



Rotary District 6330

District Governor ~ Doug Burnard

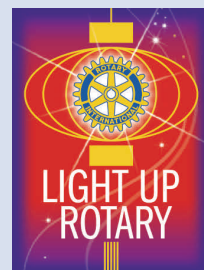
June 2015



The Bridge



Governor Doug's
June Message



As we enter the month of June, the last month of the Rotary year, I want to thank all Rotarians in District 6330 for the privilege of serving as your governor for the Rotary year 2014-2015.

It has been a busy, eventful and exciting year for me personally. I had the opportunity to represent our District at the 2014 Institute in Toronto and meet with our Prime Minister, who was honoured by the Rotary Foundation with the Polio Champion Award in recognition of Canada's ongoing financial support of the Polio Eradication program.

I also had the privilege of serving as the Aide to RI President Gary C.K. Huang and his wife Corinna, when they visited London for the 100th anniversary of the Rotary Club of London, where I had the honour to host a reception for Major Donors and to participate in the presentation to 5 of this year's 11 Major Donors with their recognitions at the 100th Anniversary Gala.

The most enjoyable activity for me was the opportunity to meet our members in the District during my official visits in August, September, October and 1 in November. We have many outstanding clubs in our District and they do amazing projects in their communities and internationally. All clubs, large or small, have a common goal, "to do good in the world".

Other highlights included participating in the Area 6 "Pasta for Polio" event, RC of St. Marys Polio Entertainment evening; (these 2 events raised almost \$10,000). We also celebrated a number of milestone anniversaries-London (100 years), St. Marys (90 years), London East (60 years), Festival City Stratford (20 years) and St. Thomas Railway City (1 year).

Thank you for your efforts to increase membership, as it appears that our District will grow in 2014-2015, and if so will reverse the trend experienced over the last 5 years.

Your support of the Foundation and Polio Eradication has been very strong to date. Please try to achieve your Annual Fund goal by June 30, as this is the money that our District gets back in 3 years to allow the District to continue to support our District and Global grants.

Again, I thank you for the privilege of being your District Governor, for all the work that you do and for your efforts to **LIGHT UP ROTARY** in 2014-2015.

Doug Burnard
District Governor 2014-2015
District 6330

District Conference 2015

The Rotary Club of London North rolled out the red carpet welcoming all Rotarians and guests to the District 6330 Conference for the 2014-15 Rotary year.



The golf tournament started off the activities with 59 golfers participating. Mother Nature was kind with the sunshine but she added a cool breeze to the mix. Youth Exchange student Roman Chmel (left) even traded his hockey stick for golf clubs. A great dinner followed as several more Rotarians and guests joined in, including RI Gary Huang's Representative, Eugene Fong.

Friday lunch gave opportunity for the official welcome from. RI President's rep Eugene Fong, addressing the audience with references to our theme of "Imagine".

District award presentations were made by DG Doug as well as Literacy awards by Sue Storie and Shelter Box HERO awards were presented by Tess Widdifield to the Rotary Club of Thornbury-Clarksburg and the Rotary Club of Meaford.

RI Foundation Trustee Bryn Styles was the keynote speaker for the Friday afternoon plenary session with his inspiring message about the power of Rotary.

Friday evening was party time!! A Caribbean feast and a great band created the perfect formula for all to kick up their heels... and that they did!



One of the highlights of the conference is the Youth Exchange Flag Ceremony and this year was no exception as the youth paraded in wearing their colourful jackets, each carrying their own flag. Annaleina (from Switzerland) and Roman (from Slovakia) were chosen to be the spokespersons. They encouraged all clubs that do not participate in the Youth Exchange Program to consider doing so. Eugene was very impressed and he would like to

see this program more developed in his own district.

Rotarians had the opportunity to hear first hand about three of the projects funded in part by the Global Grants program. The Literacy program with shipping containers of discarded school supplies to South Africa, the Camaroon water project and the Avoidable Blindness program in Mexico were the focus of the Saturday afternoon plenary session.

The Saturday evening gala was just that. The head table was piped in with ceremony and a great meal was enjoyed. Eugene addressed the audience again, giving some insight about the history of Rotary in China and the difficulties they have had to deal with. He also indicated a new lease on life for the PDG's as he referred to them as Pearls, Diamonds and Gems (not Past, Dead and Gone as they are currently and affectionately known). Who knows, perhaps this new term will stick!



Formalities took place with the presentation of a Paul Harris Fellow by DG Doug to his daughter for all her support over the past years.

With great surprise, The Rotary Foundation Citation for Meritorious Service was presented to Kelly Fotheringham for all his Foundation work over the past number of years.



As the evening came to a close, Eugene presented DG Doug with a gift depicting a part of the history of Rotary in China. In turn Doug had a bit of Canada and the United States for Eugene and Kitty to take back to China.

Four lucky people took home a bucket of wine each. Proceeds in the amount of \$2130 will be sent to "Polio Plus" as a result of this fun fundraiser.

With the conclusion of the 2014-2015 District 6330 Conference, the reins are now in the hands of DGE Nancy as she and her team prepare for "Rotary Around the Sound" next June in Owen Sound. Plan to be there for another great Rotary weekend!



District News

A Big Thank You!



PDG's and past Trainers Al Hardy and Pat Voegelin join DGE Nancy Ottewell in thanking PDG Michael Atkins for his 3 years as District Trainer.

A Note From Your Editor

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Rotarians who submitted articles for "The Bridge" during this past Rotary year. Doing this newsletter has been a great learning experience for me and I have thoroughly enjoyed doing it; in fact I might even miss doing it! I have learned so much about District 6330, the people who make it tick (that would be the members) and those who make it tick (the District Team) with all the great projects and fundraisers that are going on. It has been a pleasure to help DG Doug during this special year for him and for the opportunity to have served District 6330. George Ananich will be the editor for DGE Nancy, so kindly forward future articles, flyers, info to him at....george@h2aarchitects.net.....He would appreciate submissions by the 20th of the month prior.

Cheers and thanks again....please support George as you have supported me.

Yours in Rotary
Mary Margaret Patterson

2014-2015 Literacy Awards

A total of 32 clubs have been awarded the Literacy Award for the current Rotary year ending June 30.

DISTRICT AWARD

Imley City, Kincardine, Northern Bruce Peninsula, Sarnia-Lambton After Hours, St. Clair and Thornbury-Clarksburg.

DISTRICT and ZONE AWARD

Festival City (Stratford), Flint, Genesee Valley, Goderich, Hepworth-Shallow Lake, London, London Hyde Park, London Lambeth, London South, Markdale, Meaford, Mitchell, Owen Sound, Paisley, Petrolia, Port Elgin, St. Marys, St. Thomas, St. Thomas Railway City, Sarnia, Sarnia-Bluewaterland, Stratford, Walkerton, Watford and Wiarton.

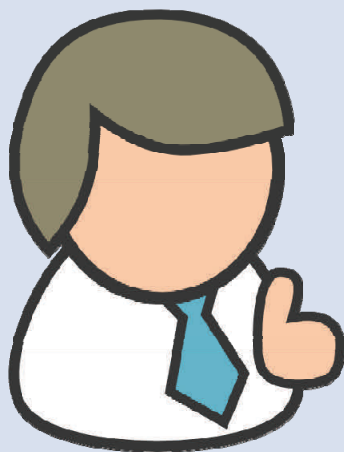


District News

Watch for Jack

Coming to You in the Next Bridge

Ask Jack



almost
anything...
about growing
your club

Ask Jack to help your club find its way to membership growth. We'll print your membership problems, your tips, your successes and failures, but never your name. Write to Ask Jack today at askjackaboutmembership@gmail.com....and maybe you'll see your query in next month's Bridge!

Club Awards

Presented at the District Conference

Presidential Citation

The Interact Club of St. Thomas and District
RC of Flushing
RC of Fort Gratiot
RC of London
RC of London Lambeth
RC of London North
RC of St. Thomas
St. Thomas Railway City RC
RC of Walkerton

Club Attendance Awards

26 or more members-RC of Walkerton
less than 26 members-RC of Fort Gratiot

Conference Attendance Award

Highest member percentage-RC of Lambeth

Membership

Largest "net" member increase-RC of Marysville

Club Bulletins

1st Place-RC of Flint
2nd Place RC of Wiarton

Rotary Foundation District Service Awards

Percy West-RC of Chesley
Marilyn Leischnig- RC of Meaford
Scott Tousaw-RC of Goderich
Douglas Frieburger-RC of Port Elgin
Ken Wilmott -St. Thomas Railway City RC

Polio Update



While the global health community intentionally shifted its emphasis to containing the recent, deadly Ebola outbreak in West Africa, they continued to be hyper cognizant of the potential for polio to create a similar health crisis.

Strife-torn Ukraine is particularly vulnerable. In September 2014, the World Health Organization (WHO) described the precarious conditions there: hundreds of thousands of displaced people with low immunization coverage, a weak health system plagued by shuttered hospitals and a shortage of health workers in areas hardest hit by the ongoing conflict between government troops and rebel forces aligned with Russia. Particularly disturbing was the disclosure by a WHO official in Ukraine that the country has no vaccines in storage.

Europe has been polio-free since 2002. Polio's potential re-emergence in Ukraine would be a huge setback to our Global Polio Eradication Initiative. With only 24 new cases (23 in Pakistan) and 1 in Afghanistan) having been identified so far this year, the specter of its return to Europe is the stuff of nightmares.

While only three countries remain polio-endemic, anyone traveling to or from these countries can carry the virus to other areas. This is what has happened in several countries, including Syria.

Syria's situation is relevant to Ukraine, where civil war has waged off and on for more than two years. With ISIS now also increasingly gaining a stronghold in Syria (and being openly opposed to vaccination), as one WHO official in Ukraine stated in news reports, polio "usually comes in countries in turmoil."

Concerns over polio in Ukraine emerged even before the Russian separatist unrest began. UNICEF had issued a previous warning that "dangerously low immunization coverage" put the country at risk for a polio outbreak.

The only way to stop polio for good is to achieve total eradication and wipe it out in the endemic countries, cutting off the virus at its source. Until that goal is reached, the global community must remain vigilant in its resolve to vaccinate every child.

WHO took immediate steps to avert a full-blown public health crisis in Ukraine. WHO, along with UNICEF planned a mass polio and measles vaccination campaign, and amassed vaccines, medications, surgical supplies and other vital medical gear to help approximately 340,000 people.

Political leaders on both sides of the dispute in Ukraine need to recognize public health is at stake and facilitate efforts of WHO, UNICEF and other agencies as they provide assistance to families at risk. Additionally, national resources need to be redirected to bolster Ukraine's badly compromised health system. It is critical that the world not stand by idly and wait for a public health emergency in a region whose people have endured so much over the past year.

