

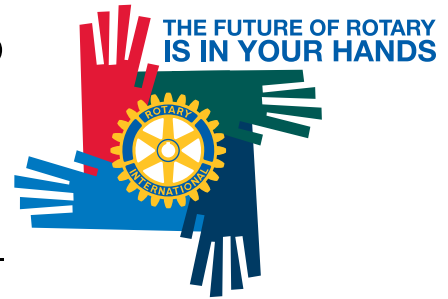
# District 6000 News

Rotary International, District 6000, Iowa USA

Calvin Litwiller, Governor

– A Global Network of Community Volunteers –

September/October/November 2009



## *Governor's comments . . .*

# Celebrating our cherished traditions

**By DG Cal Litwiller/Mt. Pleasant**

At the Rotary International Convention in 1935, our founder Paul Harris said: "Friendship is the Foundation Rock on which Rotary was built. Tolerance is the element that will hold us together." It is in this spirit of friendship and tolerance that I share my experience of this special season with you.

As a kid, the December holiday season was always a favorite time of the year. I looked forward to celebrating Christmas with my family. Christmas always included the traditional Christmas program at the one-room country grade school I attended as well as the Christmas program at our local church.

School was out around Dec. 23 and the excitement began. My parents did not emphasize Santa Claus but we all waited patiently for the arrival of Dec. 25. Christmas day began with the morning farm chores followed by opening our presents, going to church if there was a service on Christmas day, and later the family Christmas meal at which time we all reflected on our blessings during the past year.



**Cal Litwiller**  
District Governor

To this day, I have cherished this tradition of celebrating and reflecting with my family.

No matter what we celebrate, be it Christmas, Hannukah, Kwanzaa, Divali, EID or any other occasion, this time of the year is very special. Celebrating with family makes a difference. It gives us an opportunity to come together, to reflect on who we are, and give thanks for what we have. One thing I know for certain, in the grand scheme of things there is nothing more important than our families. Our families should come first, then our occupations and then our commitment to Rotary.

It is imperative that as we initiate good in the world, we first and foremost, do good for our families. A young member of our district said, "Sometimes the biggest obstacle to my being able to go out the door to do the work of Rotary is my wife, because she does not understand what it is that I am doing and why." If Rotary is going to be a strong and growing organization we must tend to our families and I would submit, that begins by involving them in what we do in Rotary.

R.I. President John Kenny has said, "Every club should strive to

**GOVERNOR/continued on p. 2**

# Polio chair optimistic about achieving eradication



Bob Scott, the leader of Rotary's global campaign to eradicate polio, delivered an optimistic report at a Rotary Foundation Recognition Dinner hosted by District 5970 at the Maucker Union on the UNI campus in Cedar Falls.

**By PDG Bill Tubbs/North Scott**

Bob Scott could hardly contain his enthusiasm. For the first time in five years the chair of Rotary's global campaign to eradicate polio had a very positive story to tell.

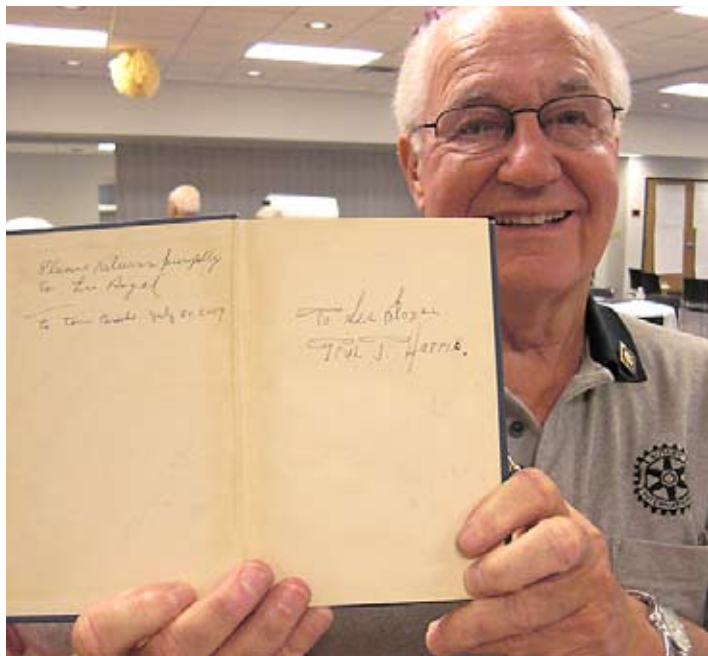
Speaking at a banquet that preceded an extraordinary Itzhak Perlman concert Nov. 8 on the campus of the University of Northern Iowa in Cedar Falls, Scott said that after five years at a standstill, "eradication is really advancing."

"We've got the virus cornered in India," said Scott, a medical doctor from Canada who spent the last several years traveling the world mustering the leadership and will to conquer the disease that claimed

**POLIO/continued on p. 5**

## Autobiography signed by Rotary founder Paul Harris given to West Liberty club

West Liberty Rotarian Tom Brooke proudly displays an autobiography of Rotary founder Paul Harris, signed by the author. The book was presented to Dr. Lester A Royal, founder of the Rotary Club of West Liberty, who served as District Governor in 1939-40. This district, No. 132, was the largest district in Rotary International at that time, comprising 80 clubs and including all of Iowa except the western tier of counties. After Dr. Royal passed away and his son-in-law, Dr. Treadwell Robertson, also a Rotarian, retired, much Rotary material was handed over to West Liberty Rotarian Robert Cline. A few months ago, he discovered this historic artifact and presented it to Brooke, a 58-year member of the West Liberty club, to be placed in the archives of the club.



## 'We are presented the challenge to give back'

### GOVERNOR'S COMMENTS/continued

achieve a balanced interaction between Rotarians and their families – and the family of Rotary. Only by working together, as a family, can we ensure that the Rotary of today grows into an even stronger Rotary of tomorrow.”

At this holiday season, know that while the temporal is filled with uncertainty and doubt ... the spiritual is built on the solid rock of our faith. It is my prayer for my family and yours ... that all is well, and that the blessings of this holiday season will be and abide with you and those you love.

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**Imagine:** The playwright George Bernard Shaw once wrote, “Imagination is the beginning of creation. You imagine what you desire; you will what you imagine; and at last you create what you will.”

There is no shortage in this world of people able to imagine a better future. But in Rotary, we do not just imagine that future – we will it, and we work to create it. This we do through our two great strengths: our Rotary clubs and our Rotary Foundation.

Over the past five months Rachel and I have been privileged to witness firsthand the fruits of the outstanding work carried out by the Rotarians of District 6000, and in some cases supported by the programs of our Foundation. One thing that impresses me is how these programs focus not on short-term satisfaction or reward for the giver, but on building for the future – and making lives better for generations.

District 6000 Rotarians are raising money in numerous ways, ranging from auctions, pancake breakfasts, raffles, etc. This money is put to more uses than I can enumerate, but one thing is consistent – each project is making a positive impact on your communities.

We are presented with the challenge to give back and make a difference in the lives of our fellow human beings. This year more

than ever that challenge is shouting at us – right here in our midst. Rotarians in District 6000 are reaching out and meeting these challenges on a daily basis.

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*There are several general updates and opportunities that I would like to bring to your attention as you plan for 2010.*

**Club Visits:** As of Nov. 24, Rachel and I have had the unique opportunity to make our official visit to all 63 clubs in our district – an experience of a lifetime. Every club board meeting was a time to learn and share. Every club is unique and special in its own way. I am proud of the dedication

and commitment of each club making a difference in its community and the world. I will always cherish this experience as a highlight of my life.

I thank you for your warm welcome and the honor to address your club. Rachel and I are truly grateful. Just like RI President John Kenny said, “There is no question that I have reaped more than I have sown.”

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**Friendship Exchange:** Your District 6000 Rotary Friendship Exchange Committee is working on plans to send Rotary Friendship Exchange teams to two Rotary districts in the next 12 months. Aug. 27 through Sept. 7, 2010 will take a group of Rotarians to District 5080, Washington and British Columbia. All of the time will be spent in British Columbia. October 2010 will also take a group of Rotarians to South Africa, exact dates and district are to be determined. If you are interested in either of these exchanges, contact Al Orsborn from the Rotary Club of Ottumwa at [acokmo@yahoo.com](mailto:acokmo@yahoo.com)

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**GOVERNOR/continued on p. 3**



# Opportunities for Rotarians and spouses

## GOVERNOR/continued

**Rotary Volunteers:** District 6000 Rotary Volunteers chair Merle Anderson is encouraging Rotarians to consider joining a Rotary International Volunteer initiative some place in the Rotary world. At the present time he has an opportunity in Zambia, where volunteers will spend 26 days in a village building mud huts for local inhabitants, as well as doing some traveling to nearby game parks and other points of interest, e.g. Victoria Falls. A listing of other volunteer opportunities is listed at [www.rotary.org/volunteers](http://www.rotary.org/volunteers).

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**Care Bears for The Iowa National Guard:** Clubs will be receiving information about how they can become involved with the Iowa National Guard Care Bears project. The National Guard Auxiliary is raising money, state-wide, to pay for Care Bears that will be given to children of soon-to-be-deployed National Guard servicemen at the time of their deployment. Information will be forthcoming as to how our Rotary clubs can join the Iowa National Guard Officers Auxiliary in this endeavor (see page 6).

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**International Convention:** The early deadline for registration for the 2010 Rotary International Convention in Montreal Canada is Dec. 15, 2009. After this date the registration fee will increase \$50. Special speakers will be Dolly Parton, Greg Mortenson, of "Three Cups of Tea," and Jo Luck, of "The Heifer Project." I am sure you will enjoy Montreal because of its diversity and old world charm. This is an opportunity to feel like you are visiting Europe without ever leaving the continent. AND, as long as the US dollar remains strong, you can expect some great bargains heading into Canada.

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**District Conference 2010:** Registration materials will soon be released for the 2010 District Conference in Burlington, Iowa. Your District Conference Committee under the direction of Joyce Vance and Gwen Baker, from the Rotary Club of Burlington, are busy planning an eventful and enjoyable conference for each one of us.

We are looking forward to having Charlie Wittmack, from the Rotary Club of Des Moines, speak at our Saturday luncheon. We have invited Alex Buchannan, from Australia, to talk about being an Ambassadorial Scholar in 1959-60 as well as the contributions he has made since that time in his field of expertise. Hopefully Christy Vilsack will be able to join us, as we celebrate "20 years of Women in Rotary." There will be fun and games for all ages at the Pzazz Convention Center, Burlington, Iowa, April 23-25, 2010.

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**Rotary International Insurance Changes:** The RI Board of Directors has approved adding Directors & Officers/Employment Practices Liability (D&O/EPL) insurance to the program, effective Jan. 1, 2010.

Directors & Officers Liability (D&O) insurance provides coverage for claims made against club/district directors and officers that result from their activities, such as managing the financial affairs

GOVERNOR/continued on p. 4



## Outbound GSE team

DG Cal Litwiller (r) and Rachel (l) met with District 6000's Outbound Group Study Exchange team that will leave Feb. 26 for a month in District 9790, Melbourne, Australia. Team leader (second from left) is Rita Perea of the Rotary Club of Greater Des Moines, and team members are (l-r): Natasha Boland of Iowa City, an international studies program assistant at the University of Iowa (sponsored by the Rotary Club of Iowa City); Cara George of Norwalk, a personal lines service supervisor for Allied Insurance (Rotary Club of Des Moines); Kyla Kiester of Des Moines, project manager for Iowa Healthcare Collaborative (Rotary Club of Des Moines); and Julie Stevens of Delmar, an instructor and landscape architect with Northeast Iowa Community College (Rotary Club of North Scott).

## District receives PR grant

### By PDG Bill Tubbs/North Scott

Rotary International has notified District 6000 that a \$9,000 grant has been approved to enhance Rotary's public image. When combined with \$9,000 received by District 5970 (northern Iowa) and the required one third district matches, \$24,000 will be spent on the campaign, which includes a corporate partnership with Iowa Public TV, 30-minute localized "This Is Rotary" placements on Mediacom Connections Channel 22 and Video on Demand, and small space "starter" ads in newspapers in towns with Rotary clubs. Clubs are encouraged to use the "starter" ads to create special promotions with their local newspapers. The cable schedule and 15-second Public TV messages will run in February and March, and Rotarians will host one night at IPTV's Festival.



The District 6000 Public Relations Committee (l-r): PDG Bill Tubbs (chair), AG Jim Riordan (Waukee), AG Linda Hartkopf (Atlantic), DGN Don Patterson (Washington), PDG Susan Herrick (Boone), Mark Osmundson (Marshalltown), DGE Gary Welch (Ankeny) and DG Cal Litwiller (Mt. Pleasant).



Peggy and Terry Geiger

## Terry Geiger nominated for District Governor 2012-13

By PDG Dale Belknap/Des Moines

District Nominations Committee chair

In November, the District 6000 Nominating Committee interviewed candidates for District Governor Nominee 2012-2013. The committee selected Terry Geiger of the Rotary Club of Decatur County.

Terry has been a member of Rotary since 1976, and a member of the Decatur County club since 1998. He is a native of Seward, Neb., and he and his wife Peggy most recently moved back to Iowa in 1998, where Terry assumed the position of president of the Citizens Bank in Leon, Iowa. Peggy is affiliated with Graceland College in educational administration.

Terry has had an interesting career in the banking management field. After receiving his economics degree at Lawrence University in Appleton, Wis., he has worked in several locations, including Glenwood, Ia., Kearney, Neb., Tecumseh, Neb., Genoa, Neb., and finally Leon, Ia. He retired from Great Western Bank in Leon in 2008.

Terry has been active in many organizations, including serving on the boards of Decatur County Hospital, Decatur County Development Corporation and the South Central Iowa Community Foundation.

Terry's Rotary career includes being president of the Rotary Club of Decatur County in 2000-2001. In 2010, he will have completed three years serving as District 6000 Assistant Governor. Terry and Peggy have a strong interest in the District 6000 Rotary Youth Exchange program. They have been counselors since 1999, and have chaperoned two Youth Exchange trips across the USA. Also, they have hosted three youth exchange students in their home.

We appreciate the dedication of Terry and Peggy, and look forward to their leadership of Rotary District 6000 in 2012-2013.

Future district governors in District 6000: Gary Welch (Ankeny), 2010-11; and Don Patterson (Washington), 2011-12.

## Involve Rotaract and Interact youth in activities

GOVERNOR/continued

of and establishing policies for the organization. D&O insurance would protect the club/district as an organization and each director and officer individually against claims/lawsuits arising out of alleged wrongful acts committed in good faith, subject to policy terms and conditions.

Employment Practices Liability (EPL) insurance provides coverage for claims arising out of club/district employment/membership related practices, such as sexual harassment, wrongful termination, or discrimination. Note: Club members are included in the policy definition of employee.

Club presidents and secretaries will be receiving more information on this insurance in the near future

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**Polio Plus:** Please look through this newsletter for updates on Rotary International's polio eradication effort. Two decades ago, we Rotarians made a promise: to make life better for the entire world, forever, by eliminating polio. It has always been an ambitious goal, but it has always been a realistic one. And now, thanks to our Rotary Foundation, we are closer than ever to reaching it.

It is my hope that with the help of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and Rotary's \$200 Million Challenge, there will soon come a time when we will be able to say that we have made polio a thing of the past. If we fail now, we will fail all those who have gone before us, and every child to whom we made a promise. If we fail, we risk our own good name, and the good name of all the Rotarians who came before us.

The numbers of new polio cases in some of the endemic countries show a very positive decrease, and the news from RI is that we have cleared the \$100 million hurdle, as we press on toward the \$200 million goal. We will not fail. We can and we must succeed.

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**Rotaract and Interact Clubs:** I would like to encourage each of our District 6000 Rotary clubs to consider ways that they can initiate new activities that will encourage our younger community members to join Rotary. In Rotary we have over 12,000 Interact and 7700 Rotaract clubs with a total of more than 440,000 members.



District 6000 has 11 Interact clubs and three Rotaract clubs. Members of these clubs represent potential Rotarians in the future. Cultivate a relationship with these young people to encourage them to become more involved in their clubs and to have joint activities with their host Rotary clubs. The future of Rotary lies in their involvement in the future.

I know that each one of you recognizes that The Future of Rotary Is in Your Hands.

### Rotary's Core Values

- Fun and Fellowship
- Integrity
- Service
- Leadership Development
- Diversity



# New vaccines reduce polio case counts

**POLIO**/continued from p. 1

350,000 lives in 1987 when Rotary said it would lead the way toward eradication.

The global polio case count dropped below 500 in 2003 but climbed to 1,500 in 2008. Just four countries – best remembered by the initials PAIN – remain where the wild polio virus is endemic: Pakistan, Afghanistan, India and Nigeria.

The year-to-date case counts for 2009 look high, but they don't reflect the progress that has been achieved in the last six months, said Scott. Maps of case counts in Uttar Pradesh (northern India) illustrated the point. Polio is disappearing. The new bivalent OPV that attacks polio viruses Types 1 and 3 is working. (Type 2 was eradicated in 1999.) There are noticeably fewer dots on the map. Polio is on the run.

"The monovalent Type 3 didn't work as well as we hoped, but when we mix Type 1 and Type 3 together, it's working," Scott said.



It was also discovered that zinc helps children with diarrhea absorb the vaccine so medical teams go into the villages two

weeks ahead of the immunization days and administer zinc.

The results have been profound. Scott said new vaccines must be licensed by governments and India had not yet approved the bivalent OPV, but he was confident they would. To show its support, the government of India pledged \$657 over three years to the cause.

The news is equally positive in Nigeria, the other polio hot spot. Through the end of October there had been 382 cases there in 2009 compared with 740 in 2008, but the 2009 statistics were in the first half of the year.

"In January, February and March they had polio everywhere in



Representing District 6000 at the District 5970 Rotary Foundation Recognition Dinner at the University of Northern Iowa were PDG Don Goering (l) and PDG Bill Tubbs (second from right), with Rotary Foundation manager John Osterlund (second from left) and Rotary International Public Relations Department manager David Alexander (r). Doris Goering and Linda Tubbs were also in attendance.

Nigeria," said Scott, "but in the fourth quarter of 2009 there has been not one case of Type 1 polio in Nigeria, and for six months they have had not one case of Type 1 polio in northern Nigeria (where the case count was worst).

"Our friends in Nigeria are doing miracle work. In 2009, India and Nigeria finally passed critical milestones to complete eradication," Scott declared, and received thundering applause from the 800 Rotarians and supporters in attendance.

The case counts are smaller in Pakistan and Afghanistan and are most active where there is fighting, but Scott and others have had personal meetings with the heads of state to move eradication forward. He said the president of Pakistan became extremely interested in polio eradication.



Itzhak Perlman

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Scott projects the cost of the campaign that started in 1988 to reach \$7.13 billion by the end of 2010 and to hit \$10 billion by the time eradication is certified three years after the last case is found. It is costing \$60 million a month to engage 3,500 full-time health professionals, national public health workers, 147 certified laboratories and a huge surveillance system, and Scott said Rotary was down to its last \$20 million when Bill Gates stepped to the plate. "He was a life saver!"

Rotary is more than half way toward the \$200 million it pledged to match Gates' \$355 million, "and there is more – I can't tell you today," Scott said, "but we still need Rotarians involved."

Scott said it made a huge difference when the U.S. government on June 4 announced a new global effort with the Organization of Islamic States. "God bless Mr. Obama," he averred, while quoting Ban Ki Moon, the U.N. General Secretary who has likewise lent his support: "Now is the time to finish the job."

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## District makes progress toward Gates Challenge

PDG Susan Herrick reports that District 6000 is more than half way toward its \$378,000 goal for the Gates Challenge. Contributions since the challenge began in 2007 are \$137,503 and the district directed \$67,599 of its District Designated Fund (DDF) toward polio eradication – a total of \$205,103. The goal must be met or exceeded by 2012.

Herrick, who chairs the campaign for District 6000, encourages activities that create awareness, and said she and committee members are available to speak to clubs.

Also speaking at the Waterloo event were Rotary Foundation manager John Osterlund, and Waterloo Rotarian Doug Oberman, an attorney and polio survivor who has slept in an iron lung more than 50 years. "We've had the polio vaccine 40 years and children are still getting polio," Oberman lamented. "My worst fear is that your child or grandchild will have the wild polio virus."

The Dec. 2 concert at New York's Lincoln Center by Perlman, a world renowned violinist and polio survivor, was featured on the cover of *The Rotarian* and drew national attention, while the Waterloo concert, with only local publicity, was attended by 1,800 and the Gallagher-Bluedorn Auditorium was sold out.

# Teddy Bears wanted for families of troops

By Therese Herold/Johnston

The Teddy Bear; it's soft, cuddly, and for many a treasured childhood friend. Teddy Bears are often playmates, confidants, and for a child who is scared and worried about a parent leaving for a military deployment, a Teddy Bear becomes a huggable, comforting symbol of support, providing a tangible link to the parent from whom they will be separated.

The Iowa National Guard Officers Auxiliary (INGOAux) understands how important a Teddy Bear can be and has, since 2001, assembled and distributed 11,000 custom-made Teddy Bears through their "Bear Hug" project, one for each child under the age of 13 of formerly deployed Iowa soldiers and airmen.

**A** Teddy Bear is a link to the parent from whom children will be separated. Rotarians can help provide 5,000 Teddy Bears for families of troops deploying in 2010.

The gift of a Teddy Bear is just the beginning of the services the INGOAux strives to provide for families with deploying service members. The group realizes deployments increase the financial, marital and emotional difficulty within the family, and that any of these factors alone or in combination can potentially put a family into crisis.

In an effort to provide for the needs of families facing deployment, the INGOAux currently supports a wide variety of prevention and healing programs. They facilitate marriage enrichment and relationship building seminars, as well as financial planning seminars. They also provide access to a Suicide Prevention Hotline for immediate counseling when facing these crisis factors.

The INGOAux makes available training to school counselors and teachers, so they may better understand the emotional needs of military children, and offers conferences directly to youth based on the book "7 Habits of Highly Effective Families." To honor and recognize the service of soldiers and airmen, the INGOAux awards scholarships to the dependents of Iowa National Guard members, as well as supporting the Iowa Veterans' Cemetery and the Iowa Gold Star Museum.

Rotarians are in a prime position to help the INGOAux with this important work. A major deployment is scheduled for fall of 2010 which will involve soldiers and airmen from all over Iowa, affecting families from most every Rotary community across the state. For the "Bear Hug" project alone, this deployment will mean the need for an estimated 5,000 new Teddy Bears.

The INGOAux is able to create a Teddy Bear for just \$6, but with such a large deployment, the organization will need to raise \$30,000 to ensure each child receives one of these supportive friends. In addition to giving Teddy Bears to the children 13 and under, the INGOAux is currently developing a gift for older children, wanting to provide them as well with a tangible connection to the deploying parent.

To continue to provide such high quality programming, the INGOAux needs Rotary's financial support to meet the needs of Iowa families with parents deploying overseas in defense of our country.



Teddy Bears provide comfort to children and families of troops who are separated from loved ones. Rotary clubs are asked to help provide the bears.

Johnston Rotary has had an ongoing partnership with the INGOAux since the "Bear Hug" project began in 2001. Johnston Rotarians have contributed \$3,000 towards their efforts and have committed to further financial support as the group works diligently to meet the current need.

The INGOAux is scheduled to speak about their programs to several other central Iowa Rotary clubs hoping to create more Rotary partnerships. The Johnston club would like to invite and encourage Rotary clubs throughout District 6000 to consider partnership with the INGOAux as they carry on their vital tasks.

In the Rotary tradition of "Service Above Self," supporting the INGOAux with its essential programs is a way for clubs to say thank you to our courageous soldiers and airmen. Rotarians can help provide comfort to their families at home during a time when these brave Americans are providing the ultimate service to our nation.

For information on how your Rotary club can help the INGOAux provide for the deploying Soldiers and Airmen within your community or to schedule a presentation by the INGOAux, please contact, Sheila Dietz at [sgdietz@msn.com](mailto:sgdietz@msn.com), or Kathy Pierce at [kathy\\_pierce@q.com](mailto:kathy_pierce@q.com).

Clubs wishing to donate directly to support these programs may make checks payable to INGOAux and mail them to: Kathy Pierce, 1162 Columbine Court, Norwalk, IA 50211.





This was the first year public relations was included in the regional meetings and energy and ideas flowed. Ginny Hughes of Fairfield (l) helped facilitate at the Mt. Pleasant meeting.

## REGIONAL MEETINGS:

More than 200 Rotarians participated in five Rotary Foundation, Membership and Public Relations seminars held in September at Atlantic, Ankeny, Pella, Mt. Pleasant and West Liberty.

District 6000 held its fall seminars in five locations again this year as has proven to be very successful during the past several years. Each seminar began with participants enjoying a light dinner followed by a welcome and introductions by DG Cal Litwiller. PDG Susan Herrick gave everyone an update on PolioPlus and a segment of the DVD "This is Rotary" was shown.

Introductions to the different areas of emphasis were given by PDG Corliss

Klaassen, Foundation; either Bill Koellner or Mike Ruby, Membership; and PDG Bill Tubbs, Ginny Hughes, AG Linda Hartkopf or AG Jim Riordan, Public Relations. After some door prizes were handed out, participants went to different rooms based on their interest, as it relates to the three areas of emphasis.

During the breakout sessions, participants discussed each of the three areas, developing strategies that can be used in their clubs to emphasize each of these ar-



Mark Nagin of the Rotary Club of Iowa Quad Cities talked about The Rotary Foundation at West Liberty.

reas of focus. Once these discussions were completed, each of the areas of emphasis reported back to the larger group, highlighting three, or in some time more, items that they felt were important for the total group to hear.

After the group reports, several more door prizes were handed out, before the seminar was adjourned for the evening. Numerous comments were made as to the positive value of these seminars and the convenience of having them in the five local areas.



Keokuk Rotarians attending the Mt. Pleasant meeting included Joe Steil, club president Tim Ahern, Ed Kiedaisch, Alka Khanolkar and Dev Kiedaisch.



Muscatine Rotarian Richard Dwyer (r) and North Scott Rotarians Dennis Peterson, Teresa Paper and club president Chuck Briegel attended the West Liberty meeting.



PDGs Susan Herrick (Boone) and Herb Wilson (Iowa City Downtown), and Leigh Svacina (Iowa Quad Cities), at the table, were among the attendees at West Liberty.



DG Cal Litwiller and Rachel with Coralville-North Corridor Rotarians Mary Anne Lenning, and AG Ted Carpenter and club president Kay Carpenter, at West Liberty.

# District Simplified Grants of \$48,010 awarded to 19 clubs for community projects

**By Doug Flournoy/Fairfield**

District Simplified Grants chair

Members of the District Simplified Grants Committee met on Oct. 18 at the district offices in Pella to make award decisions for the 2009 Rotary year. Although the committee received funding requests for \$81,063; this year's grant from The Rotary Foundation provided us with only \$48,010 to distribute to local Rotary clubs.

Many good projects were submitted by clubs from around the district and nearly all projects were funded to one degree or another. In fact, the only projects to receive no funding were those of an international nature. I will address that issue (below, right), but first let's get to the project descriptions for the 19 awards that were made.

**Atlantic: East Ridge Park, \$5,000.** The Rotary Club of Atlantic will support the East Ridge Park Addition that is being built in a newly developed residential area in the southeast part of Atlantic. Rotarians will provide the labor needed to put together a gazebo for the park which will display a Rotary emblem.

**Burlington: Rotary Playground, Dankwardt Park, \$5,000.** The Rotary Club of Burlington will construct a dual playground installation at Dankwardt Park in Burlington. The facility will serve children aged 2-5 and 5-12 and represents the fifth playground construction project undertaken by the club. Rotary members, parents of Burlington Little League, and Parks and Recreation staff will collaborate to install the playground equipment.

**Carroll: 3rd Grade Bicycle Helmets and Dictionaries, \$760.** The Rotary Club of Carroll will purchase and deliver bicycle helmets and dictionaries for Kuemper Catholic, Carroll and Glidden Public and Ar-We-Va schools. They will also purchase preschool-age helmets and donate these to the local preschools at Carroll Public, Kuemper Catholic, and Carroll Recreation Center. This provides a useful learning tool the kids may keep and promotes safety as many parents do not purchase helmets for their children.

**Chariton: Counseling Services for Lucas County Residents in Need, \$5,000.** The Rotary Club of Chariton will provide mental health and substance abuse treatment through the Lucas County Health Center's Counseling Services, to approximately 150 individuals in Chariton and Lucas counties who do not have insurance or other forms of payment. Rotarians will serve in the Center offices two mornings each month helping individuals to complete paperwork for assistance programs of pharmaceutical companies.

**Clinton: Riverview Park Shelter, \$5,000.** The Rotary Club of Clinton will work with the City of Clinton to erect a 30' x 36' picnic shelter and to pour a 2-inch thick rubber playground surfacing material under and around the swing sets and slides located at Rotary Park.

**Corning: Rotary Reads in Adams County, \$750.** The Rotary Club of Corning will promote reading in Adams County schools, Corning and Prescott Elementary schools grades pre-K through 6th, by giving a book to each child who is grade and age appropri-

ate. This is done in collaboration with school staff. Members of the club will read to the children at each school selections from the books presented in each class.

**Creston: Steps to Success Volunteer Tutoring Program, \$500.** The Rotary Club of Creston will partner with Southwestern Community College to provide low-level literacy classes to adult residents of Union County who have been referred by business and industry, community service agencies, organizations and churches. Grant funds will be used to purchase materials and supplies for the program and to provide transportation and incentives to project participants

**Decatur County: Rodeo Scoreboard with Rotary recognition, \$2,500.** The Rotary Club of Decatur County will provide an updated scoreboard for the arena at the Decatur

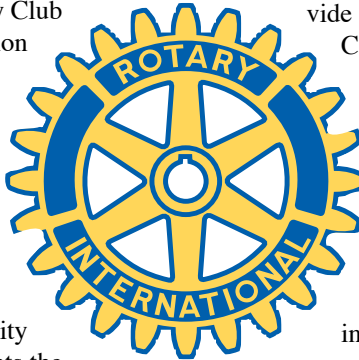
County Fairgrounds. The scoreboard will utilize instant event data and results for public display. A Rotary International and Decatur County Rotary logo will be permanently displayed on the scoreboard.

**Fairfield: Infra-red Camera and Fire-fighting Equipment, \$5,000.** The Rotary Club of Fairfield has partnered with the Fairfield Fire Department to raise money for the purchase of an infra-red camera that provides a "heat picture" of a scene. The camera may also be used for search and rescue efforts, documenting of scenes through capture of still images and recording capability, and in training. The department will also purchase lightweight brush-fire suits for outdoor use in hot weather.

**Iowa City Downtown: Birthday Bags, \$1,500.** The Rotary Club of Iowa City Downtown will provide all the basic ingredients for a child's birthday party in a bag. The birthday bags will be prepared for a variety of ages and distributed through the Iowa City Crisis Center to families with underprivileged children. First Books will provide an age appropriate hardcover book and Iowa Children's Museum will provide free passes to all birthday guests. Bags are assembled during a club meeting.

**Iowa City: Mayor's Youth Empowerment Program (MYEP), New Facility Landscaping Project, \$2,000.** The Rotary Club of Iowa City will provide landscaping to the exterior perimeter of the Mayor's Youth Empowerment Program's Service Center. The Center provides programming for at-risk youth and youth with disabilities from preschool through 12th grade. It also provides an adult day program. Zoning changes have made sidewalks, a 10-foot landscaped buffer within the property, and shade trees for the parking area a requirement.

**Iowa Quad Cities: Holiday Food Baskets, \$1,500:** The Rotary Club of Iowa Quad Cities will provide holiday food baskets to ten needy families. The essential food and staples for preparation of two holiday meals, Thanksgiving and Christmas, and other meals throughout the holiday week are bought, assembled and delivered prior to the holiday. In addition, small gifts are purchased





# Rotary Foundation District Simplified Grants

## GRANTS/continued

and wrapped for children of the chosen families and are included in the Christmas basket.

**Lenox: Lenox Directional Signs, \$1,000.** The Rotary Club of Lenox will refurbish two Lenox directional signs at the intersections of Highway N64 and 34 seven miles north of Lenox, Iowa. The current signs are not lighted and solar lights will be supplied to light one sign.

**Mt. Pleasant Evening: Kindergarten Books and “I Can Read” DVDs for Literacy, \$790.** The Rotary Club and Interact Club of Mt. Pleasant Evening will purchase a Dr. Seuss book for each kindergarten student in the Mt. Pleasant School District and Mt. Pleasant Christian School. The Rotary Club of Iowa City will provide an “I Can Read” DVD for each student. Members of the Mt. Pleasant Rotary and Interact clubs will deliver the materials and read the books as well as play the DVD to the receiving students.

**Nevada: Story County Medical Center Children’s Waiting Area, \$2,330.** The Rotary Club of Nevada will develop waiting room areas just for children throughout Story County Medical Center’s new South Campus. The areas will have child-sized furniture, hard covered books and sustainable wall mounted games to help distract them from upcoming procedures or while waiting for a parent in distress.

**North Scott: “Andy and Elmer’s Apple Dumpling Adventure,” \$2,430.** The Rotary Club of North Scott will present four copies of “Andy and Elmer’s Apple Dumpling Adventure” to each second-grade classroom in the Davenport and North Scott Com-

munity School Districts, in professional offices and waiting rooms, libraries and in the classrooms of several parochial schools. The book teaches about Rotary’s Four-Way Test. A teacher’s lesson plan is provided and an “Andy and Elmer” bookmark is given to each child.

**Ottumwa: Eagle Hide Project, \$5,000.** The Rotary Club of Ottumwa will continue its involvement with the Wapello County Trails Council by constructing an Eagle Hide to provide for public viewing of wildlife that winters on the Des Moines River near Ottumwa. The blind will be handicap accessible and allow area schools to incorporate wildlife and conservation topics in their teaching modules. Rotarians will provide direct labor in support of construction of the building.

**Oskaloosa: Operation Backpack, \$750.** The Rotary Club of Oskaloosa will support the Mahaska County United Way program that supplies free backpacks and school supplies to needy students. Rotarians will fill the backpacks with supplies determined by teachers and then deliver them to the schools. Primarily students in the Oskaloosa Community School District are served but they now have potential to add North Oskaloosa, Freemont, and Oskaloosa Christian School.

**Waukee: Public Art at the YMCA: \$1,200:** The Rotary Club of Waukee is partnering with its local YMCA to bring public art to their community. This will be the first piece of public art in the community and will connect the YMCA to the community and communicate to the public that the YMCA is more than just a “gym and swim.” The 17-foot work of art is designed to be interactive and will be an icon of the community providing decades of visual interest.

## Criteria for benefitting disadvantaged increased

During our meeting the committee made several significant decisions that will impact future award decisions and of which clubs should be aware. Remember, a District Simplified Grant is a grant from The Rotary Foundation. In light of this, the DSG Committee often looks to practices of the Foundation for guidance in decision making.

*1. In the future only grants executed wholly within the geographical boundaries of D-6000 will be funded. The appropriate venue for international projects is the Matching Grants program.*

**Rationale:** The Matching Grants program has a much larger pot of money to work with than does the DSG program, both the District (with DDF) and TRF fund the MG program. This will make more funds available to local clubs and their projects and as a result create a significant Rotary Foundation presence in Iowa communities.

*2. The DSG Committee will no longer fund recurring projects.*

**Rationale:** One of the key issues for The Rotary Foundation is sustainability. How are funded projects to be maintained when grant money is no longer available? The committee concluded that the Foundation would like to see grant funds used to initiate projects that are self-sustaining and not in need of continued support. Also, there was a concern that projects that are highly rated and submitted annually would receive repeated funding year after year and this may block other worthy projects from being considered.

*3. The DSG Committee will continue to require original signatures on applications but will encourage clubs to submit applications electronically.*

**Rationale:** The Rotary Foundation does not accept electronic signatures on grant applications. In keeping with this practice D-6000 will do the same. Clubs are encouraged to submit applications and supporting documentation as a PDF file or as a Word document. In the case of Word documents, electronic submission would need to be followed by then mailing of a hard copy of the signature page and supporting documentation.

*4. We have decided to increase the weighting given to the criterion “Benefit to disadvantaged people.” This criterion will in the future be given twice the weighting of other categories.*

**Rationale:** In accordance with Foundation guidelines, the committee would simply like to see humanitarian projects receive higher priority. This action formalizes the decision made by the committee at last year’s meeting.

If your club has not submitted a DSG application in the last two years, please consider doing so next year. Our District’s strategic plan calls for full participation by clubs in the district over a three-year period. And as always, if you have any questions please feel free to contact me by phone at (641)472-0216 or by email at dsflournoy@hotmail.com.

– Doug Flournoy

# Happy 20th Birthday, FAMSCO!

**By Linda Muston/Iowa City**  
FAMSCO Secretary

As FAMSCO (the Fire And Medical Supply Company project of District 6000) has its 20th birthday in 2010, the two decade history of assistance to Central American people continues. Procurement and warehousing efforts during the past year will be complete when the shipments are on their way.

Early in the new year, shipments to El Salvador and Guatemala will continue years of effort and involvement with Rotarians and people in their respective towns.

## El Salvador

A container of medical equipment will be sent to San Miguel, El Salvador, and received and distributed there by the Sirama club, one of four Rotary clubs in El Salvador's second largest city. The public hospital there will be the beneficiary of equipment including hospital beds, exam tables and a mammogram unit and associated equipment.

Rotarian Don Hampton, a FAMSCO board member and Indianola Rotarian, has been the conduit for this relationship that began with his personal involvement through a church group in 1996 that works in a nearby mountain community Berlin, El Salvador.

Over the last few years a relationship developed between Don and the members of the Sirama club. The first project between the San Miguel Rotary clubs and District 6000 was a Bio Sand Water Filter Project that will be completed in April 2010. As they learned of the work that FAMSCO is doing, they asked about the possibility of obtaining much needed items for the public hospital.

The Rotary Club of Indianola has donated \$1,000 to help fund the approximately \$6,000 cost of shipping the large (semi truck) container to El Salvador.

## Guatemala

An additional shipment of a fire truck and fire equipment to Huehuetenango, Guatemala, is the latest in partnership with that town. In addition, an emergency rescue vehicle has been purchased in Guatemala through a Rotary Foundation matching grant and District Designated Funds.

The involvement with Huehuetenango dates to 2002 and three



Vinicio Lopez, past president of the Rotary Club of Huehuetenango, Guatemala, visited a number of District 6000 fire departments, including Iowa City.

of the five MOST (Miles of Smiles Team) surgical missions have been to this mountain town located northwest of Guatemala City. The need for emergency rescue and fire equipment was identified and three members of the responders visited Iowa in June 2009, led by Vinicio Lopez, past president of the Rotary club. Accompanying him were José Cach and Luis Salazar. (See photos of their visit, below left, and below right.)

With leadership from PDG Gary Pacha, the three Guatemalans visited fire departments and training facilities in Clinton, West Liberty, Davenport, Coralville and Iowa City. Johnson County Ambulance and the University of Iowa Hospital and Clinics Emergency Services also participated in their Iowa visit. Mark Regenwether, Clinton Fire Chief and a Rotarian, who last year traveled to Mexico and conducted training following the FAMSCO/Rotary Club of Clinton fire truck(s) donation to Patzcauro, was especially helpful to the visitors.

FAMSCO has purchased a fully certified pumper tanker that will be driven to a coastal port and shipped to Huehuetenango. A container of rescue and fire equipment, fire turnout gear – tanks, helmets and fire coats – is also being shipped to help equip their new vehicles. This collection includes donations FAMSCO has received from many departments and sources.

FAMSCO's 20th anniversary year will start with a major movement of equipment and supplies to Central America as this long-term District 6000 project continues to recycle items that are useful to people there.

Costs of each shipment have increased more than 400 percent in recent years, making the dependence on money from Rotary Clubs and individual Rotarians more important than ever in FAMSCO's many years of service.



PDG Gary Pacha (second from right) accompanied Guatemala visitors to training facilities and fire departments during their June 2008 Iowa visit.



# Interact initiative leads to community-wide leaf raking in Jefferson

By Victoria Riley/Jefferson Bee and Herald

Jefferson-Scranton High School students and staff did their annual leaf raking community service project Nov. 19. Tom Braun's middle school physical education classes helped, making a total of 612 students who raked 87 yards in less than three hours. "This was a great way for our student body to give back to our community and show appreciation for all they do for us," said J-S teacher Teresa Green, who coordinated the project.

The raking service was provided for older residents and others who are unable to rake their own yards. The list of yards was divided according to location, and each advisor/advisee group raked two to five yards, depending on the size of the yard. As each group finished, they helped other groups in the same neighborhood.

The project began in 1997 when the Jefferson-Scranton Interact Club raked 10 yards. In 1999, the project became big enough that it became a school-wide service project.

Organizers thanked the Jefferson Rotary Club and Fareway for donations of pop and water; Bunkers Dunkers, Home State Bank, Peoples Trust and Savings Bank and Wells Fargo for donations of donuts; the city of Jefferson and New Way for providing garbage trucks, and Jefferson Rotarians who drove pickup trucks to take leaves to the compost site; and the school for transporting students to their assigned neighborhoods.

"It was great having our school work together with various groups to give back to our community. We appreciated all of the help from these groups. We could not have completed this project without their help," said Green.



Jefferson-Scranton high school students and staff, with help from some middle school students, raked 87 yards in Jefferson Nov. 19. The Jefferson Rotary Club and several local businesses provided support for the project.

## GSE team member returns to Iowa to seek contacts for teacher training program

Athena Yeh, a Group Study Exchange team member from Taiwan, was in District 6000 this past spring. She was a guest of Jack and Jeanie Brockway from Pella for her first four days.

Athena has been a teacher training program lecturer for 12 years. She's responsible for teaching new teachers how to teach new students who want to learn English pronunciation, and the teaching method. She has trained more than 10,000 English teachers and authored two series of Phonics Collections during the past years. She has two children, Jeremy, 10, and Becky, 8.



**Athena Yeh**  
Teacher education

Athena has been working to start a business in Iowa. She is recruiting school teachers, both working and retired. She wants to introduce them to the idea of teaching Taiwan students, young and old, how to speak English by using the computer and skype from their home. The Iowa teachers would teach for one hour per week per student, either early morning or evening, and weekends if so desired due to the time difference between Iowa and Taiwan.

Athena would like to set up an office in Des Moines or Pella and have a secretary or two who would contact the Iowa teachers to see if they would be able to connect with a student at a certain time. The teachers would be paid on an hourly basis.

Jack Brockway (Pella club secretary) and Jeanie Brockway, jbrockway@iowatelecom.net, are the Iowa contact if any teacher kindergarten through high school would be interested in learning more about this venture. Athena was in Pella from Oct. 20 through early December to try and get this program started.

## Rotary's Four Avenues of Service

- Club Service
- Community Service
- Vocational Service
- International Service



The Huehuetenango, Guatemala, emergency responders, receive paramedics orientation inside a Johnson County Ambulance.



## Student Dictionaries a hit with Rotarians, students!

More than 30 clubs have found the project popular; here are some of them



Ames Rotarians Ann Campbell and Jere Maddux were among Ames Rotary Club members who affixed the Rotary Four-Way Test stickers into more than 600 dictionaries that were distributed to fourth graders and their teachers in Ames and Gilbert schools through early October. Rotarians have, as part of their service mission to increase literacy in the world, has been distributing dictionaries for several years.

— submitted by Carole Custer



Members of the Corning Rotary Club have been hitting the books – reading to students in local elementary classrooms. Part of their new Rotary Reads program, the club has purchased books for Corning students, preschool through second grade up to this point. Funded by a combination of a Rotary District 6000 Simplified Grant and local Rotary monies, each student in the classes receives a copy of the book selected by classroom teachers. According to Rotary club president Jodi Lyddon, the program will grow into other classrooms and communities in Adams County as the budget allows. In the picture, Rotarians Beth Waddle and Adam Grundman, with Corning preschool students, enjoy the book “I Know An Old Teacher.”

— submitted by Nancy Turner



Angie Jensen, Bill Morain and Gary Reese, who are members of the Rotary Club of Decatur County, were in Lamoni to present the fourth-grade students with personal dictionaries. The club emphasizes the importance of a good education in this global world. Mrs. Carpenter and Ms. Fine are shown with the fourth-grade class from Lamoni with their new dictionaries. The club has presented dictionaries to students in Decatur County for six years. This year, 71 students in the Lamoni and Central Decatur schools were also recipients.



The Rotary Clubs of Coralville-North Corridor, Iowa City Noon, Iowa City Downtown and Iowa City AM work together to distribute dictionaries to fourth-grade students in southeast Iowa. Coralville-North Corridor Rotary was the first club in District 6000 to adopt the project, in 2001. The four clubs will distribute over 1,400 dictionaries this year. Pictured (l-r): PDG Gary Pacha, Jeff Koeppel, Brian Adamec, Ted Carpenter, Sandy Pickup, Jim Peterson and Mary Anne Lenning.



# President-elect's ideas for clubs and districts

*DGE Gary Welch of the Rotary Club of Ankeny is sharing these "Top 10 New Ideas for Clubs and Districts" of Rotary International President-Elect Ray Klinginsmith, of Kirksville, Mo.*

Let's Try Some New Ideas in 2010-11 – as experiments:

## New Ideas for Clubs

1. Develop a three-year planning cycle for 2010-11 through 2013-14 with new and higher goals for fellowship opportunities, promotion of high ethical standards and public values, focus on larger community projects, active involvement in international service projects, and membership to support the new goals.

2. More emphasis on significant and highly visible community service projects to create pride in club members and to attract new members.

3. Creation of new projects to promote high ethical standards and public values in local communities – particularly through Rotary youth programs of Interact, RYLA, Youth Exchange and Rotaract.

4. Return to basics for membership growth and retention with the "Five for One Plan" for membership recruitment and the STAR program for membership retention.

5. More attention to the organization of new Rotary clubs with innovative meeting times and formats.

\* \* \*

*Please note that the foregoing list, and the next list, do not reflect changes in RI policies. They are merely ideas offered by Ray Klinginsmith to be tried on a voluntary basis by a few clubs in each district, and by a few districts in each zone, as experiments during the 2010-11 Rotary year.*

## New Ideas for Districts

1. Use of a management team approach to increase the delegation of authority and responsibility from district governors to assistant governors with committee chairs reporting to the assistant governors and with regular meetings of the management team to review reports and make decisions for the district for the purpose of permitting younger Rotarians to serve as district governors

2. Return to the former format for the official visits to all clubs in the district within the early part of the Rotary year by utilizing past district governors to make from 1/2 to 2/3 of such visits and by reinstating: A) The two-hour meetings with club presidents, club presidents-elect and club secretaries; B) The two-hour club assemblies with directors and committee chairs; and C) The 15- to 20-minute speeches to the club meetings.

3. Better utilization of modern communication options for weekly (or biweekly) communications with club officers.

4. Reduction in the number of district meetings that club officers are requested to attend with a limitation of one district meeting per calendar quarter in most districts.

5. Review of all district meetings for effectiveness, and when attendance is less than in past years, the trial of shorter and more focused district meetings, including district conferences, with no more than one night spent at the meeting site.

\* \* \*

*Please note that the 2011 RI convention in New Orleans is much earlier than usual. It is scheduled for 22-25 May, 2011, which may cause some districts to alter their usual dates for district conferences.*



The Rotary Club of Des Moines sponsored Thanksgiving baskets to help feed families in need from George Washington Carver Community School in Des Moines. Rotarians were asked to donate \$40 to help feed one family. Gift cards were purchased through HyVee with the assistance of Rotarian and HyVee employee Dick Stoffer. One hundred eleven families were fed thanks to the generosity of the club's membership. Pictured (l-r): Paul Johnson, Kitte Noble (RCDM), Stephanie Smith (George Washington Carver School) and Jamie Boersma (RCDM).  
(Submitted by Kitte Noble)



Members of the Coralville-North Corridor Rotary Club and the Iowa City Noon Rotary Club kicked off the 2009 Helen's Pajama Party on Nov. 25. Local Rotarians will be collecting new women's pajamas and new pillows during December to donate to the area Domestic Violence Intervention Project. Pictured (l-r): Bill Oglesby, Tom Martin, Linda Muston (seated), Todd Nash, Judy Meyer, Karin Franklin, Steve Kuhl, Mary Anne Lenning, Kay Carpenter, Janice Wilson and Shane Hendricks. Kay Carpenter is president of the Coralville-North Corridor club and Karin Franklin is president of the Iowa City Noon club.  
(Submitted by Vicki Struzynski Olson)



**Wear your Rotary  
pin with pride!**



# Friendship Exchange completed with Sweden

By Al Orsborn/Ottumwa

D-6000 Friendship Exchange chair

District 6000 has just completed a reciprocal Friendship Exchange with District 2340 (Sweden). A group of District 6000 Rotarians visited Sweden, and a group from Sweden was in District 6000 from Sept. 22 through Oct. 2, 2009.

The Swedes were hosted overnight in Des Moines, Ames, Boone, Iowa City, Keokuk and Pella. The exchange was enjoyed by all of those who participated. The RFE Committee wants to thank those clubs and individual Rotarians who extended their hospitality to the Swedes.

The RFE Committee is currently working on details for an exchange with District 5080 which includes portions of Idaho, Washington and British Columbia. Rotarians from District 6000 will have an opportunity to visit the southern portion of the Canadian Rocky Mountain trench in British Columbia.

The outgoing portion of the exchange will be from Aug. 26 through Sept. 9, 2010. Anyone interested in participating should contact Al Orsborn (acokmo@yahoo.com).

A group from District 5080 will be vis-



District 6000 Rotarians enjoyed a Friendship Exchange with Rotarians from Sweden this fall. Future exchanges are being planned.

iting District 6000 from Sept. 27 through Oct. 8, 2010. If your club is interested in hosting this group for two to three days while they are here, contact Gary Murphy (bandana2@cloudburst9.net).

The RFE Committee is continuing to work on other exchanges for future years. Possible areas being considered are the Philippines, New Zealand, United Kingdom and South Africa.

## Exchange student: 'We don't live for ourselves'

By Marcela Machado/Kalona

Rotary Youth Exchange student

Hi! I'm Marcela Carvalho Machado de Souza, a Brazilian girl and American for one year! I was born in Salvador, Bahia, in 1992, and I'm an exchange student from ROTARY!

Now, I'm living with the Rich family, Wes and Riella. We live in Kalona, Iowa, a beautiful and small town, with only 2,500 people. I like living here because all things are near and Kalona is in the middle of other bigger cities, so we can travel on a weekend to other cities. For example Iowa City, Washington, Des Moines, Chicago...

My school is Mid-Prairie Wellman, and I'm a junior. To me to be a good exchange student I must stay busy and participate in school activities. For now I'm participating in FCCLA (Family, Career and Community Leaders of America). I will start basketball and in the future I will participate in other things, for example, theatre, soccer, golf and things like that to learn a different culture.

My host family is perfect.

In a little time I could tell that they are really my family, not just my host family! I'm sure that we will continue to communicate after I go home. One example of this is they are planning already to visit me in Brazil.

I think the Rotary program is different from all other programs. They respect you and take care of you. They only want good things for their exchange students and their attention to details is perfect! Everybody wants to help you. We have a lot of people to help us with our problems, and we have meetings for fun, so we can have contact with other exchange students. This is so good because we learn from each other about other countries and their cultures.

We can't forget about the projects that Rotary does for the community! I really like this, because we don't live for ourselves and we want to help everybody around us.

In my country I participate in Rotary activities to help my community and to make our city a better place.



Rotary Youth Exchange student Marcela Machado (second from left) with Rachel and District Governor Cal Litwiller (r), and home host Wes Rich.



# Rotary Youth Exchange Fall Fun Day

By Paul Nichols/Iowa City Downtown  
District 6000 Youth Exchange Committee

For many years, the annual District 6000 calendar has included a Fall Kick-off in September and a Winter Retreat in January for inbound Youth Exchange (YE) students. These students typically first meet each other at the Kick-off, and further grow their friendships at the Retreat. On several occasions, the students asked the district committee to offer an opportunity for this group to gather and socialize during the four months between September and January.

On Saturday, Oct. 24, the second annual Inbound Fall Fun Day was held at Newton's Maytag Park. The Rotary Club of Newton hosted a day of fun and fellowship that was attended by the inbound students, some of their host families and club counselors, ROTEX members (outbound YE students alums), about half of the District Youth Exchange Committee and members of the Newton club's Youth Exchange committee (almost 50 people).

District Rotary Youth Exchange Committee members brought picnic supplies and food (salads, desserts, snacks and brats). THANK YOU to the Rotary Club of Newton and Newton Rotarian Rose Trapp, for reserving the park shelter, bringing pumpkins and drinks, and arranging the grilling.

Another special guest was Athena Yeh, a



District 6000 Inbound Rotary Youth Exchange students were introduced to the U.S. custom of making jack-o-lanterns at the Youth Exchange Fall Fun Day Oct. 24 at Maytag Park in Newton, (l-r): Eduardo Copcheski (Brazil), Clement Donnio (France), Youssef Ibn-Daifa (Belgium), Marcela Machado DeSouza (Brazil), Lucas Dias Rocha (Brazil), Acosta Bastar (Mexico), Yuki Pedrosa (Brazil), Larissa Grahl Stortz (Brazil), Narakorn Boonarcharhong (Thailand), Finn Trost (Germany), and Jaime Ruiz Alfonso (Spain). Two students from Germany are not pictured.

Group Study Exchange Team member from Taiwan who is staying in Pella for several weeks this fall.

The students, and Athena, were introduced to a bit of U.S. tradition: carving a jack-o-lantern. For most of them, this was their first chance to clean the inside of a pumpkin. Then, they each got to carve a traditional "face," or a more detailed and artistic design. The students took their creations home to share with their host fami-

lies for Halloween. THANK YOU to Rose and the Newton club for providing the pumpkins!

On a bigger stage, Oct. 24 was World Polio Day. DGN Don Patterson of Washington presented a short program about the disease and Rotary's role in helping to eradicate it. This may have been new information for some of the students and host families in attendance. THANK YOU, DON, for your timely presentation.

## Short-term exchange builds friendships

Hello District 6000 and Rotary Club of Des Moines,

My name is Sam Vickery. I was a 2009 Rotary Youth Exchange short-term exchange student this year.

I was selected to exchange with a Germany family for a month this summer – the

Eilermanns of Oldenburg. Sebastian Eilermann came to stay with my family and me from June 22 through July 12. While he was in the United States we did many things and introduced him to Des Moines and showed him many fun things to see and do in Iowa. We also took Sebastian to Chicago for the Fourth of July weekend to show him one of the BIG cities in the United States.

When I was in Germany, July 12 through July 31, I learned a lot about the people and their lives compared to how we live in the United States. During my stay we went to many places including Berlin, Hamburg, Bremer Haven and even The Netherlands. My favorite city was Hamburg as it has great his-

tory and is a beautiful city.

This experience also has enhanced my German language skills. As part of our exchange, Sebastian and I also visited the sponsoring Rotary clubs while in Des Moines and Oldenburg. It was fun and gave us a chance to share information about who we are, where we're from, and our experiences.

I'd like to thank Rotary for making programs like this available to students like me. It was a great way to learn about how similar yet how different we all are in this big world. I really enjoyed this opportunity and plan to stay involved with Rotary in the future.

Thank you!

Sam Vickery

Short Term Exchange Summer 2009

*Sam is the grandson of PDG 2006-07 Jim Vickery and the son of Sharon Vickery, a member of the Rotary Club of Des Moines.*



Sam Vickey (l) and Sebastian Eilermann raise the flags of Iowa and Germany.



# LEARNING BY SERVING:

## Students receive credit for projects in Xicotepec

By Jim Peterson/Iowa City AM

D6000 Xicotepec Project Team Leader

In the spring semester beginning next January, the University of Iowa will offer, for the third time, an inter-disciplinary service-learning class in which the students will travel to Xicotepec, Mexico, over spring break. The class is named "International Perspectives: Xicotepec."

The three-credit course will include students of Business, Nursing, Pharmacy and Urban and Regional Planning. The class meets weekly for two hours, and students read about and discuss Mexican culture, international service, effective teamwork and issues of the developing world. Prior to spring break, each group works as a team to develop a service project which is closely related to its area of study. Just before the trip, each team presents its project plans to the other teams and to the class instructors.

During the week of spring break, all of the class members and instructors, along with Rotarians, Interactors and their family members, travel to Xicotepec to work together with the Rotary Club of Xicotepec in carrying out various projects, including both those projects undertaken by the U of I students and other projects of the Rotary Club of Xicotepec.

One of the most successful projects to date has been the school de-worming project carried out by the U of I Pharmacy students. In the past three years, over 8,000 de-worming treatments have been administered to pre- and primary-school children in and around Xicotepec, primarily in poorer neighborhoods where the the infec-

**XICOTEPEC**/continued on next page



Pharmacy student Jill Roberston measures a student while her professor, Hazel Seaba records the data. Each student who received de-worming medicine was weighed and measured, and this data was recorded along with birth date and name.



U of I Pharmacy student Marshall Tuetken checks a child's teeth in preparation for de-worming as RaShauna Applewhite, another Pharmacy student, demonstrates how to "open wide."



U of I Education student Mackenzie Bolt (in sunglasses) poses with other project team members who hold hand-decorated umbrellas – part of her project of working with fifth- and sixth-graders during her week in Xicotepec. The umbrellas were brought back to Iowa and have been sold and auctioned to raise more than \$1,500, which will be donated to the school.



# Xicotepec projects

## XICOTEPEC/continued

tion rate for soil-borne parasites (helminths) among school children is estimated at 80 percent or more. Parasites can hamper a child's development, which in turn makes learning more difficult for him or her.

As part of their project, Pharmacy students have had to learn about the World Health Organization's recommendations on de-worming, select and purchase the most effective and safe medication (Albendazole), establish protocols and develop record-keeping systems so that any unforeseen problems can be quickly and accurately traced to their origins (fortunately no serious problems have been encountered so far).

The students have also had to develop new ways of doing things in response to the conditions they have encountered in Xicotepec. One example of this is the crushing of tablets and mixing them with flavored yogurt so that children with bad teeth – and there are many – are able to take the de-worming medicine, which otherwise must be chewed in tablet form and which can cause considerable pain for those with poor teeth.

In addition to the de-worming project, past service-learning teams from the U of I have installed water filtration systems, constructed bathrooms, worked in the local hospital along with Mexican student nurses, publicized programs for women's cancer screening and for senior citizens, carried out educational projects in schools and helped with many other Rotary-sponsored projects in Xicotepec.

One of the key elements of service learning is for the student to reflect in writing upon his or her service experience, its meaning to him or her in both personal and professional terms and how it may affect his or her future plans, both academic and professional. For many students their experience in Xicotepec not only leads to an appreciation of Mexican culture, but also reveals new ideas about their own culture. It may also help them focus on a specific aspect of their chosen discipline and frequently stirs an interest in working internationally in developing countries or with poor, disadvantaged or underserved populations.



Ann Schwemm came to Xicotepec as a Pharmacy student in 2007 and worked de-worming students. After graduating in Pharmacy and receiving her master's degree in Public Health, she returned in 2009 and helped stock the Xicotepec Red Cross with medications, purchasing them with some \$1,200 that was raised by U of I Pharmacy students.

After returning from Mexico, each of the student teams must – again, working as a team – write a written report and prepare a public presentation, which is open to all and will take place on the day of the final class of the semester, May 6, 2010. Any interested D6000 Rotarians should mark this date – the time and place for the presentations will be announced well in advance.

“International Perspectives: Xicotepec” has grown out of a unique partnership between a Rotary district and an institution of higher learning. Through this class, dozens of service-oriented young adults have been exposed to Rotary, its principles and achievements. At the same time, U.S. and Mexican Rotarians and their projects have benefited from the energy, know-how and idealism coming from the students who have taken the class.

Jim Peterson, D6000's coordinator for the Xicotepec Project, who is also one of the course instructors, commented, “This is a great model with tons of potential. I'd like to see this kind of partnership take root all over the world.”



U of I Engineering student Luke Smith works at installing a toilet in a new restroom at the Cuautémoc Primary School.



Xicotepec Rotarian Dr. Angel Velázquez and three Mexican nurses pose with U of I Nursing students Reed Underwood (kneeling), Krishna Kothary and Stacy McCoy.



A water purification system and drinking fountain at the Vicente Guerrero Telesecondary School in Xicotepec. The system was designed and installed by University of Iowa Engineering students.

# Clubs sponsor record humanitarian aid

**By Brock Earnhardt/Davenport**

District 6000 World Community Grants chair

District 6000 Rotarians have initiated an unprecedented amount of international humanitarian assistance already this Rotary year.

So far, the World Community Service Committee has supported the work of 15 clubs to sponsor or co-sponsor ten applications for Rotary Foundation matching grants.

The applications involve partnerships with five Rotary clubs in Africa, three in South America and two in Central America. All the applications involve projects that will help poor people in impoverished communities in developing countries live better lives.

The projects will:

- Provide kitchen and cafeteria equipment, food for one year and education on nutrition and hygiene for 225 poor children;
- Construct an urban solid waste biodegestor to reduce pollution and supply compost for agriculture;
- Drill a drinking water well and equip with pump and solar power generator;
- Provide equipment to furnish a medical clinic in a remote community;
- Provide equipment and furniture for the kitchen and dining room of a school for children in an urban slum;
- Purchase an emergency vehicle for a Rotary club-supported volunteer fire department, the only fire department in an area of more than 1 million people;
- Improve and expand a clean water system to serve six schools, a medical dispensary and a marketplace;
- Provide equipment for a health clinic;
- Provide non-surgical treatment of 100 children afflicted with club foot; and
- Provide a large solar oven for an orphanage.

Four clubs have three more applications in process that will construct a latrine and provide furniture for a school, provide furniture and equipment for an orphanage, and supply drinking water

to a school.

District clubs preparing matching grant applications include Adel, Ames, Ankeny, Davenport, Des Moines, Fairfield, Iowa City, Iowa City AM, Kalona, Marshalltown, Muscatine, North Scott, Ottumwa, Washington, Wellman, West Des Moines, West Liberty and Nevada.

The 13 projects have a total cost of nearly \$300,000. Their actual value is much more than that because so much Rotary volunteer effort and expense and sweat equity of project beneficiaries are involved in their implementation.

These matching grants will help meet important basic human needs and have enormous humanitarian value. But the matching grants are devices, not ends in themselves. The intended ends of matching grants are improved goodwill and understanding between people and progress toward world peace as Rotarians of different countries and cultures work together to improve human conditions.

Of the total cost of the projects, about \$181,000 will be funded with District Designated Funds, about 65 percent of the total. None of the costs will be funded by the usual Rotary Foundation match since TRF's reduced budget for matching grants for the year was fully committed by mid-July. If the projects were financed with the usual TRF funding, about \$56,000 would be DDF contribution and \$125,000 TRF

match. The \$181,000 DDF committed represents nearly 85 percent of our total \$217,000 available this year for international humanitarian grants.

While the current financing method for matching grants is consuming our DDF at a much higher rate than in years past, the WCS committee and district leadership decided that the lives that will be saved and improved and the international relationships that will be advanced justify the investment in District 6000's strong international humanitarian service program.

**'The 13 projects have a total cost of \$300,000. Their actual value is much more than that because so much Rotary volunteer effort and expense and sweat equity of project beneficiaries are involved in their implementation.'**

*– District 6000 WCS Grants Chair*

*Brock Earnhardt, Davenport*



The District 6000 World Community Service Matching Grants Committee (l-r): Larry Nash (Fairfield), PDG Corliss Klaassen (Chariton), Bill Burress (Davenport), John Tone (Des Moines), DGE Gary Welch (Ankeny), PDG Diana Reed (Northwest Des Moines), Jim Peterson (Iowa City AM), Rachel and DG Cal Litwiller (Mt. Pleasant), PDG Denny Skinner (Nevada), Brock Earnhardt, chair (Davenport), and PDG Bill Tubbs (North Scott). PDG Del Bluhm and DGN Don Patterson are also on the committee.





Students from across the district interacted with new friends during the morning assembly.



Featured speaker on the topic of leadership was Brig. Gen. Tim Orr of the Iowa National Guard.

# 143 students attended 2009 RYLA

**By Ken Angersola/West Des Moines**

District 6000 RYLA chair

The 2008-09 RYLA Conference was April 16 at the Iowa Army National Guard base at Camp Dodge, Johnston. There were 143 participants, including 14 exchange students from District 6000.

Our goal was to provide the participants with a solid background on leadership qualities and leadership skills. We also wanted to present the students with information on the opportunities abroad that are available through Rotary.



Our guest speakers included Scott Casber, well-known voice for high school wrestling in Iowa, who discussed his focus on developing his career and his promotion business and the traits he used to succeed.

Our featured speaker was Brig. Gen. Tim Orr, commanding

general for the Iowa National Guard. Gen. Orr provided a wealth of background on his rise from private to his current position and the challenges of leadership along his path. The students were particularly interested on the leadership skills he employs on a daily basis, and what roadblocks he works to overcome as a commander of 10,000 soldiers.

Chris Knapp, Iowa City, led a discussion about the overseas opportunities that are offered through Rotary. Chris currently serves as the Rotary Youth Exchange chair for District 6000.

Our afternoon session takes the students to the Leadership Reaction Course (LRC) at Camp Dodge, where they need to work as teams to solve the different obstacle course problems. Some of these stations have water obstacles that the students need to cross over or around. (One of the main reasons we ask the students to wear proper clothing).

Students are asked to voluntarily submit essays about their RYLA experience with the top three essays being awarded one-year college scholarships of \$1,000, \$750 and \$500 respectively. Award winners are announced above.

On behalf of the West Des Moines Rotary Club, I want to thank all the club coordinators and students for a great RYLA this year. Thanks also go out to 1st Sgt. Joel Nastruz for helping to coordinate the Camp Dodge facilities and to Brig. Gen. Orr for giving his valuable time to RYLA.

Watch for information early next year about the date and place for 2010 RYLA. I hope all the clubs in the district can participate!!

## RYLA Essay Winners

1st – \$1,000

**Atreya Day**

Rotary Club of Fairfield

2nd – \$750

**Mary Agnoli**

Rotary Club of North Scott

3rd – \$500

**Cecil Knapp**

Rotary Club of Bloomfield



RYLA participants, who were mostly high school sophomores, engaged in a leadership reaction course in the afternoon.

# Ambassadorial Scholar: 'I cannot thank Rotary enough for this amazing opportunity'

*Ashley Allman is one of three Rotary Foundation Outbound Ambassadorial Scholars for 2009-10 sponsored by District 6000. A graduate of Iowa State University, she was nominated by the Rotary Club of Ottumwa and hopes her experience will allow her to work as an adviser or director in international education. Also outbound this year are Jill Moeller, in South Africa, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Mount Pleasant, and Heidi Koester, in Argentina, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines.*

## By Ashley Allman/Ottumwa

### Outbound Ambassadorial Scholar

I arrived in Hong Kong on Sept. 1, 2009, and from the very beginning it has been a positive and rewarding experience, and one that has changed me in ways that I cannot even explain in words. I was able to meet my host counselor, IPP Shirley Kong of the Rotary Club of Mid-Level on the day of my arrival, who since then has helped me out in so many ways. Shirley has taken me under her wing and really made me feel like I belong here. I couldn't have asked for a better host counselor!

Just for reference, Hong Kong is split into three main areas – Hong Kong Island, Kowloon, and New Territories. Hong Kong Island is the area you would consider like New York. My university and apartment are located in the New Territories part, though (which is the area right next to the border to China). I attend The Chinese University of Hong Kong and am studying towards my master of arts in anthropology, which I will obtain in May 2010 (just one academic year!). CUHK is a fairly prestigious university and is ranked third in Hong Kong and China, so I was very excited when I got admitted into the program!

The class structure here in Hong Kong is a bit different than that in the States, but I expected that and have adjusted to it quite well! My program requires me to take four courses per semester, so that keeps me pretty busy on top of my Rotary commitments! I really enjoy my courses though, but it's a lot of reading, discussing and writing papers! I am learning a lot of interesting things (about Hong Kong, Chinese medicinal practices, etc.), and I feel I made the right decision about my study program. My classmates are great as well, and I am able to learn about many different cultures through interactions with them and to tell them about Iowa and the United States!



Ashley Allman (l) with host counselor, Shirley Kong.

Overall, the culture in Hong Kong is completely different than that at home, and of course it was expected – I am halfway around the world! Growing up on a farm outside of a small town that consists of about 1,100 people, and moving to a city of seven million people and into a flat that is 395 square feet was



Ashley Allman at Chi Lin Nunnery in Kowloon, Hong Kong.

quite the change!

Living is quite expensive in Hong Kong and my roommate (another scholar from Texas) and I pay a total of US\$900 for our tiny (but very nice!) apartment. My apartment is a typical flat size in Hong Kong because there are so many people here (7 million in an area of 426 square miles calculates out to about 15,700 per square mile). I've even heard of families of five living in an apartment this size, but I just cannot imagine it! I've always been used to having a lot of personal space (especially because I've grown up on a farm and we own 200 acres!), so it was somewhat of a culture shock when I arrived. And because it is so warm here, the apartment buildings and houses are made of concrete, are not insulated, and have no heating. A few weeks ago there was a cold spell where it got down into the 40s (Fahrenheit) outside – and it was just as cold inside! My roommate and I found ourselves bundled up in our blankets!

All in all though, I've truly fallen in love with Hong Kong. The Rotarians here are amazing, I love the warm weather, there is always something to do, and it is a very diverse place where you can try different foods, meet all kinds of people, and experience things that you can't experience in other places. You get the best of both worlds in Hong Kong – the New York style life on the island and the "rural" life in the New Territories area. (Well, I was told it was "rural!" However, I wouldn't consider it rural from an Iowa point-of-view!)

The food here is something that I have had to get used to, as well. I've grown up in the Midwest all my life without experiencing much fresh seafood or a whole lot of diversity when it comes to foods. I remember the first dinner that three of us scholars and our host counselors had shortly after our arrival, and it was interesting!

**SCHOLAR/continued on next page**



## SCHOLAR/continued

I was truly (and honestly) expecting Chinese food like that in the States. I couldn't have been more wrong! I've not yet eaten (or seen) a plate of fried rice with sweet and sour chicken and vegetables like you see at home. I've tried things that I never thought I would ever eat – chicken feet, eel, frog legs, squid, fish balls, shark, mooncake, duck egg, and whole baby pigs (served with the heads)!

When I go into the grocery store it is an experience in itself. There is a grocery store near our flat, and the first time I ventured there for food I could hardly make my way around the store because there were so many people in such a small supermarket!

In general you definitely don't have as much variety in the stores here, except for the noodle aisle! I loved it! At home you only have a choice of four or five different flavors of noodles, but here it is more like 50! My first time in the Tai Po Market (a fresh food market) was attention-grabbing. I could not get over the variety of fresh fruit, vegetables, spices, herbs, teas and other products you could choose from – and all at very good prices! The market had a few things that I didn't expect – a huge abundance of fish (and a lot of it was still living) in aquariums or tubs; fresh meat hanging from racks at the different vendor booths; and live poultry for sale (where you could pick out your own chicken or pigeon and they would slaughter and clean it for you, or you could buy a live turtle or frog). It's been an amazing experience thus far, though, and I am so glad that I am able to truly understand the culture of Hong Kong. Rotary has helped me do that! Thank you!!

So far during my time here I have been fortunate to learn about a variety of different Rotary service projects and have had the chance to really get involved. My first Rotary event was at the District (D3450) Rotary Foundation Seminar in early September where I was able to meet many great Rotarians; a Hepatitis B charity that raised money for the Hepatitis B District 3450 project; a Joint Presidents Meeting in mid September where I was able to get into contact with presidents of many clubs in District 3450; my host club's Carnival where children played games to win various prizes; the District Golf Tournament (where I won the Ladies Longest Drive award!); a "Coastal Clean-up" at a beach on the southern part of Hong Kong Island; an event with a women's shelter that held a lunch, fun games with kids, and an aviation center tour for the mothers and their children; and an anti-drugs project with one of the many Rotaract clubs here.

I am currently in the process of setting up some other projects, including teaching English and tutoring kids at a refugee clinic; and rounding up medical supplies and monetary contributions from my university in Iowa to donate to the Alliance for Smiles organization based out of San Francisco that is partnered by Rotary (the Rotary Club of Wan Chai in Hong Kong is one of the clubs). I am also planning to get involved with the Polio NIDs in India this coming January (which I am super excited about!); the Adopt-A-School program in Hong Kong where Rotary clubs partner with secondary schools and hold various events with the students to promote service and success; participating as a camp counselor at the District RYLA camp in February; and also getting involved with international service projects available through the Rotaract clubs here.

The activities that I've had the chance to take part in have been eye-opening and amazing. If part of the goal of this scholarship program is to recruit scholars to become Rotarians, they've succeeded in recruiting me!! I didn't understand the impact that Rotary can have on a community until I was able to experience it first-hand here in Hong Kong. I realized that even in the smallest ways of helping someone, you can make a difference; and that's what I plan to continue to do upon my return to the States – to become a Rotarian and

make a difference in my community and in the lives of others.

The Rotarians in my host club, as well as in the different clubs that I have had the opportunity to visit, present to, and volunteer with are absolutely amazing people. This experience has truly changed my life already in the short time I've been here, and I cannot even imagine the positive influences it is going to have on me during my remaining time here. I did not know about Rotary before learning about this scholarship; and it's unfortunate because I would have loved to have gotten involved with Interact, Rotaract and Rotary events in the past. One of the things I hope to while I am here in Hong Kong and when I return home do is to promote Rotary and its opportunities more. I think that if more people knew about this organization we could have an even greater impact on the world.

My home club, the Ottumwa Rotary Club, has been very supportive. When I first contacted my club about sponsoring me for the scholarship, a majority of the members did not know about the Ambassadorial Scholarship program, so it was new even to my current sponsor counselor, past president Byron Leu. Because of this, it was a learning experience for both my home Rotary club and myself. I was able to attend a few meetings, as well as present to my club about the scholarship program and what my duties were as an Ambassadorial Scholar in Hong Kong; so I was glad to help them learn more about what Rotary has to offer in terms of educational programs (my first step in my goal of promoting Rotary's opportunities!).

This experience has probably been the most amazing thing I have ever been involved with. It began the minute I found out about this scholarship and will continue for the rest of my life as I complete my experience in Hong Kong and go on to become a Rotarian in my home Rotary club. I cannot wait to see what will unfold in my remaining time here in Hong Kong, and I cannot thank Rotary enough for this amazing opportunity to serve in another country. I assure you that you will not be disappointed in my service to help others.

## Facts about Hong Kong

*"Hong Kong's interesting facts," I've listed a few:*

1. Everyone always has an umbrella but not because of the rain – they want to keep the sun off of them.
2. Many people wear face masks (like surgical masks). Because of the outbreak of SARS a few years ago (and wanting to prevent the spread of H1N1), it is encouraged to wear a mask if you have a cold or are ill.
3. Exchanging business cards is HUGE (I think in Asia in general and I've received more business cards in the past three months than in the last 24 years of my life...)
4. If you judge Hong Kongers by your encounters with them on the trains or the buses, you would hate Hong Kong. It is usually crowded and busy on the public transport that people push their way through, bump into you, etc. But once you get to know a local, they are some of the nicest people you will meet, going out of their way to help you.
5. Hong Kong means "Fragrant Harbor."
6. For your information (not sure if you care), but you CANNOT find crab rangoons in Hong Kong.
7. Upper-class families often hire a "domestic worker" who is usually a female from the Philippines. They live with the local family and are like a nanny. Not only do they cook and clean, but oftentimes they even "raise" the children. Their pay is regulated by the government. It's popular here, and sometimes you'll see one domestic worker for every child in a house. I am still trying to get used to learning about this because the domestic worker often knows the child better than their own mother.

# Chicken feed for polio at Ottumwa

*Local Rotary clubs are being encouraged to tell the story of Polio Plus and invite their communities to participate in this the final drive. Bill Linstrom of the Rotary Club of Ottumwa did exactly that – and told about the work of his club – in this article that was published in the Ottumwa Courier in September. The Ottumwa Rotary chicken barbecue is a huge event that involves the whole community.*

**By Bill Linstrom/Ottumwa**

Club Rotary Foundtion chair

**N**ext week will be Ottumwa's annual Oktoberfest. As has been the case for the past 30 years, Rotary's chicken barbecue will kick off the festivities on Tuesday evening.

Oktoberfest has proven to be a great community celebration. Ottumwa Rotarians rely upon the chicken barbecue as their main fund raising activity. The funds raised permit us to support a variety of local projects, such as the benches along the trails, refuse receptacles in the downtown area, the eagle on the Bridge View floor, and a sizable contribution to the Cancer Center, to name but a few. We also regularly contribute to other organizations to support their projects. We appreciate your support and hope it will continue.

The intent of this article is to give you some background about the Ottumwa Rotary Club and to give you some insight into our affiliation with the worldwide organization, Rotary International. Rotary originated in Chicago in 1905 when a small group of men began meeting for lunch in their various offices, which led to the name Rotary. Interestingly, one of these men, Paul Harris, was a graduate of the University of Iowa College of Law. As the group developed in their friendship and respect for each other, they invited others to join. As the word spread about this new and unique organization, opportunities came to encourage the development of additional clubs, and Rotary clubs were formed across the country.

A small group of Ottumwa business and professional men organized the Ottumwa club in 1916 as club No. 233. Today, the Ottumwa club has grown to about 115 men and women members and has helped to organize clubs in surrounding communities. The strong attraction to Rotary is its commitment to "Service Above Self." While we have grown, so also has Rotary International, which today has over 1.2 million members in 33,000 clubs in 200 countries around the world.

What is perhaps Rotary's most ambitious program, Polio Plus, was launched in 1985 through The Rotary Foundation. At the International convention a decision was made to commit the necessary resources to eradicate polio in the world. This was to be accomplished by immunizing all of the children in those countries where polio still existed.

Polio has been present in the world for well over 5,000 years. Polio targets mainly children, who either die or are left crippled.



**Bill Linstrom**

Adults also are susceptible to the disease but to a far lesser degree. Those of us with considerable gray in our hair will remember a time when every summer brought some level of a polio outbreak. In 1952, for instance, there were 58,000 cases reported in the United States alone. By the last half of the 1950s vaccines had been developed. Many of us participated in huge numbers by lining up in school gyms to receive the vaccine. By the 1980s the United States and many other industrialized countries had eliminated polio as a health threat.

This was not the case worldwide, however, where polio remained as a major threat in over 125 countries with over 350,000 cases reported each year. Since 1985 two billion children have received the polio vaccine. It has been estimated that over five million children are alive and walking today because they received the vaccine. Rotarians contributed funds through their local clubs. Those in endemic countries helped to organize national immunization days. Rotarians traveled to endemic countries to provide assistance. Today only a small area in each of four countries – Afghanistan, India, Nigeria and Pakistan – remains polio endemic, reporting fewer than 2,000 cases each year.

Obviously, Rotary has not accomplished this through its own efforts. Our partners include The World Health Organization, UNICEF, and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control. A number of large corporations have made contributions to this great effort. It is generally agreed that the commitment of Rotary in 1985 has been instrumental in the effort to eradicate polio. In fact, it has been said that nobody really got serious about eradicating polio until Rotary made its commitment.

A push is now being made to "complete the job" in those four remaining countries. The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has made 355 million dollars available to Rotary with a partial match requirement. To date, over half of the necessary match has been raised.

Local Rotary clubs are being encouraged to tell the story of Polio Plus and invite their communities to participate in this the final drive. After much discussion, Ottumwa Rotarians have decided that we will have receptacles available at the chicken barbecue for people to donate as they go through the line to pick up their food. Any amount will be appreciated and go directly to the Polio Plus effort. Joining us will make you a part of what is an extraordinary example of service to mankind – THE ERADICATION OF POLIO IN THE WORLD!

## Polio awareness in Des Moines

Rotarians from the Des Moines area are planning a special promotion at the Iowa Energy basketball game on Saturday, Jan. 23 to create awareness and raise funds for Polio Plus. The game will be at 7 p.m. with a high school game between Dallas Center-Grimes and Grinnell before the Iowa Energy game.

Tickets are \$16 in advance and Rotary will get to keep \$6 of each ticket sold in advance to go towards the Gates Challenge for Polio Plus. The goal is for each Rotarian to buy/sell 4 tickets each. This will be a fun evening supporting a local franchise, meeting Rotarians from other clubs and supporting a great cause. This is a family friendly event and Bennie the Bull of the Chicago Bulls is scheduled to be half-time entertainment.



# 'I wouldn't trade this experience for anything'

Audrey Dwyer, a senior at Muscatine High School, is the daughter of Richard Dwyer and Nora McKilligan-Dwyer of Muscatine. Her report (below) about her Rotary Youth Exchange experience in Sweden was published in the Muscatine Journal on Oct. 21. She may be reached by e-mail at [audrey\\_jane13@hotmail.com](mailto:audrey_jane13@hotmail.com). She has a blog at <http://audrey-swedishadventure.blogspot.com>.

## By Aubrey Dwyer/Muscatine

Outbound Rotary Youth Exchange student

This is a quote I received from a family friend before I departed the U.S. to go to Sweden. It has stayed with me ever since.

*"The woods are lovely  
Dark and deep  
But I have promises to keep  
And miles to go before I sleep."*

— Robert Frost

My name is Audrey Dwyer and I am on Rotary Youth Exchange. My arrival was at the beginning of August and I will depart at the end of July.

Having to deal with the hardest goodbye of my life, to leave my family and friends for a whole year, is not something that I could just say, "Oh, bye, see you later."

Not knowing who I was going to meet in the next year, what my host family would be like, or anything about what the future may bring, I boarded the plane. When I arrived at the Göteborg/Landvetter Airport, I knew this was going to be a great experience.

Goodbye is never forever and this is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. Rotary Youth Exchange is a great program. The people involved in Rotary enable students to travel almost anywhere in the world. There are many districts that one may find in any country. The district that I am in is in Varberg, which is on the southwestern coast of Sweden. All exchange students have a host club, host counselor (abroad and at home), and at least three or more host families. The host family I am currently with has opened its heart and home to me. And I am so incredibly thankful to have them as my first host parents. I have been introduced to so many people and have made so many new connections.

By making these new connections with my newfound friends and family I have found many similarities and differences between here and back home. The biggest difference, of course, is the language. Even though a lot of people here speak English, it is not fluent, therefore I must learn Swedish. Swedish, to me, is a mixture of French and German. It is quite difficult to learn because there are many pronunciations for similar words. But, I am learning quickly.

The school that I attend is Peder Skrivares Skola (translated to English, Peter's School of Writing). This school is quite different from Muscatine High School. None of the classes are in English, with the exception of English class. Students are on different tracks, so there are social tracks, science, business, engineering, etc. Because of this there are different houses for each track. I am on the social track. This consists of French 5, philosophy A, history C, Swedish language, religion, international relations, tourism and Swedish literature.

What is very different is that students call all teachers and adults by first names. Also, there are no bells telling when to be at class, there is a schedule and it's the student's choice whether or not to go. Teachers do not have their own classrooms, they have personal offices. Students and teachers are constantly switching classrooms. One thing that I found really different is that school is free, even

at the university level. Lunches at school are also free.

A nice incentive for the students is that there is an allowance once a month for going to school. How students get to and from school is also different than in Muscatine. I only know a few people who drive to school here, because almost everyone takes the bus, train or bike.

Contrary to popular belief, it is not snowing here all year, nor is it dark all day in the winter. Due to the fact that I am living on the coast in southern Sweden, the weather and climate are different than in northern Sweden. It will hardly snow, we just have rain and cold winds. In the north is where it snows a lot with little daylight, but this is just in the winter. Summers are usually not too warm. Unlike the Iowa summers, there is no humidity.

This is just to name a few differences between the two cultures. So far this has been an amazing experience and I have only been here for three months.

I would like to say thank you to the Muscatine Rotary Club for the opportunity to participate in this exchange. I had the chance to meet many influential people, be introduced to new cultures and traditions, travel, and most of all, have the experience of a lifetime. I wouldn't trade this experience for anything.



**Audrey Dwyer**  
Muscatine to Sweden



North Scott Rotarian Jan Trimble signs a pumpkin for one of the more than 200 inner city children who were treated to a day at the pumpkin patch on Oct. 21 by the Rotary Clubs of Davenport and North Scott. The clubs provided transportation, hayrack rides, a weiner roast with s'mores, a hat, gloves, long sleeve t-shirt and a free pumpkin for each



PDG Bill Tubbs impersonated Rotary founder Paul Harris and sang "Mr. Lonely" at the opening plenary.



The chance to put a pie in RI Director Tom Thorfinnson's face was auctioned for \$2,000-plus for polio eradication.



DG Cal Litwiller's correct answer helped the District 6000 team in "Rotary Wheel of Fortune."

## Zone Institute: 'Learn, Laugh, Lead'

By DG Cal Litwiller/Mount Pleasant

For many of the participants at this year's Zone 28-29 Rotary International "Urban Institute," the activities began Tuesday, Oct. 10 with training sessions for leadership in Rotary. Training sessions included District Governors-Elect, District Governor Nominees, District Trainers, and District Foundation Chairs. Each of these groups met Tuesday and Wednesday in their own individual groups to continue planning for their year as leaders of their respective districts. There is a lot of team building as well as discussion of topics that need to be considered as they prepare for their time of leadership.

The program for the Institute, that was shortened by one day to reduce expenses, was built around Rotary's core values: Fun and Fellowship, Integrity, Service, Leadership Development and Diversity.

The convener of the Institute was the Rotary International Director from the two zones, Tom Thorfinnson, of Eden Prairie, Minn. Due to a decline in membership, North America has 13 in-

stead of 14 zones and our zone was renumbered from 27 to 28. The zone maps were changed and the new Zones 28-29 lost districts in Michigan and Indiana, and gained districts in New York, Minnesota and North Dakota.

Current District Governors arrived Wednesday afternoon so they could have planning sessions all day Thursday.

The official Urban Zone Institute began Thursday evening with the opening plenary session. Participants were encouraged to dress in clothing of their favorite decade. Many "stylish" outfits were worn by the different zone participants. Rotary International Director for Zone 28 & 29 Tom Thorfinnson gave the opening remarks to all who were in attendance.

Friday, Oct. 9, marked the beginning of the first full day of Rotary plenary sessions. After the presentation of flags, and national anthems of Canada and the United States, the 2009-10 class of district governors and spouses for Zones 28 & 29 was introduced. Presenters for the sessions included: John Blumberg, author of

**INSTITUTE**/continued on next page



Mary Beth Growney Selene recognized District 6000 as the second highest district in Zone 28 for giving to the Annual Programs Fund of The Rotary Foundation. The award was accepted by PDG Susan Herrick (r) and 2008-09 Rotary Foundation chair Don Goering.



DG Cal Litwiller, wearing a polio eradication vest, participated in the District Governors' class skit, "Lean on Me," with District 6440 governor's spouse, Pam Ferreira.



PDG Susan Herrick (l) accepted an award from Zone 28 Membership Development chair Terry Mueller for extending a new club in District 6000 in 2008-09.





PDG Susan Herrick, DGN Don Patterson and Becky, and PDG Diana Reed got in the spirit of "Dining Through the Decades" at the opening plenary.

## Rotary Institute report

**INSTITUTE/continued**

"Good to the Core"; Joe Cavanaugh, founder of Youth Frontiers, talking about "The Millenials"; and Jamie Revord from RI talking about her experience as a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar.

Updates were given on Polio Plus and Future Vision. Friday evening had the various DG classes going to different locations for dinners and fellowship.

Saturday, Oct. 10 began with an emphasis on Rotary's Peace Initiative, featuring Past Rotary International President Chuck Keller, as well as a presentation by Peace Scholar Nidhi Khosla. Participants were presented with an introduction to The Rotary International Convention in Montreal, highlighting many of the opportunities that participants will be able to enjoy June 20-23, 2010.

Awards were presented to districts based on Foundation contributions and membership. District 6000 was recognized for its contributions to The Foundation as one of the top contributors in Zone 28. The evening black tie optional dinner began with the presentation of the district governors and spouses for 2010-11. New Major Donors and Bequest Society members were recognized by RI rep Stephanie Urchick and our own PDG Don Goering, who is Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator. The featured speaker for the evening was RI President-Elect Ray Klingensmith.

Sunday, Oct. 11 was the final day for a very successful Urban Zone Institute. The morning began with an Inter-faith Service, followed by brunch and closing remarks by RI Director Thorfinnson. The session ended with the usual singing of "Let There Be Peace on Earth" by all who were in attendance.



Colleen and DGE Gary Welch of Ankeny were introduced with the 2010-11 class of district governors.



Rotary International President-Elect Ray Klingensmith (r) with Zones 28-29 Director-Elect Betsy Demaray.

## 'Cowboy logic' and North America's first female director

**By PDG Bill Tubbs/North Scott**

One headline from the Zones 28-29 Urban Institute was the nomination of Betsy Demaray, a past district governor from Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., as Rotary International Director-Elect for a two-year term beginning July 1, 2011. She will be one of Rotary's first female directors.

The talk entitled "Cowboy Logic" by RI President-Elect Ray Klingensmith, a lawyer from Kirksville, Mo., drew a positive response from Institute attendees, as well.

"Texans throw the bull, shoot the bull and ship the bull. They're the biggest bull shippers in the world," Klingensmith said to introduce his theme, "Cowboy Logic."

"Cowboy Logic," said Klingensmith, is common sense:

- *Never squat with your boots on.*
- *Drink upstream from the herd.*
- *If you're going to ride the point, look back every once in a while and see that the herd is still there.*
- *Never let reality get in the way of dreaming.*

The role of Rotary leadership, the president-elect said, is to "help clubs dream."

Klingensmith said Rotary needs to remember Jim Owens' "Ten Principles of the West," including "when you make a promise, keep it," "ride for the brand," and "remember that some things aren't for sale."

Klingensmith was a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar in South Africa – an experience that changed his life. What he has seen throughout the African continent influenced his passion for service. "Until you've been in the developing world and seen the need, it's hard to understand."

In order to create awareness, Klingensmith wants to organize "Rotary Project Safaris" to take groups of Rotarians to developing countries for a week.

Applying his cowboy theme to Rotary, he said:

- *If there's a job – do it.*
- *If there's a horse – ride it.*
- *If there's dirt – hide it. It'll wash off in the rain.*

"If we can help clubs make projects bigger, bolder and better, Rotary has a bright future."

# Rotary Volunteer sees many changes

■ Some things better, some worse in repeat visits to Moldova

By Merle Anderson/North Scott

District 6000 Rotary Volunteers chair

In May 2009, I traveled to Moldova on a three-week assignment with CNFA, Inc. as a Rotary Volunteer. I had previously done an assignment in Ukraine, and this was my seventh assignment in the Republic of Moldova. Moldova is one of the 15 countries that made up the former Soviet Union. It sits east of Romania and west of Ukraine and north of the Black Sea. It is a beautiful country, about the size and shape of the state of Indiana and it has a population about like the state of Iowa.

My recent assignment was helping a newly formed cooperative of vegetable growers develop a strategic business plan. My assignment took place in Balauresti village, located about 60 miles southeast of the capital city of Chisinau, Moldova. The term "village" in eastern Europe means no running water and no indoor plumbing. Balauresti village has 2,700 residents living in 900 households. The village sits close to the Prut River, which divides Moldova from Romania. The Prut River divided Europe from the former Soviet Union. The barbed wire fences and guard towers still stand as a stark reminder of the past.

Balauresti village was the home for collective farm workers during Soviet times. The collective farm produced vegetables and grain and contained about 325 acres of vineyards and orchards. Today, about 200 of the households belong to residents who either make their living as teachers or workers in other cities or they are retired. Another 600 households operate their small plots of about 2 ½ acres and do subsistence farming. In other words, what they produce, they eat. About 100 households are engaged in high performance farming. This segment is growing. They typically farm larger plots, by renting or purchasing land from the other two segments. Some have enough land that they can afford to purchase small tractors and machinery. They market the products they produce.

Being close to the Prut River gives this village an advantage. They have access to irrigation. The irrigation system was built in 1985. In 2005, a water system for drinking was built. Now, over half of the homes in Balauresti village have running water. Rarely do any homes have indoor toilets, but many have indoor sinks and tubs and even clothes washers. Natural gas is being brought into the village now. There are about 160 homes that have connected to natural gas to provide heat for their homes, instead of wood.

Boris Jetari is the mayor of Balauresti village. He is proud of the fact that they are completing the construction of a new school that will hold 470 students from Grades K-12. Because of the new school, they are committed to install a sewer system in the village. This is unheard of in most Moldovan villages. They also have a beautiful Orthodox Christian Church with a priest that is very active in the village.

The mayor sees growth opportunities for Balauresti village. The village can offer amenities that most people desire. He believes that their village will grow and be able to open stores and shops and provide job opportunities for residents. In rural Moldova, there are villages located every five to eight miles. They vary in population from 150 to 10,000 residents. Many of the small villages will not be able to sustain themselves and they will disappear in the next couple of generations.



Rotary Volunteer Merle Anderson (c) with the mayor of Balauresti village, Moldova, and the mayor's administrative assistant.

I first visited Moldova in May 2001. I revisit the villages that I have worked in each time I return to Moldova. One of the villages I worked in during May 2001 was Recesti village located about 100 miles north of Chisinau. I revisited the village again this May, eight years later. It's a sad story. The village had over 700 residents in 2001 and today, the population is 280. Last year, there were three births and 38 deaths. You do the math. The school is down to 80 students and the school is expected to be closed within five years. The milk-receiving cooperative that I helped form stopped collecting milk in February. The cow population in the village is too low to make it profitable to operate. They will probably merge with another cooperative or just sell their equipment and exit the business.

Unfortunately, Recesti village is like many other Moldovan villages. Many of their brightest and hard-working residents left the village to live and work in bigger cities or in other countries. It is estimated that nearly 1,000,000 Moldovans live abroad due to high unemployment and few job opportunities.

Yet, about ten miles away is Ignatei village. I helped them form a milk-receiving cooperative in 2001. They started with 13 members in their cooperative. Today, they have over 400 members and they are continuing to grow. Ignatei village has about 7,500 residents and the population has held steady. The cooperative not only collects milk, they also provide needed services for their members

**VOLUNTEER/continued on next page**



# You, too, can volunteer

## VOLUNTEER/continued

such as veterinary services, custom mowing, baling and chopping. Now, they can provide their cows with better diets, which improves milk quantity and quality. They are planning to expand into packaging and marketing milk and then, expand into producing and marketing yogurt and butter. They also collect milk in seven neighboring villages. It is really a success story.

You may have heard about the elections that took place in Moldova in April 2009. In Moldova, they have a parliament type of government. There are several political parties. The Parliament then elects a president. For the past eight years, their president was a Communist. He was not eligible to run for a third term. Based upon the elections in 2005 and based upon the polls, it was expected the Communists would not fare well. But, when the votes were counted, they had 50 percent of the Parliament seats. So, huge crowds gathered in the streets of Chisinau. Within hours, riots broke out and a lot of the government property was destroyed, including the president's building and the Parliament building. The government blamed the opposition. The opposition claims that the Communists actually started the riots and did the damage.

To elect a president, Parliament needed a majority. To get that majority, they needed one more vote. After two attempts, the Parliament was dissolved. They held another election and they still didn't have a clear majority but they selected a head of Parliament and he is a temporary president until Parliament is able to elect a president. The opposition believes they can win more votes than the Communist Party if the elections are honest and fair. The opposition parties want to see a smaller government and a government that is friendly to their No. 1 resource – agriculture. They want to see more free trade and opportunities for business. That will improve the quality of life and allow the bright, hard-working people to stay in Moldova. Will it happen? We will see.

Having traveled in all parts of Moldova over the past eight years, I see many things the same as they were, and yet, I see some things starting to change. Some of the changes are sad to watch and many of the changes are encouraging to watch. My home-host in Balauresti village has three grown children. The oldest daughter is an attorney in a nearby city of Nesporeni. Their other daughter is living in Los Angeles temporarily on a work visa. Their son has spent two summers in the United States on a work program and he just graduated from a university in western Romania and is completing his thesis for his masters degree. He plans to become a diplomat. He and thousands of other young Moldovans have seen Western ways and they like what they see, better than what their parents and grandparents have experienced.

I am a registered Rotary Volunteer. Since I retired (early) nearly ten years ago, I have found volunteer work to be very rewarding. You can learn more about Rotary Volunteers at [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org). Then, click onto ProjectLINK. You do not have to do international assignments like I often do. There are many opportunities within the United States for Rotary Volunteers. There are lots of opportunities within the state of Iowa and within Rotary District 6000 for volunteers. There are huge opportunities within your own community for volunteers. Rotary Volunteers gives structure to the Rotarian tradition of "Service Above Self."

One of my favorite sayings is, "You have not had a perfect day, until you help someone that you know can never repay you."






## District 6000 Quiz

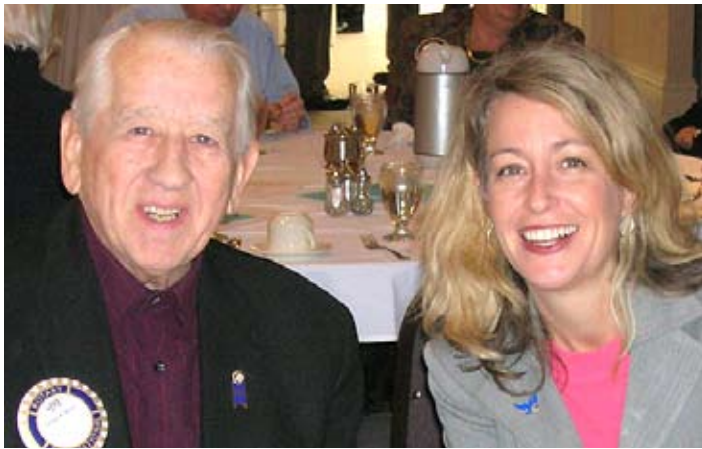


Test your knowledge of District 6000 with these 10 questions:

- There are 63 clubs and 4,184 Rotarians in District 6000, whose geographic area is roughly which half of the state of Iowa:  
A) North B) South  
C) East D) West
- The home club of the current District Governor, Cal Litwiller:  
A) Boone B) Waterloo  
C) Northwest Des Moines D) Mt. Pleasant
- Many clubs sponsor high school sophomores to participate in a district-sponsored one-day training event called RYLA that is held at Camp Dodge. What do the letters R-Y-L-A stand for?
- Name the city and country where, since 2003, 303 Rotarians, Interactors, Rotaractors, university professors and service learning students have spent spring break week providing humanitarian service and building friendships:
- The Iowa Miles of Smiles Team (M.O.S.T.) performs cleft lip and cleft palate repairs for people in:  
A) Philippines B) Davenport  
C) Guatemala D) Mexico
- Rita Perea of the Rotary Club of Greater Des Moines will be the team leader of District 6000's Group Study Exchange team in February and March 2010 with District 9790 in:  
A) Germany B) Australia  
C) Brazil D) Taiwan
- FAMSCO is the name of a 501C3 corporation in District 6000 that collects humanitarian supplies from clubs and ships them to communities in Mexico and Central America. What does FAMSCO stand for?
- District 6000 maintains an office with a part-time administrator, Carolyn Scharff, in what city?  
A) Eldridge B) Evanston, Ill.  
C) Des Moines D) Pella
- Rotarians in the district come together for fellowship and to celebrate their achievements annually at an event called District Conference. The 2009-10 District Conference will be April 23-25 in what city?  
A) Iowa City B) West Des Moines  
C) Dubuque D) Burlington
- Within \$1,000, how much did District 6000 Rotarians give to the Annual Programs Fund of The Rotary Foundation in 2008-09?

### Score yourself (number of right answers):

- 9-10 (five Rotary pins):  0 right -- Join  
7-8 (four Rotary pins):  Kiwanis!  
5-6: (three Rotary pins):   
3-4: (two Rotary pins):  Answers on  
1-2: (one Rotary pin):  page 30



Jamie Revord greets Iowa City Downtown Rotarian PDG Herb Wilson, who is a passionate supporter of The Rotary Foundation and a member of the Arch Klumph Society.

## 55 new Paul Harris Fellows at Iowa City

# Major Gifts Officer visits clubs in District 6000

By DG Cal Litwiller/Mount Pleasant

District 6000 was honored to have Rotary's Senior Major Gifts Officer, Jamie Revord, in the district Nov. 19 and 20. On Nov. 19, she spoke at the noon meeting of the Rotary Club of Iowa City, followed by a special reception at 5:00 to honor the 55 new Paul Harris members from the Rotary Club of Iowa City. The following day, Nov. 20, she again shared her personal journey and insights regarding Rotary, with the Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines.

During her time in Iowa, District 6000 was able to honor those in the Des Moines area who have either become Major Donors to The Rotary Foundation or have included The Rotary Foundation in their estate planning. Rotarians who have made these donations to The Rotary Foundation were invited to a lovely reception on the evening of Nov. 20 at the home of Steve and Erna Morain in West Des Moines. Steve is a member of the Rotary Club of Des Moines and Erna is a member of the Rotary Club of Waukee.

District 6000 appreciates those who include Rotary in their charitable giving, and it was a great opportunity to personally meet Jamie Revord of Evanston, Ill. The Morains were generous hosts for the evening's event. District 6000 appreciates all their efforts in making the evening a success.



Rotarian Wendi Wilson takes notes as Rotary Foundation Major Gifts Officer Jamie Revord (r) speaks at the Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines.



Rachel Litwiller, a Rotarian and wife of District Governor Cal Litwiller, with Jamie Revord and PDG Susan Herrick.

# Ankeny site chosen for PETS, AG Training

By DGE Gary Welch/Ankeny

Many of you know that the training facility at DMACC in Newton is no longer available to use as a training site. The training committee considered over a dozen new sites from Iowa City to Creston, Honey Creek to Ames. Considering all the factors involved, the Marriott Hotel in Ankeny, Iowa, was chosen as the training site. I wish to thank everyone that assisted in finding a new training site, especially Maggie Mowery and Michael Schmidt, training chairs.

The assistant governors and committee chairs will have their training on Saturday, Feb. 20, 2010, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

PETS and District Assembly will be held on March 26 from 1:00 to 8:00 p.m. and March 27 from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The

training committee is preparing an outstanding presentation of tools to "Serve with a Purpose."

There is an old story that goes something like this: For the want of a nail a horseshoe was lost; for the want of a horseshoe the horse was lost; for want of a horse a soldier was lost; for want of a soldier the battle was lost; and for want of a win in battle the war was lost.

The assistant governors, committee chairs and presidents of the clubs are the "nail" that holds everything together and we cannot afford to "lose" you. How we support you to do your job is the foundation of Rotary and allows us all to "change lives." Without you, there is no Rotary and no help for the millions of people in need.



# Rotary Foundation Annual giving

District 6000 Clubs • July 1, 2009 - Nov. 30, 2009\*

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
(Members: Jul 09/Jul 08)	09-10 Goal	Thru 11-30-09	% of Goal	Per capita
Adel (29/29)	\$ 2,600	363	14	\$ 12.52
Albia (32/33)	1,860	0	0	0.00
Ames Morning (63/69)	10,000	6,400	64	101.59
Ames (247/264)	38,250	6,535	17	26.46
Ankeny (60/60)	10,650	4,007	38	66.78
Atlantic (67/66)	5,175	504	10	7.52
Bettendorf (92/88)	10,560	7,950	75	86.41
Bloomfield (15/14)	1,400	0	0	0.00
Boone (58/62)	5,400	4,000	74	68.97
Burlington (97/96)	10,100	4,273	42	44.05
Carroll (59/59)	6,000	3,485	58	59.07
Centerville (39/40)	4,000	785	20	20.13
Chariton (53/54)	5,500	0	0	0.00
Clinton (119/124)	9,400	2,341	25	19.68
Coon Rapids (26/27)	2,400	0	0	0.00
Coralville-North Corridor (30/33)	5,704	0	0	0.00
Corning (47/53)	2,450	2,500	102	53.19
Corydon (15/15)	320	350	109	23.33
Creston (21/18)	475	0	0	0.00
Dallas Center (25/22)	2,500	50	2	2.00
Davenport (168/174)	16,500	1,125	7	6.70
Decatur County (19/17)	4,000	0	0	0.00
Des Moines AM (143/134)	15,000	2,300	15	16.08
Des Moines (331/345)	24,000	5,725	24	17.30
East Polk County (40/37)	3,900	1,900	49	47.50
Fairfield (68/68)	7,770	0	0	0.00
Fort Madison (54/55)	5,500	1,685	31	31.20
Greater Des Moines (40/0)	2,800	0	0	0.00
Grinnell (31/32)	3,000	0	0	0.00
Indianola (52/51)	5,720	250	4	4.81
Iowa City AM (56/57)	8,250	6,053	73	108.09
Iowa City Downtown (19/26)	2,500	0	0	0.00
Iowa City (298/308)	28,458	9,900	35	33.22
Iowa Quad-Cities (48/53)	65,000	0	0	0.00
Jefferson (56/57)	5,700	1,850	32	33.04
Johnston (49/47)	5,000	0	0	0.00
Kalona (46/45)	2,500	1,400	56	30.43
Keokuk (83/82)	8,500	400	5	4.82
Keosauqua (24/28)	1,950	1,104	57	46.00
Knoxville (64/68)	2,450	0	0	0.00
Lenox (26/26)	2,700	483	18	18.61
Manning (17/17)	1,800	0	0	0.00
Marengo (14/15)	1,350	179	13	12.79
Marshalltown (174/175)	10,000	250	3	1.44
Mount Pleasant Noon (39/34)	2,010	240	12	6.15
Mt. Pleasant (30/25)	2,500	675	27	22.50
Muscatine (123/131)	18,900	12,401	66	100.82
Nevada (64/61)	6,500	0	0	0.00
Newton (79/80)	9,205	815	9	10.32
North Scott (104/99)	11,330	4,645	41	44.66
Northwest Des Moines (54/58)	11,700	300	3	5.56
Osceola (31/34)	2,560	0	0	0.00
Oskaloosa (55/58)	4,125	0	0	0.00
Ottumwa (110/112)	12,540	10,825	86	98.41
Pella (41/39)	4,400	1,000	23	24.39
Perry (26/31)	1,600	0	0	0.00
Tipton (26/32)	2,900	0	0	0.00
Washington (62/62)	7,150	0	0	0.00
Waukee (47/57)	5,500	1,000	18	21.28
Wellman (36/33)	3,910	1,745	45	48.47
West Des Moines (80/81)	9,085	200	2	2.50
West Liberty (32/33)	7,425	2,500	34	78.13
Winterset (31/31)	1,860	2,050	110	66.13
<b>Total (4,184/4,234)</b>	<b>\$ 494,222</b>	<b>\$116,545</b>	<b>23.58</b>	<b>\$ 27.86</b>

(\*) Data from unofficial "interim" Monthly Contribution Report of The Rotary Foundation



## Honorary member

Janel Stephens, the widow of Tipton Rotarian Dave Stephens, was inducted as an honorary member of the Rotary Club of Tipton in front of a community-wide audience of 210 during the club's fund raising auction on Nov. 6. Club president Rick Fleshin (l) made the presentation. As a result of Stephens' death, the club re-activated its "Distinguished Citizen Award" and presented it posthumously to Stephens: "Past President and Good Friend, in appreciation of your untiring efforts and devotion to our club and community and the Rotary way of life." The auction raised \$18,000 before expenses for the 26-member club.

## Obituaries

Clubs have reported or *District 6000 News* has become aware of the deaths of the following members. *May light perpetual shine upon them:*

- Dave Stephens, 69, Tipton, died Sept. 23 of pancreatic cancer. A retired agricultural banker, he was a past president of the Rotary Club of Tipton. He had also been a member of the Rotary Club of Maquoketa and was a charter member and past president of the Rotary Club of North Scott. His community service and Rotary service was extensive, including bringing a Percheron hitch to the Mississippi Valley Fairgrounds for Rotary District Conference in 2005.

- Walt Fahrenkrog, 77, Eldridge, a self-employed CPA who was a member, past president and longtime treasurer of the Rotary Club of North Scott, a position he held at the time of his death, died Sept. 10. A polio survivor, memorials included Polio-Plus, and more than \$2,800 was received for global polio eradication.

# News Briefs

**Quiz Answers (see page 27):** 1) B; 2) D; 3) Rotary Youth Leadership Awards; 4) Xicotepec, Mexico; 5) C; 6) B; 7) Fire And Medical Supply Company; 8) D; 9) D; 10) \$437,218.

\*\*\*

**MOST:** The District 6000 Iowa Miles Of Smiles Team (M.O.S.T.) will execute its fifth consecutive mission to perform cleft lip and cleft palate repairs in the western Guatemalan area Feb. 18-28, 2010. Team leader PDG Gary Pacha says they will be working in Quetzaltenango for the second time. "At this time we have filled positions

for this trip," Pacha writes. Thanks to the clubs who support this humanitarian effort, to the team members, and best wishes for a safe and productive trip!

\*\*\*

**GSE:** District 6000's Group Study Exchange in 2010-11 will be with District 9910 in New Zealand, reports DGE Gary Welch.

\*\*\*

**Youth Exchange:** The District 6000 Rotary Youth Exchange Winter Retreat will be Jan. 16-17 at Camp Wesley Woods near Indianola.

\*\*\*

**Xicotepec:** Jim Peterson, the coordinator for District 6000's highly successful project teams in Xicotepec, Mexico, said there are still openings for Week No. 1, March 6-14. Fifty Rotarians, family members and service learning students are signed up for Week No. 2 (March 13-21) and it is filled. Persons interested in participating in Week No. 1 should contact Peterson, (319) 631-2992, or Kay Carpenter, (319) 351-7634 immediately.

\*\*\*

**Assembly:** DGE Gary Welch and Colleen will be among the 530 incoming district governors from around the world at the Rotary International Assembly, Jan. 17-24 in San Diego. Also in attendance will be PDG Diana Reed, who is Zone 28 Membership Coordinator, and PDG Don Goering, who is Zone 28 Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator.

\*\*\*

**PDGs:** The new Honey Creek Lodge at Lake Rathbun near Centerville was the location for the annual Past District Governor Holiday Party hosted by DG Cal Litwiller and Rachel on Nov. 8.

\*\*\*

**Newsletter:** In an effort to reduce expenses by more than half, the printed copies of this issue of District 6000 are being posted by Standard Mail instead of First Class Mail.

\*\*\*

**Thank You:** A projection screen and an Epson LCD projector have been donated to District 6000 for use at the District Office and during training by Des Moines AM Rotarian John Schreurs of Strategic America. Thank you, John!

\*\*\*

**Russians:** The Rotary Club of North Scott will host the Golden Gates youth from St. Petersburg, Russia, Jan. 15-18. The itinerary is arranged by club member Serge Pasheev. The children, ages 5-16,

perform songs, rituals and folk dances. The group is touring the U.S. and raising money to purchase a full-size van for the orphanage in St. Petersburg.

\*\*\*

**Billboards:** DGE Gary Welch is looking for a successor to Tom Brooke of West Liberty, who has been the coordinator of District 6000's highly successful billboards program. If you have questions or are interested, contact Tom at (319) 627-7124, or DGE Welch at (515) 964-7432.

\*\*\*

**Project Fair:** The Uniendo America Project Fair will be Jan. 28-30 in Antigua, Guatemala. District 6000 Rotarians have attended the fair annually since it began 17 years ago and it served as the springboard for many highly successful humanitarian projects. Information is available at: [www.uniendo-america.org](http://www.uniendo-america.org), or contact Brock Earnhardt, (563) 355-8430.

\*\*\*

**Rotary Day:** In order to create awareness of Rotary and the global quest to eradicate polio, the Wrigley Building in Chicago will be illuminated on Rotary's birthday, Feb. 23, with "End Polio Now: Thanks Rotary." This is one of several iconic buildings worldwide that will be lighted the same day, including the Sydney Operahouse, the Roman Coliseum, the British Parliament, Cape Town's Table Mountain in Africa, the High Falls in Rochester, N.Y., and others.

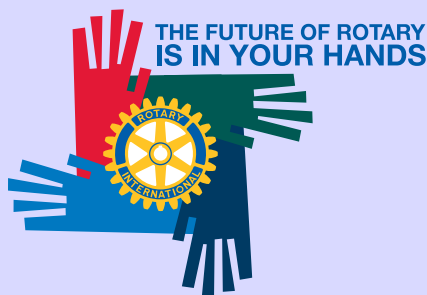
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**Did You Know?** Tom Coley, the president of Scott Community College and a member of the Rotary Club of Bettendorf, is a model whose image is on one of Rotary's "Humanity In Motion" billboards and print ads.



District Governor Cal Litwiller presented the 5-sapphire pin to Cynthia Maeglin at Muscatine Rotary's Sept. 21 meeting. Cynthia was in the first group of women to be admitted to the club and was the first woman president – a milestone!

## Mark Your Calendars!



## District 6000 Conference

April 23-25, 2010

PZAZZ! Convention & Event Center

• Burlington, Iowa •

• Service Projects, Programs & Fun!

• RotaKids, Interact, Rotaract, Youth Exchange & all youth!

• Celebrating 20 years of women in Rotary!

\* Update on International Projects!

• Charlie Wittmack, the youngest American to climb Mt. Everest.

• Golfing at Spirit Hollow.

• Fun City: Go-karts, arcade games, bowling, Huck's Harbor indoor water park, Catfish Bend Casino and Qi-The Spa.

• Bring your family for a fun-filled weekend!



# Letter

**Thank You:** I wanted to thank the Rotary clubs for the support and sponsorship of the Mississippi Athletic Conference sportsmanship recognition.

Good sportsmanship is something we at West are proud to point to as a season goal. We have struggled in winning games in many of our sports, but we do have very nice, hardworking young men and women here ... I am proud of our students and the awards presented to us for boys basketball and volleyball for first in MAC sportsmanship. I am also proud of the high scores earned by our other teams. We are striving to be an All-Sports Award Winner again.

We have a good school here. Our kids are very positive and if you would visit our building you would see many good things going on. Our base of good sportsmanship, good work ethic, and solid classroom performance is becoming a consistent positive here ... I am very proud to teach and coach at West High.

Thanks again to the Rotary clubs. It is greatly appreciated.

-s- Mark Bigler, Head Basketball Coach  
Davenport West High School

*(Editor's Note: Since 1998, the Rotary Clubs of Bettendorf, Burlington, Clinton, Davenport, Iowa Quad Cities, North Scott and Muscatine have sponsored sportsmanship awards in a partnership with the Mississippi Athletic Conference. Game officials, who rate the sportsmanship of coaches, players and spectators after each contest, say the award has made a difference in improved sportsmanship. Banners to the first-place winners displaying the Rotary wheel hang proudly in the school gymnasiums. Information: Project Coordinator Bill Tubbs, (563) 285-8111; or btubbs@northscottpress.com.)*

\* \* \*

**Report Your News!** Clubs in District 6000 are invited and encouraged to submit news of past and upcoming activities for District 6000 News. Send Word documents and free-standing high resolution .jpg photos to: btubbs@northscottpress.com. The deadline for the next issue is Nov. 15. If you have questions, please call: DG Cal Litwiller, (319) 385-8440; editor Bill Tubbs, (563) 285-8111; Jacque Andrew, (515) 386-2114; Karin Franklin, (319), 321-8261; or your assistant governor.

\* \* \*

**Book:** Cliff Dochterman, a popular past Rotary International president who was a guest at District 6000 Conference when Herb Wilson was governor in 2002, has published a 240-page book of his 23 favorite speeches, entitled "As I Was Saying..." A pre-publication "special" of \$12 (including tax and postage) is offered by the Rota-

ry Club of Moraga, P.O. Box 122, Moraga, CA 94556. The book will be offered for sale later for \$14.99 plus shipping or postage from Amazon Books (www.Amazon.com), Booksurge Publishers (www.booksurge.com), Russell-Hampton Co. (www.ruh.com) and Lindeburg & Co. (www.lindeburg.com). All proceeds go to The Rotary Foundation Permanent Fund.

## CLUB ATTENDANCE PERCENT AND RANK

August - October 2009

CLUB	AUGUST		SEPTEMBER		OCTOBER	
	Percent	Rank	Percent	Rank	Percent	Rank
Adel	69.00 %	26	63.00 %	41	63.00 %	36
Albia	50.00 %	51	52.70 %	56	48.30 %	52
Ames	58.00 %	38	61.00 %	46	60.00 %	42
Ames Morning	55.30 %	42	55.30 %	52	54.10 %	49
Ankeny	80.00 %	9	75.00 %	17	75.00 %	15
Atlantic	42.54 %	55	53.02 %	54		
Bettendorf	78.82 %	11	76.69 %	14	68.32 %	27
Bloomfield	61.00 %	35	63.00 %	40		
Boone	59.00 %	36	65.00 %	34	70.00 %	25
Burlington	81.90 %	7	88.90 %	5	80.90 %	8
Carroll	66.92 %	30	64.10 %	37	72.06 %	22
Centerville	58.00 %	37	66.00 %	31	60.00 %	41
Chariton	71.00 %	19	74.00 %	19	67.00 %	31
Clinton	56.00 %	41	59.74 %	50	54.30 %	48
Coon Rapids	55.00 %	46				
Coralville-North Corridor	85.00 %	4	100.00 %	1	97.00 %	1
Corning	67.20 %	28	77.00 %	12	73.00 %	20
Corydon	53.00 %	47	51.00 %	58	41.00 %	53
Creston	55.00 %	45	71.00 %	25	70.00 %	24
Dallas Center	74.00 %	14	70.00 %	27	56.00 %	47
Davenport	56.58 %	40	52.51 %	57	73.63 %	17
Decatur County	67.00 %	29	77.00 %	11	84.00 %	6
Des Moines	47.00 %	53	45.00 %	59	61.00 %	39
Des Moines A.M.			61.00 %	45		
East Polk County			71.00 %	24		
Fairfield	55.06 %	43	64.29 %	36	62.11 %	37
Fort Madison	70.00 %	24	65.00 %	33		
Greater Des Moines			90.00 %	4	95.00 %	2
Grinnell						
Indianola			60.00 %	49	61.00 %	38
Iowa City	68.00 %	27	65.00 %	32	57.00 %	45
Iowa City A.M.	80.00 %	8	75.00 %	16	73.00 %	19
Iowa City Downtown	72.85 %	16	76.47 %	15	80.60 %	9
Iowa Quad-Cities	61.11 %	34	73.20 %	21	60.08 %	40
Jefferson	55.00 %	44	64.00 %	38		
Johnston	70.14 %	22	68.44 %	28	68.23 %	28
Kalona	64.02 %	32	73.46 %	20	74.14 %	16
Keokuk	50.29 %	50	53.01 %	55	57.82 %	44
Keosauqua	69.00 %	25	60.00 %	48	67.50 %	30
Knoxville	70.31 %	21	60.50 %	47	59.13 %	43
Lenox	79.00 %	10	74.00 %	18	75.00 %	14
Manning	91.00 %	2	85.00 %	6	79.00 %	10
Marengo	73.00 %	15	73.00 %	22		
Marshalltown			53.70 %	53	51.16 %	51
Mount Pleasant Noon	70.59 %	20	63.16 %	39	65.79 %	32
Mt. Pleasant			90.00 %	3		
Muscatine	47.97 %	52	58.94 %	51	52.35 %	50
Nevada	66.67 %	31	62.40 %	42	75.00 %	13
Newton	63.00 %	33			68.00 %	29
North Scott	84.34 %	5	82.11 %	9	89.58 %	4
Northwest Des Moines	84.18 %	6	79.17 %	10	82.08 %	7
Osceola	50.96 %	49	62.31 %	43	63.46 %	34
Oskaloosa	70.00 %	23	61.40 %	44	76.00 %	12
Ottumwa	57.17 %	39	76.74 %	13	68.59 %	26
Pella	74.60 %	13	83.00 %	8	78.00 %	11
Perry	72.00 %	18	68.00 %	29	65.00 %	33
Tipton					72.48 %	21
Washington	52.38 %	48	67.06 %	30	56.69 %	46
Wauke	86.98 %	3	84.19 %	7	87.55 %	5
Wellman	93.00 %	1	94.00 %	2	92.09 %	3
West Des Moines	72.31 %	17	64.45 %	35	63.31 %	35
West Liberty	76.00 %	12	70.00 %	26	73.00 %	18
Winterset	46.83 %	54	71.10 %	23	72.03 %	23

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John Kenny, Scotland

## DISTRICT 6000 • Iowa USA

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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](http://www.rotary6000.org). We encourage and urge you to share your copies with club leaders and Rotarians in your clubs and to use it as a resource for club newsletters and in any way possible for the advancement of Rotary. Clubs are invited and encouraged to submit news to editor Bill Tubbs at the above address.

## Opportunities for Rotarians and spouses



### Rotary Friendship Exchange

Your D-6000 Rotary Friendship Exchange Committee is working on sending RFE teams to: British Columbia, Canada, Aug. 27-Sept. 7, 2010; and South Africa in October 2010 (exact dates TBA); If you have an interest in applying to be a team member/couple, Please contact Al Orsborn at [acokmo@yahoo.com](mailto:acokmo@yahoo.com).

### Rotary Volunteers

D-6000 Rotary Volunteers Chairman Merle Anderson encourages all Rotarians to consider International volunteerism. Contact him at [Mla24@aol.com](mailto:Mla24@aol.com). At the present he has an opportunity in Zambia. A listing of opportunities is at [www.rotary.org/volunteers](http://www.rotary.org/volunteers).

### Care Bears for Our Iowa National Guard dependents

The Iowa National Guard Auxiliary is expanding its Care Bear project. Invite them to your club for a program, or collect monies to support the children when our service men and women are deployed. Contact [sgdietz@msn.com](mailto:sgdietz@msn.com) for a program and information.

## Club leaders' checklist . . .

*From DG Cal Litwiller . . .*

- Secretaries submit your 2010-11 officers to RI and District administrator Carolyn Scharff (both, please!) by Dec. 31.
- Plan campaigns and projects to tie in with District 6000's PR blitz in February-March-April (p. 3).
- Plan community activities to create awareness of polio eradication and meet or exceed your club's three-year goal for PolioPlus Partners (p. 5).
- Register members to attend the 2010 RI Convention in Montreal, Canada (p. 3).
- Notify GSE Inbound Coordinator Mark Snell (515) 296-2348, of your interest in hosting a team from Australia in April 2010.
- 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).
- Submit news of your club's successes or upcoming events by Feb. 22, 2010 for the next issue of *District 6000 News* to PDG Bill Tubbs, or Karin Franklin (Iowa City) or Jacque Andrews (Jefferson).