



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

2015-2016 District Governor  
**Nancy Ottewell**

Edition  
**March 2016**



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

## District Governor Nancy's Message March 2016

### DISTRICT GOVERNOR MESSAGE – March 2016



Welcome to the month of March! And as the month begins, those who watch the daily weather will be checking if it comes in and/or goes out as a lamb or a lion. And the Irish celebrate St Patrick's Day on March 17<sup>th</sup> and many of us wear green to acknowledge - even if we are not Irish! This year we also recognize and celebrate Easter at the end of March. In your clubs there are many events, projects, etc. that are happening in March. And plans are also being made for future events for the upcoming months. A busy time overall!

Rotary has focused its efforts in six areas, which reflect some of the most critical and widespread humanitarian needs. Rotarians know these as our Six areas of focus. In the Rotary world March is now the month we focus on **Water and Sanitation**.

As Rotarians, we recognize the importance of this work that is focused on life's most basic need - water. The basis of good health is access to clean, safe drinking water. For most of the world, clean water is medicine. Clean water is a basic need for human beings. When people have access to clean water, they live healthier and more productive lives. But to significantly cut down disease rates in the developing world, water is just the first step. Almost everywhere we build a freshwater well, we also require sanitation training. In some communities, we build latrines; at the very least, we promote simple hand-washing stations. Clean water can greatly alleviate the world's disease burden, but only with education and encouraging hygienic practices. Rotary is committed to using water as a gateway to healthy living.

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World Water Day 2016 is on **March 22**. The day was first observed in 1993 when the United Nations General Assembly declared March 22 as World Day for Water; and has grown significantly ever since. Each year, one of various UN agencies involved in water issues takes the lead in promoting and coordinating international activities for World Water Day. In addition to the UN member states, a number of NGOs who promote clean water and sustainable habitats have used World Water Day as a time to focus public attention on the critical water issues of our era.



**Attention: All Club Presidents and Members:**

**March Plans and Objectives:**

**1) Presidential Citation:** use the month of March as a time to review the 2015-2016 Presidential Citation. As a reminder - all information is entered either in Rotary Club Central or is verified with RI data. **Deadline for completion is April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016.** Check out how your club is doing. Even if you think you may not completely qualify; please insure that the goals you have achieved are represented. To review the Citation requirements - click on the link to the 2015-2016 Presidential Citation brochure:

<https://www.rotary.org/myrotary/en/news-media/office-president/presidential-citation>

**2) Foundation Goals and Contributions:** Take some time in the month of March to review your commitment Goals and subsequent Contributions to the Rotary Foundation and Polio. Please honour your Club commitment if that has not already been completed. We all say Thank you!

**3) Rotary Around the Sound District Conference - June 9 to 11, 2016.** Make plans to put together a team for the Golf Tournament on Thursday June 9<sup>th</sup> and then join us on June 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> for two days of Rotary fellowship, motivational speakers and fun entertainment!

Check out our promotional video invitation:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YlaX56evBtU>

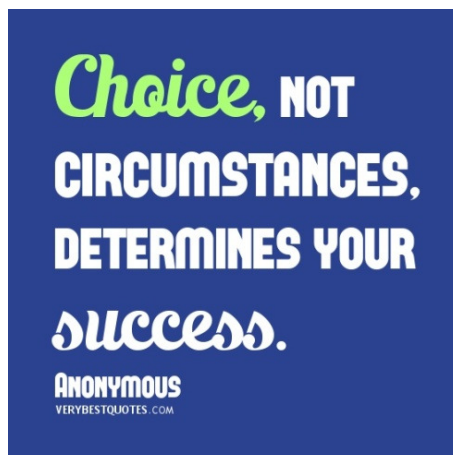
Registration will be available on our District website this month. Watch for details in your Inbox.

**4) Lastly,** I would hope that you and your club are having **FUN!** Great fellowship and great programs make your club lively and make people want to attend. Find ways to have family fun and other times outside of the regular meeting to get together and socialize. Remember that this is also an excellent opportunity to invite potential members.



Yours in Rotary Service,

*Nancy*



# District News

## Rotary Club of Stratford

Diane Sewell, Rotarian Contributor

### Stratford Club backs hospice plan

Recognizing the need for a local residential hospice to provide end of life care in a home-like setting, the Rotary Club of Stratford is standing firmly behind the volunteer group spearheading the project.

"There is certainly a need in the community," says Linda Bathe, a Stratford Rotarian who sits on the 11-member Residential Hospice Stratford Perth Steering Committee. "Hospitals are supporting acute care but clearly we need an alternative to that."

The Stratford club gave the committee \$5,000 for start-up fees back in 2013 when the all-volunteer group began its work. The club has since pledged \$20,000 a year for two years for project development.

During a recent presentation to update the Stratford club, steering committee member Andy Werner explained that acute care hospital beds cost over \$1,000 a day while hospice beds are roughly half that. Apart from the cost effectiveness, a hospice also provides a different, more personalized kind of care.

Since 2013, the committee has researched palliative care, made public presentations, looked at existing hospices in other jurisdictions and established fiscal feasibility for a proposed 10-bed hospice at a yet-to-be-determined location in Stratford or Perth County.

Red tape and evolving government regulations, however, have presented significant challenges but the committee is committed to moving forward.

"For this to be a success, the community has to be involved and it has to continue," Mr. Werner told Stratford Rotarians.



Guest speaker and committee member Andy Werner, centre, with fellow committee member Anne Fontana and Rotarian and project supporter Harry Brightwell.



## Rotary Club of Glencoe

Mariann Timmers, Secretary

The Rotary Club of Glencoe is celebrating 70 years of service to the community and the world!

We invite you to join us in marking this significant milestone.

Saturday, May 7th, 2016

at the Glencoe Agricultural Building

268 Currie Street, Glencoe Ontario.

Dinner starts at 6:00 pm, and there is a cash bar.

Tickets \$25 per person.

Please RSVP to President Jessica Grose at 519-287-3283 or to

[jessicaCgrose@gmail.com](mailto:jessicaCgrose@gmail.com)

We look forward to seeing you there!

## Re-connecting with Rotary Scholarship Alumni

Johnna Johansen, Rotary District 6330 Alumni Chair, Rotary Club of Sarnia

This month we feature: **ASHLEY EKELEND**, sponsored by The Rotary Club of London, ON

I was an Ambassadorial Scholar with district 6330 in 2010 – 2011. I attended the University of Manchester and completed my Masters in International Development with a focus on Poverty, Conflict, and Reconstruction. Studying at Manchester's *Institute for Development Policy and Management* was an honour I did not take lightly. Surrounded by ambitious leaders/classmates from all over the world, and learning from some of the best scholars and academics in the field was a life-changing experience for sure. I'd say my experience changed me in that it educated me as to how and where I want to work in the development industry. It informed me of many of the challenges involved in development work, and how we must always focus on what developing communities truly want and need themselves. My education there solidified my lifelong commitment to grassroots, community development, particularly through the not-for-profit sector. I am particularly interested in how NGOs in North America can best contribute to and support local community organizations abroad.

After completing the scholarship year, I entered the non-profit sector at home in British Columbia in order to gain necessary work and industry relevant experience. Working for a small BC-based non-profit that supported community projects in 12 different countries around the world, gave me great insight into the various approaches and resource requirements of supporting projects abroad.

I recently transitioned to working more directly in the field, and have taken a position with a rights-based NGO in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. *Equality for Growth* ([www.equalityforgrowth.org](http://www.equalityforgrowth.org)) works with women traders in the informal marketplaces throughout this large urban center. They focus on socioeconomic empowerment of women's groups, in order to create a more respectful, equitable, and productive marketplace for all. My role with EfG evolves around their international partnerships, and mobilizing resources so they can continue growing their amazing work. I am excited to be learning from some of the very best in rights-based, community development!

I would definitely not be where I am today if it weren't for Rotary's help along the way, both through youth exchange, rotaract, and the scholarship program. I am still very involved in my district at home, and look forward to an active future with Rotary as well. Next week I even plan to participate in the Rotary Dar Marathon, a large city wide event organized by all the Rotary clubs here in Dar es Salaam.

Future plans are to continue my learning around strategic partnerships in the non-profit sector, build my skills in resource mobilization and monitoring and evaluation, and maybe one day return to school to complete a PhD. We shall see what the future holds!

Unfortunately it is unlikely that I will be able to attend the 6330 District Conference next year. However, if a club wanted to arrange a skype session with me, I would certainly do my best to work around the 10 hour time difference. Many warm regards to all my many friends in District 6330 and thank you for being in touch.

Yours in Rotary,  
Ashley



# District News

## Rotary Youth Camp “Presqu’ile”

Kenton Acton, Owen Sound Rotary Club

! Camp Presqu’ile is getting ready for another crazy fun summer. Presqu’ile is a residential summer camp for children ages 6-16yrs. Located on the west shore of Georgian Bay boasting over 1000 feet of shoreline/water front. Owned by the Owen Sound Rotary Club and facilitated by the Owen Sound Grey Bruce YMCA, Presqu’ile is a staple of youth development for over 500 youth a summer. Offering a low camper to staff ratio, beautiful modern cabins and enough activities to keep a toddler busy. Campers choose their activities daily and enjoy 3 well balanced meals plus two snacks each day.

**Activities:** Canoeing, Kayaking, Archery, Water Trampoline, Snorkeling, Swimming (Pool and Bay), Arts and Crafts, Camp Craft, Drama, Music, Dance, Ecology, Camp Fires, Paddle Making, Leadership Programs (14-16 yrs.)

**Accommodations:** Traditional Camps sleep in cabins (10 campers to 2 staff) Washrooms/showers are just a short walk from all cabins. Leadership campers sleep in Tent City. 4 campers to a large canvas platform tent. Restroom (port a potti) just a short walk from Tents.

**Safety:** All staff are hand-picked by the Director. All Life guards are Nation Life Guards certified. Low camper staff ratios. Exceeds Ontario Camps Association Standards. Follows YMCA Camping Quality Recommended Practices (CQRP)

**Campership Programs:** We understand that the cost of residential camps is hard for many families, this is why we have kept the cost of camp as low as possible. If families need financial assistance we are proud to be able to help. Please contact us and we can help walk you through the process.

**Adopt a Camp Program:** A unique program that enables Clubs to send youth from their communities to experience a safe summer camp. Please contact Camp Director to set up an Adopt-a-Camp Program for your club. Often thought of by participants as their second home, residential camps offer a special experience for it's campers, not only do campers grow in skills (Canoeing. Kayaking...) but they grow as young people. Developing into the future leaders of our country or communities. Camps can be the foundation for so many young people to start their path of life. Given the opportunity who knows what a child can be or do. But without a little help we may never know. Please consider helping a child get to camp.

For more information please contact Camp Director Andy Barnard. (519) 374-5917 [www.rotarycamp.com](http://www.rotarycamp.com) [presquilecamp@bmts.com](mailto:presquilecamp@bmts.com)



# District News

## Literacy Club of the Month

Sue Storie, Rotarian Contributor

The literacy club of the month for February is The Rotary Club of Flushing Michigan. Here is the list of activities which the club submitted in 2015.

1. Participated in the Area 7 Literacy Project.
2. Student of the month (September – May).  
We recognize exceptional students and also introduce their parents to Rotary.
3. Weekly classroom readers at Seymour Elementary School (September-May).  
Members read to grade three students.
4. Career Day November 12, 2015, in Flushing Community schools. We supply professional speaker to speak with students.
5. Literacy Garage Sale April 28, 2015 at a local school to raise funds for their summer literacy programs.
6. Seminar for Tomorrow's Leaders (RYLA).  
We sponsor two students who bring back what they have learned both for their peers and for a club presentation.
7. Scholarships to local students.
8. Support and sponsor local Interact club.
9. Support new local Rotaract club.
10. Support Avoidable Blindness project in Mexico.



Be a gift to the world

## Water and Sanitation

Brandon Thomson, Rotarian Contributor

We live in such a privileged part of the world. In **most** cases throughout our district we pay taxes to receive clean water and access to acceptable and regulated sanitation solutions. I know we have politicians with differing ideas of what is acceptable but we can demand that change. In other parts of the world there is no access.

When Rotarians and their global partners create fresh clean safe water for villages we create opportunities. Did you realize that some families spend 2-4 hours getting water, it should be noted that's not safe clean water. The projects involve securing the source from wild life and livestock (defecate in the water). Taking that water through pipes to a more local area so the village can utilize with ease and less labour. Ultimately this frees time up for families to complete tasks that allow the community to prosper as a whole. For example children can attend school, women can create income, and bottom-line opportunities will be created.

There are numerous opportunities throughout the world and in our districts that help communities in need. Check out "one Drop and Rotary" and their new partnership at <http://philanthropynewsdigest.org/news/one-drop-rotary-launch-sustainable-water-and-sanitation-partnership>.

Also check out Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/rotaryhandup/>

I would be more than willing to come out to any club meetings to speak about water and sanitation Thanks  
Brendan Thomson [brendan.thomson@sympatico.ca](mailto:brendan.thomson@sympatico.ca) or 7050601270



# The Refugees and the Humanitarian Crisis – Where is the Love?

Submitted by the Rotary Club of Mitchell



My name is Johanna Gündel and I am a 25 year old Swiss linguistics student. In 2007-2008, I had the great privilege of being a Rotary Youth Exchange Student in Mitchell, Ontario in Canada for a year, which encouraged me join Rotaract in 2014. Also in 2014, I spent 6 months in Finland on a university exchange. During these times, I made many friends from all around the world, got to know their cultures, perspectives and ways of living and I have learned to see diversity as a great contribution to my own life.

All the more it shocks me to see all the wars that are still raging in the world – where such differences are used as a justification for terror. Today, the world is faced with the largest number of refugees since the Second World War. We are dealing with a severe refugee crisis, as people like to call it. War, tyrannical regimes and terrorism in Syria, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Eritrea and other parts of the world leave destruction and devastation. Hundreds of thousands die in their home countries. Others decide to leave everything behind and flee in the hope of finding a place to be safe and have a better life.

In Europe, where I am from, it all happens very close to home. Thousands of people are arriving at the beaches of Greece and Italy every day, coming across the Mediterranean Sea - hundreds don't make it. The ones that do travel through Europe trying to get to a location where they can find a new home. It is an awful situation and definitely a severe crisis.

However, when I hear people talking about the streams of refugees, I see a very different crisis which I find absolutely horrifying. The crisis that I see emerging from this situation is the growing animosity towards these refugees, which keeps spreading amongst the rest of the world.

Shockingly, the mayor of my hometown in Switzerland is at the very forefront fostering this negative propaganda towards refugees and I would like to tell you a little bit more about what I was faced with in the past months. First off, some remarks of explanatory nature. Switzerland has a strong humanitarian tradition and has been taking in refugees since the Middle Ages and has developed a system where refugees are distributed to all individual towns, as needed - the number of refugees placed in a town depending on the size of its population. This way, you prevent ghettos and it is fairly easy to integrate the people into society. To exemplify this, my home town has a population of 2'200 and is supposed to take in and support between 6 and 8 refugees.

In September, our mayor made an appearance on German TV, stating that he wants to keep our town clean and saying proudly into the camera that our town does not want to take in refugees, arguing that they are not real refugees at all, they are terrorists and they will cost us too much money. He went on showing the journalist three empty lots in our village where three empty houses had been torn down, because he feared that the government wanted to place refugees there. He finished by saying that our town is going to pay a fine of 400'000 Dollars each year instead of taking in our share of maximum 8 refugees.

When I saw this, I was shocked and I decided to take action. With a few friends I organized a peaceful public proclamation which was attended by 150 people who came out to show that not everybody in our town agrees with our mayor's politics and that we actually do want to shelter refugees. After that, I founded a committee in order to prepare for our biannual town meeting where we made the proposition to not pay the 400'000 Dollar fine but instead take in the refugees. We won the vote. However, the fight is not over yet, since somebody filed a complaint claiming wrong voting procedures and another committee is currently collecting signatures trying to file a referendum, both of which could lead to another vote. So our fight is not over yet.

*Continued next page.*

*Where is the love, con't.*

However, using this anti-refugee propaganda and fear mongering, our mayor was voted into parliament in November, which shows that there are a lot of people who do support these kinds of politics; a picture which we see in all of Europe and beyond. People are scared and see the refugees as a threat. And this fear fuels hate. In Germany, there have been more than 500 attacks on refugee shelters between August and December 2015. The presidential campaigns in the States also show a similar image, where somebody like Trump with such radical views actually stands a legitimate chance of becoming president. I see Canadians, friends of mine, rant on Facebook about their frustration at the government's decision to take in 25'000 Syrian refugees. Right wing radical parties and politicians are gaining ground all around the world and keep spreading fear and racism.

However, we need to realize that this crisis is not a political one. It is instead a global humanitarian crisis. It has to do with people putting their own comfort and wealth before somebody else's life and safety. It has to do with giving in to fear and being scared of the unknown and of change. And fear has never been a good advisor!

Of course it is a difficult situation and it brings challenges with it. But it is nevertheless our responsibility to take care of each other. We are still all human beings and we need to get past this notion of "us" versus "them," as if there was a big difference between us. As if our lives were more valuable than somebody's from a different part of the world. We need to get past the notion that we have more right to safety and a prosperous life, simply because our forefathers immigrated to our country earlier than somebody else. We need to keep in mind that if we ended up in the same position, we would ourselves be hoping and praying for others' help and generosity.

As part of Rotary, I think it is our responsibility to counteract this fear mongering done by certain politicians and also people in our personal environments. We need to educate our own people in order to counteract the spread of wrong information and to keep up positive conversations about this topic. We need to create room and possibilities for personal encounters with the refugees that have been placed in our communities, so that our own people realize that these people are not simply faceless "refugees" but that they are human beings who have knowledge to share, stories to tell with the capability and willingness to contribute to our communities. Human beings just like ourselves, who deserve our friendship, not our hate stemming from fear and misconception. I see this situation as a chance - for all of us. Let people engage with different cultures, ways of living, perspectives and beliefs. Because when we become friends with people from different backgrounds, we learn to appreciate them for who they are, with all the differences. This is what prevents animosities between cultures. This is what builds strong ties between nations and prevents wars. Let something positive come out of these terrible wars. Let us learn from the mistakes done in the past.

I would like to close by quoting a group of great contemporary philosophers from the US, the band *The Black Eyed Peas*, who in my opinion hit the nail right on the head.

"But if you only have love for your own race  
Then you only leave space to discriminate  
And to discriminate only generates hate  
And when you hate then you're bound to get irate

Whatever happened to the values of humanity  
Whatever happened to the fairness and equality  
Instead of spreading love we're spreading animosity  
Lack of understanding, leading us away from unity.....Where is the love?"



## Polio Watch

Margaret Trainor, Cook, District Polio Co-Chair

People who emigrate from their homelands to live in North America, come knowing they can send their children out to play, to school, to clubs and sports activities without the fear that being with other children will render them disabled from the effects of diseases such as poliomyelitis. There was indeed a time, however, where this was a real fear for parents of young children.

Thousands of children contracted polio and many died as a result. The children lucky enough to have survived this disease were changed forever. Their childhoods had been taken from them as they struggled daily to walk and play. They often spent months in hospital beds away from their parents and families. They lost birthdays, school days, holidays, and the lazy days of summer, just being kids.

My sister, Francis, was one of those children. Even today in her Alzheimer's demented state she still talks about having polio. She, in fact, still has a form of polio called "secondary Polio" that has come back to haunt many polio afflicted adults years after they think they have overcome the effects of polio.

We, as Rotarians, have spent many years working to eradicate polio from this earth and we are so very, very close. I would ask you to consider supporting our **"Purple for Polio Gardens"** Project to raise awareness and funding in order to ensure polio is sent into the history books as "an eradicated disease". So children everywhere in the world are able to play with whomever they like and know they are safe from ever being crippled from polio.

For \$20 you will receive a one foot square sign and stand for your purple garden. For \$50 you will receive the sign, stand, a thank you card and 6 purple perennials. For further information email me at: [baronesseriann@gmail.com](mailto:baronesseriann@gmail.com) or join us on Facebook: "Purple for Polio Gardens" Project. 'Like' us and share our posts! Spring is coming! Let's plant some purple perennials!



*Margaret in her gardening gear ready to plant her 'Purple Patch for Polio'.*



**END  
POLIO  
NOW**

### NID 2017

Anyone interested in participating in an NID (National Immunization Days) in India in 2017 is invited to contact: Past District Governor Anil K. Garg, Zone 26 Regional End Polio Now Coordinator 2014-2016, at [anil.garg@LPL.com](mailto:anil.garg@LPL.com) or #103 - 1951 Galt St., Simi Valley, CA 93065, USA. Tel: (W) 805-520-9790 (Fax) 805-584-9790

## Membership

Thomas Robitaille, District Governor 2012 – 2013

As we start the last third of the Rotary year, it is encouraging to note the positive efforts by a large number of clubs in our District in the area of Membership, not just in the attracting new members but also in engaging and retaining members. Having said this the District continues to record a small reduction in members year to date. There has however been an improvement since the end of January and reports from a number of Assistant Governors indicate a possible additional net gain of four new members before month end.

It would appear that clubs with an active Membership committee, supported by the club members and utilizing the membership tools available are successful in attracting new members. Clubs which have recorded excellent success to date in net growth are; **Southampton +7, Sarnia Lambton After-Hours +7, Burton +4, Sarnia Bluewaterland +4, Mitchell +3**, and twelve other clubs recording a net increase of 1 or 2 members. Congratulations to all!

With the continued strong efforts seen to-date we remain optimistic that positive results can be achieved by the Rotary year end June 30.

While clubs continue to be successful in inducting new members, unfortunately approximately the same number leave Rotary. In an effort to reduce the number of members leaving Rotary, listed below are:

### **ELEVEN TIPS FOR MEMBERSHIP RETENTION**

1. **BE A MENTOR** – Rotary builds better friendships, so become a Rotary mentor. Members should look to other members who are in need: to walk beside them, answer questions, listen, and understand their problems. Design a buddy system.
2. **GIVE NEW MEMBERS AN ASSIGNMENT** – Individual growth will come from activity. Members will come from activity. Members will feel a part of the big picture. Give new members a project. If they make mistakes, so what?
3. **NOURISH MEMBERS** – Encourage attendance at District Conferences, Rotary Leadership Institute, Rotary International Conventions. Provide a Rotary minute in weekly club meetings.
4. **FELLOWSHIP** – Make Rotary fun. Consider traveling together to club meetings and projects.... Or just for social time. Consider scheduling socials at a member's home.
5. **PROJECTS** – find out what gets a member excited about Rotary. Do a hands-on project to replace the regular meeting once a month. Get involved in a new, innovative project. Ask club members what they would like to do (survey). Identify a signature project – one the club is known for throughout the community.
6. **FUNDRAISING** – Create a unique fundraiser and get the entire club involved. Think BIG and share the vision with members to get them excited.
7. **INVOLVEMENT** – Stop asking for volunteers. Use the direct approach and ask individuals (one on one) to get involved.
8. **CLUB ADMINISTRATION** – make sure meetings are worth members' time. Invite speakers who have a story to tell. Discourage speakers who are there to raise funds. Encourage speakers who have been involved in Rotary projects and have a deep Rotary knowledge. Ask club members to give their Rotary story. SHAKE THINGS UP! A) Follow up with missing members, B) Periodically have a 15 second "commercial" on each member's business, C) Celebrate member's birthdays, anniversaries and special occasions, D) Hold meetings as picnics.
9. **FAMILY** – Plan outings to involve new Rotarians and their families. Promote the family of Rotary. Invite families to club meetings. Visit members' families.
10. **IMPROVE THE TEAM DYNAMIC** – Your club is a team of members that have come together with one goal in mind. A successful team is a closely-knit team that can work together in all situations, that knows each other's strengths and weaknesses and will support one another. Plan events at least once a month whereby your club members interact in an informal setting such that they befriend one another and build a positive team dynamic.
11. **WATCH ATTENDANCE** – Excessively absent members could mean disinterested or unhappy members. Trends show that members are at risk of resigning when they are absent, on leave of absence, and don't get involved. Keep the lines of communication open.

**EACH ONE – BRING ONE**





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



**And make Plans to come to  
Owen Sound for the  
2016 Rotary District Conference!**

**Here is your Video Invitation to  
Come Join Us!!**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YlaX56evBtU>

**June 9<sup>th</sup> - Golf Tournament at the Legacy Ridge Golf Course  
June 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> - Conference program at the  
Bayshore Community Centre  
1900 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave East, Owen Sound, ON**

**Registration will be available on the District Website this month!**

Book your Accommodations at the following:

**HOTELS:**

- 1) **Best Western Inn on the Bay**    519-371-9200    866-719-9200  
1800 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave East, Owen Sound
- 2) **Days Inn**                    519-376-1551    877-775-2614  
950 6<sup>th</sup> Street East, Owen Sound
- 3) **Travelodge**                519-371-9297  
880 10<sup>th</sup> Street East, Owen Sound
- 4) **Comfort Inn**                519-371-5500  
955 9<sup>th</sup> Ave East, Owen Sound

**BED AND BREAKFAST:**

**Highland Manor Grand Victorian** (2 night minimum)    519-372-2699  
867 4<sup>th</sup> Ave 'A' West, Owen Sound



## CONNECT WITH KOREA – TOUCH THE WORLD

### EARLY REGISTRATION SAVINGS END 31 MARCH

The countdown to the Rotary Convention is on! Join the more than 40,000 Rotarians who have already registered and experience the biggest event of the Rotary year, the convention in Korea, 28 May--1 June.

Convention Committee Chair Ian H.S. Riseley has helped secure an outstanding group of [speakers](#), including a world champion of public speaking, a famous spiritual guru from India, and the CEO of an organization that works to keep children out of institutional care and living with families. Watch the [video](#) to learn more about the [convention program](#).

Come to Korea to get inspired to do more good and *Be a Gift to the World*.

Take advantage of early registration savings until **31 March**. Save \$65 per person – [Register](#) today!



# Rotary Hand Up Committee

## 2015 Trip to Cameroon

Rotary Hand Up is a collaborative partnership between over 40 individual Rotary Clubs in Canada and the United States, three Interact Clubs in Canada, five Rotary Clubs in Cameroon, five Cameroon registered non-government organizations (NGOs) and many community groups, individuals and organizations. In the past 20 years, Hand Up has invested over \$1,900,000 of Rotary funds in Cameroon.

Through the efforts of all of the Rotary Clubs involved, both in North America and Cameroon, and the Cameroon NGOs, over 185,000 people have had potable water supplies installed in their community and/or their schools and training institutions, at a cost of just over \$589,000.

One of the most critical components of the Cameroon projects' successes has been the willingness of Hand Up volunteers to go into the field to monitor projects and build ongoing relationships with the Cameroon Rotary Clubs and communities. In November 2015, a team of four representing Hand Up, went to Cameroon to complete a monitoring and evaluation exercise. Pat Cavan, Scott Oldham, Peter Harrison and Ruth Coursey spent three weeks in Cameroon visiting the local communities and Rotary Clubs. The following is a very condensed review of our trip.

Our trip started in Douala, Cameroon where we got organized and met our driver. Then we were off to Bamenda, 350 kms north of Douala. Bamenda became our base camp, since most of Rotary's work is centred in the towns and villages in North West Region of Cameroon. Here we met with two of the NGO's that have been critical in delivery of programs in partnership with Hand Up.

The Sustainable Livestock Foundation (SLF) has worked with Rotary and Hand Up for many years, delivering agricultural training and support, as well as constructing specific water, sanitation and school infrastructure projects throughout rural communities. The driving force behind this organization has been Awetua Samule Ukeinia, aka Sammy, along with his wife Rosca and dedicated staff.



The Integrated Development Foundation (IDF) works in the same region, but largely in more urban centres. Their focus is primarily with women, youth and children. IDF provides management training and capacity building, and promotes networking and empowerment. The dynamo that we worked with was Oussemadou Dameni, an extraordinary lady with a passion for community work.

In our meeting with the two NGOs we outlined the new Rotary grant requirements which emphasize the need for detailed information and analysis of project requirements through user consultation. We repeated this message with every group we met. Succession planning was a concern that we raised, and unfortunately became very real, as the head of SLF died shortly after we returned to Canada.

From Bamenda, we travelled to Kumbo, where we met with our friends from the Kumbo Rotary Club. This dynamic Club has partnered with us on many projects, and their dedication and energy is very infectious. We met a wide range of NGO's, all working to assist the community members in this region.

We were able to visit a number of Health Centres, where we donated supplies and noted that most of the Centres had benefitted from Rotary support for many of their needs.

Specific project proposals were presented by the Kumbo Rotary Club. This allowed for direct discussion and a better appreciation of the needs in this area.

All project proposals were taken back to the Hand Up Committee for our review and analysis. Ongoing projects being funded were also visited, including a commercial scale composting facility.



In Cameroon, the PTA looks after school maintenance and often hires additional teachers, when those assigned by the government depart. The PTA levy covers these costs. As a result of the fees and parental attitudes up to 50% of eligible children are not attending on a regular basis. A number of NGOs are working to assist in this area, and we think a multi-organizational approach may be very successful in the future.



After a fond farewell to our Kumbo Rotary Club friends, we travelled to Befang and Illium

We visited many schools and met with teachers, the local Parent Teacher Associations and local NGOs. We had also developed a questionnaire that we had distributed to as many teachers as possible. We received over 160 surveys back, which yielded very valuable information for us to apply when looking at future projects.

Many of the schools that we visited throughout this trip had previously received funding for water and sanitation projects. Needs identified included: teacher and/or PTA training, better infrastructure, lack of textbooks and other school materials, to name a few. While education is technically free in Cameroon we discovered that the local PTA (Parent Teacher Association) charges fees.

SLF's home base is in Andek, Ngie, a long, very bumpy drive from Bamenda. We visited a United Nations sponsored Palm Oil Co-operative in Teze, which is near Andek. The entire community came out to greet us and provide a tour of the plant, which is not operational. Significant further funding would be required to bring sufficient power and road infrastructure to this site for it to become operational.

We visited a number of communities in this area, officially dedicated a Rotary funded water tap, watched a Rotary donated cassava grinding mill, in action and visited the local farmers market. We met with over 60 SULIFO women farmers, which are part of the SLF initiative. They represented 19 villages and 1,000 members. Clearly they had benefitted from past training programs and affordable access to supplies and financing, delivered by SLF, with funding from Rotary and other sources. Ongoing sustainable training was identified as a major need.







Our final stop was in the City of Limbe, on the coast of the Atlantic Ocean. We met with the Limbe Rotary Club and an incredible Interact Club, with 88 members. A partnership with one of our Canadian Interact clubs, in London, Ontario has happened as a result of our visit to the National Comprehensive High School Interact Club in Limbe.

All funding requests submitted by the Limbe Rotary Club were discussed and will be included in Hand Up's considerations.

In reflection, we met incredibly dedicated Rotarians, NGO's and community members at every stop we made on our trip. Due to the longer term relationships that we have fostered, everyone understood the need to truly understand the requirements that are now in place for funding projects. This is a very successful model, at least in part, because we have individuals ready and willing to donate both time and money to make the trip to Cameroon to review projects, develop relationships and educate themselves on the needs of this amazing part of the world.

- Ruth Coursey





## **ROTARY LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE**

### **SHINING WATERS DIVISION**

(Districts 6330, 7010, 7070, 7080 & 7090)

**Saturday April 9<sup>th</sup> 2016, Mott Community College, 550 Lake Drive Suite A. Lapeer MI. 48446 8:30AM to 4:15PM.**

The Rotary Leadership Institute Program consists of three parts, I, II and III, to be taken progressively. Each part is a one day seminar, those taking Part II must have completed Part I; to take Part III, Part II must have been completed. The Parts are divided into 6 modules of approximately 55 minutes each. Attendees register for one part only at a cost of \$75.00 which covers light breakfast, breaks, lunch and materials.

**TO REGISTER: (PRE-REGISTRATION ONLY). Email to [al@allanhardy.ca](mailto:al@allanhardy.ca), and specify Part I, Part II or Part III, indicating that you will bring your check, payable to "R.L.I. District 6330", with you to the seminar.**

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Register on or before Friday April 1<sup>st</sup> 2016.**

**Class size is limited.**

Courses are fun, topical and interactive. They are geared toward busy business and professional community leaders who wish to be knowledgeable about Rotary and be more effective leaders in their Vocation and in their Rotary Club.

Rotary Clubs are encouraged to select at least two candidates for R.L.I. training annually and to pay the registration fee.

For more information please visit [www.rotaryleadershipinstitute.org](http://www.rotaryleadershipinstitute.org) or contact:

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