



The Monthly newsletter for
**Rotary International District
6330**

2015-2016 District Governor
Nancy Ottewell

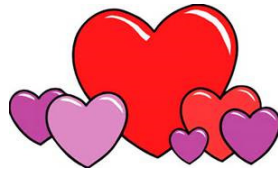
Edition
February 2016



District Governor
Nancy Ottewell
and her husband
and Rotary
partner, George.

District Governor Nancy's Message February 2016

DISTRICT GOVERNOR MESSAGE – February 2016



We head into the month of February. It is the shortest month of the year - although this year we gain another day as this is a Leap Year! February is the Month of Hearts. Many of us can remember as a child how excited we were to make Valentine hearts to give to our friends and families to show them we care. Rotarians have always been generous in their hearts by the giving of their time and their money to the causes of Rotary.

The month of February is special in the Rotary calendar since it is designated to one of the six Areas of Focus: **Promoting Peace**. This month gives each of us an opportunity to pause and to reflect on the ways we can promote Rotary's quest for goodwill, peace, and understanding among people of the world. Are Rotarians up to this challenge of Promoting Peace? Definitely! Being part of the solution is how we as Rotarians build together. It takes only a small step on our part for it is "by small actions that we accomplish great things!"

We are asked to be a catalyst for change. And as RI President K.R. 'Ravi' Ravindran likes to say "We are in Rotary for one simple reason: to change the world". It has been the way of Rotary to focus upon matters in which members are in agreement; rather than upon matters in which we disagree. Being open minded and forgiving is how we as Rotarians approach the problems of the world. We can and do find ways to work together and get along in our world.

We as Rotarians live by the words of this familiar song: *"Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me!"* At PETS (President Elect Training Seminar) last year we closed our lunch session with the President Elects and guests singing this song. We stood together, shoulder to shoulder, hands joined, each one of us unique and different; and became one voice focused on the dream of peace.

This month also includes the anniversary of the first meeting of Rotary held on February 23rd 1905. So plan to celebrate our 111th anniversary, and the legacy of Rotary! Rotary has demonstrated the fact that friendship can easily hurdle national and religious boundaries. We do so by attempting to understand peoples' points of view and reaching across lines of race, religion, and culture to become partners in service to all humankind; so tensions are reduced and friendships are increased.

Our District Membership numbers have declined somewhat from last year. So this month represents a good time to take stock of your actions and attitudes for this Rotary year. How are you sharing *"your Gifts"* to **"Be a Gift to the World"**? Where is your *'heart'* in relation to Rotary? Have you made some efforts and progress this year to build up your club and your club leaders? Are you looking with a discerning eye at your Club and discovering ways to be better and more attractive to new members? Have you asked someone to join with you at your Rotary breakfast, lunch or dinner meeting?

Our Rotary clubs must deliver value that satisfies our membership and give Rotarians the opportunity to make a greater impact. Members must find value in being a Rotarian. This can only be accomplished if clubs strive to understand and deliver what their members joined Rotary for and what their future expectations are.

The first object of Rotary is 'the development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service'. Acquaintance and friendship is often the reason people seek out joining any organization. Let us give and share the **"Gift"** of Rotary Membership to others. As Rotarians, we strive to build Goodwill and Better Friendships as we aspire to world understanding. These friendships endure when they are built on the foundation of Rotary's core values: fellowship, service, diversity, integrity, and leadership.



AND LET IT BEGIN WITH ME..... "Be a Gift to the World"

Yours in Rotary Service,

Nancy

District News

District and Zone Literacy Awards in 2015

Sue Storie, Rotarian Contributor

The Literacy team will be randomly selecting a Literacy Club of the Month and posting information on the District website. The Rotary Club of Stratford has been selected to be the Literacy Club of the Month.

Here are the literacy activities they reported to receive the District and Zone Literacy Awards in 2015!

1. Used books to Grand Bend for shipping to Africa
2. School supplies to Grand Bend to be sent Africa
3. Cell phones to the unemployed
4. Computer to families with school aged children
5. Rotary Readers reading to children in apartment complex
6. Magazines to youth in a shelter
7. Used books to social enterprise to raise money for office training program
8. Had literacy speaker to address the club
9. Club members meet with New Canadians to support cultural literacy and ESL
10. Money to same world same chance
11. Money to Change her world
12. Stock bookshelves with books for children at 10 community sites
13. Paid for a container to be shipped to Africa
14. Funded PLOW - public library on wheels
15. Money to El Salvador Literacy Project

Clubs are encouraged to begin checking on the status of their literacy projects, because the Education and Literacy Awards application form will soon be available on the District 6330 website. As in previous years, these awards will be presented at the District Conference. The deadline for submission is April 30, 2016. If your club has completed five education and/or literacy projects, you are eligible for the District Literacy Award. If you have completed ten education and/or literacy projects you have earned the Zone Award. Check the District website for ideas!

Rotary Club of Flint responds to the water crisis in Flint

Amy Krug, President – Rotary Club of Flint

In response to this crisis the Rotary Club of Flint, in partnership with the Rotary Clubs of Genesee County (District 6330/Area 7,) is promoting a comprehensive effort in which Rotary Clubs and individual Rotarians can be of support through a four pronged approach; club level donations to the Rotary Club of Flint Charitable Foundation, individual donations to the Flint Child Health & Development Fund, and dissemination of information regarding material donations and opportunities to volunteer.

1. Club level donations can be made to the **Rotary Club of Flint Charitable Foundation**. These funds will be utilized to support water related efforts in the Flint area.
2. Individual Rotarians are encouraged to donate to **The Flint Child Health & Development Fund** www.flintkid.org which was established at the Community Foundation of Greater Flint to support the delivery of critical public health, medical, and community-based services and interventions that address and mitigate the short and long term impacts experienced by Flint, Michigan families exposed to lead as the result of the 2014-2016 Flint Water Crisis.
3. Individuals wishing to make **materials donations** of water or other items can do so through one of the established distribution sites. The site for donations is dependent on the size of the donation.
4. People wishing to **volunteer** can report directly to the Red Cross (1401 S Grand Traverse St, Flint, MI 48503.)

See the attached for much more information regarding the water issue in Flint and what you can do to help.



How Rotarians Wage Peace

James Thomas, Rotarian Contributor

Rotarians have long been active in efforts to encourage and promote peace. The fourth object of Rotary is to advance “international understanding, goodwill and peace”. In 1942, prior to the creation of the United Nations, Rotarians from 21 nations organized a conference to develop ideas for advancing education, science, and culture across nations. This meeting was the foundation of what is now UNESCO. Rotarians were involved in the creation of the United Nations at the founding meeting in 1945 and continue to serve in an advisory capacity to the UN.

More recently, Rotary developed Peace Fellowships in concert with nine universities world-wide and more than 1,000 graduates are now in the field working on peace. Three examples of their efforts are:

Path Heang who worked as a child in rice fields of a Khmer Rouge camp and attended the peace program at the University of Queensland in 2002-2004 is now a Chief of Field Offices for the UN in Cambodia working in some of Cambodia’s poorest areas on issues affecting children and women.

Maria Effendi attended the University of Bradford in 2006-2008 and co-founded the Department of Peace and Conflict Management at National Defence University in Islamabad Pakistan. She teaches peace building in the Master program.

Timothy Kariuki (Chula, January 2009) is in South Sudan serving as state adviser for conflict mitigation and stabilization initiative.

These Fellowships for Masters Degrees and Certificates are available to eligible candidates in our District. If your club knows of a potential please identify them to your Assistant Governor and we can follow up with them.

Individual Rotarians can take an active role in promoting peace by speaking out on those things that divide us and joining efforts locally that promote peace such as conflict resolution training for youth.

Rotarians can also join the Rotary Action Group for Peace (www.rotarianactiongroupforpeace.org). This Rotary Action Group provides resources for projects in conflict resolution, mediation techniques and much more. Important projects are identified that may inspire you and need help such as prevention of youth violence in the upcoming February elections in Uganda. Youth are often both the instigators and target of violence in the aftermath of elections and this project works to prevent violence.

When you ask your self – What can I do about peace? The answer is get involved. Join the Rotary Action Group for Peace, be active in promoting peace related programs in your community, sponsor a Peace Fellow, and speak out for peace, goodwill, and international understanding.

District News

Stratford club sponsors its first Inuit student

Diane Sewell, Rotary Club of Stratford

For Jennifer Ezekiel, coming to Stratford must seem like a trip south. Well, it is actually.

When you live in Cape Dorset, the Inuit hamlet on the southern tip of Baffin Island where the average daily temperature in February is -24, most of Canada is 'down south'.

Jennifer, 16, is the first Inuit student to be sponsored by the Rotary Club of Stratford as part of a partnership pilot project with the Avon Maitland District School Board. A teacher at Northwestern Secondary School in Stratford, Paul Finkelstein, arranged the details.

Jennifer arrived in Stratford on Jan. 26 and for the winter and spring semesters will be taking primarily Grade 11 courses at a high school in Exeter, in south Huron County. She'll be boarding with a family in the Exeter area but making frequent trips to nearby Stratford where several other Inuit students are participating in different exchange programs. The Stratford club has paid Jennifer's travelling expenses, her boarding fees and will help to fund extracurricular activities.

"I'm really excited about the courses," says Jennifer, who is the only girl in her family and the second oldest of nine children. "But I'm nervous about them too. I've always wanted more education, but I worry if it's going to be too hard."

The timing for the Rotary exchange is ideal since the only high school in Cape Dorset burned down in September.

Jennifer's exchange was the result of a First Nations speakers series launched by the club's past president, Charlene Gordon, and program chair Doug Thompson, in part to identify pressing issues in First Nations communities.

As Mr. Thompson points out, "it's a two-way street – Jennifer will learn and we will learn."



Jennifer pictured with Stratford Rotarian Doug Thompson. She stayed with Doug and Val Thompson in Stratford before joining her host family in Exeter.

Rotary International

Just Announced!

2016-2017 Rotary Presidential Theme



RI President Elect John Germ unveiled the **2016-2017** Presidential theme, ***Rotary Serving Humanity***, to incoming District Governors on 18 January at the International Assembly in San Diego, California, USA.

WHAT ARE YOUR ROTARY GOALS THIS YEAR?

TODAY.... is a good time to take stock and review your progress.....



*How are **you** working to make **your** Club the very best it can be?*

Polio Watch

Joan Fisher, District Polio Co-Chair

By now, many of you will have learned the tragic news of the latest casualties in the battle of polio eradication in Pakistan. In early January at least 15 people (mostly police guards) were senselessly murdered in a suspected suicide bombing outside a polio vaccination centre in the southwestern city of Quetta, capital of the Balochistan province. Another 20 innocent people were also injured.

Being one of the bloodiest attacks targeting a polio vaccination campaign in that region in recent months, the morning explosion took place as polio workers and security staff were reporting for duty before heading out on their vaccination rounds. Due to a ground offensive launched in June 2014 by the Pakistani military to rid the North Waziristan region of Afghan Taliban militants and quell separatist unrest, this region had experienced a sharp decline in such violent incidents.

Despite such desperate acts, Pakistan made huge progress in 2015 drastically reducing the total number of new polio cases to 52. This is down from a high of 296 cases in 2014 (levels not experienced since 1999). Worldwide last year there were a total of only 71 confirmed cases of wild poliovirus!

As Rotarians clearly understand, for eradication to fully succeed, it is essential to continue to change the hearts and minds in the tribal regions. Rotarian Aziz Memon, a leading Pakistani textile manufacturer and chair of Rotary's polio eradication campaign in Pakistan, shares such an experience.

While Rotarian Memon was dropping off wheelchairs at a Peshawar hospital, a medical worker told him of a Taliban chief and his 18-month old son—who had been stricken with polio and lost the use of his legs—were in a room nearby. If this chief could be persuaded to support vaccinations Memon realized such a man could make a significant difference. He capitalized on this opportunity and sought out the chief and his son to have tea and chat with him while his child played on the floor.

Eventually, the topic of the boy's illness arose. Memon chose to tell the father a very difficult truth. "If you had given this baby two drops," he said, "he'd be running now." The man, who was wearing a gun on his hip, grew visibly angry. "Are you God?" he demanded. "It was his destiny to suffer this way, and now you are challenging me."

Rotarian Memon apologized for giving offense and the two fell silent. At length Memon noticed the room becoming overly hot. The boy, wearing two sweaters, looked uncomfortable. He suggested that the father remove the sweaters. The father refused, explaining his family came from a cold, mountainous region where the boy was used to bundling up, and he didn't want him to get the flu or pneumonia. Memon seized the opportunity asking, "But wouldn't that be his destiny? Now I *am* challenging you."

A toughened fighter, the Taliban chief, nonetheless, displayed the emotion of any concerned parent becoming teary-eyed. "You said you could have given him two drops before," he said. "Could you give him four drops now?" Rotarian Menon shook his head sadly, saying, "No, it's too late."

Rotarian Memon did, however, extract a promise: that the chief would take some vaccine with him when he left the hospital to vaccinate the rest of his family and offer the drops to his neighbours as well. The man agreed and then asked Memon for his cell phone number. He explained that he would send a message within the week, and when he got it, he was to read and delete it. Memon agreed. Six days later a text arrived indicating the chief had fulfilled his promise.



District Membership

Membership

Thomas Robitaille, District Governor 2012 - 2013

We are half way there in the Rotary year and into a new calendar year. A good time to review our year-to-date success and/or misses, in our efforts to **ATTRACT** and **RETAIN** new members and ensure that our existing members are fully **ENGAGED**. It is a time to reinforce those efforts that have produced positive results and reassess and adjust those that have not produced the desired results.

Over the past six months, eighteen (18) clubs have recorded a net increase of thirty nine (39) members while twenty two (22) clubs have recorded a net decrease of forty nine (49) members leaving twenty (20) clubs recording a net unchanged membership level. While the net decrease of ten (10) year-to-date is disappointing it is interesting to note that ten (10) clubs recorded a net increase of one (1) a like number of clubs recorded a similar decrease. At the other end of the scale one (1) club recorded a net increase of seven (7) and again one (1) club recorded a similar decrease.

It is encouraging to note that a large number of clubs have implemented an active Membership Committee and have adopted and are using to some degree, the various membership tools available (see "**Membership Corner**" in the District website Rotary6330.org) in their efforts to attract and retain members. The "**Membership Corner**" has numerous topics/resources listed which will aide clubs in their efforts to increase membership. Recent additions to "**Membership Corner**"

- Reference and Resource Material List
- Membership Assessment Tools
- How To Create A Facebook Page

The Districts membership numbers noted above clearly indicate that while we continue to be successful in attracting new members, we also continue to lose as many as we gain.

Rotary working with clubs with a view to turning this trend around and ensure that clubs have the very latest tools available, has designed a new suite of **Membership Assessment Tools** to help with club membership needs and this suite will replace Club Assessment Tools. Whether your club is strong or struggling, taking the time to evaluate can prove to be a worthwhile endeavor. Some of the tools include:

- Finding New Club Members: A Prospective Member Exercise
- Improving Your Member Retention: Retention Assessment and Analysis
- Enhancing the Club Experience: Member Satisfaction Survey

Utilization of these tools has proven to have a positive impact on both club success (increase membership) and membership satisfaction. You are encouraged to check out all of the tools in RI website [Membership Assessment Tools](#)

These Membership Assessment Tools for ease of reference can also be found in the "**Membership Corner**" noted above. While work still needs to be done to reverse the negative trend in membership, it is encouraging to note that the trend, year over year, has slowed in the first half of the year. We are optimistic that clubs with an active Membership Committee, using the various tools available and supported by the club membership can be successful in attracting new and retain existing members resulting in an overall net increase and a positive membership trend going forward.

January 16, 2016

Dear Fellow Rotarians,

Thank you for your interest in supporting the citizens of Flint during the present water emergency. While the crisis is now national news, work has been taking place on the ground for many months. The systems are now in place to begin to address the immediate needs of families impacted by this emergency. Currently there are 5 fire stations and 9 churches that are points of access for families needing water and water filters. The local Non- Governmental Agencies are well positioned to process the intake and distribution of the donations of water and water filters that are pouring into the community due to incredibly generous local, state and national individuals and organizations.

On January 16th, President Obama declared a federal emergency thereby allowing Flint and Genesee County to be eligible for additional resources to assist families with short term needs as well as addressing the long term infrastructure concerns. We are hopeful that this will allow the community access to programs, loans and funds that otherwise would not be available.

The challenge that we face as a community is the long term impact of the months of unaddressed exposure to lead experienced by our community's children. According to the CDC, "No safe blood lead level in children has been identified. Even low levels of lead in blood have been shown to affect IQ, ability to pay attention, and academic achievement. And effects of lead exposure cannot be corrected."

Experts are now stating that all children who drank the city's water since April 2014 have been exposed to lead, regardless of their current blood lead levels. These tests only measure lead currently in the blood and does not accurately measure exposure. Blood lead levels decrease after 30 days as lead is distributed throughout the body, primarily to bones, teeth and soft tissue. Lead accumulates in the body over time and blood-lead tests do not measure the overall lead burden in the body.

This translates to 8,657 children under age 6 in Flint that have been exposed to lead (based on Census data.) This number could be much higher in that it does not account for exposure to babies whose mothers drank the water during their pregnancy and those that were exposed but do not reside in the city.

The Rotary Club of Flint in partnership with the Rotary Clubs of Genesee County (District 6330/Area 7) is encouraging fellow Rotary Clubs and Rotarians to consider supporting efforts in the following four ways:

1. Club level donations can be made to the **Rotary Club of Flint Charitable Foundation**. These funds will be utilized to support water related efforts in the Flint area.
2. Individual Rotarians are encouraged to donate to **The Flint Child Health & Development Fund** which was established at the Community Foundation of Greater Flint to support the delivery of critical public health, medical, and community-based services and interventions that address and mitigate the short and long term impacts experienced by Flint, Michigan families exposed to lead as the result of the 2014-2016 Flint Water Crisis.
3. Individuals wishing to make **materials donations** of water or other items can do so through one of the established distribution sites. The site for donations is dependent on the size of the donation.
4. People wishing to **volunteer** can report directly to the Red Cross (1401 S Grand Traverse St, Flint, MI 48503.)

Thank you for your offers of support during these challenging times. The outpouring of support from Rotarians all across the country has been heartening and greatly appreciated!

Yours in service,



Amy Krug
President 2015-2016
Rotary Club of Flint
amykrug.flintrotary@gmail.com
810.449.9253



Rotary Response to the Flint Water Emergency

The Rotary Club of Flint Charitable Foundation

The Rotary Club of Flint Charitable Foundation is an existing fund that's purpose is to implement and finance charitable and educational service projects of the Rotary Club of Flint, Michigan.

Clubs wishing to make contributions send checks payable to the Rotary Club of Flint Charitable Foundation to 2481 Delwood Drive, Clio, Michigan 48420

Flint Child Health & Development Fund www.flintkid.org

The Flint Child Health & Development Fund supports the delivery of critical public health, medical and community-based services and interventions that address and mitigate the short and long term impacts experienced by Flint, Michigan families exposed to lead as the result of the 2014-2016 Flint Water Crisis.

The Flint Child Health & Development Fund supports charitable organizations that provide aid to children and families with interventions that support positive health outcomes. "If there was ever a time to invest in our children, it is now. Our Flint children deserve every opportunity to be healthy and successful. The creation of this Fund will further ensure that our children are afforded the resources and interventions to overcome this population-wide exposure to lead," according to Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha.

Donations can be made online at www.flintkids.org, by phone 810-767-8270 or by check mailed to Community Foundation of Greater Flint, 500 S. Saginaw Street, Suite 200, Flint, Michigan 48502.

Material Donation Details

Material and in-kind donations of cases of water bottles, gallon jugs and larger containers of water can be dropped off at the below locations.

Donations of 100 cases or less:

Catholic Charities Center for Hope, 517 E. Fifth Ave, Flint
Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Red Cross, 1401 Grand Traverse, Flint
Saturday – Sunday, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Donations of 100 cases or more, pallets of water or donations in one semi-truck:

Food Bank of Eastern Michigan, 2300 Lapeer Rd., Flint
Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

For extra-large donations, such as multiple semi-trucks, delivery arrangements can be made by emailing Janet Hunter at hunterj8@michigan.gov .

In-kind donations include labor to install filters and trucks to deliver materials. All in-kind donors should contact Janet Hunter at hunterj8@michigan.gov .

Volunteer Details

Volunteers are still needed to participate in water response teams going door-to-door handing out bottled water, filters, water testing kits and replacement cartridges.

Volunteers join teams of city, county and state personnel and members of the American Red Cross. Please do not call ahead, just come.

Please be prepared to volunteer in winter conditions. (Although not all positions are outside we need all volunteers to be prepared. Even if they are in a warehouse sorting water/filters it will be cold).

Volunteers should report to the Red Cross at 1401 S. Grand Traverse, Flint.

Hours of operation are:

- Tuesday – Friday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Saturday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Sunday, 12 p.m. to 5 p.m.



2016 KOREA CONVENTION

CONNECT WITH NEW FRIENDS IN KOREA

Are you one of the 35,000 who has registered for the convention already? If not, don't miss the opportunity to connect with new friends from around the world at the [2016 Korea convention](#) 28 May to 1 June, 2016.

At convention, tour the House of Friendship and the more than 100 booths to exchange project ideas, partner with other clubs and explore new hobbies. Convention provides an opportunity to network, hear about new initiatives and make a difference, while forming relationships that can last a lifetime.

The convention is for all Rotarians and offers something for everyone.

Register today for the Rotary convention in Korea. Save \$ 65.00 person. Early registration savings end 31 March.





**JUNE 9 to 11
2016**

**Our District
Conference in
Owen Sound,
Ontario**

Come Join Us For:

- **Annual Golf Tournament**
- **Motorcycle Rally & Tour**
- **Interesting and Motivational Speakers**
- **Annual General Meeting**
- **Opportunities to Explore the Owen Sound Area**
- **Fun, Entertainment, and Social Time!**

**Mark the Dates in your calendar and make plans
to come to Owen Sound June 9th to 11th, 2016!**

**Check your Inbox and our District Website for
more Conference details coming soon!!**



Be a gift to the world



My dear friends,

I am pleased to bring you the good news that His Holiness Pope Francis will officiate at a Mass to Rotarians at St. Peter's Square, Rome, on 30 April. We will have 8,000 seats reserved for Rotarians, as well as friends and family.

It is my great pleasure to invite you to join me in Italy on this day as we celebrate the Jubilee of Rotarians, a special event hosted by Rotary District 2080 and the Vatican.

In addition, local Rotarians will host special celebratory dinners and plan a service project for attendees.

I believe this event is a tremendous honor that will raise Rotary's status across so much of the world, and it should bring us all great happiness to be a part of it, regardless of our own religions and beliefs.

For more information, please visit the [Jubilee of Rotarians website](#), which has been provided by our friends in District 2080. Updates and additional information will be available leading up to the event. Registration will open 18 January. I ask that you also include mention of this event in your governor's monthly letter.

This Jubilee, as established by Pope Francis, is known as the Holy Year of Mercy. It marks the time of forgiveness and reconciliation, of solidarity, hope, and justice. It is a commitment to serve with joy and in peace across the world.

As you work hard to *Be a Gift to the World*, I do hope you will make the effort to be in Rome with as many members of your district as possible.

Best regards,

K.R. Ravindran

Rotary International President, 2015-16



ROTARY GLOBAL REWARDS



Special offers exclusively for Rotarians

We would like to take this opportunity as the new year starts, to remind you about Rotary Global Rewards, our member benefit program featuring special offers that allow you to do a lot more for a lot less—no matter what you're doing.

Whether you're working on your club's community projects, enjoying a night out with friends or sharing your Rotary story with someone new, you can take advantage of discounts and special offers on airfare, hotels, vehicle rentals, and entertainment.

Would you like to offer discounts from your business to other Rotarians? Help build the program by adding special offers from your own company to the growing portfolio of Rotary Global Rewards.



To learn more, visit Rotary.org/GlobalRewards. Please share this exciting news. You'll find [promotional tools](#) on the Rotary Global Rewards website.

The good you do comes back to you