

District 6000 News

Rotary International, District 6000, Iowa USA

Susan Herrick, Governor

– A Global Network of Community Volunteers –

September/October/November 2008-09



One of the exciting developments in District 6000 was the Dec. 3 first meeting for the provisional Greater Des Moines Rotary Club of Emerging Leaders – with 43 potential new Rotarians, mostly under 40. Read about it on pages 2 and 13.

Governor's comments . . .

When you've seen one Rotary club . . . you've seen **ONE** Rotary club!

By DG Susan Herrick/Boone

When you've seen one Rotary club . . .

You've seen ONE Rotary club.



Susan Herrick
District Governor

This was the observation of myself and my district governor classmates at the Zone Institute in Sandusky, Ohio.

Each Rotary club is unique. They all follow the same tenets of Rotary International, but with a little different pathway to get to their destination.

As of Nov. 18, Bob and I had visited all 62 clubs of Rotary District 6000. What an adventure this has been!

Unlike several of my DG classmates, we never arrived in a town to discover that either the club wasn't meeting that day, wasn't expecting us or had scheduled another speaker. Every club was ready for us and welcomed us into their fellowship – *and fed us very well!* I kept remarking that I didn't want to be the *big* governor – I just wanted to be governor.

I owe a great debt to our Assistant District Governors, Dale Belknap as AG Coordinator, and Carolyn Scharff, our district administrator, for their efforts in keeping all of District 6000's presidents and their clubs prepared for the Governor's Visit. As a result

of that preparedness, every club illustrated the best of their projects, their fundraisers and their club fellowship.

Fundraising and service: We were fascinated to learn how many different fundraising projects there are each year in District 6000. Rotarians feed their communities pancakes, sweet corn, barbecue chicken, barbecue beef, roasted hog, steak, soup, omelets, chili and lobster.

We read to children, we read with children, we present thousands of third- and fourth-graders with dictionaries, we gather clothing for the needy, we give thousands of dollars in scholarships, we park cars, we paint houses, we clean up after disasters hit our neighbors, we buy DVD's for Veterans, we sponsor Rotaract, Interact and RotaKids clubs, we buy books for the families of newborns, we sponsor marathons, we took eleven communities out to the ballpark, we hold a poker tournament, we hold multiple auctions, we sell Christmas wreaths, we provide bicycle helmets, we sponsor dental and eye clinics, we write letters to graduating high school seniors urging them to celebrate their proms and graduation with care, we plant trees, we provide birthday parties, we provide pajamas for women in domestic violence shelters, we help

GOVERNOR'S COMMENTS/
continued on p. 2

Rotarians truly do Make Dreams Real

GOVERNOR/continued from p. 1

with multiple community celebrations, we dig wells, we travel to Xicotepec, Mexico, and to Nigeria, we provide polio vaccine, we recognize community leaders from teachers to firefighters and emergency medical technicians, we run golf tournaments, we supply libraries here and in other countries, we hold essay contests, we teach eighth-grade students interview skills, we help build self esteem in students at poverty level, we provide medical supplies, wheelchairs, and medical equipment to areas in need, we participate in blood drives, we throw harvest parties for underprivileged youth, we provide Chimney Swift Towers and Osprey habitat, and....WHEW!

Are you starting to get the picture? While we are sharing food and fellowship with our fellow Rotarians, we are improving our communities and our world. We in District 6000 truly do MAKE DREAMS REAL!!

New Rotary Club! When Rotary International President D.K. Lee challenged every Rotary district in the world to charter two new Rotary clubs during this Rotary year, many of us in training to be district governors thought even one club might be too great a challenge in the United States, as we have been forming Rotary clubs in this country since 1905.

However, I am delighted to report that due to the persistence of many District 6000 Rotarians under the leadership of Bill Koellner, District Extension Chair, in January 2009, the Greater Des Moines Rotary Club of Emerging Leaders will have an official meeting place, mailing address and will have selected provisional officers. The unofficial board has already met and adopted the RI Constitution and by-laws. With that act I was able to declare the new club as a provisional club. In addition, James Damato, RI supervisor of staff for administrative affairs in North America, has selected longtime RI staffer Charlene Sobczak as the coordinator for all actions between RI, District 6000, and the new club.

At the organizational meeting for the new club they had 55 interested members – these are all new Rotarians! Most of those Rotarians are young professionals between the ages of 25 and 40.

It is my hope that all of our District 6000 Rotary Clubs will take note that there are many young professionals in our communities who are just waiting to be invited into the service of Rotary. I encourage you to work with these new young professionals to find ways to make Rotary appealing and affordable for this group of potential members.

Zone Institute: We started September with a trip to Sandusky, Ohio, for the Zone 27-28 Institute where DGE Cal and Rachel Litwiller, DGN Gary and Colleen Welch, District Trainer Rita Perea, and Bob and I trained with our designated groups, to be joined later in the week by other District 6000 past district governors.

We all had the opportunity to meet Rotary International President-Elect John Kenny and his wife, June, and took advantage of the chance to learn more about our roles in Rotary as well as share training time and fun with our fellow classmates.

District 6000 PDG Diana Reed served as trainer for the District Governors Nominee and has been invited back next year for the Zone 28-29 Institute in Minneapolis, Minn. We learned more about our Rotary Foundation and its move into Future Vision. We heard about many service opportunities in Nigeria. We learned more about the Polio Challenge, membership, literacy, and water projects.

And just for fun they held the Amazing Rotary Safari Team Challenge. Our District 6000 Team (The Barking Spiders) consisted of PDG Bill Tubbs, DG Susan Herrick, DGN Gary Welch, DG spouse Bob Herrick, and DGE spouse Rachel Litwiller. The Team Challenge consisted of seven parts, all related to Rotary projects and themes, ranging from carrying baskets on our heads and filling water filters to administering “polio drops.” You will be proud to know that your District 6000 team persevered and *won* the \$200 prize for the Team Challenge! We brought those funds back to D6000 with us, and they will be devoted to a worthy purpose here in the District.



District Governor Susan Herrick (above) fires up the D6000 team for the Amazing Rotary Safari Team Challenge at Zone Institute in Sandusky, Ohio. Team members (l-r) DGN Gary Welch, Rachel Litwiller, Gov. Herrick, Bob Herrick and PDG Bill Tubbs, won first and \$200 for District 6000 among the 25 districts in Zones 27-28. Competition included events like the basket relay (below, left), the gummy worm-eating challenge (below, right), the monkey toss, knowledge of Rotary themes, and more.



Relief for floods, tornado

GOVERNOR/continued from p. 2

Congratulations! To our new District 6000 leaders! We in District 6000 have always known that we have some of the most talented leaders in the Rotary world. Well, Rotary International has discovered that, too!

After years of valuable service to The Rotary Foundation in District 6000, PDG Don Goering has been asked to fill the position of Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator. Those of you who have been active on the district level know that position has most recently been held by Mary Beth Growney Selene.

Equally exciting is the fact that PDG Diana Reed has been asked to fill the position of RI Regional Membership Coordinator, the position most recently held by Terry Mueller.

Our sincere congratulations and good wishes go to both of these fine Rotarians in their new roles!

* * *

Disaster Relief: May and June were difficult months for the state of Iowa. PDG Diana Reed established a District Humanitarian & Educational Foundation through our 501(c)3 entity with FAMSCO to respond to the tornado destruction suffered by Parkersburg, Iowa.

Shortly thereafter, the flooding in Iowa necessitated using this same fund to collect monies for those areas devastated by flooding. I appointed PDG Roger Borup of the Rotary Club of Wellman to chair the Disaster Relief Advisory Committee to determine how the monies collected for disaster relief will be distributed to do the most good for the greatest number of people.

Currently we have distributed \$18,010.50 to the Rotary Club of Parkersburg in District 5970. They have advised us that they will add those monies to their \$500,000 project to replace playground equipment that was destroyed in their city park. They have already raised \$460,000 for that project.

Individual donations designated to specific areas have been distributed as follows: \$100 to Ottumwa, \$1,000 to Rochester, Iowa, and \$1,000 to Cedar Rapids.

The remainder of the Flood Relief donations in the amount of \$40,735.75, and any further donations, will be distributed via a Rotary Community Service Flood Disaster Relief Application process that asks Rotary clubs to describe a project, its location, and how it was damaged by weather. That project will address the community disaster and improve the lives of that community and should illustrate non-financial participation by Rotarians in the disaster-related project. Rotarians are also being encouraged to involve cooperating agencies within the effected community. The Disaster Relief Advisory Committee is hoping to fund one or two projects that will affect a broad number of community residents.

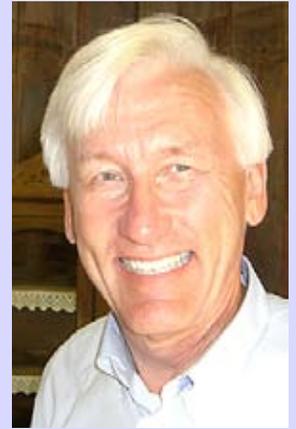
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World Travels: There have been and will be opportunities for District 6000 Rotarians to work on and see first hand projects being done to improve the lives of people throughout the world. In November, DGE Cal Litwiller and Rachel, DGN Gary Welch, and Osceola club president Dr. Julia Jenkins travelled to Kano and Kaduna in Nigeria to view and work on humanitarian projects.

On May 8-19, DG Susan Herrick and possibly other District 6000 Rotarians will travel to Abuja, Akure and Ibadan in Nigeria to combine National Immunization Days with project visitation.

GOVERNOR/continued on p. 4

Plan service, membership, PR campaigns for February



Mark Osmundson

Rotary clubs are urged to plan membership development campaigns, service projects and PR programs during February with a special focus on Feb. 23, which is Rotary's 104th birthday.

Club activities will be supported with a media blitz of Rotary's "Humanity in Motion" ads on Iowa radio and TV stations during February. With the support of Rotary International Public Relations Grants for District 6000 (southern Iowa) and District 5970 (northern Iowa), Rotary will partner with the Iowa Broadcasters' Association.

Through IBA's Non-Commercial Sustaining Announcements Program, broadcasters will run the ads a minimum of four times free for every paid spot. The arrangement was facilitated by District 6000 PR Committee member Mark Osmundson, a broadcaster who is a member of the Rotary Club of Marshalltown.

PDG Bill Tubbs, who is the North America Coordinator for the RI Public Image Resource Group, reminds clubs that they can supplement the district program with multi-media messages in the "Humanity in Motion" CD/DVD sets I, II, III and IV that were sent to clubs annually since 2005, and "Humanity in Motion V" that will be sent to clubs in January. Additional resources are available at:

100 Ways to Celebrate Rotary Day

(www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en_pdf/rg07_pr_100ways.pdf)

Rotary Day Proclamation

(www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en_doc/rg07_pr_proclamation2007.doc)

Celebrate Rotary Day Poster

(www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en_pdf/pr_rotary_day_18x24.pdf)



Representing D6000 at a night of international dress and cuisine at the Institute at Kalahari, Ohio were (l-r): Rick Rarick and PDG Diana Reed (NW Des Moines), PDG Corliss Klaassen and Jeanne (Chariton), DGE Cal Litwiller and Rachel (Mt. Pleasant), DGN Gary Welch and Colleen (Ankeny), PDG Bill Tubbs (North Scott), and DG Susan Herrick and Bob (Boone).

Enactments proposed for Council on Legislation

GOVERNOR/continued from p. 2

* * *

March 7-15 and March 14-22, two Xicotepec Project Team trips will be in Mexico working on our ongoing partnership with the Rotarians of Xicotepec, Mexico.

Council on Legislation: Every three years Rotary International's Council on Legislation meets to debate and vote on legislation submitted by clubs, districts, and the RI Board. The Council has the authority to amend RI's constitutional documents, as well as adopt resolutions. Every district sends a representative to the meeting and every club and district may propose legislation.

District 6000's elected representative to the 2010 Council on Legislation is PDG Don Goering. During November the clubs of District 6000 have been considering two resolutions and two enactments for submission to the Council on Legislation. The two Resolutions were sent for consideration from another district in Rotary and the two enactments were submitted by the Rotary Club of Decatur County.

The two resolutions have to do with Climate Change and Community Energy Independence, and the enactments regard the RotaKids clubs and Rotary Legacy Memberships. These resolutions and enactments have been forwarded to District 6000 Rotarians for a yes or no vote on the enactments and a declaration of support or nonsupport for the resolutions.

The proposed action on the resolutions and enactments will result in any endorsement being forwarded to Rotary International by Dec. 31. After that date the legal department of Rotary International will examine and prepare all submitted legislation for action by the 2010 Council on Legislation.

* * *

District Conference: Take a peek at the plans for the 2009 District Conference, "Dreams Made Real: A Celebration. Our 63 clubs sharing successes," April 23-25 at the new Courtyard by Marriott in Ankeny.

Mark your calendars to join us for an exciting Rotary District Conference that will give us a chance to share our successes and strategies for Making Dreams Real this Rotary year.

April 23 will be our annual golf outing. The golf outing begins at the TCI Golf Course in Polk City with an 11:00 shotgun start, and the day concludes back at the Conference Hotel for a 6:30 buffet dinner and 8:30 afterglow. The golf outing is not a part of the official District Conference but the Rotarians of District 6000 have enjoyed this golf tournament since 1999.

On Friday, April 24, conference registration starts at 9:00 a.m. and the opening session begins at 10:00. The District Rotary meeting will take place from 11:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. and will feature the traditional Rotary Youth Exchange flag ceremony, the music of the KingNTrio – four Rotarians from Grand Junction, Colorado, who will be with us for the entire conference, and the highlight of that luncheon will be our speaker, Past Rotary International President Frank Devlyn.

PRIP Frank is the most published and most quoted author in the Rotary world, author of "Frank Talk," "Frank Talk II," and "Frank Talks About Our Rotary Foundation." Those of us who have heard Frank speak will tell you that he is a dynamic speaker and an enthusiastic Rotarian. Everyone who attends that Rotary meeting will receive one of his books, courtesy of Prairie Meadows Racetrack and Casino, whose President/CEO is East Polk Rotarian Gary Palmer. And we'll all be proud to say that we are Rotarians.

Every Rotary club will be given the opportunity either on Friday afternoon or Saturday afternoon to participate in collaborative conversations that share their knowledge and expertise on their

GOVERNOR/continued on p. 5

Xperience Xico!

- ... without traveling to MeXico!
- ... Xplore the possibilities!
- ... Xuberance awaits you!
- ... an Xtraordinary opportunity to help!
- ... no Xotic travel required!
- ... Xcruciatingly satisfying!
- ... no Xcursion necessary!
- ... join the Xcitement!
- ... and be an Xceptional



Rotarian!

- ... Xaltation guaranteed!
- ... an Xemplary Rotary project!

You are invited to Xtend your reach and Xpress your love for others with a gift to Xperience Xico between now and the District Conference in April 2009.

Since 2003, more than 400 Rotarians, family members, youth, and university students from across Iowa and around the world have traveled to Xicotepec, Puebla, MeXico, to work on Rotary projects there. Results of their Xico Xperiences include:

- improved school facilities and updated learning materials;
- clean drinking water, improved sanitation, treatment for intestinal parasites;
- affordable health eXams and dental care for needy residents of the region;
- emergency response equipment at the Red Cross station;
- a safe and caring environment at Casa Hogar Victoria Orphanage;
- international friendships.

To Xpand the ongoing mission shared with our Xtra special Rotary partners and their community, please buy a share of Xperience Xico:

- Education: \$5 will buy school supplies for three children.
- Health Care: \$10 provides de-worming medication for 50 children.
- Recreation: \$20 provides 4 soccer balls or 4 pairs of shoes for children.
- Building: \$50 supplies bricks to build one classroom wall.
- Iowa Youth: \$100 supports an Iowa Youth Ambassador's travel.

Scholarship: To participate in on-site service work
Send donations to the District 6000 Humanitarian and Educational Foundation, Inc. Make checks out to District 6000 HEF, with a big X or Xperience Xico on the memo line.

Mail to: Dick Kennedy, treasurer, 1811 N. Dubuque Road, Iowa City, Iowa 52240.

District Conference highlights

GOVERNOR/continued from p. 2

clubs' successes for this Rotary year. Having heard 62 clubs' projects and fundraisers, I can guarantee that every Rotarian will have a chance to bring many new ideas back to their home club.

Friday afternoon will feature a concert by the KingNTrio. Those of us who have heard them in Chicago and the International Conventions in Salt Lake City and Los Angeles can tell you, they will make your foot tap and your heart sing!

Friday evening will feature a home hospitality event that will offer the opportunity for all Rotarians to travel to the homes of local Rotarians for a great evening of fun and fellowship.

Saturday morning, April 25, will begin with a two-hour breakfast event that will feature Foundation updates on the Polio Challenge and disaster relief, awards, and Rotary International Major Gifts Officer Jamie Revord.

Saturday morning and luncheon will celebrate the future of Rotary by spotlighting the Youth of Rotary – Ambassadorial Scholars, Rotaract, Interact, Rotary Youth Exchange and RotaKids. The luncheon speaker will be former RYE Adrian Rusu of Romania who has just completed a year of graduate study in Beijing, China.

After lunch we will meet the Inbound and Outbound Group Study Exchange Teams who will have previously made presentations at the 3470 District Conference in Taiwan.

Saturday afternoon while the Rotarians are once again going to be involved in learning about the successes of their fellow Rotarians, the spouses and partners of the Rotarians will be involved in a Back Track Tour of Prairie Meadows Race Track. It may be tempting for the Rotarians to slip away and see the beautiful horses and track at Prairie Meadows, but we'll hope they stay with us and settle for the pictures and stories their partners bring back!



DG Susan Herrick (c) landed the widely popular KingNTrio from Colorado (all four!) to sing at District Conference.

At 5:30 that evening please join us for the governor's reception, followed at 6:30 by the Fire and Ice Banquet that we hope will dazzle Rotarians and partners alike with beautiful surroundings, great food, and the music of The Bill Martin Group.

For those who start with us at 10 a.m. on Friday and stay until the banquet, we will have a drawing for two Paul Harris Fellows. What a great way to end two days of learning, fun and fellowship for two lucky Rotarians!

By 9:00 p.m. we will have passed the governor's pin on to DGE Cal Litwiller, sung Auld Lang Syne, and we'll head on home.

Now, I know I have left out many other wonderful moments at the conference but I am hoping that I have included enough details to make you to mark your calendars for April 23, 24, and 25 for Ankeny. The rooms at the Courtyard by Marriott are only \$99 a night, and the registration fee that will be announced when we start taking registrations on Feb. 15, 2009, will be so low you can't afford not to come!

Benefits and reasons to belong to Rotary

By Bill Koellner/West Liberty

D-6000, Club Extension and Membership

Rotary membership provides the opportunity to:

- Become connected to your community.
- Work with others in addressing community needs.
- Opportunity to participate in a world class organization at a world class level.
- Interact with other professionals in your community; assist with RI's international humanitarian service efforts.
- Establish contacts with an international network of professionals.
- Develop leadership skills.
- As a new and/or emerging leader in your community, Rotary offers you a number of leadership opportunities in actively leading a major committee.
- No other community group has the depth of programs and content of a Rotary Club.
- Each year, you will learn about your community and the World through our weekly programs. We'll even throw lunch into the bargain.
- Involve family in promoting service efforts.

These reasons barely touch the surface of what you can gain from Rotary and from your local Rotary Club. Why not ask someone to visit? Why not ASK someone to JOIN?



Bill Koellner (r) visits with Ingrid Teboe of Mt. Pleasant at a regional Rotary Foundation/Membership meeting.



The conversion of Idris Modu: Victory in campaign against polio

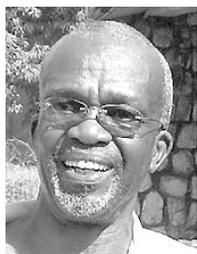
Through November, there were 758 new cases of polio reported in Nigeria, compared to 285 in all of 2007. This amazing story was submitted to us by Busuyi Onabolu, the Nigeria national chair for polio eradication – a man of steely determination whom D6000 Rotarians met in our travels to that country last year. The life and attitudes of Idris Goni Modu, a polio victim who resisted immunizations until his recent conversion, encaptures the frustrations – and hope – of Rotary’s noble struggle.

– Editor

By Busuyi Onabolu

In the northeastern state of Borno, Nigeria, lies the community of Dikwa in the Bama Local Government Area. Bama LGA is one of the five polio-endemic areas of the state. Indeed, the highest number of Type 1 poliovirus cases were from that community.

Idris Goni Modu (male) was born in the Birma Local Government Area of Borno State, Nigeria, about 40 years ago long before the polio eradication initiative campaign kicked off.



Busuyi Onabolu

Idris’s ordeal began when he was less than 3 years old. He suffered a mild fever and at a point of recovery, his two legs became paralyzed. He was taken to several parts of Nigeria and Francophone countries for a remedy, and none was found. The paralysis had come to stay!

Coming from a religious background that strongly believes that every situation is designed and ordained by Allah, and having exhausted energy and resources, his parents gave up hope on him. He was left alone to his fate – deserted by friends and families.

He resorted to begging to keep his body and soul.

Idris is married to two wives – Falmata (30 years) and Yana Isa (20 years) – both polio victims and crippled.

Despite the suffering of the agonizing effect of poliomyelitis of

his two wives and himself, Idris championed a campaign against polio immunization in his environment. He was instrumental to massive OPV rejection in his community where he also served as a “cleric.”

Not long ago, he came across the chairman of the Nigeria National PolioPlus Committee, Busuyi Onabolu, who was in Bama LGA of Borno for the January 2008 IPDs in the company of Prof. Umaru Shehu, the then-acting permanent secretary of the Federal Ministry of Health, Dr. Shehu Sule, and the district head of Dikwa who were in the area monitoring national Immunization-Plus Days.

The NNPPC chair engaged Idris in a general discussion during which he came to say he was almost buried alive as a result of his paralysis. At this point, the NNPPC chair asked him if he would like the same thing to happen to others, to which he replied “Oh, No!”

Continuing the discussion, the chair said to him if people do not know the truth about polio, other people, too, could suffer the same fate and so, Would he like to help by letting others know about his story and the effect of polio, to which he answered Yes! Asking further, would he like to be interviewed for the television – he said Yes.



Idris Goni Modu

During this encounter, Idris was made to understand the importance of polio immunization, and fortunately, his orientation and misconception about the program was changed. He promised to support the program and also granted Rotary International an interview.

According to Idris, “We will tell our people not to reject immunization against polio.”

Idris has nine children – four alive and five dead. His needs are a wheelchair for himself, his two wives, too, both asked for a wheelchair each while Yana, the youngest wife, would like in addition, a sewing machine to give her some economic empowerment.

Idris Goni Modu’s story has since been captured on video, broadcast twice on state television in the north and is currently being edited for digital print.

Don Patterson of Washington nominated for District Governor 2011-12

In October, the District 6000 Nominating Committee interviewed three candidates for District Governor Nominee in 2011-2012. The Committee selected Donald Patterson of the Rotary Club of Washington. Don has been a member of Rotary since 1973, and a member of the Washington club since 2000. He is a native of Pittsburgh, Pa., and he and his wife Rebecca (Becky) moved back to Iowa in 2000 when Don assumed the position of chief executive officer of the Washington County Hospital.

Don has had an interesting and diverse career in the hospital administration field. He started at Muscatine General Hospital in 1969.



Don Patterson

Following that position, Don and Becky followed his chief executive positions in Fairbury, Ill., Louisville, Ky., Richmond, Va., St. Albans, Vt., Erie, Pa., New Orleans, La., and Nashville, Tenn.

Don has been active in many professional organizations, including serving as Preceptor at Tulane University Graduate School of Healthcare Administration in New Orleans.

Don’s Rotary career includes being president of the Siloam Springs Rotary Club (Tennessee) in 1999-2000, and the Washington club in 2003-2004. He served three years as District 6000 Assistant Governor in 2005-2008. His pastimes include yard work, and playing euphonium in the Washington Community Band.

We look forward to the leadership of Don and Becky as they lead District 6000 in 2011-2012. – submitted by PDG Dale Belknap

GSE team to represent Iowa in Taiwan

By Karin Franklin

GSE Committee Chair, D6000

The 2009 Group Study Exchange team has jumped right into their orientation and preparation for a trip to Taiwan in our exchange with District 3470 in March and April of 2009.

The team will depart March 1 for Taiwan. The inbound team will arrive April 5 and attend district conference, April 23-25.

The team was selected in October and had their first team meeting on Nov. 16.

The 2009 team will be led by Rotarian Jeff Bremer who was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines. Jeff is the district chair of the Ambassadorial Scholars program and has served as a World Peace Fellowship Subcommittee advisor, on the District Simplified Grants committee, and with the Foundation Alumni.

He is past president of the Rotary Club of Knoxville and served as their Youth Exchange chair. Jeff has some familiarity with Taiwan after spending some time there during his tour of duty with the U.S. Navy.

In his "spare" time, Jeff is responsible for 50 agents with State Farm Insurance. Jeff Anderson of the Boone club has graciously agreed to serve as an "alternate" should anything come up such that Jeff Bremer cannot go on the trip. Alternates are a very important part of the GSE process.



Outbound GSE team members (l-r): Jeff Anderson (alternate team leader), Amy Heinz, Jeff Bremer (team leader), Mollie Ibbotson, John Schultz and Jennifer Smith.

The team is made up of four young professionals who are non-Rotarians.

This year's team includes:

- Amy Heinz, owner of a massage therapy business, from Des Moines;
- John Schultz, owner of a violin studio in Mount Vernon and instructor of violin at the renowned Preucil School of Music in Iowa City;
- Mollie Ibbotson of Des Moines, who is the Outreach Coordinator for the Status of Iowans of Asian and Pacific Islander Heri-

tage, a part of the State of Iowa Department of Human Rights; and

- Jennifer Smith of Ankeny, an account executive with Gateway Insurance Services in Ankeny.

We are very proud of all these Iowans who will take a month away from their usual routines to represent Iowa, the United States and Rotary in Taiwan and have an experience of a lifetime through this program, which is possible through our support of The Rotary Foundation.

Des Moines Rotarians, pianist in feature film

By Kittle Noble/Des Moines

Club Executive Secretary

Many members of the Rotary Club of Des Moines are seen in the documentary I.O.U.S.A., a feature film that is currently showing in theatres around the U.S.

The footage was taken at the club's July 26, 2007, meeting when David M. Walker, U.S. Comptroller of the Currency, and Robert Bixby, E.D. of the Concord Coalition, spoke to the Rotary Club of Des Moines.

Bob VanderLinden is shown as president (now past president of our club) and Dick Goodson is in a close up shot.

Randall Winters has a cameo appearance at the piano. He has been a member of the Rotary Club of Des Moines for 43 years and has had perfect attendance for those 43 years. He is past president of the club, in 1978-79.

Randall graduated from Drake University magna cum laude with a bachelor of



Randall Winters

arts degree in economics and a master of science degree in administration. He was in the U.S. Army during WW II.

He developed a dairy business in Marshalltown in 1947, and sold it to Borden

Co. while remaining a manager. He later transferred to Des Moines as a regional manager and was appointed vice president of the Borden Company Central Division. He then purchased Flynn Dairy Company and sold it to Prairie Farms Dairy, again serving as general manager and then president. Randall retired in 1988. Randall and his wife, Lyra, have three daughters.

Randall has been playing the piano at the Rotary Club of Des Moines meetings for almost 25 years. He also plays once a week at Iowa Methodist Hospital and will be playing at the Governor's mansion this holiday season.

Randall received the Rotary Lifetime Service Award from the Rotary Club of Des Moines in June of 2008. He was awarded this honor to recognize him for his outstanding service and dedication to our club, Rotary International and the Rotary way of life.

FAMSCO ON A ROLL!

Clubs step up to the plate with high quality shipments

DAVENPORT DID IT!

By Linda Muston/Iowa City

FAMSCO Secretary

DAVENPORT DID IT!

Yes, the Davenport Rotary Club put money and muscle to work for FAMSCO (Fire And Medical Supply Company)! In so doing, they set an example for other clubs throughout District 6000!

Throughout the almost two decades that District 6000 Rotarians have been collecting, storing and shipping fire trucks and surplus medical supplies to Central America, most clubs have participated in FAMSCO's mission in some way.

As the longest established district-wide humanitarian project, FAMSCO has continued to thrive and has been successful in assisting newer District 6000 projects such as MOST and Xicotepéc with their missions to Mexico and Central America. With so many valuable projects in process, FAMSCO needs financial and volunteer support more than ever!

DAVENPORT DID IT!

The club financed a shipment of surplus medical equipment to Guatemala this fall and members helped reorganize the warehouse after the shipment was on its way!

The \$5,468 contribution to defray the shipment costs truly expedited the shipment. In post-9/11 regulation, the costs of processing and shipping humanitarian goods have increased greatly. With a quality inventory in the FAMSCO warehouse ready for shipment, the sponsorship/funding by the Davenport club expedited putting the donated items to work.

FAMSCO board member Brock Earnhardt made his club aware of the need and president Bill Burress and club members participated with the muscle work in the warehouse.

On Thursday, Oct. 30, the Dole banana semi-truck was carefully "crammed" with reclaimed items from the FAMSCO warehouse in Coralville. By now, many of these items are at work in Guatemala – received and distributed at their destination by Rotary partners there!

The Davenport-sponsored load included 323 specific pieces of medical equipment. Just a sampling of that shipment: a portable X-ray unit, a mammogram X-ray system, heart monitors, a dental chair, stainless steel surgical cabinets, a scrub sink, an exam table and large shipping boxes or "Gaylords" full of itemized small items that had been inventoried and itemized at May FAMSCO work days (see photos).

In addition to the Davenport warehouse helpers, there were representatives of the Iowa City clubs as well as Tipton, Wellman and Chariton at the Nov. 1 workday!

There is another load of items inventoried and ready for shipment before the end of 2008! If the total cost of a shipment is too much for one club, a "neighboring" group of clubs is encouraged to take on the project together! Early shipments from FAMSCO cost only \$450 and now the cost is more than ten times as great!

DAVENPORT DID IT and so can your club! If you would like to assist FAMSCO, please contact FAMSCO president Karin Franklin at kaf@xwires.net or any FAMSCO board member.

...SO DID CLINTON!

By Linda Muston/Iowa City

FAMSCO Secretary

...AND SO DID CLINTON!

In addition to the surplus/recycled medical goods shipped to Guatemala through Davenport sponsorship, FAMSCO continues to facilitate its original mission of getting fire trucks to towns in Central America and Mexico.

On Sept. 30, Clinton Rotarians and FAMSCO had the satisfaction of seeing a more-than-two-year process completed as a fire truck and tanker were loaded for shipment to Patzcuaro, Michoacan, in central Mexico.



Thanks to Clinton Rotary, this fire truck from Fulton, Ill., will have a new home in Patzcuaro, Mexico.

The original contact with the Patzcuaro 2000 Rotary Club was made by Iowa City AM Rotarian Susan Murty.

Gary Foster of the Rotary Club of Clinton persevered in order that the central Mexico town the size of Clinton could have some fire protection. The original purchase of a fire truck from Fulton, Ill., was followed by the purchase of a pumper truck with a portable tank. Since there is no water supply or hydrant system in Patzcuaro, the tanker was necessary. In addition, Foster, the Clinton fire chief, Mark Regenwether, who is also a Rotarian, and two fire-



This high-quality X-ray machine is one of 323 pieces of medical equipment that were organized and shipped by the Rotary Club of Davenport.

continued on next page

men went to Mexico to assist with a week of training to assure that the equipment can be used successfully and for the dedication of the trucks.

Working with FAMSCO, the Clinton club got a matching grant from Rotary International to help fund the project. (See story at right and below – how it all came together.)

...AND SO DID KEOKUK!

By Linda Muston/Iowa City

FAMSCO Secretary

....AND SO DID KEOKUK!

Down river in Keokuk early this year, Rotarians took possession of a 30-year-old fire truck no longer capable of serving the needs of the community. With Mayor Dave Gudgel, a Rotarian, and 2007-2008 club president Mary Ellen Pfeifer working with the fire chief, Mark Wessel, they secured a 1977 American LaFrance pumper for FAMSCO when it was replaced in February and their city council approved.

On Nov. 20, FAMSCO board members Dick Kennedy and Gary Pacha met the Keokuk Rotarians at the Keokuk fire station and took responsibility for the truck. FAMSCO board members and others are working to find an appropriate, worthy recipient in Mexico or Central America and to get the funding necessary to get the truck into humanitarian service as quickly as possible.

Keokuk's action under the leadership of Mary Ellen Pfeifer and Dave Gudgel serves as a great example of "who" is FAMSCO. Every Rotarian in District 6000 is potentially a part of FAMSCO. The Keokuk Rotarians' collaboration with the city at the time of the truck's retirement is a perfect example of how each Rotarian can be part of FAMSCO's long term mission and how each club can participate in its own unique way!

Following Keokuk's example, is there a used vehicle in your community that could be recycled to a needy country through FAMSCO?



Keokuk Rotary's 2007-08 president Mary Ellen Pfeifer (plaid coat) and Mayor Dave Gudgel hand the title to the fire truck to PDG Gary Pacha (sweater), as Keokuk Rotarians and city officials look on with pride.



Clinton Rotarian Gary Foster (front, center) with grateful residents of Patzcuaro, Mexico.

'You have our affection and gratitude'

Here is an excerpt from a letter of thanks Gary received:

"...on behalf of my club and my community I want to thank your club and all of you for the great benefit you have brought; I want you to send the information on your club – name, district number, club number so that the trucks can be marked so that all of Patzcuaro learns who benefitted us with these units; Jim to you and to Susan – I think you have been an important part of this project, without your help it would have been difficult to achieve, I think you are true Rotarians. Also, our city and our club opens our doors to you and we would like you to visit us and to get to know each other in person if there is an opportunity. Also let us hope we can continue to work together; you have our affection and gratitude."

Clinton's story: How we did it!

By Gary Foster/Clinton

Club World Community Service Committee chair

On Sept. 30, 2008, the Clinton Rotary Club loaded a 1983 Chevy fire truck and a 1983 Ford water tanker packed full of fire equipment and clothing on two flat-bed semi trailers destined for Patzcuaro, Mexico. Here is the story:

In May of 2006 the Clinton Rotary learned the Fulton, Ill., Fire Department was purchasing a new fire truck. They needed to sell their 1983 Chevy fire truck that was in mint condition.

The Clinton Rotary Club learned that Patzcuaro, Mexico, a town our size located in the center of Mexico, was in need of fire equipment. They are without any municipal water system, thus no fire hydrants. We had purchased the fire truck from the Fulton Fire Department and we were lucky enough to locate an '83 Ford water tanker (purchased from Eastern Iowa Propane Ltd.) to serve the fire truck.

Rotary District 6000 has FAMSCO (Fire and Medical Supply Company) headquartered in Iowa City with the sole purpose of shipping used fire, ambulance, medical and school equipment to underdeveloped countries by partnering local Rotary clubs with a Rotary club in an underdeveloped country (Mexico).

In District 6000 each club can add five dollars per member to their district dues for FAMSCO. FAMSCO and Rotary District 6000 through The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International matched our local Rotary monies.

Therefore, the local Clinton club needed

CLINTON

continued on next page

Donate old eyeglasses to poor in Honduras

By Dean Harms/Ames Morning

D-6000, Leader

When we do medical work in Honduras we work under the auspices of Centro Cristiano Servicios Humanitarios de Honduras (CCSHH). All patients who need any surgery or further intervention are sent to the clinic in El Progreso, where I used to do surgery. They now have two ophthalmologists working there.

Dole Fruit Company has their Honduras headquarters in El Porvenir and they let us use their facilities for a screening clinic as well as provide transportation to and from the clinic in Progreso for our patients, a two-hour trip one way. The screening, surgery and transportation are all done at minimal or no cost to the Hondurans.

When we go to Honduras our supplies are all labeled as donated property of CCSHH. This includes surgical supplies, medication samples and any glasses. Mary and I take our limit of four suitcases for the two of us, three are for donated supplies and one is for our personal stuff.

All incoming suitcases and boxes of supplies are x-rayed by the Customs Department as we leave the airport in San Pedro Sula. They opened one box the first time we came in 2002, and never have questioned anything since. In fact, last year the agent said, "Are you going to that eye clinic in El Progreso?" When I said

"Yes", he replied, "Welcome, and thanks for coming to help us."

Dole also supplies free shipping for items for our library project in their empty containers on their fruit ships returning from the U.S. They take care of the import paperwork and transport supplies to Porvenir. Since books are heavy, this has been a great help. If we start to encounter problems we'll switch to shipping by Dole instead of carrying things. So far no problems, though.

* * *

Donate your old eye glasses to poor Hondurans

The Ames Morning Rotary Club is doing a matching grant project in conjunction with the Rotary Club of La Ceiba, Honduras to establish a library for the school and the village of El Porvenir, Honduras. They will be sending a delegation to help finish organizing the library in early March 2009. As a service to the community of El Porvenir, they will also be conducting a vision screening clinic and hope to provide free eye glasses for those who can't afford them.

Please consider donating any old glasses to the cause by Feb. 15, 2009. Glasses may be delivered to any Wolfe Eye Clinic office or may be shipped to: Wolfe Eye Clinic, 2020 Philadelphia St., Ames, IA 50010, c/o Dean Harms, M.D. For further information please contact: deanmharm@aol.com.

Clinton Rotary honors Gary Foster for service

CLINTON

continued from previous page

to raise \$12,000 of the project's \$36,575 budget (\$15,659 from The Rotary Foundation and \$10,408 in DDF). FAMSCO set up the trucking assignments from Clinton to Laredo, Texas, and the Patzcuaro Rotary Club set up trucking arrangements from Laredo, Texas, to Patzcuaro, Mexico.

The Clinton Rotary wishes to thank the following local businesses for their work on the fire truck and tanker in order to retrofit them to meet the Palzcuaro, Mexico, needs: Barak's Truck Repair, Tires N More, Lincolnway Welding, Hartz Lock, Mike's Body Shop, Upholstery Unlimited, Determann Industries and Domestic



FAMSCO's Davenport shipment arrives in Mexico.

Plumbing. The Clinton Rotary also wishes to thank the Clinton, Camanche, Preston and Fulton Fire Departments for their donation of dated but still useable fire equipment and clothing.

Clinton Rotary is also indebted to the Clinton Fire Chief (Mark Regenwether, who is Rotary club president, and the two firemen) who plan to take their personal time to spend a week in Patzcuaro, Mexico, teaching the Patzcuaro volunteer firemen how to use this fire fighting system.

The fire truck will be deployed to a fire, the water tanker will draw water out of the closest pond, then discharge the water into a new portable holding tank at the fire site. The fire truck will then draw water out of the portable tank while the water tanker truck goes to get more water (thus assuring continuous water supply to the fire site).

When reflecting on the process, we need to be very thankful for the Clinton Municipal Water Department System and our fire departments. When we have so much fighting in the world today, it is really good to be a part of promoting a helping hand to others less fortunate. Thanks to all the volunteers.



For his work with the firetruck donation, Clinton Rotary honored Gary Foster with the Four Avenues of Service Award.



DGN Cal Litwiller (Mt. Pleasant), Membership co-chair Bill Koellner (West Liberty) and Foundation chair PDG Don Goering (Ames).



Ron Slecta (Kalona), Jon Finney (Keosauqua) and William Shewemaker (Keosauqua) enjoy Rotary fellowship at the Mt. Pleasant Regional Rotary Foundation/Membership meeting.

237 attend Foundation, Membership meetings

Regional Rotary Foundation/Membership meetings were attended by 237 District 6000 Rotarians and guests during September and October at Mt. Pleasant (52), West Liberty (50), Pella (36), Atlantic (30) and West Des Moines (69). Club members heard the latest information, enjoyed friendship and fellowship, and learned from each other during the interactive sessions. In 2007, attendance was 156 at four seminars.



Nancy Harms (Ottumwa) and Mike Fitzpatrick (Mt. Pleasant).



Membership Development chair Mike Ruby (Muscatine) leads a breakout at the Regional Rotary Foundation/Membership meeting at Mt. Pleasant.

2009 calendar to support Rotary Youth Exchange

By Chris Knapp/Iowa City AM
D-6000, Rotary Youth Exchange chair

Your District Youth Exchange Committee is offering every club a great way to support the D6000 Youth Exchange program, a program that has been recognized by its peers as one of the best.

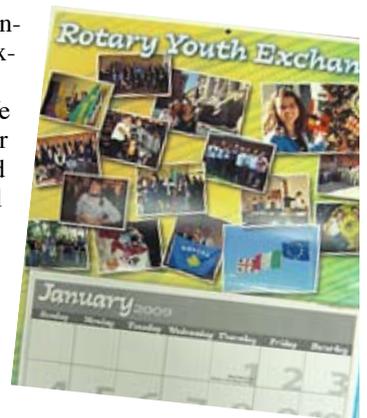
The District 6000 Rotary Youth Exchange 2009 Wall Calendar is now available. This colorful calendar, featuring a pictorial collage of youth exchange students and activities, is a great gift for your club's exchange student(s) and host families. The calendar is an excellent gift to give to your weekly speakers. And, it should be considered a "must" for every Rotary Youth Exchange counselor and club Youth Exchange officer. What better way to keep track of events and dates that are important not only to every inbound and outbound exchange student but to every Rotarian in our district?

The 2009 calendar also provides your club with a great marketing opportunity. Give a calendar to your high school guidance office to help promote Rotary Youth Exchange. The calendar will provide visibility of the program to your high school students. What a great way to promote one of the great ideals and programs

of Rotary: "Peace Through Understanding: Rotary Youth Exchange."

The calendar costs \$5.00. We hope that every club will order 10 or more. The funds raised through the sale of calendars will enhance the required multiple training sessions that students, host families and Rotary counselors must attend. The funds will also provide additional social opportunities for the students and their host families to interact during the school year.

Your club's participation at the \$50 level shows your club support and commitment to the youth of your community and the world. Send orders to: Doug Peterson, 3130 Halcyon Drive, Bettendorf, IA 52722, or e-mail to: louannDoug@mchsi.com.





"It was a good day," when Keokuk Rotarians planted 29 trees on Nov. 9.

Keokuk: Planting with a plan

By Cynthia Bergman/Keokuk

Club Public Relations chair

The Keokuk Rotary Club, along with Konnections Kids, Midwest Academy students, Boy Scouts and the Keokuk Garden Club met at Rand Park in Keokuk on Sunday, Nov. 9 to plant trees. Twenty-nine trees were purchased by the Rotary club with a \$4,350 Trees Forever Alliant Grant.

"Our main goal was to get biodiversity in case there is a blight or a disease that goes through, so we can preserve and beautify the parks," said Mike Pribyl, co-chair of the Rotary Tree program.

Last year Rotary planted oaks and maples. Japanese snowbells with a thick, straight trunk topped with leafless branches full of red berries, delicate looking Japanese maples, a Chinese dogwood placed near the pavilion, a magnolia, balding cypress, paperbark maple, evergreens and other trees now dot the park, as recorded in a master plan developed by Hoffman and Hunter.

"Rather than a shotgun approach, we wanted a master plan, a plan that looks into the future," said Pribyl. "The park board will be able to use the master plan to guide the type and location of future tree planting and memorial trees so we just don't throw trees into the park," Pribyl said.

Clubs change meeting days, venues

Club meeting changes:

- Gary Rees reports that the Decatur County Rotary club noon meetings are now on Thursdays at the Arbor Inn Bed and Breakfast at 107 NW 4th Street in Leon.
- Bob Hardy reports that he Iowa City



Rotarians and youths plant trees in Keokuk.

Rotary member Mike Hickey drove a couple of loads of dirt in a front end loader to people planting trees located in hard-packed clay areas. All the trees were planted by 3 p.m. Afterwards, all the items left were picked up and carried off. "It was a good day," Pribyl said.

In Spring 2009, Rotary will carry out a maintenance plan on its South Seventh Street trees. The trees that are not doing well will be removed and replaced with new stock.

Downtown club meetings are on Tuesdays at the Iowa City Recreation Center in Room B. Meeting time is still at noon.

- Kathy Powell reports that the Rotary Club of Perry began meeting in the re-opened Hotel Pattee on Oct. 1.

Polio: Will your club help meet Gates challenge?

By PDG Don Goering/Ames

D-6000, Rotary Foundation chair

What are your plans to help match the \$100 Million Gates Challenge gift?

District 6000 Rotary clubs have a long ways to go if we are going to fulfill our obligation in meeting the challenge placed in front of us by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Remember that the Gates Foundation has already given The Rotary Foundation \$100 million dollars for polio eradication and we Rotarians have to match that gift by Dec. 31, 2010.

While the trustees have suggested that each Rotary club contribute \$1,000 a year for three years, the District 6000 "Meeting the Gates Challenge Committee" has suggested we ask and expect each Rotarian to be responsible for raising \$15 each year

for this and the next two Rotary years. We Rotarians can do that through working on a club project aimed at raising those dollars or through a personal contribution of \$15 each year. That means our District 6000 goal is \$189,000 (\$1,000 per club x 63 Rotary Clubs X three years = \$189,000).

With one-half of this Rotary year now complete, what plans and programs has your club developed to meet that goal?

I am happy to report that worldwide, The Rotary Foundation has already received \$22 million towards matching that goal and District 6000 Clubs have contributed \$55,196.01.

Congratulations to the Rotary Club of Albia for being the first club in District 6000 to reach and/or exceed the three-year \$45 contribution goal. I sincerely thank the following District 6000 Rotary clubs for reaching and/or exceeding the three year contribution goal: Clinton, Manning, Mount Pleasant (Evening) and Northwest Des Moines.

I urge you, if you have not already developed your plan to develop a "Meeting the Gates Challenge" for your Rotary club. We Rotarians made a promise to the children of the world to eradicate Polio. Will we District 6000 Rotarians help make that promise a reality? With your leadership, we will!



Club Extension: A call to action

With the new Greater Des Moines club, we've only begun

By Bill Koellner/West Liberty

D-6000, Club Extension and Membership

On Dec. 3, several young professionals joined Rita Perea, special representative for Governor Susan Herrick for establishing new clubs, DG Susan Herrick, and PDGs Diana Reed, Bill Tubbs, Corliss Klaassen and Dale Belknap.

Over 60 people attended the event with remarks made by District 6000 leadership. Most impressive were the presentations by Rita Perea and the officers of the new club. The remarks by the young professionals show strong camaraderie and synergy within the group. At the end of the evening, opportunities were available for signing up for membership, and initially 29 membership applications were received and several young professionals indicated they would send their applications to Rita Perea later that week.

It all began on Aug. 2 at Drake University, where Zone 27 leadership shared the direction at RI President D.K. Lee wanted in increased membership and new clubs in each district. At that meeting, Governor Herrick was told by Bill Koellner and Rita Perea, District 6000 Club Extension Committee members, that a new club would be started by District Conference in April 2009.

Rita Perea began meeting with young professionals for coffee and discussing Rotary and service opportunities. On Oct. 22, Koellner and Perea attended a Rotary Club of Des Moines board meeting led by President Dave Kenworthy, where the board voted to approve the sponsorship of the new Greater Des Moines Rotary Club for Emerging Leaders. On Oct. 24, Governor Herrick sent a letter to Rotary International regarding the Emerging Leaders Rotary Club in Greater Des Moines. Included in that letter was an "Organization of New Club Survey," and "New Club Sponsor Form." The letter also appointed Perea as Governor Susan's Special Representative for establishing a new Rotary club in the Greater Des Moines area.

On Nov. 6, the executive committee for the new Greater Des Moines Rotary Club for Emerging Leaders met and adopted the name to be submitted to RI as, "The Greater Des Moines Rotary Club for Emerging Leaders."

They will follow the RI Mission Statement; Four-Way Test and "Service Above Self" motto as they strive in their career growth and professional endeavors. They believe their club will be branded as bolder, fresher and edgier than ex-

isting RI clubs. They will seek to attract thoughtful, interesting, high-energy and high-integrity individuals who are on their way to becoming the new "movers and shakers" of Greater Des Moines.

The executive board adopted the RI Constitution and Recommended Bylaws. They will meet weekly on Wednesday evenings on the mezzanine level of the Blue Moon Restaurant in West Des Moines. Meeting times will be 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. with 5:30 to 6:00 as networking time.

The new officers will be: D6000 Special Representative Rita Perea; DaLena Fellers-Elliott, president-elect; Joseph Jones, vice president; Drew Engebrecht, sergeant at arms/program chair; and Mark Daley, marketing and PR chair.



The first project of the provisional Rotary Club of Greater Des Moines Emerging Leaders was the collection of 35 books and toys for Broadlawns Medical Center (l-r): Joseph Jones (vice president), DaLena Fellers-Elliott (president-elect), Drew Engelbrecht (sergeant-at-arms) and Rita Perea, District 6000 special representative.

On Nov. 7, Governor Herrick announced that the The Greater Des Moines Rotary Club for Emerging Leaders was declared a Provisional Club, with all the rights of other clubs in District 6000, except voting on District issues.

District leadership at the gala event declared the new club as exciting and refreshing, with many energetic young Rotarians in one room, all with the common goal of "Service Above Self," wanting to provide service not only locally, but worldwide. The new club will begin the official meetings on Jan. 7, 2009, with Iowa Democratic Party chairperson Scott Brennan's address.

This is an excerpt from the District 6000 June-July-August newsletter: "We need committed Rotarians to share Rotary

and mentor new members. It's one thing to talk about commitment, but it's another to do it. The Rotary International themes in 2000-01 was 'Create Awareness, Take Action,' in 1973-1974 'A Time for Action,' and in 1983-1984 'Share Rotary - Serve People.'

"The only real measure of commitment is action. Nothing is perhaps easier than saying words. How are we doing when it comes to following through on our commitment to bring new members into Rotary? The total membership numbers in District 6000 as of May 2008 is only an increase of 4 new members from July 1, 2007."

Rotary International data indicates that nearly all membership growth has come from organizing new clubs. Membership in existing clubs worldwide has, in many areas, been stagnant or decreasing. This new club is the beginning of a trend that we can all be a part of, as Rotarians in Iowa can make a difference.

Club Extension continues to work on other locations to start new clubs.



Rita Perea and DG Susan Herrick celebrate the moment.



Krueger tree



Nesbitt tree

Tree time at Mt. Pleasant honors deceased Rotarians

The Mt. Pleasant Rotary Club began a tradition in 1993 of planting trees in a variety of locations around the community as memorials to deceased club members. Pin Oak and Red Maple trees are among those varieties often selected by their families and have been planted at Saunders Park, Saunders School playground, Mt. Pleasant Civic Center/Library, Iowa Wesleyan College campus and East Lake Park.

In 2008, three trees were planted in memory of Robert Gibson, Elmer Krueger and Miles Nesbitt, bringing the total of memorial trees to 13. One additional tree was planted in 2006 on the IWC campus near Nemitz Suites in honor of current club president Carol Nemitz.

After planting the memorial trees with family and club members present, the family members are invited to a Rotary meeting at which time we talk about our individual memories of the Rotarian being honored as well as his/her service to the club. These reflections offer each member an opportunity to reflect on this person and oftentimes learn something new about him or her.



Gibson tree

Clubs asked to sponsor students for World Affairs Seminar

Many clubs in District 6000 sponsored high school students to attend the Rotary World Affairs Seminar at Wisconsin-Whitewater until the event was canceled two years ago. The seminar brings together 700 students from the U.S. and many other countries to hear internationally renowned speakers and to discuss peace and conflict resolution:

Greetings from Wisconsin!

This letter is to reintroduce the World Affairs Seminar – a Rotary District 6270 initiative started over 30 years ago by Rotarian Dr. Dale Brock. The seminar that was his inspiration served over 20,000 international youth. They formed friendships, learned about the world's problems, and often they used their newfound knowledge to make the world a better place.

We lost Dr. Brock Sept. 2, 2008 at the age of 92 but the World Affairs Seminar lives on. Each June we host about 700 students for a week of intellectually challenging presentations and interactive exercises that focus on the most crucial world issues. The 2009 theme is "World Hunger – Ethical Dilemma of our Time."

I am asking you to publicize the World Affairs Seminar in your district newsletter. Please encourage the clubs in your district to explore our website: www.worldaffairsseminar.org.

Our fees have been revamped to reflect the realities of our time. They are still very reasonable. The cost of one student to attend for six days, including room, meals, all study materials and recreation is only \$600. To send an international student (someone who may already be here as part of an exchange program, or a child from overseas) the cost is only \$500.

We are asking clubs to consider sponsoring one or more students. Thank you for considering this request. If I can provide additional information, please let me know:

Thomas M. Plantenberg, executive director
Rotary World Affairs Seminar
10600 W. Mitchell Street
West Allis, WI 53214

Office: (414) 453-4984; Mobile: (414) 379-8020; Fax: (414) 431-0588..

Grants approved for community projects

By DGE Cal Litwiller/Mt. Pleasant

D-6000, District Simplified Grants chair

The District 6000 District Simplified Grants Committee has approved funding for these projects for 2008-09. The source of funds for the grants are a maximum of 20 percent of district contributions to Annual Programs Fund of The Rotary Foundation three years ago:

Ft. Madison: Alter Lake Restoration, \$2,500: The Rotary Club of Ft. Madison has been actively involved with the restoration of Central Park. During the Rotary year of 2007-08 they completed the bandstand in Central Park. The project approved will be part of providing Rotary recognition, as well as purchasing a water pump that will provide a decorative fountain in Central Park.

Muscatine, Rest Area and Water Fountain along the riverfront, \$2,500: The Rotary Club of Muscatine has been actively involved with the restoration of the riverfront. Over the past years they have added various amenities that have greatly improved the riverfront in Muscatine. The project for 2008-09 will provide a seating area and water fountain along the River Walk at the Muscatine riverfront.

Fairfield: Playroom for pre-kindergarten children, \$5,000: The Fairfield Park and Recreation Department's Center does not have indoor facilities for their preschool children to play and exercise. The approved project will construct an indoor playground geared toward these children. The play room will be located on the main floor of the Fairfield Park and Recreation Center.

Decatur County: Bathroom update for Slip Bluff County Park, \$2,500: This project is will provide an updated restroom/bathroom facility for the Slip Bluff County Conservation Park. The pit-vault restroom will be replaced by a flush toilet and with clean modern showers for the people who use the park.

Corydon: Rotary insignia bench for the town square, \$800: The Rotary Club of Corydon is applying for funds that will be used to provide for park benches in their town square. The benches purchased will have the Rotary insignia on them.

Iowa City: MECCA Playground improvement, \$3,825: This project is a joint effort of the four Rotary clubs in the Iowa City area; Iowa City Noon, Iowa City AM, Iowa City Downtown, and Coralville/North Corridor. This project will provide for improvements in the playground area of the MECCA housing development. MECCA is a facility that includes transitional housing for people recovering from substance abuse.

West Liberty: Trash receptacles/message board, \$1,302: The project will build a message sign that will be used by the city to announce upcoming events, as well as providing trash receptacles in the city of West Liberty and the adjoining athletic complex.

Nevada: Mock crash demonstration, \$1,000: The Rotary Club of Nevada will use the money to sponsor a simulation of a car crash that is caused by a drunken driver. The demonstration will be conducted just prior to the high school junior-senior prom.

Bettendorf: Holiday food baskets and gifts, \$3,716.25: The Holiday food basket/gift project is a project that provides a positive community celebration for underprivileged youth. It allows Rotarians the opportunity to serve their community and introduces young people to Rotary and what it stands for.

Marshalltown: Provide books for fourth-graders: \$1,509: The Rotary Club of Marshalltown will purchase the book "Andy and Elmer's Apple Dumpling Adventure" for each fourth-grade student in the Marshalltown school district as well as the city library. Rotarians will schedule a time for them to read the book in

each fourth-grade classroom.

Bloomfield: Revitalization of city park, \$680: The Rotary Club of Bloomfield will use the funds from this grant to provide some much needed playground equipment for an outdated city park.

Johnston: Replacing high jump equipment at North High School, \$1,934.50. The grant will provide funds to replace High jump equipment destroyed during the summer flooding in Des Moines. North High School is one of the more financially deprived areas in Des Moines, and is in need of assistance in the recovery effort from the floods of the summer of 2008.

Chariton: Provide Assistance for the Crisis Center Families, \$5,000: The Rotary Club of Chariton will use these funds to provide service, food and infant items to needy families in Lucas County. The Crisis Center depends on donations and volunteers to meet the increasing demands of the community.

Creston: Literacy for underprivileged, \$1,000: This project will provide literacy classes for adults with low educational development skills. The adults will first be tested and then provided training in basic skills, job coping skills, and communication skills. There will be a post test to evaluate the success of the program.

Ames: Computer literacy and life skills for Sudanese refugees, \$1,275: The Rotary Club of Ames will provide training for Sudanese refugees so the participants can adjust to a new setting and become contributing members of the community. Training will be in the areas of computer literacy, managing family size, financial management, nutrition and wellness.

Ames Morning: Read and Romp – promotion for families to read with their children, \$2,500: This event will be a community celebration that will promote families reading. The project will include interactive stations featuring storybooks and book-related activities. There will be visits from storybook characters and celebrity guest readers.

Ankeny: Restoring entrance to the new community center, \$5,000: The Rotary Club of Ankeny will be assisting the Meveln Community Resource Center to revamp one of their entrances. They will installing canopy, enhancing the landscaping and redesigning the concrete curbing.



A 2007-08 District Simplified Grant assisted in the placement of six park benches in Eldridge for the Rotary Club of North Scott. Youth Exchange students Olivia Pereria (Brazil) and Federico Presti (Argentina) join Rotarians Bill Tubbs, Dennis Peterson, Ken Tank and president Gary Lynch.



Carroll Rotary Club president Gary Mart led a crew of volunteers who removed mulch from Time Check Park.



Red Cross director Leslie Schaffer worked with Des Moines Rotarians.



Walt Githins, Susan Judkins, Craig Laws, Steve Ferguson of Des Moines.



Glen Hummel and Maggie Tinsman of Davenport Rotary tackle an unpleasant job of cleanup after the flood.



A disabled veteran (I) received aid from Rotarians Leslie Schaffer, Kelly Sargent and Kelly's husband, Paul.

Rotarians tackle

Rotarians responded when the call went out for volunteers to begin the daunting task of cleaning up miles of neighborhoods in Cedar Rapids that were devastated by June's unprecedented flood – which ranked second only to Katrina as the greatest natural disaster ever in the U.S.

Volunteers were coordinated by Andrew Kerr of North Carolina, the director of Hands in Disaster Response. In a progress report on Oct. 25, Kerr said more than 14 Rotary clubs in Districts 6000 and 5970 lended a hand. "We have coordinated over 1,970 volunteers, gutted 353 homes and logged over 24,000 in donated hours for a combined savings to residents of Cedar Rapids of just over \$724,000.



Gary Mart, Adam Schweers, Tristan Brown and Dan Renneke from Carroll.



Des Moines Rotary volunteers Susan Judkins, Leslie Shaffer, Kelly Sargent and Walt Githins (back), and Steve Ferguson, Craig Laws and Paul Bridson.



Students from Grand Valley State in Grand Rapids, Mich., were among young people from across the U.S. who came by bus and spent a week volunteering.



Steve Ferguson, Walt Githens and Craig Laws of Des Moines Rotary lend a hand in Cedar Rapids.



Dixie Burress (l), wife of Davenport Rotary president Bill Burress, works with Chris Lunardi.



Davenport Rotarian Brian Delaney prys the walls of a house that was devastated by flood waters in Cedar Rapids last June.

cleanup in CR

We have also installed drywall on over 15 homes and fully demolished a building. We also cleaned up four local parks that were contaminated by the flood."

Among the District 6000 clubs who sent volunteers were Atlantic, Carroll, Keosauqua, Des Moines and Davenport, and unnamed others.

Additionally, District 6000 Rotarians and Rotary clubs raised \$18,010 for Parkersburg tornado relief, and \$40,735 for Iowa flood relief. The plan for using that money is on pages 3 and 18, along with a report from Keosauqua Rotarians of their day in Cedar Rapids, and an invitation to provide aid for Oakville.



Volunteers from Davenport Rotary included (l-r): Dennis Hoaglin, Kerry Skinner, Dixie Burress, Maggie Tinsman, Bill Burress, Glen Hummel (front), Brian Delaney, Kirk Metzger, Mark Zimmerman, Chris Lunardi and Chris Townsend.



Block after block of vacated houses show the enormity of the damage.



The crew leader from Hands On Disaster Response briefs volunteers.



Des Moines Rotarian Walt Githens sprayed for mold in gutted houses.

CR cleanup: First-person report by Keosauqua Rotary

Keosauqua Rotary Club members Sandy McLain, Laura Gaston, Mark Woodruff, Gary Debner, and Jake Syfert recently helped with flood clean up efforts in Cedar Rapids. Jake's account of the day follows:

We left Keosauqua at 6:00 a.m. and arrived in CR at 8:00. Two group leaders (one from Oregon, the other from Naperville Il.) took us to a residential area in the Northwest quadrant (about 5 or 6 blocks west of the Cedar River). Their pickups were loaded with shovels, hammers, bars, buckets, tubs, wheelbarrows, brooms and other cleanup tools. We were required to wear a dust mask the entire time we worked in the houses.

Gloves and work boots were also recommended. We worked on an older home from 8:30 till 11:30. We cleaned about one inch of mud from the basement floor, knocked plaster and lathe off of all walls, and pulled up the wood flooring. The water had been at least 5-foot high inside this house. All of the "stuff" we pulled from the house was thrown on the ground near the curb.

At 11:30 we were moved to another house about six blocks away. Remember, there was no electricity or running water in this area. Porta-potties were sitting along the streets about every two or three blocks. At this house we were fed some semi-warm hamburgers and fries purchased by the home owner. She was there working with us on this house. She said she purchased the house just a month or two before the flood, but did have flood insurance. We did basically the same thing as in house No. 1.

We worked with a man and his son from a New York Rotary club, and an Amish/Mennonite man and two women from Pennsylvania. The owner said part of the foundation had fallen in and after checking, three of the cement block walls had fallen into the basement along with most of the dirt backfill. What a mess! The four corners were still holding the house up but we were surprised we were allowed to work inside.

From there we were sent to a third small house three blocks away. There were already a dozen people working on this house so we were dismissed to go home. Showers felt good that night and I know a couple of us were in bed shortly after 9:00.

The magnitude of the number of houses was way beyond what we imagined. House after house, block after block, neighborhood after neighborhood. I doubt it will ever be populated like before the flood of 2008.

Rotarian is parade marshal

"Make Dreams Real" was the theme for Keosauqua's 2008 Festival of Colors Parade on Oct. 11. The parade coincided with the Villages of Van Buren Fall Festival.

This year's parade honored Jon and Debbie Finney of rural Keosauqua as the 2008 Parade Grand Marshals. Jon is the Van Buren County Auditor, and longtime Rotary club secretary-treasurer and newsletter editor. *Congratulations, Jon and Debbie!*

'The magnitude of the number of houses was way beyond what we imagined. House after house, block after block, neighborhood after neighborhood.'

Disaster Relief action plan

The 2008 Ad Hoc Flood Disaster Relief Committee, formed by District Governor Susan Herrick, met at the District 6000 office in Pella in late September to discuss how to proceed in using monies donated to Rotary District 6000 following the historic flooding that occurred in June.

The Committee recommends Rotarians in District 6000 take action on two different levels:

1) A special district grant program will be set up for clubs to apply for funds donated specifically for flood relief. These grants will be restricted for use in projects that have a "community" impact. For example, helping rebuild a senior center or a children's playground, projects that will have a community-wide focus. Clubs will have until Jan. 31, 2009, to identify a project and make application. The application process will be simple and easy to complete. District 6000 has a limited amount of funds that were donated, therefore we are looking for projects led by Rotary clubs that will have immediate benefit to the community.

2) There will be many opportunities for Rotarians to show our commitment to "service above self" by volunteering to help clean and repair damaged homes throughout District 6000. Rotary is the only service organization serving on the Iowa Disaster Human Resources Council, which is comprised of Non Governmental Organizations (NGO's) working with specific governmental agencies whose job is to coordinate and service disaster victims. The Council is, and will be, identifying individuals who have been severely impacted by the flooding disaster and who have needs beyond what insurance, FEMA, or other governmental assistance can provide. Most often these are the most fragile among us; the elderly, children and the physically and mentally disabled.

Jim Riordan, from the Waukee club, is now serving as the District 6000 Disaster Relief Chair and attends the monthly meetings of the Council. He will be communicating to club presidents directly when he learns of a situation that needs volunteers to help individuals in our district. Jim's email address is: riordanjr@aol.com if you want to contact him.

It is the Committee's sincere hope that this two-pronged approach is responding to the 2008 flood disaster and will be enthusiastically embraced by the Rotarians of District 6000. By working together in the spirit of Service Above Self we have the opportunity to fulfill Rotary's theme of "Making Dreams Real."

Thank you all.

Aid requested for Oakville

The small town of Oakville in southeast Iowa is trying to recover after being completely under water during the June floods. Resident Debbie Fawkes sent this message to Rotary clubs through the Governor's Office as a request for assistance in supporting the volunteers who continue to provide service in Oakville. If your club would like to help, please contact Debbie directly: Debbie Fawkes, 608 Russell Street, Oakville, IA 52646; Ph. (319) 523-3061 or (319) 750-5267; E-mail: debbie_fawkes@hotmail.com.

Debbie writes: "Hi, I just wanted to let you know what I have been doing in Oakville and to see if there would be any available funds to help out a little. I am a resident of Oakville, and since the Red Cross left for the last four months I have been cooking for the Oakville volunteers every day Monday-Friday. I cook the meals at the county home in Wapello and deliver them to Oakville and serve the volunteers lunch from 11:30-1:30 p.m. I love doing it as for there is no place for these lovely folks to eat who come to Oakville to help out with the disaster. I still have frozen meat, canned good, dry goods, etc., but need to purchase styrofoam plates, cups, cutlery, and other sources of food such as desserts, milk, eggs, coffee, etc. I'm just hoping there would be a possibility of some help in this area. I thank you for your time."



During its recent visit to District 1080 in England, the District 6000 Rotary Friendship Exchange team stopped by Sandringham Estate, shown in the background, a traditional holiday season retreat of the queen. The RFE team was the largest ever assembled from District 6000, with 22 persons from various parts of the district.

For these Rotarians, it's all about Friendship

By John Lewis/Des Moines

D-6000, Friendship Exchange Committee

A District 6000 Rotary Friendship Exchange team to District 1080 in England returned to Iowa on Sept. 27 after 15 days in that country and Scotland.

Leaving Iowa on Sept. 12 and arriving on the 13th, the first eight days were spent with Rotary families in the general vicinity of Norwich, attending meetings with them and visiting many of the local attractions, so many of them abounding in history and culture. The area takes on added interest to history buffs as being the locale in which dozens of WWII air bases, which hosted mainly the Eighth Air Force planes and crews during the fierce air war at that time.

A highlight of the visit was a dinner at which time District Governor Peter Harris joined with members from both districts, with all the attendant banner-sharing, gestures of goodwill, etc. taking place.

Following the initial visit to D1080, the team boarded a contracted motor coach and, along

with a very well-oriented local Rotarian, Alan Price, acting as an excellent tour guide, traveled to York, then to Edinburgh and on to the Lakes Region of Northern England before returning to Norwich for the flight home via Amsterdam and Minneapolis.

The 22-person team was led by John and Wanda Lewis of the Des Moines club, with other members as follows: PDG Dale Belknap and Mary (Des Moines); PDG Roger Borup and Pat (Wellman); Will and Dixie Hoekman (Des Moines); Dick and Marj Johnson, (Des Moines); Blair and Marilyn Lawson, (Indianola); Rita and Ernie Perea, (Des Moines); Kriss and Jo Philips, (Boone); Jerry and Jackie Powell, (Wellman); Jack and Jill Schreiber, (Des Moines); and Phil and Joann Kinney from the Rotary Club of Kansas City, Mo., who had been most active in hosting a D1080 team in 2007, but unable to travel to England with that District's team visit there.



A banner exchange between Iowa District 6000 and District 1080 in England (l-r): PDG Roger Borup, District 1080 DG Peter Harris, team leader John Lewis, Kriss Philips (member of DG Susan Herrick's Boone Rotary Club), and PDG Dale Belknap.

The District 6000 RFE committee is chaired by Keith Whigham from the Ames Noon Club.

911 survivor Dittmar returns to Iowa to address RotaKids in Decatur County

By Corey Lindsey, Leon Journal-Reporter

On an early October day, for those young and old, the events that happened on Sept. 11, 2001, when terrorists attacked American soil were retold in a vivid presentation given at the Graceland University in Lamoni, Iowa, in the morning and Central Decatur High School in Leon, Iowa, in the afternoon by World Trade Center survivor Joe Dittmar.

Just a few weeks after the seventh anniversary of 9/11, Dittmar told his story, from beginning to end on that fateful day, to a large crowd of university students, students from grades 3rd-12th, and many community members.

RotaKids, along with the Decatur County Rotary Club, were instrumental in getting Dittmar to come to Decatur County. "The RotaKids had heard him speak earlier this year," stated Chris Coffelt – school principal, RotaKids advisor, and Rotarian organizer of the event – who introduced Dittmar. "They felt that their fellow students and community should hear his compelling story."

Dittmar presented an intriguing and gripping perspective on what really happened before, during, and after the terrorist attacks. The description of his journey from the 105th floor of the 2 World Trade Center on that fateful day all the way back to his home in Aurora, Ill., in a 36-hour period of time provided a wealth of insight into an event that changed the world.

Decision making was the theme to Dittmar's presentation. The decisions that he made Sept. 11, 2001, ultimately kept him alive. "No matter how small or large your decision may be, it does impact your life," stated Dittmar as he began his talk.

"From the beginning to the end of his presentation, one could hear a pin drop in the high school gymnasium," Chris Coffelt said. "For over an hour, everyone there listened with intent – and that speaks volumes about Dittmar's presentation for students with that age spread," he added.

It wasn't until about a year later that Dittmar began telling his story.

The events and decision he made from leaving his home in Illinois to his return will be forever engraved in his mind as vivid as a photograph.

Dittmar took the crowd from his home in Illinois, to Philadelphia, to New York, to the World Trade Center, and back detailing every minute along the way. His trip began in a very uneventful manner when Dittmar went out early to see his parents, visit his sister, and see his son before going to the meeting at the World Trade Center.

Dittmar was in a meeting on the 105th floor of the South Tower when the first plane hit the North Tower.

"Ironically the meeting I was in was about fire insurance for a

pharmaceutical company," stated Dittmar.

His descent began as he was the last person of 54 to leave the meeting room. Something in him told him not to enter the elevator, as did others in his group. So he entered the fire stairwell. That very decision is why he is alive to tell his story.

He made it to the 75 floor when the second plane hit, this time, the South Tower.

"The stairwell shook, hand rails broke from the walls, steps started moving and a wall of hot air rushed passed," stated Dittmar. "Then everything went silent."

Unfortunately, some of his group decided to enter the elevator on the 78th floor because they were tired of walking down. The plane entered between the 78 and 82 floors.

He continued down amidst debris of ladies high heels and electronic equipment.

It was not until the 35th floor, that he encountered fire and police personnel.

"They had the look in their eyes that they were going up to fight a battle that could not be won and were not coming back," stated Dittmar.

Finally he reached the bottom, but all exits were blocked by metal debris. So he went down one more level to below ground and out.

"Finally, after walking 8 blocks away, I heard a radio blaring that terrorists had hit the towers," stated Dittmar. "At that moment I heard millions of people screaming all at the same time."

Dittmar was one of

only seven survivors of that group of 54.

Dittmar eventually made his way back to Illinois the following day and was greeted by his wife at church as she leaped over pews just to get to him.

The crowd gave him a standing ovation.

"People here cannot fully understand what happened that day," told Kerry Welch, Central Decatur teacher, who was living in Long Island at the time of the attacks, to Dittmar. "I want to thank you for putting everything in a visual perspective."

"RotaKids is a Rotary sponsored student led program to help upper elementary aged youngsters build self-esteem and develop leadership qualities to help them face contemporary challenges in their lives," Loring Miller, Decatur County Rotarian and RotaKids leader, explained. "Their commitment to the goals of Rotary is evident by the fact that they worked with Joe Dittmar to collect over \$350 for Rotary's Polio challenge."

"If this were a final examination on the value of service to their community, the RotaKids surely passed with flying colors by bringing Joe Dittmar to Decatur County. We are so proud of them," Terry Geiger, District 6000 Assistant Governor and Decatur County Rotary Club member commented.



911 survivor Joe Dittmar, who spoke at District Conference in April 2008, met with Decatur County RotaKids during his visit to Leon in October.

RotaKids care for animals at Burlington

By Sara Sink/Burlington

RotaKids adviser, Danville School District

The RotaKids from Danville appeared on Paula Sands Live in the Quad Cities on Oct. 8 to discuss the group's latest fundraiser. The kids have been selling "Willie's Wagon" by Gary Metivier, a news anchor for KWQC-TV6, at different places in the community, including the Rotary BBQ Chicken Dinner and Fareway. Metivier donated 100 books to the community service-based club, allowing them to decide how to use the money they raise, and has invited the children to join him on Paula Sands Live to share their accomplishments.

Sara Sink, RotaKids Rotarian adviser, said the group purchased tennis balls for the Burlington Police Department's K-9 Unit with the money they've raised. Officer Mike Bloomer, along with Reno – the department's dog, visited the RotaKids on Sept. 16 to accept the gift. Bloomer said the tennis balls are Reno's treat, noting that Reno would go through the shopping bag of tennis balls in just a few months. This project, along with a project where the children sold ice cream during Gently Day at Crapo Park, allowed the group to purchase 80 cans of dog and cat food for the Des Moines County Humane Society, as well.

The kids raised money for the Church World Service sponsored Des Moines



Channel 6 KWQC-TV news anchor from the Quad Cities, Gary Metivier with RotaKids sponsored by Burlington Rotary.



RotaKids from Danville, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Burlington, in action for the animals at the Des Moines County Humane Society.

County/Burlington Crop Hunger Walk on Oct. 12, where 25 percent of the donations stayed in Des Moines County to benefit the Neighborhood Center and Flood Relief. Other fundraising ideas are being discussed, as well as allocation of money raised, including donations to the Burlington Area Homeless Shelter and the local food pantry as well as purchasing school supplies for Danville Elementary School teachers.



RotaKids began in Florida and is a community service-based program for elementary children to build self-esteem and develop leadership skills. Each child involved with RotaKids pledges "to be fair to all, to serve the community, and to show respect to others." There are fewer than 20 RotaKids groups, and the 10 members of the Danville RotaKids are proud to be part of such an elite organization.

* * *

By Darcie Hoenig/Hawk Eye

Dogs and cats at the Des Moines County Humane Society will have full bellies for the next few months thanks to a group of budding Rotarians from Sunnyside Elementary School.

For the last two weeks, Sunnyside's Rotakids have spent their mornings collecting and organizing donations of food, bedding, toys, leashes and other supplies from fellow students to give to the annual shelter.

On Monday, the students delivered seven large boxes full of supplies, a case of canned cat food and several 40-pound bags of dog chow to the shelter.

Olivia Fry, one of 12 fourth and fifth-grade students in the group, first came up with the idea to help out the animal shelter

when the group was brainstorming ideas for community service projects.

"I made up the idea because I want to be a vet when I grow up, and I love dogs," said Fry, a fourth-grader.

To inspire students to help with the cause, the group offered incentives for the students who brought in the most donations. While the donations haven't been tallied yet, the winning student will receive a Webkinz stuffed animal and a trip to the shelter to help feed the animals. Second place will also receive a Webkinz, and third place will get animal crackers and stickers.

The animal shelter drive was the second project completed by the Rotakids, who are in their first year.

In October, the students joined Danville's Rotakids, the first group of young Rotarians in southeast Iowa, to participate in the CROP Walk. Together, the groups raised more than \$600 to help fight world hunger.

The Sunnyside group is only the third Rotakids club to be established west of the Mississippi River, the other two are in Danville and Leon, said Monica Myers, a fifth-grade teacher and the group's sponsor.

Bonnie Baldwin, who mentors the group with fellow Rotarian Jerry Derby, said the students are encouraged to come up with their own ideas for community service projects.

"They are really an active group with a lot of ideas," Baldwin said.

Some future projects may include a bake sale to benefit the school or a used book drive to donate books to the library, she said.

The Sunnyside Rotakids are fourth-graders Olivia Fry, John Kruse, Emma Lynch, Johanna Myers, Briar Thye and Adam Wegmann and fifth-graders Marion Bird, Tressa Burnett, Jared Gibbons, Alexa Jaeger, Reagan Rogerson and Rachel Schulte.

Rotarians, Army group sponsor peace posters

The Bettendorf Rotary Club's New Member Committee, along with the Rotary Club of Davenport, has sponsored a poster contest for youth from the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Mississippi Valley and the Rock Island Arsenal Youth Center. The contest is designed to encourage the youths to design a poster that reflects the Rotary theme of advancing international understanding, goodwill and peace.

The person with the winning poster received an invitation to the Army Holiday Ball held Dec. 5 on the Arsenal. Former Army Chief of Staff, Retired General Gordon R. Sullivan, the president of the Association of the United States Army, will be this year's special guest at the Army Holiday Ball. The winner of the contest will also receive a \$100 U.S. Savings Bond from Bettendorf Rotary.

The winning poster will then become the background of the AUSA's Military Discount Card which will offer discounts to area military and their families from Quad-City businesses and organizations. This card program is being created and implemented by the Rock Island Arsenal Chapter of the Association of the United States Army with support from area businesses and organizations like the Bettendorf Rotary Club and the Rotary Club of Davenport.

AUSA board member Kerry Skinner, a member of Davenport Rotary, provided leadership. The Rock Island Arsenal Chapter of the AUSA's mission is to support the Army-Active, Army National Guard, Army Reserve, Department of the Army and Defense Civilians, Retirees, families and concerned citizens. We support force modernization to ensure an Army ready for the future, and informs and educates the public about the Army's role in national defense.

– submitted by Kerry Skinner, Davenport Rotary



Announcing the peace poster program were (front) area youth from Boys & Girls Club of Moline and Carol Murphy of the Boys & Girls Club Mississippi Valley. Standing (l-r): Becky Clark, executive director of Boys & Girls Club Mississippi Valley; Al Kruse, president of AUSA RIA Chapter, Vicki Tyler, Bettendorf Rotary; Scott Naumann, Bettendorf Rotary; Kerry Skinner, AUSA and the Rotary Club of Davenport; Kevin Kraft, Bettendorf Rotary; and Chelsea Powers, Bettendorf Rotary.



Auctioneer Jeff Wallick works hard to get the best bid on a football package at the Tipton Rotary Club auction.

27-member Tipton Rotary raises \$15,000 at auction

The 27-member Rotary Club of Tipton held another successful auction at the Cedar County Fairgrounds on Nov. 7, raising more than \$15,000 to support the club's many projects for the upcoming year.

Despite the difficult economy, dozens of individuals and businesses made generous donations for the club's auction and over 140 members, their spouses and friends enjoyed an evening of fellowship, while competing in bidding for the wide variety of donated items. A change in the club's raffle this year helped to increase the revenue.

– submitted by past president Kris Clark



Past District Governor Ken Noble and his wife, Jo, of West Liberty, at Tipton's auction.



Presenting Student Dictionaries to fourth-graders, like these students in Ottumwa, is a popular project among Rotary clubs in District 6000.

Clubs asked to support Youth Services Fund, \$2⁰⁰/member

We want to say thank you to those of you who have contributed to FAMSCO and Xicotepec with your district dues. District leadership would like to encourage each club to consider a donation of \$2.00 per member to help sustain the Youth Services Fund. Its objective is to foster and support the participation of youth (Rotaract and Interact) in humanitarian service projects.

If you have questions about the Youth Services Fund, please contact PDG Ray Muston (1999-00) at raymuston@mchsi.com.

– submitted by PDG Ray Muston

Polio NID trips scheduled

Over the next several months several teams of Rotary Volunteers will be traveling to one of the Polio-indigenous countries to participate in Polio National Immunization Days.

District Governor Susan Herrick will be a team leader to Nigeria May 8-19, while other teams are being formed to participate in National Immunization Days in India. District 7640 is planning a trip to India in mid February 2009. Contact PDG Tom Veevers at (888) 655-8040 for detailed information.

PDG Elias Thomas of Rotary District 7780 is organizing NID teams to participate in NIDs in India during the weeks of Jan. 23 and Feb. 20, 2009. The Elias team will also be building sanitary enhancement facilities in a poor Muslim village west of Delhi. If you are interested in participating, contact Elias at (207) 636-1246 (home) or (207) 636-2222 (office).

If you would be interested in traveling to Nigeria with Susan, please contact her at s.herrick@mchsi.com for additional details.

– submitted by PDG Don Goering

Reminder: Rotary and the IRS

As you may or may not be aware, at the end of the 2007-2008 Rotary fiscal year, the IRS will be requiring all Rotary clubs and districts in the United States to submit either an IRS form 990 (for clubs and districts with gross receipts of over \$25,000) or an electronic version, referred to as an e-Postcard report (for clubs and districts with gross receipts under \$25,000).

For reporting purposes, the deadline to submit the required information for the 2007-2008 fiscal year was Nov. 15. Please note that per the IRS, failure to meet the annual filing requirement for three consecutive years will result in revocation of the tax-exempt status of the club or district in question. The IRS has requested that we remind clubs of this new filing procedure.

Thank you and if you have any questions, please let me know.

– Jim Damato, Supervisor Club and District Support Central

Pan America Rotary International

Ph. (847) 866-3405; e-mail: james.damato@rotary.org

Celebrate Vocational Service!

Governor Susan Herrick reminds clubs that Vocational Service is a part of the requirements for the Governor's Citation. Governor Susan asks each club to give every new club member a copy of the Four-Way Test and the Declaration of Rotarians in Business and Professions. Clubs can purchase a beautiful, frameable copy of the vocational declaration from RI or it can be found (and printed) from the RI download library on line at the link below: http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en_pdf/200en.pdf



Gloria Gray, director of Children and Families of Iowa (I) sorts pajamas with Des Moines Rotarian Kelly Sargent, who made Helen's Pajama Parties a state-wide Rotary project to provide clean, new pajamas for victims of domestic abuse. Rotarians are hosting Helen's Pajama Parties throughout District 6000 this fall and winter.



The Rotary Club of Coralville-North Corridor participates in a District 6000 project for the battered women's shelter in Iowa City. Every year, roughly 2,000 women seek asylum at 15 shelters in District 6000. Almost without exception, they arrive with nothing but the clothes on their backs. The goal of the project, called Helen's Pajama Party to Protect Women, is to provide every woman entering any shelter in the district with at least the comfort of a pair of new pajamas as they begin to attempt to put themselves and their lives back together. Members collecting pajamas (l-r): Doug Parsons, Nanci Kohl, Judy Meyer, Mary Anne Lenning, Kay Carpenter, Tom Martin and Shane Hendricks, president.

Food booth in Mt. Pleasant boosts Gates Challenge

The Rotary Club of Mount Pleasant Noon sponsored a food booth at the Halloween Ghost Train ride in October on the grounds of the Old Threshers in Mount Pleasant.

The unique part of this community event is that the proceeds from the food booth will be directed to meeting the Gates Foundation PolioPlus Challenge. Information, Matt Lawler, (319) 986-6380.

– submitted by PDG Don Goering

D-6000 PolioPlus Challenge Committee chair

Why we should give to The Rotary Foundation

By Bob Anderson/Ames

Chair, District 6000 TRF Permanent Fund Subcommittee

Questions and Answers about giving to The Rotary Foundation (TRF):

1. Why give to The Rotary Foundation (TRF)?

Gifts to TRF are used to support Rotary club projects locally and RI projects across our country and our world. TRF has an extraordinarily low overhead and virtually all the funds contributed go to help people in need. When Rotarians work on projects supported by TRF, they pay their own expenses; Rotarians, usually as unpaid volunteers, oversee all Rotary projects.

2. How can you give a gift that keeps on giving?

Contributions to TRF can go to the Annual Programs Fund, where the funds are held for three years and the interest earned is used to pay operating expenses of TRF; then, these funds are distributed to support Rotary projects. Alternatively, contributions can be made to TRF Permanent Fund where the contributions are permanently invested and the interest from these funds are distributed annually forever.

3. What are the gift recognition levels for contributions to TRF?

Benefactor: A Rotarian whose will, or other estate documents, names TRF Permanent Fund as a beneficiary of at least \$1,000 will be recognized as a Benefactor.

Bequest Society Member: A Rotarian whose will, other estate documents, and/or life insurance policy names the TRF Permanent



PDG Diana Reed (l) received a certificate on behalf of District 6000 for achieving the second highest total giving in Zone 27 to The Rotary Foundation's Annual Programs Fund during 2007-08 of \$452,232. The award was presented at the Institute in Sandusky, Ohio, in September by RI Director Mike Johns (c) and RI President-Elect John Kenny of Scotland (r). Johns and Kenny were among five Rotary leaders at the Institute with Rotary tattoos on their foreheads because Institute attendees raised \$20,000 on the spot for polio eradication.

Fund as a beneficiary of at least \$10,000 will be named as a member of the Bequest Society. Membership in the Bequest Society has six different levels: Level One for bequests between \$10,000 and \$24,999; Level Two for bequests between \$25,000 and \$49,000; Level Three for bequests between \$50,000 and \$99,999; Level Four for bequests between \$100,000 and \$499,999; Level Five for bequests between \$500,000 and \$999,999; and Level six for bequests of \$1,000,000 or more.

Major Donor: A Rotarian who gives an outright or cumulative gift of \$10,000 or more to either TRF Annual Programs Fund and/or the Permanent Fund will be recognized as a Major Donor. For an outright or cumulative gift of \$250,000, or more, the Rotarian will be recognized as a member of the Arch C. Klumph Society and his/her photograph will be permanently displayed at RI world headquarters in Evanston, IL.

4. What's the special giving opportunity for Rotarians who are 70½ years old?

Rotarians who are 70½ years old, or older, and who have an IRA, can make a direct transfer of funds, up to a maximum of \$100,000, from their IRA to TRF during 2008 and 2009. Such a transfer is called a "Charitable IRA Rollover." One advantage of a charitable IRA rollover is that the funds do not pass through the Rotarian's hands, thus they do not count as taxable income to the Rotarian; however, such transferred funds may not be claimed as a charitable deduction when the Rotarian files his/her income tax forms. A second advantage of a charitable IRA rollover is that the transferred amount does not count in the "50 percent of adjusted gross income" maximum for charitable contributions.

To learn whether this opportunity makes sense for you, contact your financial/tax advisor(s). To learn the details of how to make a charitable IRA rollover to The Rotary Foundation, contact TRF staff at (847) 866-3100 or plannedgiving@rotary.org.



PDG Bill Tubbs (r), who is Area Coordinator for North America with the RI Public Image Resource Group, along with Zone PR Coordinators PDGs Ruby Iwamasa (Michigan) and Dave Buck (Waterloo, Iowa) spoke at a plenary session and staffed a booth at the Institute at Sandusky, which featured the Iowa Rotary Tabloid among its resources. Districts 5970 and 6000 received a Significant Achievement Award from Rotary International for the Iowa Rotary Tabloid.

Rotarians promote Red Ribbon Week at West Liberty Schools

By Cindy Mays/West Liberty

Club President

Rotary in West Liberty starts off with “Big Bang” in July with the club’s big fundraisers. The International Picnic-in-the-Park is held after the Muscatine County Fair Parade on Sunday and finishes with five days at the Muscatine County Fair selling famous turkey legs and “Turkey Tom” tenderloins. Even with depressed economy, this year saw the second highest sales in over 30 years of fair history.

The fall began with working closely with the International Eulenspiegel Puppet Theatre Company to fund raise and again sell our turkey products and promote Rotary at the Annual Children’s Festival. It is a free event for everyone and children from eastern Iowa come to see the giant puppets perform. October ends our fundraising with the annual chicken barbecue. All of the fundraising events bring the entire club together for great fellowship, talking about Rotary, and Service Above Self for others.

Helping others realize their Dreams is part of what our club does best. In October the club promoted literacy in our community by distributing “I Can Read Songs for Reading” DVD and printed literature to our schools. Rotarian LaDonna Wicklund, Rotary Club of Iowa City, provided guidance to Nancy Gardener, West Liberty Schools, on the advantages of the “I Can Read” program.

In October, Red Ribbon Week was celebrated by the West Liberty Community School District. The Rotary Club of West Liberty provided a red ribbon to each student in the elementary and middle schools proclaiming they are “drug free” kids. The attached photo has Cindy Mays, president, and Deepak Giri, president-elect, with children in the elementary building.

Our club was granted a District Simplified Grant to provide an announcement board at a new 15-acre recreational complex. In addition, refuse containers will be provided with not only the Rotary emblem, but also marking the area both drug-free and smoke-free areas using state approved signage.

On July 1, membership in our club was only 31, but our members asked several new business leaders to join our club. Five new members have been added since the beginning of the year. Three of the new members have started new businesses in West Liberty and are great additions to our club. The New Strand Theatre owner who has promoted Rotary before every movie using the Humanity in Motion imagery, has joined the club. The latest addition is a member who had left Rotary five years earlier, but now wants to be apart of a service organization that is making a difference in the world.



Rotarians celebrate Red Ribbon Day at West Liberty.

Xicotepec Project Team: Spots still available for Week No. 1

Xicotepec Project Team leader Jim Peterson reports that all the slots for Week No. 2 (March 14-22) are filled, but openings remain for Week No. 1 (March 7-15) for the 2009 trips to Xicotepec, Mexico.

The Xicotepec Project is a humanitarian, community-development project sponsored by the Rotary Club of Xicotepec and Rotary District 6000 of Iowa. The project began in 2002 and has involved not only Rotarians and their families, but also many high-school and university students.

Each of the last several years 70-plus Rotarians, youth and service-learning students have participated in humanitarian projects in cooperation with the Rotary Club of Xicotepec.

For information or to apply for Week No. 1, contact Peterson at: 309 N. 7th Ave., Iowa City, IA 52245-6003; e-mail: jim-peterson@mchsi.com; Ph. (319) 631-2992.

2,015 meals: More than chicken feed at Burlington!

In 1994, the Burlington Rotary Club celebrated its 80th birthday but did not have an annual fundraising event. That year club members heard about a chicken barbecue from the Ottumwa club and an “event” for Burlington was formed.

The first barbeque was held on 9/28/95. Almost 1,000 adult and 150 child-meals were served. In two years (1997) individuals served increased to 1,450 adults and 150 children. Members credit the increase in sales to a drive-thru option started that year. This year (2008) we served 1,750 adult and 265 child meals with 70 percent of customers picking up their meals at the drive-thru.

Funds from this event have allowed the Burlington Rotary Club to purchase and erect four playgrounds in the Burlington/West Burlington area. The latest playground was erected in West Burlington on the grounds of the Hospice House in 2007.

Lessons learned:

- An event like this just doesn’t happen – it takes many weeks of advance planning and the participation from more than just a few members in selling and working the day/evening of the event.
- It really helps to have seasoned Rotarians (Ottumwa group) come to your first event and help. Thanks again, Ottumwa.
- Water does put out the charcoal: In 1998, it rained so hard the grills were extinguished. Awnings were constructed over the grills but then those working were smoked along with the chicken.
- Young and old alike enjoy the large fluffy yellow chicken that appears each year with a basket full of candy.
- Don’t be surprised with what makes its way through the drive-thru. We’ve seen bicycles, walkers and motorcycles.

Reason we do what we do: One long-term member commented: When the club needed money for something I always just wrote a check. But the barbecue has become so much more. The best part is the fun and camaraderie between the members – the money raised is secondary.

The chicken barbecue exemplifies Rotary’s motto, “Service Above Self,” and No. 3 and No. 4 of the Four-Way Test: *Will it build GOOD WILL AND BETTER FRIENDSHIP? and Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?*

– submitted by Mike Shinn, Rotary Club of Burlington

Interact = International Action

Students make a difference in their communities, world

By Doug Flournoy/Fairfield

D-6000, Interact Committee chair

A year-end report by some District 6000 Interact Clubs. Interact is Rotary International's service club for young people ages 14 to 18.

Each club is charged with the mission of completing two community service activities each year. One of these projects must serve to further international understanding and goodwill.



Doug Flournoy

About a week before the deadline for the summer edition of the District Newsletter I had the idea to ask for year-end reports from our District's Interact Clubs. I thought it important to share the accomplishments of these young people with my fellow Rotarians by inclusion of their work in District 6000 News.

Because of the short notice I am sure not all clubs were able to respond. My apologies to those Interactors and their sponsors whose service goes unreported below. My goal is to make Interact news a regular feature of our newsletter and to be better organized and timely in this matter going forward. In the

meantime, here is a small sample of what our Interact clubs have been up to in 2007-08.

Interact Club of City High School (Iowa City AM)

Co-Presidents: Sherry Torres and Melissa Triplett

Active members: Izzy (Isabel) Shinnick-Gordon, Emily Fagan, Susan Graves, Susanna Howard, Elizabeth Triplett, Hannah Siegfried, Hana Ibrak, Mary Mallampalli, Kelly Markham, Zoe Grueskin.

Advisor: Joan Garrity

2007-08 projects:

- The Amish Harvest Tour to Cure Cancer, Sept. 8, 2007. Ten Interactors went to Holbrook, IA, and served lunch to more than 100 bike riders. They then assisted with the cleanup of the bike riders' campground in the city park.

- Run for the Schools, Oct. 7, 2007. Ten Interactors assisted by directing runners and walkers.

- Iowa City Garden Club Fall Flower Show/Sale, Oct. 3, 4, 5. Interactors assisted in setting up tables (Garden Club members started out as young ladies, but time has passed and now they need assistance in setting up their show.)

- Puppy Chow Sale for Cystic Fibrosis, Nov. 2, City High foyer. The club members made puppy chow in the home economics room on Nov. 2, then sold it on Nov. 3. This project raised money for cystic fibrosis research.

- Run for Relief, Iowa City, Nov. 3. Three members assisted in the run.

- HACAP: Sponsored Homeless Children's Christmas Party, Moose Lodge, Dec. 1. Despite an ice storm, five members entertained children while their parents, who were given money for Christmas shopping, shopped for presents for the kids.

- Ronald McDonald House Meals, Jan. 26, March 29 and May 18. Fixed and served a dinner for families staying at Ronald McDonald house.

- Matchmaker Fundraiser: Around Valentine's Day Interact Club's annual fundraiser for its service projects and inexpensive fun for City High students. Interact Club members sell the results of the matchmaker questionnaires for \$2 each.

- Habitat for Humanity Ballroom Dance. This is an annual fundraiser for the Iowa Valley Habitat for Humanity, held in a ballroom at the Memorial Union of the University of Iowa during Riverfest. City High's Interact Club co-sponsors this dance with West High's 1440 Club and the University of Iowa's Habitat for Humanity Club. City High Interact Club's main responsibility for the Ballroom Dance is to obtain items for door prizes and for the silent auction.

- Habitat for Humanity Car Wash, May 10. First Avenue Hy-Vee parking lot.

Interact Club of Des Moines (Des Moines)

President: Thao Pham.

Active members: Emily Harmon and an unknown number of others.

Advisor: Chris Pose

2007-08 projects:

- Burma water. The Interact Club is participating in an international project by assisting Mr. John Hays in attaining large suitcases. Mr. Hays is working on setting up water systems in Burma. The suitcases will be used to transport chlorine generators supplies.

- T-Shirts. The Interact Club is on a mission to recruit new members. Our plan is to develop amazing shirts that will attract and motivate others to join.

Interact Club of Fairfield

Co-Presidents: Kiran Stallone and Caitlin Troutt.

Membership: Unknown. Typically 12-20 attend a meeting.

Advisors: Warren Wechsler, Emily Humble and Doug Flournoy.

2007-08 projects:

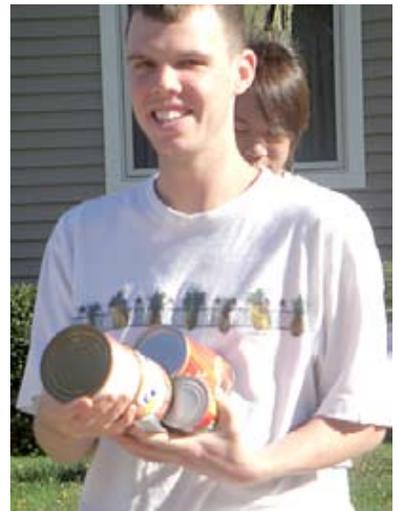
- Canned food drive. Beginning around Halloween and lasting until Christmas the club collected canned goods for the Lord's Cupboard in Fairfield and the Family Crisis Center in Ottumwa.

- Toothbrush drive. As an ongoing international service project and in conjunction with the Rotary Club of Fairfield, the club collected tooth brushes from area dentist's offices and had them hand carried to Nepal.

- Baked goods sales. During first Fridays Art Walks in Fairfield, club members sold baked goods and hot chocolate as a fundraiser.

- Pizza Ranch. Members waited tables for tips one night as a fund raiser.

- Relay for life. If all goes well, the club is planning to enter a team this June to raise funds to fight breast cancer.



A Fairfield Interactor collects food for the Lord's Cupboard.

Interact Club of Jefferson-Scranton (Jefferson)

President: Nick Dinkel

Membership: 48

Adult Advisors: Jim Copeland, David Morain, Teresa Green.

2007-08 projects:

- Raked yards for the elderly.

- Made blank Valentines for the elementary school kids to decorate for their parents.

- Read to elementary school kids.

- Worked at the Kindergarten Clinic.

- Frosted shamrock cookies for the elementary school kids.

- Hosted a "Fun After Fifty" prom for the community.

- Our 10th year of Adopt-A-Highway.

- On the last day of school, gave out bubble kits to all the elementary school kids.

Interact Club of Mt. Pleasant (Mt Pleasant Evening)

President: Amelia Conrad

Membership: around 20

Advisor: Cal Litwiller

2007-08 projects:

- Judged the costume competition for the Old Threshers Ghost Train.



Renee Graber, Megan Krogmeier, Eric Hahn and Kate Dawson of Mt. Pleasant serve food as Kids Against Hunger.



Mt. Pleasant Interactors Chad, Carley, Hannah, Jason and April rake leaves for the underprivileged.

Interactors reach out to Make Dreams Real

- Raked leaves for underprivileged and shut-ins.
- Sponsored a Winter Dance for the high school.
- Packaged food for "Kids Against Hunger."
- Helped organizers set up "Relay for Life" and supervised children's activities during the "Relay for Life."
- Helped serve for Mt. Pleasant Rotary's Bar-B-Que.
- Sponsored "See Saw for Sight," a project to raise money for a Rotary Matching Grant for Cataract Surgeries in India.
- Sponsored two members who went to Xicototec, Mexico, on a Rotary work mission.

Interact Club of Pleasant Valley High School (Bettendorf)

President: Shannon Thompson

Membership: 16

Advisor: Jim Spelhaug

2007-08 projects:

- Helped adult club with dictionary distribution to around 600 4th graders in our area by ordering, placing Rotary name plates, and re-boxing for delivery.
- Raised funds for an international project in conjunction with adult club.
- Sent two students to the Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA) Conference.

Interact Club of Southeast Polk High School (East Polk)

President: Heather Hortsmann

Membership: 30

Advisors: Nathan Ballagh, Monica Capper

2007-08 projects:

- Some of the activities that we took part in were fundraising and sponsoring families for the holiday season, organizing a community service project day, and taking part in a leadership building course.
- To build funds for our Interact Club, we sold fresh balsam holiday wreaths provided by the Decatur County Rotary Club in Iowa. We sold the wreaths in November to community members. All proceeds went to supporting two large families during the holiday season.
- With the funds that we raised our members spent one evening shopping at Target in Altoona, Iowa, buying gifts/food for the families that we adopted for the holiday season. This has been an annual event for us and the students look forward to it each year.
- In the spring, our Interact Club organized a community service project day in which the senior class (350 students) at Southeast Polk High School completed projects in the four surrounding communities that make up our school district. The annual event is called Senior Community Improvement Project Day (SCIP Day). The projects consisted of the following:
 - cleaning up public parks and trail ways,
 - washing windows and landscaping around public libraries,

- cleaning drains at a local public pool,
- cleaning up the shoreline around local public ponds,
- improving the athletic facilities on our high school campus,
- picking up brush and tree limbs in public areas,
- spreading mulch all around the community, and
- washing local law enforcement vehicles.

This has been a successful event and our graduating class looks forward to it each school year.

In the fall our Interact Club took a field trip to Living History Farms in Clive, Iowa, where they took part in a team leadership building challenge course. The course is designed to give students the opportunity to work together in difficult situations to collaboratively solve various types of challenges. We spent a lot of the day building leadership skills and reflecting on ways we can work together to build leadership qualities in other students in our school.

These are the main events we take part in each year. We also get involved in other events throughout the year whenever our assistance is needed.

Interact Club of Winterset

President: Misty Butz

Membership: 15

Advisor: Jean Walker

2007-08 projects:

- Locally, this year we will have worked on two Rotary projects in our community:
 - care of our City Park Maze, and
 - a major river clean-up in conjunction with the Middle River Alliance.
- Internationally, we have:
 - donated \$100 for humanitarian aid to Care Highway, and
 - we have another \$200 set aside to support Xicototec projects.

Interact clubs are also active at Ankeny, Muscatine and Perry.



Interact membership day at Fairfield Rotary.



In Memoriam:



Charles H. Gabus

1918-2008
Governor, Rotary
International District 6000,
1984-85



PDG Charles Gabus

Charles H. Gabus passed away Thursday, Oct. 23, at The Reserve in Urbandale. Visitation and funeral services were Sunday, Oct. 26, at Aldersgate United Methodist Church. Following the services his body was donated to the University of Osteopathic Medicine and Health Sciences.

Gabus was born June 2, 1918, in Brock, Neb. He was a 1940 graduate of Peru State Teachers College in Peru, Neb., and started as a schoolteacher and switched to selling appliances and then automobiles.

He married Frances Marie Hardy on July 3, 1939, in Hiawatha, Kansas, and they lived in the Des Moines/Urbandale area since September of 1967. He was the owner of Charles Gabus Ford, Des Moines Chrysler, Toyota of Des Moines, Des Moines Mitsubishi and Kia of Des Moines. He was a member of Aldersgate United Methodist Church, National Automobile Dealers Association, Iowa Automobile Dealers Association and the Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines.

He served Rotary International as District Governor in 1984-85 and in numerous leadership roles with District 6000. He was a Level Four Major Donor of The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International.

Mr. Gabus was preceded in death by his wife, Frances. He is survived by his sons, Dr. Jan C. Gabus of Palo Alto, Calif, and Gene G. Gabus of Adel, Iowa; daughter, Patricia Peterson of Olathe, Kan.; seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Aldersgate United Methodist Church Elevator and Building Fund.

A feature story in *The Des Moines Register* at the time of his death recalled Gabus as a former schoolteacher who took over a failed Ford dealership in West Des Moines and built a car dealership empire that endured for more than 50 years. He was Iowa's biggest Ford dealer who loved the car business and was an original, noble and endearing businessman known for his innovative marketing ideas. He was *The Register's* No. 1 advertising customer for decades.

He celebrated his 50th anniversary as a Ford dealer in 2003, returning to work after a hospital stay for treatment of a heart problem. The president of the Ford Division of the Ford Motor Co. flew to Des Moines to honor him. In 2003, Gabus' auto empire employed more than 400 people and sold about 10,000 new and used vehicles a year.

At the meeting of the Northwest Des Moines Rotary Club on Oct. 24, the day after his death, club members reminisced for 15 minutes about his impact in the club and community. He was remembered as a man who would wrestle you to the floor for a nickel, but give generously and anonymously to charities.

"More of his money went to charity than anyone knew," wrote *The Register*. "He donated \$250,000 for a new Urbandale library, in memory of his wife, Frances, who died in 1997. But he also made smaller gifts to community projects, charities, institutions and his church without fanfare." He had a longstanding tradition of buying sweatshirts for residents of Bethel Mission every Thanksgiving. "The Gabus dealerships also donated more than \$100,000 to tornado recovery efforts in Parkersburg this year," wrote *The Register*. "He wanted to do things without recognition."

Obituaries

Mary McNutt, 90, of Iowa City, the life partner of PDG Paul McNutt (1985-86), died Dec. 10 at the Crestview Care Center, West Branch. Funeral services will be 10:00 a.m. Dec. 19, at the First United Methodist Church, Iowa City. Visitation will be from 4 to 7 p.m. Dec. 18 at Gay & Ciha Funeral and Cremation Service, Iowa City.

Mary is fondly remembered by District 6000 Rotarians as a friend who was always interested in others and eager to reach out with a smile and a lively conversation. Her husband, Paul, who died in 2004, was a prominent Iowa pork producer.



Mary McNutt

Eleanor McClelland, secretary of the Rotary Club of Iowa City, notes that Mary celebrated her 90th birthday not long ago and was present at Rotary last week! "Rotary was very important to her!"

Memorials can be made in Mary's memory to Johnson County 4-H or The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International. Online condolences may be sent for her family through the web at www.gayandciha.com.

Cecil Bolsinger, 101, a member of the Rotary Club of Des Moines who had 45 years of perfect attendance, died Nov. 18. He was born in 1907, two years after Paul Harris started Rotary, and he shared a birthday with Rotary – Feb. 23. He was one of the oldest and longest-serving Rotarians in District 6000. Memorials were to the Bolsinger Educational Fund at Grace United Methodist Church in Des Moines, a fund which has supported scholarships for inner city children to attend camps for many years.

Rotarian Rita Perea wrote, "His family proudly displayed all of his distinguished Rotary awards at the service. It was very special. Cecil touched many hearts and lives through his Rotary service. He was the epitome of 'Service Above Self.' I have decided that when I grow up, I want to be just like Cecil!"



TRF briefs

Good Start: District Rotary Foundation Chair PDG Don Goering said that according to reports from Anita Rieder, the Annual Giving Officer of The Rotary Foundation, District 6000 was the top giving district in Zone 27 (12 districts) for the first four months of Rotary year 2008-09. Also, District 6000 is No. 33 of the top 50 districts in the world for total contributions to The Rotary Foundation. Still, several clubs had not sent money to the Foundation at the time of the posting of the November MCR (Monthly Club Report), at right, and we have a long way to go to achieve our goal. The scripts for the "Rotary Foundation Minutes" that were sent to clubs electronically this fall are a great tool clubs can use for education about the Foundation and its humanitarian and educational programs.

* * *

Future Vision: Information about The Rotary Foundation's Future Vision Plan was presented at this fall's Regional Meetings. The goals are: to make a greater impact in meeting urgent humanitarian needs, give districts more control of their DDF, streamline administration of grant applications, provide more opportunities to partner with prominent organizations, enhance resources through strategic partnerships and create greater public recognition for clubs, districts and The Rotary Foundation. District 6000 leadership is recommending that our district apply to be one of 100 pilot districts worldwide. Our application must be approved by clubs – watch for information about this important vote.

* * *

Recognition Points: Rotary Foundation Recognition Points of members who are deceased will be expunged from the Foundation's records after June 30, 2009. Also, the Foundation will not recognize transfers of recognition points in amounts smaller than 500.

("Points" are credits that are awarded at the rate of one for every dollar given to the Annual Programs Fund of The Rotary Foundation after a member achieves Paul Harris Fellow status of \$1,000. Points can be given away to help others achieve Paul Harris Fellow status, and to stimulate new giving by matching others' contributions.)

Clubs are urged to check their Club Recognition Summary (CRS) to see if they have points that can be used to achieve the goals of the Foundation before the rules change.

Rotary Foundation Annual giving

District 6000 Clubs • July 1, 2008 - Nov. 30, 2008

CLUB (Members/Jul 08)	(1) 07-08 Goal	(2) Thru 10-31-08	(3) % of Goal	(4) Per capita
Adel (29)	\$ 2,700	110	4	\$ 3.79
Albia (33)	2,280	0	0	0
Ames Morning (69)	6,900	4,620	56	66.96
Ames (264)	35,750	10,670	27	40.42
Ankeny (60)	7,400	3,825	34	63.75
Atlantic (66)	3,300	84	2	1.27
Bettendorf (88)	9,100	7,500	79	85.23
Bloomfield (14)	1,400	0	0	0
Boone (62)	5,525	1,000	21	16.13
Burlington (96)	11,300	5,470	52	56.98
Carroll (59)	5,500	5,125	88	86.86
Centerville (40)	1,000	1,610	38	40.25
Chariton (54)	5,200	0	0	0
Clinton (124)	7,600	2,604	32	21.00
Coon Rapids (27)	2,600	0	0	0
Coralville-North Corridor (33)	6,300	0	0	0
Corning (53)	2,160	0	0	0
Corydon (15)	460	0	0	0
Creston (18)	475	0	0	0
Dallas Center (22)	2,400	0	0	0
Davenport (174)	13,650	1,200	7	6.90
Decatur County (17)	2,500	0	0	0
Des Moines AM (134)	14,850	375	3	2.80
Des Moines (345)	18,250	11,675	49	33.84
East Polk County (37)	2,250	5,437	136	146.96
Fairfield (68)	7,400	1,075	14	15.81
Fort Madison (55)	2,500	50	1	0.91
Grinnell (32)	2,500	0	0	0
Indianola (51)	5,400	250	4	4.90
Iowa City AM (57)	7,250	2,050	28	35.96
Iowa City Downtown (26)	3,000	0	0	0
Iowa City (308)	23,100	12,500	48	40.58
Iowa Quad-Cities (53)	1,500	600	23	11.32
Jefferson (57)	5,300	1,500	27	26.32
Johnston (47)	4,100	4,000	91	85.11
Kalona (45)	2,500	850	40	18.89
Keokuk (82)	3,950	1,259	16	15.35
Keosauqua (28)	2,300	427	19	15.25
Knoxville (68)	6,700	0	0	0
Lenox (26)	1,800	875	31	33.65
Manning (17)	1,200	0	0	0
Marengo (15)	1,000	0	0	0
Marshalltown (175)	10,000	1,075	11	6.14
Mount Pleasant Noon (34)	3,330	480	15	14.12
Mt. Pleasant (25)	2,520	450	16	18.00
Muscatine (131)	16,200	7,723	45	58.96
Nevada (61)	6,800	0	0	0
Newton (80)	9,500	1,400	16	17.50
North Scott (99)	10,800	3,575	34	36.11
Northwest Des Moines (58)	12,780	0	0	0
Osceola (34)	2,160	175	7	5.15
Oskaloosa (58)	6,000	1,127	20	19.43
Ottumwa (112)	11,500	11,450	91	102.23
Pella (39)	4,000	0	0	0
Perry (31)	3,400	0	0	0
Tipton (32)	2,201	0	0	0
Washington (62)	6,200	0	0	0
Waukee (57)	6,800	0	0	0
Wellman (33)	3,400	935	24	28.33
West Des Moines (81)	7,200	535	6	6.60
West Liberty (33)	3,600	2,500	33	75.76
Winterset (31)	1,850	0	0	0
Total	\$ 427,077	\$118,167	27.67	\$ 27.91

News Briefs

M.O.S.T.: The fourth trip of the Iowa Miles Of Smiles Team (M.O.S.T.) to Guatemala, where they will perform cleft lip and palate surgeries for indigent residents, will be Feb. 12-22. The 26-member team will perform services in the village of Huehuetenango, which is where Rotarians also support a medical clinic and water projects. You can follow the team's work at www.iowamost.blogspot.com. Team leaders welcome the opportunity to present a program to clubs about this extraordinary work. Contact: Team leader PDG Gary Pacha, (319) 351-6251 or gpacha@aol.com.
* * *

Youth Exchange: The District 6000 Rotary Youth Exchange Winter Retreat for inbound and outbound students will be Jan. 17-18 at Camp Wesley Woods, near Indianola. Information: Chris Knapp, Rotary Club of Iowa City AM, (319) 338-0909.
* * *

Training: Here are two important dates for all clubs: The annual President-Elect Training Seminar (P.E.T.S.) for 2009-10 club presidents will be Friday, March 27 at the DMAC Center in Newton. The District Training Assembly for all club officers and leaders will be the next day, Saturday, March 28 at the same location. Watch for details on registration and lodging.
* * *

RYLA: The Rotary Club of West Des Moines will sponsor a Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) day for youth from District 6000 on Thursday, April 16 at Camp Dodge, Johnston. Clubs should watch for an invitation in early 2009 to sponsor students from your community.
* * *

Scholars: District 6000 has supported three Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholars annually for more than 25 years. Two current and one recent scholars provided Internet addresses for *District 6000 News* that give Rotarians an opportunity to log on and follow their activities:

- Priyanka Rao, sponsored by the Rotary Clubs of Iowa City and Coralville/North Corridor, is studying at the Universidad San Francisco de Quito in Quito, Ecuador: <http://priyankarao.blogspot.com/>
- Chis Deal of Jefferson, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Ames Morning, is studying renewable energy at Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda: <http://intl-devl.wikispaces.com/>



Governor Susan Herrick (above) led the way at the Past District Governor Christmas Party Nov. 16 aboard the Boone Scenic Railroad en route to the YMCA Camp. PDG Paul Hellwege enjoys a moment with the conductor (top, right) as PDGs and spouses travel in the diner car (r).



- Andy Stoll of Iowa City was an Ambassadorial Scholar in Hong Kong and is traveling the world, currently in Australia and southeast Asia:

<http://noboundaries.org/>
* * *

Rotary Art: World-renowned artist P. Buckley Moss has produced two pieces of art to honor Rotary's work in the world:

1. A numbered print, "Peace Through Rotary Service," 12-3/4" x 12". (3,000 copies were made.) The unframed print costs \$125.

2. A poster, "Rotary International, Bridging the World, Peace Through Service," 25-1/2" x 16". The cost is \$50.

Ten percent of the purchase price of each print will be donated to The Rotary Foundation. Part of this donation will be matched by the Gates Challenge Grant for Rotary's Polio Plus Program. If your Rotary club would like to get involved, call (800) 430-1320.

Prints are currently available for framing at select stores, or the art can be viewed at: <http://www.pbuckleymoss.com/Rotary.html>.



These Rotary leaders got their foreheads tattooed because Rotarians at the Zone 27-28 Institute met the challenge to raise \$20,000 on the spot for polio eradication: Frank Goldberg, Omaha (past director), John Kenny, Scotland (president-elect), Tom Thorfinnson, Eden Prairie, MN (director-elect), Mike Johns, Chagrin Falls, OH (director) and Sam Okudzeto, Ghana (RRFC).

Letter

Litwillers safe from terrorists in Mumbai

DGE Cal Litwiller and Rachel of Mt. Pleasant spent two weeks in Nigeria during November and were in Mumbai, India, on Nov. 26 when seven terrorist explosions claimed 174 lives. The following letter was received on Dec. 3.

Shortly after they return home in December, they'll be headed to San Diego for the International Assembly on Jan. 18-25, where they'll receive training for their year starting July 1, 2009, along with the 532 governors of Rotary International.

On Feb. 20-21, they'll convene training, at Newton, for the district's 2009-10 assistant governors:

Dear Rotarians,

Hello to each of you! We understand that there is some concern for our welfare while we are here in India, given all that has happened in Mumbai. The terrorists arrived at 9:30 p.m. on the 26th and we arrived at the airport at 5:00 a.m. on the 27th. We noticed the military police, but thought that it was the usual procedure, until we found out what was happening. We were not close to where all of the trouble was happening. The terrorists were in the south of Mumbai, and we were with Rotarians in a suburb in the north of Mumbai. Of course, we have seen all of the news reports and all that has been happening but have not personally been in danger. We have been with Rotarians for all of our time.

We took the overnight train from Mumbai to Aurangbad, arriving at 4:00 in the morning. Now that is quite an experience. Tonight, we will be taking the overnight train from Surat to Rojkot, arriving at 8:00 in the morning.

We have really seen some incredible things. Yesterday we went into a very remote village where Rotary was holding an eye camp. They checked over 600 local people, identifying around 100 people with cataracts, then transporting them to a local hospital where they had the cataracts removed – \$50 per surgery. I was able to put on the hospital garb and go into the operating room and actually observe the doctor remove the cataract. What an experience!!!

We visited some caves that have been

carved by monks around 100 BC to 500 AD. Unbelievable what they have done. It will be difficult to know what photos to show when we arrive home. The weather has been very nice every day. NO SNOW!!!

I hope this finds you all doing very well and anticipating the Christmas season.

Thank you for your prayers for our safety. To date we have been in very good company.

Love, Cal and Rachel

CLUB ATTENDANCE PERCENT AND RANK August - October, 2008

CLUB	AUGUST		SEPTEMBER		OCTOBER	
	Percent	Rank	Percent	Rank	Percent	Rank
Adel	58.00 %	40	65.00 %	31	74.00 %	16
Albia	50.80 %	50	55.10 %	43	52.30 %	42
Ames	57.00 %	43	55.00 %	44	53.00 %	41
Ames Morning	51.10 %	49	54.70 %	46	53.50 %	40
Ankeny	72.00 %	18	81.00 %	12	72.00 %	21
Atlantic	57.14 %	42	63.89 %	32	64.29 %	30
Bettendorf	84.40 %	6	80.65 %	13	79.21 %	11
Bloomfield	69.00 %	22	88.00 %	5		
Boone	56.00 %	44	54.00 %	47		
Burlington	82.90 %	9	93.20 %	2	87.10 %	3
Carroll	70.37 %	21	72.84 %	22	67.59 %	24
Centerville	54.00 %	45	63.00 %	34	54.00 %	39
Chariton	76.00 %	13	74.00 %	20	75.00 %	15
Clinton	61.08 %	35	62.91 %	35	54.06 %	38
Coon Rapids	59.00 %	39	62.00 %	36	58.00 %	35
Coralville-North Corridor	86.00 %	3	93.00 %	3	88.00 %	2
Corning	60.10 %	38	65.38 %	29	79.81 %	10
Corydon	48.00 %	52	45.00 %	51		
Creston	67.00 %	27	72.00 %	23	72.00 %	20
Dallas Center	65.00 %	28	61.00 %	37	62.00 %	33
Davenport	46.87 %	53	49.52 %	50	49.53 %	46
Decatur County	72.00 %	17	87.00 %	7	78.00 %	12
Des Moines	52.72 %	47	52.00 %	48	47.00 %	47
Des Moines A.M.						
East Polk County	85.00 %	5			65.00 %	28
Fairfield	52.14 %	48	42.88 %	52		
Fort Madison	62.50 %	33	65.19 %	30		
Grinnell			75.00 %	18		
Indianola	64.00 %	30				
Iowa City	68.00 %	25	70.00 %	26	69.00 %	22
Iowa City A.M.						
Iowa City Downtown	61.00 %	36	66.00 %	28	50.00 %	45
Iowa Quad-Cities	63.68 %	31	58.02 %	39	58.87 %	34
Jefferson	68.57 %	23	68.78 %	27		
Johnston	74.65 %	15	74.04 %	19	73.28 %	18
Kalona	70.41 %	20	78.20 %	15	76.61 %	14
Keokuk	46.76 %	54	51.23 %	49	50.62 %	44
Keosauqua	41.00 %	55	56.80 %	41	51.00 %	43
Knoxville	67.68 %	26	63.64 %	33	64.62 %	29
Lenox	85.00 %	4	70.00 %	25		
Manning	75.00 %	14	80.00 %	14	81.00 %	8
Marengo	68.00 %	24			72.00 %	19
Marshalltown	48.54 %	51			55.55 %	36
Mount Pleasant Noon	0.64 %	56	61.00 %	38		
Mt. Pleasant	87.00 %	2	90.00 %	4		
Muscatine						
Nevada	71.35 %	19	73.10 %	21	73.60 %	17
Newton					66.00 %	26
North Scott	83.87 %	7			83.58 %	5
Northwest Des Moines	82.63 %	10	82.27 %	11	83.21 %	6
Osceola	57.41 %	41	54.81 %	45	54.63 %	37
Oskaloosa	60.80 %	37	70.30 %	24	67.30 %	25
Ottumwa	64.00 %	29	58.00 %	40	63.00 %	32
Pella	74.00 %	16	87.50 %	6	85.63 %	4
Perry						
Tipton	63.00 %	32	75.56 %	17	65.86 %	27
Washington	53.69 %	46	77.08 %	16	63.04 %	31
Waukee	83.19 %	8	84.62 %	10	77.78 %	13
Wellman	97.50 %	1	97.50 %	1	96.25 %	1
West Des Moines	61.17 %	34	56.11 %	42	67.86 %	23
West Liberty	81.00 %	11	86.00 %	8	80.00 %	9
Winterset	78.30 %	12	85.00 %	9	82.67 %	7

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

Club leaders' checklist



From DG Susan Herrick . . .

- Secretaries submit 2009-10 officers to RI and District administrator Carolyn Scharff (both, please!) by Dec. 31.
- Identify and support projects that address substance abuse and child mortality (Governor's Citation).
- Plan campaigns and projects to tie in with District 6000's PR blitz in February, including Rotary Day (p. 3).
- Register members for the 2009 RI Convention in Birmingham, England, and watch for registration information for P.E.T.S., District Assembly and District Conference.
- Give \$2⁰⁰ per member to the Youth Services Fund to support youth involvement in international projects (p. 23).
- Experience Xicotepec without traveling to Mexico by supporting items from the scholarship menu (p. 4).
- Notify GSE Inbound coordinator Mark Snell, (515) 296-2348, if your club is interested in hosting the GSE team from Taiwan in April.
- Participate in District 6000 disaster relief programs for Iowa flood victims (p. 3, 16-18).
- Vote on enactments that D6000 hopes to submit to the Council on Legislation by Dec. 31 (p. 4).
- Collect eyeglasses by Feb. 15 for the poor in Honduras (p. 10).
- Support Youth Exchange by buying the 2009 District 6000 Rotary Youth Exchange calendar (p. 11).
- Plan community activities to create awareness of polio eradication and meet or exceed your club's three-year goal for PolioPlus Partners (p. 12).
- Ask your club to sponsor a student(s) for the Rotary World Affairs Conference in Wisconsin-Whitewater (p. 14).
- Explore the possibilities of RotaKids and Interact in your community (p. 20-21, 26-27).
- Invite members to participate in polio NIDs (p. 23).
- Invite members to sign up for Week No. 1 of the Xicotepec Project Team (p. 24).
- Review criteria for district and international awards, and work to achieve them (insert).
- Personally invite a member to Rotary and plan membership development strategies for 2008-09.
- Lead by example, and ask members to increase giving to The Rotary Foundation, including Sustaining Members (\$100/year); Paul Harris Society Members (\$1,000/year); Major Donors (combined personal outright or cumulative giving to the Annual Programs Fund of \$10,000); Benefactors (minimum \$1,000 to the Permanent Fund as an outright gift or in an estate plan); and Bequest Society Members (\$10,000 or more for The Rotary Foundation in an estate plan) (p. 24, 29).
- Submit news of your club's successes or upcoming events by Feb. 21, 2009 for the next issue of *District 6000 News* to PDG Bill Tubbs, or Karin Franklin (Iowa City) or Jacque Andrews (Jefferson).

Ways to recognize Rotary clubs, individual Rotarians for service

The following information about ways to recognize individual Rotarians and Rotary clubs was e-mailed to club presidents and secretaries last week. Here it is in printed form:

By PDG Del Bluhm/Ames

D6000, Club Awards and Recognition chair

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

It was our goal to give an overview of all of the various awards that are available as club-based awards, and as Rotary International and district-based awards in the last Jun/Jul/Aug issue of District 6000 News. In this issue of the District 6000 News for Sep/Oct/Nov and in the next issue for Dec/Jan/Feb we are giving a more detailed description of each award or recognition, including the criteria that must be met.

* * *

Rotary awards available to your club and members:

During this Rotary year there are many opportunities to recognize D-6000 Rotarians and our clubs for their hard work and dedication to help achieve the goals and ideals of Rotary in our clubs, our communities, our district, and throughout the world. The following is a list of Rotary awards that can be presented this 2008-09 Rotary year.

* * *

I. Detailed description of club-based awards:

Club-based awards are available for presentation at your club meetings at any time during the Rotary year:

Family and Community Service Award (for individuals or organizations)

Nominators: Rotary clubs

Deadline: Ongoing

This award is a certificate that your club can present to individuals or organizations for outstanding service to families and communities or in recognition of positive contributions to individual Rotary clubs made by spouses and/or family members of Rotarians. Each club determines the number of certificates they present. Your Rotary club can present these awards any time during this Rotary year. Certificates can be ordered from RI Publications Order Services costing \$2.50 for 10 certificates. Your Rotary club can present these awards any time during this Rotary year.

Four Avenues of Service Citation (for Individual Rotarians)

Nominators: Club presidents

Deadline: 15 April

Each Rotary club may recognize one of their members for his/her outstanding efforts in the Four Avenues of Service. Clubs may submit requests for recognition at any time during this Rotary year. Enter "Four Avenues of Service Citation" in the RI web site search box for the nomination form.

II. Detailed description of Rotary International and district-based awards:

External Relations Best Cooperative Projects Award (for clubs)

Nominators: District governors

Deadlines: 15 March, clubs submit applications to district governor; 15 April district governor submits up to five nominations to RI

This award recognizes clubs that conduct outstanding projects in cooperation with other local, national, or international organizations. District Governor Susan may submit up to five nominations to RI.

Award Criteria

- The project must have been undertaken in collaboration with a non-Rotary organization. Projects undertaken in collaboration only with other Rotary clubs will not be considered. However, projects undertaken by multiple Rotary clubs in cooperation with other non-Rotary organizations are eligible.

- The project must have been well established during the 12 months prior to March 15, 2009.

An application form can be downloaded from the RI web site. Your nomination must be submitted to District Governor Susan by March 15, 2009.

Service Award for a Polio-Free World (for Rotarians)

Nominators: Any Rotarian

Deadline: 1 November

This annual award was established by the Trustees of The Rotary Foundation to recognize outstanding contributions to the polio eradication effort and to encourage participation in the final eradication work. Active personal service is required by the prospective recipient of the award. Financial contributions, however noteworthy, are not a basis for the award. Since the service to be recognized relates to the eradication target phase of Rotary efforts, only service which has occurred since 1 November 1992 is recognizable. This award includes:

- Regional awards for outstanding service in polio eradication solely or primarily with the region, with regions coinciding with WHO regions, will be made annually, not to exceed ten per region.

- International awards for board service to the cause of polio eradication, will be made annually, not to exceed ten individuals.

A Rotarian may receive only one of each award. Any Rotarian is eligible except current and incoming trustees, directors and district governors are not eligible to receive either of these awards.

The criteria and guidelines plus the nomination form are available on the RI Website. This information can also be downloaded from the District 6000 Website.

RI Membership Development & Extension Award – MDEA (for clubs)

Nominators: District governors

Deadline: Beginning 15 May, district governors submit recognition forms to RI.

(Continued on reverse)

Rotary awards and recognition

(Continued from other side)

This certificate is given to recognize clubs for membership growth, retention of current club members, and the organization of new clubs. The annual RI Membership Development and Extension Award is given to clubs within District 6000 based on their achievements during the 1 July-15 May time frame recognizing clubs for membership growth in the following categories:

- Overall growth: club with the highest growth rate (percentage)

- Recruitment: club with the most new members inducted

- Retention: club with the highest retention rate* (percentage)

- New clubs: club(s) that sponsored a new club(s)

*The retention rate is the percentage of club members who joined the club on or before 1 July and are still members of the club on 15 May.

RI Recognition of Membership Development Initiatives - MDI (for clubs)

Nominators: District governors

Deadlines: District governors must receive submissions from clubs by 15 April. RI must receive submission forms from district governors by 15 May.

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

Guidelines for Clubs:

Submit a detailed explanation of your club's strategy, initiative, or program to District Governor Susan no later than April 1, 2009. You might consider these questions as you write:

- What is the purpose of the strategy or program?

- What was the initial problem or challenge?

- What regional factors, issues, or trends were affecting membership?

- What process or procedures does the program follow?

- Who has been involved?

- What has been accomplished?

- What was the program's long-term success?

- What modifications have been adopted?

- What was the cost of implementation?

Please limit your explanation to two pages.

Recognition of Smaller Club Membership Growth (for clubs)

Nominators: District governors

Deadlines: District governors have from 16 May to 30 June to submit recognition forms to RI.

Recognition of Smaller Club Membership Growth certificates will be awarded to clubs that fall below the charter requirement of 20 members by recognizing the challenges and achievements of small clubs that meet their membership goal during the 1 July-15 May time frame in three size categories:

Club Category Membership Goal

Fewer than 10 members At least 10 members

10-14 members At least 15 members

15-19 members At least 20 members

If your club meets these criteria, notify DG Susan by May 15,

2009. District Governor Susan will submit the names of all qualifying clubs to RI after May 15, 2009. Each recognized club will receive a certificate signed by the RI President D. K. Lee.

Presidential Citation (for clubs)

Nominators: District governors

Deadlines: 15 April

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

District Governor Susan's Club Recognition Award (for clubs)

Nominators: District governors

Deadlines: 1 April

This year's District Governor Recognition Program focuses on club involvement in public relations, literacy, matching grants, membership, and foundation activities. A copy of the criteria and the certification form was placed in the "D-6000 Presidents Notebook" that they each received at PETS. This information can also be downloaded from District 6000 Website at www.rotary6000.org. Club presidents must submit this certification form to DG Susan no later than April 1, 2009.

III. Detailed Description of Rotary International and District Based Awards to be Continued in the next issue of D-6000 News Dec/Jan/Feb.

A Detailed Description of the following Awards will be included in the next issue of the D-6000 Newsletter, such as:

- Public Relations Award (for clubs)

- Significant Achievement Award (for clubs)

- RI Service Above Self Award (for Rotarians)

- Rotary Volunteers Certificate of Recognition (for Rotary Volunteers)

- The Rotary Foundation District Service Award (for Rotarians)

- The Rotary Foundation Citation for Meritorious Service (for Rotarians)

- The Rotary Foundation Distinguished Service Award (for Rotarians)

- The Rotary Foundation Global Alumni Service to Humanity Award (for alumni)

- The Rotary Foundation Contribution Recognition (for Rotarians)

More Information About RI Awards (for clubs and Rotarians)

For additional information or questions, please contact D-6000 Club Awards and Recognition Committee Chair Del Bluhm at: (515) 232-5163 (H), (515) 450-1110 (C), or bluhm@iastate.edu.

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