and Hosting</b>	<a href="http://www.ithf.org">www.ithf.org</a>
<b>Horseback Riding</b>	<a href="mailto:franz.gillieron@highspeed.ch">franz.gillieron@highspeed.ch</a>	<b>Wellness and Fitness</b>	<a href="mailto:kappenberger@gmail.com">kappenberger@gmail.com</a>
<b>Internet</b>	<a href="http://www.roti.org">www.roti.org</a>	<b>Wine</b>	<a href="http://www.rotarywine.net">www.rotarywine.net</a>
<b>Italian Culture</b>	<a href="http://www.icwrf.org">www.icwrf.org</a>	<b>Yachting</b>	<a href="http://www.iyfr.net">www.iyfr.net</a>



### Moldovan cooperative managers

Farm cooperative managers from the east European country of Moldova were guests of North Scott Rotarian Merle Anderson in September. Merle (second from left) provided this photo that was taken aboard the Celebration Belle during a River Cruise. The Moldovans are Boris and Elena Cretu and their daughter, Diana. They were in the Quad Cities for four days and went with the Andersons to the Twin-Cities for another three days. Since 2001, Anderson has made 10 trips to Moldova as a Rotary Volunteer teaching principals of cooperative management.

## Large global grant gets OK for water system in Tanzania!

By Mary Wells/Ames

Club Grant Coordinator

In October 2014 a Rotary Humanitarian Grant was approved to establish an operational water supply and delivery system for Kigogo Sub-Village in Tanzania. Currently the village of 1,500 residents has no local source of water or electricity.

In the next year, the deep well and delivery system will be built; electricity brought to the village; villagers and the village water committee will be educated to ensure water sustainability; and impact assessments will be done on a timetable to determine if the lives of the villagers have improved through access to clean, safe water.

A consortium of ten U.S. Rotary clubs and third-party donors united with the Rotary Club of Same, Tanzania (host club) for this cause. In District 6000 the clubs are: Rotary Club of Ames, Rotary Club of Ames Morning, Rotary Club of Des Moines, Rotary Club of Grinnell, Rotary Club of Indianola, Rotary Club of Newton and Rotary Club of Pella. There are three clubs outside District 6000 as well: Rotary Club of Webster City, Iowa (District 5970), Rotary Club of Hudson, Wisc. (District 5960) and Rotary Club of South Pasadena, Calif. (District 5300). Third party donors were Hy-Vee, Inc. and Rewerts Well Drilling. Several Rotarians of District 6000 gave personal donations.

The Rotary Club of Same, Tanzania is deeply grateful. This will be an exciting time for Rotarians in the United States and Tanzania.

### FELLOWSHIPS/continued from p. 31

PDG Don and Doris Goering of Ames belong to the Skiing Fellowship and here is what PDG Don has to say about it:

"Many Rotarians and their families of all ages and abilities enjoy skiing worldwide. Rotarians who are members of the International Skiing Fellowship of Rotarians (ISFR) enjoy the challenge of skiing or snowboarding down a mountain and the fellowship that goes with a week together whether it is in the United States, Canada or in Europe. ISFR was founded in 1974. The North American unit skis somewhere in the United States or Canada mid-winter every year. In 2014, the North American group will be skiing at Big Sky, Montana, Jan. 31-Feb. 7, while the group will be visiting Whistler/Blackcomb, British Columbia, and Canada in February 2016, and Jackson Hole, Wyoming, in February 2017. The European group will be skiing Saas Fee, Switzerland, March 7-15, 2015."

"In the mid-1990s, the Davis Boyd Memorial Foundation, a 501c(3), was established (in memory of Davis Boyd (one of the co-founders of ISFR) to further expand the reach of the ISFR. The focus of the Foundation is to raise funds for adaptive ski programs. During the ski week, various fundraisers (Peak-to-Valley Challenges with sponsor support and member-sponsored auctions to name just two) are held to raise money, a portion of which is donated to the local adaptive ski program.

"What better and more enjoyable avenue to build new friendships and international understanding than to join your fellow Rotarians and sharpen your skills on the slopes of the world or see the world on cross-country skis! Not only will your physical fitness improve, but with a closer understanding of Rotary ideals your spirit will be enriched as well."

If you are interested in a club presentation on Rotary Fellowships, please contact PDG Terry Geiger at [tgeiger@grm.net](mailto:tgeiger@grm.net). Or AG Sue Rasmussen at [rasmussencpa@mchsi.com](mailto:rasmussencpa@mchsi.com) and either of us would be glad to come and talk to your club about Rotary fellowships.

## 7TH ANNUAL ROTARY POLIO PLUS NIGHT WITH THE IOWA ENERGY

**WHO:** Rotarians, Family, & Friends Are Invited to Attend

**WHAT:** Iowa Energy vs. the Fort Wayne Mad Ants  
At Wells Fargo Arena

**PROMOS:** \$2 Beer Night!  
Halftime Performance by the  
Amazing Sladekl

**WHEN:** Saturday, February 7th

**GAME:** 7:00 PM

**TICKETS:** \$16 Per Ticket w/ \$8 Per Ticket Donated Back  
For Polio Eradication

OVER \$55,000 RAISED TO DATE & 100,000 VACCINATIONS!



**FOR TICKETS PLEASE CONTACT:**

**YOUR POLIO PLUS COMMITTEE MEMBER!**


**QUESTIONS? EMAIL ED ARNOLD AT:**

[EDARNOLD1945@GMAIL.COM](mailto:EDARNOLD1945@GMAIL.COM)

**IOWANBA.COM**

Proud Affiliate  
of the







## Rotary at the North Pole!

PDG Terry and Peggy travelled the Alaskan Highway this past summer in their RV and were able to visit several Rotary clubs along the way. While in Fairbanks, Alaska, they were able to visit the Rotary Club of the North Pole – and yes, there is a Santa Claus! Welcoming them to Rotary was the PDG of District 5010, Alana Bergh, who was District 6000's RI Representative at our District Conference at Ames. The Geigers and Deans enjoyed several days of home hospitality in the Bergh home. At the Rotary club meeting, Alana Bergh is pictured with Stephen and JoAnn Dean, and Peggy and PDG Terry Geiger from Leon, Iowa. The Deans were travelling with Geigers at the time and also attended the Rotary meeting.

Provided by Peggy Geiger



Rotary Club of Decatur County president Sean Saxton (r) and Chris Coffelt (front) load wreaths for the club's successful 25-year fundraising project.

## Christmas wreaths raise funds for Rotary clubs

The Rotary Club of Decatur County is celebrating 25 years of providing quality balsam Christmas wreaths as an annual fundraiser. Two trailer loads of Christmas wreaths adorned with white pine cones and red bows were delivered throughout southern Iowa on Saturday, Nov. 22. The wreaths offer high profit potential for not-for-profit organizations. Along with scouting organizations, school after PROM committees, Technology Student Associations, Students Against Drunk Drivers, Future Farmers Chapters, and Knights of Columbus, our own Rotary clubs participating this year were the Rotary Clubs of Coralville North-Corridor, Mount Pleasant and Pella.

These clubs have taken this opportunity to fund service projects within their own communities. If interested in participating next year, please contact a member of the Rotary Club of Decatur County.



## Assistant Governor's social

District Governor John and Deb Ockenfels (r) hosted a social for assistant district governors Oct. 4 at their home near Swisher. In attendance were, front (l-r): Mary Ellen Stanley, Sue Rasmussen, Carolyn Scharff (administrator); and standing: Steve Wieneke, Vicky Struzyński-Olson, Chris Nelson, DGE Loring Miller, Doug Peterson and Chris Knapp.

Provided by Deb Ockenfels



## \$36,589 for service projects

Rotary Club of North Scott auction co-chair Patrick Olsen (r) presents a check for \$36,589, the club's net proceeds from its Oct. 23 auction, to club president Steve Fahrenkrog. The auction was attended by 230 at the Starlite Ballroom and included live and silent auctions, a TV raffle, "Grab for Grub" restaurant gift certificates, a "Cork & Keg" wine raffle, pie auctions and donations by members. Photo by Bill Tubbs



# Bettendorf bids farewell to the Fortune Garden

## ■ Club's home for 56 years razed

By Fred Anderson and Harry Coin/Bettendorf

The Rotary Club of Bettendorf was chartered on May 22, 1957, which must have been a Monday, because the first mention of El Rancho Villa – the original name of the eatery at 2211 Kimberly Road – appeared in the minutes of the May 24, 1957, charter meeting. At that meeting, the chairman pro-tem was Charles Munson, who introduced the initial slate of officers: President-elect Robert Owen, V.P. Ken Horstmann and secretary-treasurer Larry Nelson. By the Sept. 11, 1957, meeting, Nelson had left and Chuck Mooney said he'd finish his term, which he did... and then some. Chuck's "term" stretched on to June 26, 2013.

For all of those years, and beyond, the Bettendorf Rotary Club met on Wednesday noon at El Rancho, with an occasional "field trip" elsewhere. Besides service to Bettendorf and the Quad-City community, the club took on a long series of international service projects, often with a water theme: drinking-water purification in

emerging nations, bridges over canyons with raging rivers, latrines to improve sanitation in Central American villages.

Ironically, the only major interruption in the club's history at that restaurant was caused by water. Specifically, on June 20, 1990, Duck Creek – which usually meandered peacefully a few dozen yards away – flooded, twice within three weeks, inundating



Bettendorf Rotarian Will Doland removes some exchange banners from a wall in the club's former meeting room

the restaurant nearly to its rafters. The club lost its meeting place and everything in it.

During the months the building was being refurbished, Bettendorf Rotary camped out at Asbury United Methodist Church, Jumer's Castle Lodge and the Riverview Inn.

After rebuilding, the restaurant on Kimberly Road (although legally still El Rancho Villa) emerged to do business as The Fortune Garden with a Chinese menu – and a buffet for Bettendorf Rotary.

After the flood, the club acquired new Rotary banners, member name badges, a bell and a gavel to ring it at the start of each meeting. A venerable upright piano appeared in the room. BRC is a singing Rotary – but that piano's tones always evoked the saloon scene from a Western movie. The club's own Bernie Vogel coaxed real music out of that tinny old thing well into his retirement – playing it all "by ear." He was abetted by song leader Tom Howard, the club's first under-age-30 recruit and 1969-70 president, who still tells members which page to turn to in the songbooks. He describes his current accompanists as "two special ladies," Ruth Symmons and



The iconic front door of the Fortune Garden, in a building which was home to Bettendorf Rotary for more than a half century. The building was razed in September and the club currently "roaming."  
Provided by Fred Anderson

Gail Baldwin, who "play for us because they love what they hear at the meetings: the fun and the philanthropy."

In April of 2011, the club remodeled the meeting room, replacing a huge wall hanging of Chinese bridges with a display of exchange banners from clubs around the world where members have made-up. Members Connie Mangler and Amber Castro chose the color scheme. That year's president, Jeff Hassel, thanked the many volunteers who wielded paint brushes.

With little warning, in September 2014 Bettendorf Rotary Club's world changed forever. The month began with the Labor Day Run with Carl to fund scholarships. We went to Palmer Hills for our annual Golf Outing on the 10th – and James and Ying Mu, our longtime hosts at The Fortune Garden, sold the restaurant. The old piano was donated to a Bettendorf elementary school, members removed all of the Rotary materials from the building, and it was demolished.

Since then we've been wandering – although not exactly in the wilderness – but, still, wandering: The Davenport Country Club for the remainder of September, The Fountains in October, Bettendorf Public Library in November and Tanglewood Pavilion in December. We will find a new meeting home.

Meanwhile, we'll continue to serve our community – with grants to community nonprofits, scholarships to grads, dictionaries to 4th graders and, soon, a new pure-drinking-water project for a village in Haiti. Yet another water project...



Removing Bettendorf Rotary materials from The Fortune Garden were (l-r): Will Doland, Johanna Smith, Sharon Sarver, Decker Ploehn, Tom Howard and Ryan Bell.



# Atlantic: Record auction; Veterans Appreciation

By Dolly Bergmann/Atlantic

The Rotary Club of Atlantic held its 32nd annual auction on Nov. 22 at the Cass County Community Center. The evening started with dinner and wine and the opportunity to check the live and silent auction items.

There were many unique items again available for the guests to bid on. The Silent Auction included such items as handmade jewelry, handmade quilts, sunglasses, Bud Beer basket, Disney Collector Lithograph, and much more. The live auction again had some new and unusual items along with many repeat items.



Rotarian John Lund with the handcrafted Hawkeye sculpture made by local artisan Arnie Jirsa.

There were five major trips (two condos in Colorado, Magnolia Hotel, Okoboji and Destin, Florida) that brought a total of \$6,900. Three corn and soybean packages and a field spraying package totaled \$8,900. Dinners including a Murder Mystery, a T-Bone Trail Dinner, BBQ dinner party, Hoe Down and steak dinner brought \$4,175. Other major items included a Coca-Cola vending machine for \$1,000, landscaping gift certificate for \$850 and the use of a sky box at an Iowa Cubs game for \$1,075.

The total raised for the evening was \$48,530, the second highest ever. The only higher amount was 2012's \$53,860.

Dolly Bergmann, chairperson of the Auction Committee, said the proceeds again exceeded her expectations. "I am so proud to be from Atlantic. The businesses and individuals that make the donations are so generous along with the generosity of the bidders," she said. "We couldn't do this without them."

The raffle proceeds will be around \$7,350. Raffle proceeds are earmarked for different projects each year – this year the proceeds will go to the Nishna Valley Trails group to be used in the construction of the Troublesome Creek Connector Recreational Trail between Schildberg Quarry and the Atlantic Municipal Utilities well-head site.

The auction committee is already starting on plans for 2015. Mark your calendars for Saturday, Nov. 21, 2015.

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**Veterans Appreciation:** The Rotary Club of Atlantic held its annual Veterans Appreciation Event on Nov. 4. Rotarian Rick Burns, a veteran himself, found another great speaker for the event. Rick introduced Hala Saraf by saying in previous programs he had a 2-star and a 3-star general speak and wasn't sure he could find a 4-star general to continue the lineup. But, he said "If rank were applied to those who were doing the most good, I think we have a 4-star general in Hala Saraf."

Hala Saraf, an Iraqi humanitarian, spoke about her work in support of those in greatest need in Baghdad, Iraq. She founded the nonprofit Iraq Health Aid Organization (IHAO). Hala is seeking out and providing aid to those in greatest need. There are millions



The specially designed Coca-Cola vending machine – check the ag theme.

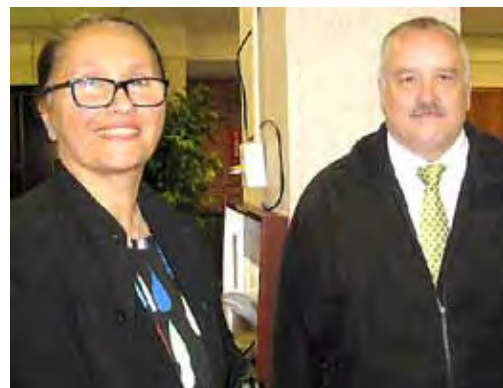


Lynn Hockenberry checks over the Longaberger wine and cheese basket she purchased which contained all the items she needed for a picnic including the wine and cheese.

of Iraqis who have become displaced since the Islamic State of Iraq began occupying northern Iraq. Many of those displaced are women and children. The IHAO under Hala's direction is engaging young medical and other professionals in providing humanitarian support to the many people flooding into Baghdad.

Saraf told the veterans she had never gotten to sit with a group of veterans like those present at the Rotary's luncheon, noting most of the veterans she met in her country were far younger than America's "Great Generation." ISIS she said, was "not dangerous because of their weapons, but because of the way they think." She told the Rotarians of all the work she is doing in Iraq to help those in need.

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Veterans Appreciation event speaker Hala Saraf and Rotarian Rick Burns.

**Dictionaries:** The Rotary Club of Atlantic presented dictionaries to the Atlantic fourth graders on Oct. 27. Rotarians Duane Acker, Holly Smith, Kate Olson, Dolly Bergmann and Christina Bateman completed the project. Dictionaries were also delivered to the 4th graders in Exira (Exira-Elk Horn Kimballton School District), Walnut, Anita and Massena (CAM School District) and Lewis and Elliott (Griswold School District).

With the completion of the project, over 250 dictionaries were delivered. The dictionary given to the students is designed for the fourth-graders. The dictionary includes the "basic" information but also includes information about the Presidents of the United States, the sign language alphabet, the Braille alphabet and much more.



## How many PDGs in one club????

PDG John Dasher and Linda, formerly of Ames (second from left, and center) were officially welcomed as members of the Rotary Club of Iowa on Sept. 11. They are welcomed by PDGs (l-r) Herb Wilson, Gary Pacha and Ray Muston. "We will soon know if one club can accommodate four PDGs," wrote photographer Linda Muston.



## Major Donors at West Liberty

Deepak and Amrita Giri of West Liberty became Major Donors Level 1, because of their accumulated giving of over \$10,000 to The Rotary Foundation. Deepak Giri joined the Paul Harris Society as soon as he became a Rotarian. A member of the Paul Harris Society gives at least \$1,000 annually. Deepak is one of six members of the Rotary Club of West Liberty in the Paul Harris Society. In addition, Deepak and Amrita gave \$2000 to the water distribution matching grant in Nepal last year. Congratulations Deepak and Amrita! The Giris are pictured at left with West Liberty Rotarian Bill Koellner, who is Rotary Foundation fundraising chair for District 6000, and club president Wayne Steen.

Photo by Steve Hanson, provided by Ethan Anderson



## Roadside cleanup in Waukee

On Sunday, Oct. 19, Waukee Rotarians performed roadside clean-up on Ashworth Road in Waukee, from Maple Grove Church to LA Grant Parkway. Volunteers included Rotarians Lee and Roberta Holmes and Joyce Wheeler.

Provided by Mark Heffernan



## Student Dictionaries at Ottumwa

Ottumwa Rotarian Nancy Harms explained the Student Dictionaries to a 3rd-grade class in the Ottumwa schools. The Rotary Club of Ottumwa has donated a dictionary to every 3rd-grade student in the Ottumwa Public School District the last 10 years.

Provided by Dustin Stewart

## The Object of Rotary

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

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

SECOND: High ethical standards in business and pro-

fessions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;

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

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





Mr and Mrs. Bill LaGrange greet trick-or-treaters collecting donations for Rotary's End Polio campaign.

## Trick-or-Treat for polio at Ames

On Oct. 31, the Ames public elementary schools (Edwards, Fellows, Meeker, Mitchell and Sawyer) participated in Trick or Treat to End Polio.

The money turned in by students totaled \$135.11. Additional community members who heard pre-event publicity turned their contributions in to the club since children trick or treating at their homes didn't have collection boxes. Total raised was \$205.11.

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation will match those funds 2:1, so the net impact was \$615.33, which will support vaccinations for 675 children. — Carole Custer



The Rotary Club of Albia netted \$ 3,886 from its hog roast this fall. The proceeds will go towards scholarships for students within Monroe County. Rotarians Tony Humeston, Kevin Kness and Dave Paxon served.

Provided by Tony Humeston



Rotary Club of Bettendorf president Sharon Sarver with veterans at a special meeting of the club on Nov. 12 at Ridgecrest Retirement Village in Davenport.

## Veterans thanked at special meeting

By Glenn Kass/Bettendorf

Club Publicity Chair

It was the ultimate recognition of Service Above Self as the Rotary Club of Bettendorf held a special meeting on Nov. 12 at Ridgecrest Village in Davenport.

The location was important as it serves as the workplace for Bob Morrison, the Hub Director for Honor Flight of the Quad Cities. He provided a presentation on the 30 flights to Washington, DC, that have been

conducted thus far and introduced us to the many veterans that call Ridgecrest home.

However, the highlight was the club's opportunity to honor veterans from Ridgecrest as well as fellow Rotarians who served our country. Each honoree was presented with a certificate of appreciation for their service.

In addition, club members volunteered to create thank you cards and provide sweet baked treats for the vets. The meeting was a true highlight for everyone involved.

## New member honor

Rotary Club of North Scott 2013-14 president Steve Suiter (r) presented the William F. Tubbs Honor Rotarian Award to new member Christine Garrow. Christine, a children's librarian, actively headed the club's youth literacy programs, including Student Dictionary distribution, reading to students in area elementary schools, and coordinating the club's District Grant for a summer reading program at the Scott County Library. The award has been presented since 2003 to recognize an outstanding new member.



Leaders in Zones 28-29 met at the Rotary Institute Sept. 11-14 at LaCrosse, Wis. Representatives of District 6000 included (l-r): trainer John Schultz (Iowa City), DGN Chris and Vernetta Knapp (Iowa City AM), PDG Jacque and Jim Andrew (Jefferson), DGE Loring and Phyllis Miller (Decatur County), PDG Bill and Linda Tubbs (North Scott), PDG Jim and Diana Patton (Ames), PDG Corliss and Jeanne Klaassen (Chariton), PDG Don and Becky Patterson (Washington), PDG Gary and Colleen Welch (Ankeny) and DG John and Deb Ockenfels (Iowa City AM).



# News Briefs

**RI Convention:** Dec. 15 is the deadline to get the early-bird discount when registering for the June 6-9, 2015, RI Convention in São Paulo, Brazil. For those attending, the District 6000 Breakfast will be Sunday, June 7, from 7-8:30 a.m. at the Mercure São Paulo Funchal Hotel #3. Watch for details. Information: Verne Knappe, (319) 338-0909; email: knappe1@mchsi.net. Register for the convention online at [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org).

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**Youth Exchange:** Watch for information about upcoming Youth Exchange events: the District 6000 Winter Retreat will be Jan. 17-18 at the Christian Conference Center near Newton. On March 7-8, the students will come together again at the Steeplegate Inn in Davenport, hosted by the Rotary Club of North Scott. Information: AG Doug Peterson, (563) 210-9072; email: [louanddoug@mediacommbb.net](mailto:louanddoug@mediacommbb.net).

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**Nominations:** A second call for nominations for District Governor 2017-18 was sent to clubs after the initial Oct. 1 deadline. Committee chair PDG Susan Herrick said nominations have been received, and interviews will be scheduled in the new year.

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**Review:** The CPA review of District 6000 finances for Rotary year 2013-14 has been completed by Corwin, Reichter & Company, P.C. of West Des Moines. On Oct. 14, the executive committee voted to accept the recommendation of DG 2013-14 Jacquie Andrew to distribute the unspent contingency fund balance of \$10,598 as follows: two thirds for clubs who need and request assistance with cover registration and lodging to send PEs to attend PETS; and the remaining one third for clubs who request assistance with club visioning and officer succession planning, with funds used for the travel expenses of the facilitator(s).

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**Semi-Annual Reports:** Club secretaries should watch for a new club invoice that's coming in January. The invoice will arrive ready to be paid, according to RI General Secretary John Hewko, so he says please be sure your member lists are current in RI's database by Jan. 1. No adjustments will be made. Instead of receiving a packet, secretaries will receive a one-page invoice clearly stating what you owe. You no longer need to calculate your invoice. In fact, you will not be able to make adjustments after receiving your invoice. Keeping your records current at Rotary Club Central is the key!



## Herky the Hawk goes Rotary!

Herky the Hawk got a crown with the Rotary logo for this picture from the PDG Holiday Party Nov. 9 at the University of Iowa Athletic Hall of Fame in Iowa City. In attendance were Chris and Verne Knappe, Terry and Peggy Geiger, Loring and Phyllis Miller, Jacquie and Jim Andrew, Cal and Rachel Litwiller, Gary and Colleen Welch, John and Deb Ockenfels, Gary and Nancy Pacha, Corliss and Jeanne Klaassen, Dale and Mary Belknap, Diana Reed and Rick Rarick, Del and Georgia Bluhm, Don and Doris Goering, Ray and Linda Muston, Ken and Jo Noble, and Bill and Linda Tubbs.

Photo by Bill Tubbs

**Xicotepec:** Project coordinators Jim Peterson and Tom Narak said that applications for the 75-member team that will go to Xicotepec, Mexico, from March 14-22, 2015, closed on Nov. 21. A team has been selected, including 39 U of Iowa students and faculty, 17 Interactors, Rotarians and family members. Rotarians from District 6000 went to Xicotepec in the fall and looked at project possibilities for the 13th annual mission.

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**PETS:** PDG Jacquie Andrew is District 6000's representative on the NC PETS executive committee. In 2017, she will be

the general chair of the four-district training event. PETS will be in Rochester, Minn., in 2015 and 2016.

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**Calculators:** District 6000 FAMSCO is in receipt of approximately 80,000 small hand-held solar-powered calculators from an anonymous donor that are perfectly good and are available for clubs to donate to schools or students. They can be donated but not sold. They are in storage at the FAMSCO warehouse in Coralville. If interested, contact Bill Burress: (563) 391-5110 or (563) 579-3082; email: [bill@seiffertlumber.com](mailto:bill@seiffertlumber.com).



PDG Jacquie Andrew will chair NC PETS in 2017. Here, she presented a Rotary moment about membership at the Zone Institute.

Photos by Bill Tubbs



During their busy schedule when they were visiting clubs, DG John Ockenfels and Deb take a moment of respite on a park bench in Leon. Photo by Peggy Geiger





District 6000 First Lady Deb Ockenfels was in the Halloween spirit on Oct. 31 at District Governor John's official visit to the Rotary Club of North Scott.

Photo by Bill Tubbs



District 6000 has been traditionally known for great leadership, and who better than Dolly Parton aka Phyllis and Tonto aka DGE Loring Miller, decked out for Halloween. Photo by Peggy Geiger

## Found ... at [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)

The image at right of District 6000 PDG Cal and Rachel Litwiller of Mount Pleasant was seen on the Rotary International website, [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org), promoting programs of The Rotary Foundation. Cal is District Rotary Foundation Chair for District 6000. Congratulations, Litwillers!



### CLUB ATTENDANCE PERCENT AND RANK

CLUB	JULY 2014		AUGUST 2014		SEPTEMBER 2014	
	Percent	Rank	Percent	Rank	Percent	Rank
Adel	59.00%	30	62.00%	24	62.00%	25
Albia	51.60%	47	46.00%	48		
Ames	60.65%	26	53.18%	39	64.87%	23
Ames Morning	54.30%	43	59.30%	29		
Ankeny	80.63%	9	80.12%	9	76.47%	12
Atlantic						
Bettendorf	59.40%	29	57.80%	32	54.20%	35
Bloomfield	66.00%	19	57.00%	33	64.00%	24
Boone	58.00%	34	61.00%	26	65.00%	22
Burlington	83.60%	6	85.20%	7	91.90%	3
Carroll	58.06%	33	64.29%	20	46.88%	47
Centerville	43.00%	50	47.00%	46	47.00%	46
Chariton	63.38%	23	61.37%	25	61.11%	27
Clinton	54.83%	42	52.77%	41	42.16%	49
Coon Rapids					62.00%	25
Coralville-North Corridor	100.00%	1	100.00%	1	100.00%	1
Corning	67.00%	18	63.00%	21		
Corydon	35.00%	53	36.00%	51		
Creston	42.00%	51	45.00%	49	47.00%	46
Dallas Center	75.00%	12	69.00%	14	65.00%	22
Davenport	59.49%	28	53.19%	38	55.07%	34
Decatur County	80.00%	10	80.00%	10	77.00%	10
Des Moines	55.00%	41	53.15%	40	58.95%	30
Des Moines A.M.	78.00%	11	57.00%	33	56.00%	33
East Polk County	52.97%	45	58.78%	31	53.21%	37
Fairfield	34.84%	54	37.62%	50	40.23%	50
Fort Madison	59.00%	30	62.00%	24	62.00%	25
Greater Des Moines	53.00%	44	61.00%	26	53.00%	38
Grinnell	71.00%	14	78.00%	11	79.00%	8
Indianola	67.62%	17	62.50%	23	56.69%	32
Iowa City	28.17%	55	33.61%	52	35.75%	51
Iowa City A.M.	83.69%	5	85.38%	6	88.62%	5
Iowa City Downtown	81.58%	8	85.53%	5	78.95%	9
Iowa Quad-Cities	70.81%	15	68.24%	15	61.18%	26
Jefferson	56.00%	37	57.00%	33		
Johnston	65.15%	20	67.79%	16	50.00%	43
Kalona	61.42%	25	65.41%	18	69.70%	13
Keokuk	58.88%	31	51.12%	43	52.34%	40
Keosauqua	47.40%	49	56.60%	35	58.90%	31
Knoxville	55.08%	39	59.02%	30	52.63%	39
Lenox	82.00%	7	77.00%	12	73.00%	15
Manning	71.00%	14	81.00%	8	81.00%	7
Marengo	75.00%	12	65.00%	19		
Marshalltown	55.02%	40	51.89%	42	50.84%	42
Mount Pleasant Noon	57.35%	35	53.94%	36	53.64%	36
Mt. Pleasant	85.00%	4			86.00%	6
Muscatine	41.37%	52	46.49%	47	46.38%	48
Nevada	58.15%	32			65.22%	21
Newton					67.00%	20
North Scott			90.97%	2	92.56%	2
Northwest Des Moines	70.49%	16	71.23%	13	69.57%	19
Osceola	65.00%	21	60.00%	27	50.00%	43
Oskaloosa	61.60%	24	62.80%	22	73.30%	14
Ottumwa	52.09%	46	49.20%	44	70.56%	17
Pella	75.00%	12	78.00%	11	74.00%	13
Perry	56.00%	37	63.00%	21	51.00%	41
Tipton	49.70%	48	48.30%	45	47.40%	45
Washington	71.81%	13	59.31%	28	74.00%	13
Waukee	63.73%	22	65.68%	17	76.89%	11
Wellman	85.26%	3	90.79%	3	89.47%	4
West Des Moines	57.01%	36	53.88%	37	60.31%	28
West Liberty	60.00%	27	60.00%	27	60.00%	29
West Polk County	55.15%	38	56.74%	34	47.74%	44
Winterset	91.00%	2	89.00%	4	71.00%	16

## ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

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



## ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

Gary Huang, Taiwan RC

## DISTRICT 6000 • Iowa USA

[www.rotary6000.org](http://www.rotary6000.org)

## DISTRICT GOVERNOR

John Ockenfels

1370 Deerwoods Drive NE, Swisher, IA 52338  
(319) 848-9036 (h); (319) 321-4601 (c)  
[Johnockenfels@hotmail.com](mailto:Johnockenfels@hotmail.com)

## DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR

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

## ASSISTANT GOVERNORS

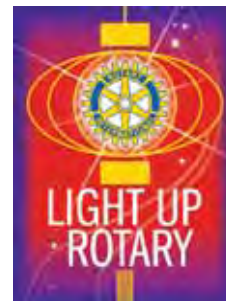
PDG Jacque Andrew, Jefferson (team leader)  
Gary Anderson, Knoxville  
Gerald Clausen, Carroll  
Tony Conn, Keokuk  
Steve Dakin, Boone  
Tim Ennis, Corning  
Chris Knapp, Iowa City AM  
Chris Nelson, Waukee  
Doug Peterson, Iowa Quad Cities  
Sue Rasmussen, Waukee  
Bill Reece, Ottumwa  
Mike Ruby, Muscatine  
Mary Ellen Stanley, Decatur County  
Vicki Struzynski-Olson, Coralville-North Corridor  
Norm VanKlompensburg, Newton  
Steve Wieneke, Johnson

## 'DISTRICT 6000 NEWS' EDITOR

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

*District 6000 News* is published four times a year, in September, December, March and June, as a supplement to monthly electronic communications. District 6000 News is mailed to District 6000 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](http://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 John Ockenfels . . .*

- Secretaries submit your **2015-16 officers** to RI and District Administrator Carolyn Scharff (both, please) by Dec. 31.

- Register your 2015-16 club presidents to attend **Multi-District P.E.T.S.** March 12-14 at Rochester, Minn. (p.3).

- Nominate a worthy member for the **Paul E. Hellwege Guardian of Integrity Award** (p. 3).

- Implement Rotary's **new program to recognize members** who propose and induct new members (p. 11).

- Check your club's progress toward your **Rotary Foundation Annual Programs Fund** goal and make plans to meet or exceed it (p. 14). If you have not submitted a goal, **DO IT NOW!**

- Arrange for one or more members to attend a **Grant Management Seminar** (p. 5).

- Identify student(s) for 2015 **Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA)** (p.23).

- Plan **Membership Development** strategies and **engage new members** in meaningful service (p. 24-27).

- Encourage members to create a personal **My Rotary Account** and use **Rotary Club Central** to record your goals and plans.

- Create awareness and raise funds for the **Global Campaign to Eradicate Polio** (p. 6-7, 24).

- Promote **attendance** and report your **attendance** monthly to District Administrator Carolyn Scharff (p. 39).

- Watch for information about the new **Rotary Leadership Institute** and opportunities for your members (p. 6).

- Schedule a club program to learn how your club can promote the **Ponseti Method** (p. 9).

- Tell your members about the benefits of The Rotary Foundation's **Donor Advised Fund** (p. 15).

- Explore how an **Interact Club** would benefit your community (p. 28).

- Discuss opportunities of **Rotary Fellowships** with your members (p. 30-32).

- **Submit news** of your activities by Feb. 28 for the next issue of *District 6000 News* to PDG Bill Tubbs at [btubbs@northscottpress.com](mailto:btubbs@northscottpress.com), and **Light Up Rotary!**

## The Four-Way Test

*(of the things we Think, Say or Do)*

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