

The Monthly newsletter for Rotary International District 6330

2015-2016 District Governor Nancy Ottewell

Edition June 2016



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



# District Governor Nancy's Message June 2016

Rotary year of 2015-2016 is drawing to a close. For me this has been a fantastic year and a great honour to serve as your District Governor. George and I had the opportunity to make many new Rotarian friends as we visited your club and were invited back to join you in your other activities. We were made to feel most welcome - Thank you! We gained a clearer appreciation and understanding of the great work you are doing and learned more about our District and your club. All of us can stand proud of our achievements this year as Rotarians in District 6330!

Our theme of 'Be a Gift to the World' has provided many ways for us as Rotarians to focus on our special gifts. We have become more aware of our gifts as we give our time, talents, expertise and knowledge to improve lives in communities across the globe. As our RI President Ravi stated "Through Rotary, we can take these our gifts and make a genuine difference in the lives of others and in our world." And make a difference we did! As a Rotarian **You** are 'A Gift to the World' through your contribution to your Rotary club and community.

You undertook great community projects - both locally and globally. You made great efforts to share Rotary with others and encourage them to join you in your club. It is important we continue to "Grow" our Rotary Clubs. You set contribution goals for Foundation and Polio Plus and supported your targets. And we can celebrate the End to Polio is "this close".

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We are sad to see two Rotary Clubs leave our District this Rotary year. The Rotary Club of Croswell voted in December to disband. In 2015 they had celebrated 90 years of Rotary in Croswell. The Rotary Club of Glencoe will be winding down at the end of this Rotary year. They recently celebrated 70 years of Rotary service in Glencoe.

The good news is the formation of the Satellite Centennial Club in London ON. This is a group of younger Professionals and the Club is sponsored by the Rotary Club of London. Charter night is June 28<sup>th</sup>. Welcome to the Satellite Centennial Club and kudos to the Rotary Club of London for coordinating and sponsoring!

Our District Conference committee have been planning an amazing Conference. George and I and all our Committee look forward to seeing you in Owen Sound June 9<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> 2016 for "Rotary Around the Sound" <u>District Conference</u>. Plan to attend and to be inspired, motivated, energized, have fun, make new friends, greet old friends, and enjoy new experiences!! If you have not already registered there is still time until Saturday June 4<sup>th</sup>. Online registration closes after that date. Come and celebrate with us!

In the Rotary world the month of June is a time of endings. For me it is a bittersweet moment. While I did not accomplish all the things I set out to do, I did attempt to get to know more about you as a Rotarian and more about our District. I was pleased we have taken the first step for Visioning and District Planning. I encouraged everyone this year to plan the kind of club they want to belong to. My belief is that nothing happens except through people. Only people create change.

So the year end in Rotary represents an opportunity to review and reflect on what you and your club have accomplished this past year before moving into the next Rotary year. To all the 2015-2016 Club Presidents - it has been my pleasure to work with you and I say '**Many Thanks**' for serving your Rotary Club and for taking on that leadership role. To the Assistant Governors - I could not have completed this year without your assistance and support. You play an important role in the workings of our District - '**Thank you'**! And to all District Rotarians - it is through your dedicated work and commitment to Rotary that makes our District successful. **Thank you - Job Well done**!

And so with endings - there is always new beginnings. The cycle of Rotary repeats itself and the end of June represents a new Rotary year. After the Conference we commemorate the District Governor Changeover in St Thomas on June 27<sup>th</sup>. The District leadership torch will be passed along to Diane Chantler, incoming District Governor for 2016-2017. George and I wish Diane and Bill and all the incoming District Team a successful Rotary year as they prepare for "Rotary Serving Humanity".

To all District Rotarians - George and I wish you a happy and safe summer! We wish you much success in the upcoming Rotary year!! Thank you for all you do for Rotary.

Yours in Rotary Service and Friendship, Nancy



#### June is designated as Rotary Fellowship Month

Rotary Fellowships are international, independently organized groups of Rotarians, Rotary partners, and Rotaractors who share a common recreational interest or vocation. This month is recognition of the opportunity to have fun, make new friends around the world and enhance the experience of Rotary that belonging to a Rotary Fellowship enables.

Rotary Fellowships began informally in 1928 when a group of Rotarians with an interest in Esperanto joined together. In 1947, Rotarians organized a group of boating enthusiasts, which became the Yachting Fellowship. This joining together to share common interests and activities gained attention and operated over the years under various names as World Fellowship Activities; International Vocational Contact Groups; Rotary Recreational and Vocational Fellowships; and finally Rotary Fellowships.

Fellowship activities vary widely. Some groups come together around hobbies or special interests. Others are based on common vocations. Some Fellowships are purely social while others use their fellowship for service projects. Each Fellowship must maintain a membership base representing at least 3 Countries. Each Fellowship elects at least 3 Officers to oversee the group's operations. Fellowships are expected to facilitate communication amongst their members and to maintain regular communication with Rotary International.

There are currently over 61 Rotary Fellowships. To find more information go to: <u>www.rotary.org/fellowships</u>

"Fellowship is wonderful; it illuminates life's pathway, spreads good cheer, and is worth high price." -Rotary Founder Paul Harris



### June Calendar of District Events

- June 6 Area 6 Foundation evening Port Huron MI
- June 9 District Golf tournament Legacy Golf Course, Owen Sound
- June 10 & 11- District Conference "Rotary Around the Sound" in Owen Sound ON
- June 27 DG changeover St Thomas ON
- June 28 Charter Night Satellite Centennial Club London ON

#### District 6330 Conference Program -- Owen Sound ON -- June 9 to 11 2016

Thursday June 9<sup>th</sup> - Golf tournament at Legacy Ridge Golf Club - Shotgun start at 1:00pm
- 18 holes of Golf and Dinner with Optional Lunch

Friday June 10<sup>th</sup> House of Friendship: "*Rotarians at Work to Be a Gift to the World*"

*Lunch* - Official Conference Opening - 11:45 am Bayshore Community Centre. Dress Code: Business casual

**Plenary sessions** only in the afternoon. No Breakout sessions. We encourage all Rotarians, Partners and Guests to join and hear our local speakers share items of interest for all.

Celebration of Life - 4:30pm to honour Rotarians who have passed

Dinner - 6:15pm is the World's Greatest Meal for Polio

**Speaker Susanne Rea** - of the Rotary Club of Cairns Sunrise in Australia who was involved in the founding of this worldwide Polio fundraiser

## Evening Entertainment -- "Back to the 60's" theme



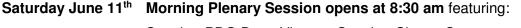
A fun night! Wear your bell beads, And enjoy the music of the band

and enjoy the music of the bar

'1969 Revisited'



bottoms, peace head bands!



Speaker PDG Doug Vincent, Speaker Shawn Casemore; Awards presentations; and District Conference 2017 preview, & District Business Meeting.

Dress code: Business Casual

Lunch at 12:15 pm features the Parade of Flags with the Rotary exchange Students and Interact Students.

Speaker: Larisa Yurkiw - Canada Cup Alpine Ski Racer

Free Time in Afternoon for local Tours and sights of interest. Pre-registration is required.

#### Evening Program: Semi Formal/Gala - Black Tie optional



#### 5:30pm - Governor Reception

Dinner - 6:20 pm featuring Key note speaker - Alan Mallory

#### "Taking Leadership to New Heights"

Sharing the story of his family's climb of Mount Everest



## Polio Watch

#### Joan Fisher, District Polio Co-Chair

Her slender hand sheathed in a black glove, Saira Nizamuddin gathered the fabric of her full-length abaya as she stepped across an alley strewn with rocks and trash. The 19-year-old health worker walked alone, the mid-morning sun pressing down on the dirt streets and soaking into the black fabric covering her from head to toe. Saira thinks its better this way. In the past, for security reasons, police officers followed her as she visited houses to administer the polio vaccine to children.

Saira comes from a family of polio workers. Her two elder sisters volunteered until they got married; her mother worked for eight years until she had to drop out this year because she could not read as the World Health Organization sought to recruit more educated women. "She feels bad," Nizamuddin said of her mother. "But she is happy that I can still help the cause."

The WHO increased funding for female health workers, who earn full-time salaries of \$150 a month. Attendance and morale have improved over the earlier system, which employed part-timers, including men, whose \$5 daily wages were paid by the government, and often delayed.

"The men weren't as dedicated," Saira claims. "And families used to refuse male workers. The interaction we have is totally different."

Now she, and 10 other local women, all vaccinators, worked unguarded. This low profile approach is meant to assuage fears in their community that the vaccine was unsafe, forbidden by Islam or a cover for Western espionage — myths that have given this crippling virus, eradicated nearly everywhere else in the world, a lifeline in conservative Pakistan.

This is my neighborhood," Nizamuddin said. "We're fine without the police." The presence of gun-toting police often scared residents. "People view the female health workers as locals."

On the third day of a weeklong anti-polio drive last month in Karachi, Saira turned left down an unmarked road. Two colleagues were waiting outside a residence. A metal gate opened slightly, and the women slipped inside.

Two hours later, however, the campaign was suspended across the city. Saira and her team were instructed to go home immediately. A few miles away, in a rough-and-tumble district called Orangi Town, seven police officers providing security for a polio team had been shot to death by gunmen riding motorcycles. Pakistan's long struggle against the disease had been interrupted once again.

The militant violence that has claimed tens of thousands of Pakistani lives in the past decade has also stood in the way of a multibillion-dollar, global campaign to wipe out what once was among the world's most feared afflictions. Workers go door-to-door throughout the year in an effort to reach every child, a painstaking mission underwritten by international donors at a cost of \$1 billion every year.

Health officials and international experts, however, think Pakistan could finally stop the spread of the disease this year. One of their reasons for optimism is people like Saira, who is part of a new strategy to employ local women to administer the vaccine and make regular house visits in some of the highest risk areas.

Female teams now cover nearly 40% of Karachi's 2.2 million children younger than 5, and the initiative soon could be expanded further. International officials describe its success as part of an overall improvement in Pakistan's eradication initiative.

"The results are very promising," states Huma Khan, a UNICEF polio specialist, who has worked in the field for seven years. "It looks like we're getting close to eradication. I've never been so hopeful that this can be done."

Link to full story: http://www.latimes.com/world/asia/la-fg-pakistan-polio-snap-htmlstory.html

## Membership

Thomas Robitaille, District Governor 2012 – 2013

#### MEMBERSHIP

#### District posts record year-to-date membership growth

After years of recording a gradual negative slide in the District membership, it is encouraging to note that in the first eleven months of the current Rotary year, 22 clubs have recorded a net growth of 66 members while 21 clubs recorded a net loss of 59 and 17 clubs remaining unchanged. This has resulted in an overall net positive growth of 7 new members.

While recognizing we still have one month left in the year, Rotarians in District 6330 are to be congratulated for their efforts and the progress made by their clubs in attracting and retaining members.

Reviewing the efforts of a number of clubs in the District it is clear that clubs with an active Membership committee, supported by all club members are the most successful in their Membership efforts. These clubs have implemented an action plan which includes targets, timelines and ongoing follow up. The first step includes a review of the clubs "health" which can be determined by conducting a club survey. Results of the survey are promptly actioned and club routine which is identified as being outdated is either updated or discarded and suggested new ideas considered for implementation.

The District membership results to date are very encouraging, however as noted below we continue to lose members at just about the same rate we are gaining them. This inability to retain new members must be addressed and corrected if Rotary is to continue to be successful going forward. It has been determined that a prime reason new members leave Rotary is due to the lack of involvement/engagement in club activities. It is imperative therefore that new Rotarians quickly become involved in a club committee and or a club project in which they have indicated an interest. In view of the importance of ensuring member engagement, it is strongly suggested that clubs consider establishing an "engagement officer" as part of the Membership committee.

Closely aligned to engagement is retention and a number of clubs have and or are considering establishing a "retention officer" again as part of the Membership committee. This position would be responsible for but not limited to following up when members miss meetings or it is determined that a member is not participating in club projects or fellowship activities. Some clubs have combined these two positions.

A new member "mentor" is also a very effective way to ensure new Rotarians are integrated quickly into a club. The mentor not only ensures the member is actively involved in the club activities but also determines if the member is comfortable with his or her involvement in the club.



## Membership Activity, July 1, 2015 - May 24, 2016

Clubs Attracting net 1 to 3 members 15

#### **Clubs Attracting Members:**

net 4 members: (3) Mitchell, St. Mary's, Hanover;

- net 5 members: (1) London;
- net 6 members (3) Sarnia Bluewaterland,

Clubs Losing net 1 to 3 members

## Clubs Losing Members:

- net 4 members (1)
- net 5 members (5)
- net 6 members (1)

An excellent tool to assist clubs in attracting, engaging and retaining members is the **Membership Assessment Tools.** Whether your club is strong or struggling, taking the time to evaluate what you're doing is a worthwhile endeavor. In the business world, companies continually improve their products to keep their customers satisfied. Using the assessment tools will reveal opportunities to add value to your club experience **so that more people will join and fewer members will leave.** 

The Membership Assessment Tools can be found on the RI website or the District website at **Rotary6330.org** under Membership Corner.

## **District Membership Committee**

Thomas Robitaille, District Governor 2012 – 2013

I am pleased to advise the following;

**District Membership Committee** welcomes – **PDG Michael Atkins**, of the Thornbury & Clarksburg RC to the role of – **Area 8 Membership Representative**. Michael has been a member of the Thornbury & Clarksburg RC since 1978 and has held most positions in the club including president twice. Michael was the A/G for Area 8 for the three years ending in 2007 and was District Governor 2010 – 2011.

## Paul Harris Awards Night The Rotary Club of Wiarton

Recipients left to right: Kathy Mason, Charlie Torra, Ruth Ann Pickett, and Kelly McDougall



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