



District 6380

www.rotary6380.org

March 2011



District Governor 6380
Janet McPeck
and husband Phil McPeck

Greetings from the District Governor

As I write this message . . .

. . . I can't help but think of literacy and the impact it would have on my life if I weren't able to read and write. You will see throughout this newsletter how clubs in our district celebrated Literacy Month. Some engaged in new initiatives. Others kept up with ongoing projects.

I know that I felt good as a speaker every time I made an "official governor's visit" to one of the clubs in Chatham Kent and was asked to sign a book that would be donated to a local library in my name as part of their ongoing Literary Angels program. As I read your club bulletins and hear of your activities, I know that the articles in this newsletter are only a small sampling of what's being done in the area of literacy throughout District 6380.



So why is this so important? I think of the response to a recent Friday message that

was sent out regarding ways to help not only with crisis response but for the long haul to support the people of Japan. You read my message, and many of you responded with emails filled with very moving stories and information about those we know on a personal level who are being impacted.

Likewise, we did the same with the floods in Australia and with each situation that impacts our worldwide Rotary network. Our website has become a forum to continue to share

updates and ideas about needs here and far away, and to celebrate the successes and the hope and the progress as the actions of Rotarians make a difference.

All the technology in the world does us no good if we can't read the words on the printed page or the email or Facebook page or the text or Twitter message or the

ereader. I see kids every day who live in the boundaries of our district who are functionally illiterate.

Being able to read gives us information, it gives us opportunities, and it gives us a way to understand people and places that we could know in no other way.

It's why we have all felt connected as we have figured out together what to do, whether the need is a crisis of the magnitude occurring in Japan or the need in our immediate Rotary family as a member of one of our clubs faces a serious illness or a death in the family or some other event that calls for Rotarian support.

I hope that you will give some thought to what it means to be able to decipher and understand the written word, celebrate the gift and then think of how to ensure that everyone in the world has that same opportunity.

As we begin the last quarter of the Rotary year, it is time to take another look at that planning guide and all those goals that each club set for working across the five Avenues of Service and

the promises you made to contribute to PolioPlus and to our Foundation. These last three months are an opportunity to be who you are as a club and to share that with your friends, family and colleagues.

Membership is growing in our district, and I am convinced that it is because

you are all so busy doing amazing things that people are drawn to join you in your activities, projects and fun. Many of you also have systematic ways to invite others to your meetings and activities. Keep up the great work; you're getting results!

It is also the time that we are getting ready for district conference. What a great time we are going to have in Traverse City!

You will continue to get Friday messages updating

you on the latest regarding breakouts and speakers and of course the meals and wine-tasting tours and all the rest. We are approaching 200 attendees, and I would love to see 300 of you there.

The weekend is going to be a time to learn, to be inspired and to feel a part of our district. I am so proud to be a part of Rotary and to call District 6380 my home district.

I am also thankful that I can read, because when I receive your weekly club bulletins (yes, I do read them!) I am inspired and energized. See you in Traverse City on April 29!

*The best feeling
in the world is
when you see a
child or an adult
"catch on" to reading
and have that
expression in their
eyes that says "I have
just found the key to
unlock a whole new
world."*

This letter from a fellow district governor in District 2530 in Japan truly reflects the suffering, the loss and also the hope that he and those in Japan are experiencing.

Dear our Friends, Rotarians, in the world,

Thank you very much for your stimulating. Although we had the tragic disaster we have never experienced, we are doing the best for everything we can do.

This crisis gives us a great sorrow. We have no words affected by the earthquake and tsunami. Many people suffered this disaster died or lost their house. It was a grievous disaster. We all are in deeply sorrow.

We prepared for the earthquake and tsunami because of living in Japan. But It was a larger than our expectation. It was far too big to prevent tsunami.

It was a dreadful. It is like the hell near the seaside area after it happened.

We (D2530) are now in a big fear that is the problem of the nuclear power plants. One of Rotarian who is one of Assistant Governor in 10-11 our District is working on the front line to relieve our mind and go back to normal the nuclear energy. We all trust him and pay one's respects to him. He said, "I MUST DO IT. I AM A ROTARIAN!"

This crisis teaches us important things again. Those are water, electricity, gas, petrol and helping each other, LOVE, the strength of human beings.

We pray it the serious case will be safe. Thanks, Thanks so much for Rotary friendship. Bonds of Rotary friendship.

*With love to Rotarians
D2530 Governor, Hiroji Ohashi*

Making Applications for Pilot Programs

■ **Ed Futa ~ General Secretary Rotary International**

This is a reminder to all Rotary club leadership that Rotary International is conducting four new pilot programs beginning 1 July and operating through 30 June 2014 and is looking for clubs to participate in them.

The deadline for submitting a pilot application form is 1 April. If you have already submitted an application, please be reminded that decisions for club selections will be made by 1 May. Club and district officers will be notified of clubs selected to participate by 31 May. Let your assistant governor know about your club's submissions.

To participate in these pilot programs, your club must have been chartered prior to 30 June 2009 and be in good financial standing and you will need agreement from the current club president and club president-elect along with the agreement of two thirds of the members of the club. You may email questions to ripilotprograms@rotary.org or contact your club and district support representative.

Applications can be scanned and submitted via email to ripilotprograms@rotary.org or printed and faxed to (847) 556-2196.

Below is a brief recap of each pilot program. Follow this link to more detailed fact sheets for each of these pilots, guidelines for selection, terms of participation, and an implementation plan:
<http://www.rotary.org/en/Members/GeneralInformation/pilots/Pages/ridefault.aspx>

I encourage all club presidents to consider participating in these pilot programs in an effort to ensure Rotary's continued success and secure its future in a changing world.

Satellite Club

The Satellite Club Pilot will allow a Rotary club to conduct multiple club meetings during a week, each taking place at a different location, a different day and/or a different time.

Corporate Membership

The Corporate Membership Pilot will allow a corporation or company in the club's area to become a member of the Rotary Club, through a club established membership approval process, and appoint a certain number of Designees as the individuals attending meetings, serving on projects, voting on club matters, serving as club officers and on club committees, etc.

Associate Membership

An Associate Membership Pilot will allow an individual to become associated and acquainted with a Rotary Club, its members, its programs and projects, and the expectations of club membership with the intent of becoming an active member within a designated period of time.

Innovation & Flexibility

This pilot project focuses on letting clubs self-determine their operations to fit better with their members' and community needs. Clubs will be authorized to make changes to the Standard Rotary Club Constitution and to their Rotary Club Bylaws in any area other than RI membership dues requirements.



Notice to all Presidents and Presidents-Elect in District 6380

■ *PolioPlus Co-Chairs PDG Keith Koke and Ginger Barrons*

Dear Presidents:

We are in our last quarter of our Rotary year and the following clubs have reached their objective for this year's polio pledge of \$2,000 (or more) and they are:



Ann Arbor
Brighton
Berkley
Dexter
Birmingham
Ridgetown
Blenheim
Saline
Tilbury

Several other clubs are well on their way and then there are also many that have not contributed yet this year. We need all of District 6380 participation. If you have not had the opportunity to donate to the Polio Challenge, please consider how you might help by holding a fundraiser to achieve the RI requested contribution of \$2,000 per club.

We all know about the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Challenge. Of the \$200 million challenge we are at 163 million. The timing is critical for your matching donation.

Afghanistan 1
India 1
Nigeria 0
Pakistan 8
Non-endemic countries 13
Total worldwide 23
(1 January 2011 to 24 February 2011
World Health Organization)



Convention in New Orleans

Having it occur in the USA gives us a wonderful opportunity to NOT leave the country to attend – and even the opportunity to go for only a day or two. You will be so glad you went! Nothing reveals the universality of Rotary as well as our international conventions! It is an

awesome experience. Join thousands of Rotarians in New Orleans! Between 1-30 April, online registrations are \$380. Go this link to register:
<http://www.rotary.org/en/Members/Events/Convention/Pages/ridefault.aspx?housead>

We now have been at this for more than 25 years and we are so close, yet this final stage is the most challenging and we need to ban together as Rotarians to get to the end to celebrate that glorious day. We could not have made it this far without you and we cannot reach the goal without all of our clubs helping!

Will you be with us to the finish line?

We as polio co-chairs in our district are available to answer questions or give presentations. Just let us know what we can do to help you help the world's children by Ending Polio Now!



Facts and figures relative to polio eradication



From PETS: Warren Club P-E Frank Mallon presenting a \$1,000 check for polio to PRIP Wilf Wilkinson and Ginger Barrons

Water Resource Project Activities - January-March 2011

■ District 6380 Water Resource Coordinator Marc Forest

1.6 billion people do not have access to clean water and 2.6 billion lack sanitation facilities. This is our challenge! The Rotary Foundation, WASRAG (Water and Sanitation Rotarian Action Group), USAID, the U.S. Navy and many clubs of your district are working diligently to assist and bring the vital issue of clean water to a satisfactory resolution. There are many opportunities to participate.



Would you ever consider drinking such water?

Ecuador RF Global Grant Number 25407: Multi-Club BioSand Project Development

This grant has been issued to the Clean Water for Ecuador BioSand project. This significant milestone was achieved mid-February. District 6380 sponsor clubs are Novi, Milan and Chatham Sunrise; Vision District 4400 host clubs are Tomebamba-Cuenca, Gualaceo, Esmeraldas and Zamora. An initial proposal had been filed as part of the new Rotary Foundation Global Grant process.

Gary Sobotta, immediate past president of the Novi club is the sponsor team leader. His implementation team includes French Ambassadorial Scholar Erica Gwynn, responsible for all matters related to hygiene, sanitation, use and maintenance of the BioSand filters and collection and analysis of health improvement data. Other team members have been identified.

Marco Alvarado of the Tomebamba-Cuenca club and two of the club's members have been designated by District 4400 to supervise implementation of the proposed global grant. Gary, Dr. Eduardo Enriquez, president Milan club, and Erica Gwynn have made arrangements to travel to Ecuador on May 14 and return on May 25. The purpose is to visit project sites, review project arrangements and local requirements, as Marco Alvarado's club and the clubs of Gualaceo and Zaruma have initiated work for the Cuenca-Zaruma area. Ecuador is a country of 14 million people with limited or no access to clean water. The global grant is looking at supplying 654 filters initially.

Ecuador - BioSand filters for Santo Domingo de los Colorados: The first district simplified grant for the supply of labor and material costs for 150 filters has been completed, having resulted in the production of a total of 170 filters. Some installations at rural schools appear to be in progress. The club has now received a Rotary Foundation District Grant for an additional labor and materials for 150 additional filters. Contact Ron and Carol Cousineau through the Pontiac club.

What can your club do to participate in an international water and sanitation project?

The district is involved in several water projects that may be of interest to your club. Support sanitation projects in Ecuador, a new initiative suggested by a club in Ecuador where there are several ongoing projects managed by Rotary clubs. We could initiate contacts to understand their needs.

- Support an ongoing project for BioSand filters with the club of Bonao in the Dominican Republic. Contact Mrs. Joyce Joyce at mrsjoyce2@wowway.com. There are still opportunities to assist in raising funds to provide additional filters for the Bonao area in particular to equip an orphanage.
- Ongoing filter and sanitation projects in Nepal. Contact Eileen Heasley at ehesley@avisionforcleanwater.org or Jessica Padgett at: ipadgett5@gmail.com
- Scholarships for BioSand filter training needed to support new BioSand projects. Training given by CAWST organized by Eileen Heasley and husband John to take place at Colombiere Center starting on April 14, 2011. Request information, contact Eileen Heasley. The program includes rainwater harvesting and sanitation initiatives. See also, the January issue of *The Rotarian*. This four-day workshop offers participants an overview of water quality, hygiene, sanitation, disease transmission, household water treatment options, and safe water storage. The workshop also provides hands-on experience in the construction of all filter components, including concrete containers, sand media, diffuser basins and lids. Participants will understand the rationale behind the filter design, how to install it and how to instruct householders on its correct usage.
- Club funding of RI-USAID initiatives for Ghana, the Dominican Republic and the Philippines. Request information package from your water resource coordinator at mitclass56@aol.com and from Sue Bodener sbodenner@gmail.com for a list of specific projects in need of club financing; club funding of scholarships for a new "communication initiative" to reach the poorest of the poor and to ensure the sustainability of BioSand filter operations; to be developed within the district under the leadership of Erica Gwynn, former Ambassadorial Scholar, started in February 2010, and based on Linda Eastman's experience in Guatemala has been featured at the Interact Day 2011 in Ann Arbor. Spanish language proficiency desirable! Contact Erica Gwynn at ericagwynn@gmail.com

Yes there is plenty that District 6380 clubs can do, and yes you can improve your presidential citation in participating in international water projects. WASRAG has published its new bylaws giving the organization a more significant reach on water initiatives. *Quote from Ron Denham (newsletter of January 15, 2011): 2011 marks a new dawn for WASRAG! We are ready to help Rotary clubs around the world in their wash (water, sanitation and hygiene) work. And we now have the authority from RI to be the official resource to clubs and districts. It's taken a long time. RI endorsed the concept of RAGs (Rotarian Action Groups) in 2005 and WASRAG was launched in 2007 to address the water and sanitation challenge. But only in November 2010 did the board of RI confirm that RAGs are a recognized resource for Rotary clubs and districts. WASRAG holds its pre-international convention meeting in New Orleans on Friday, May 20, 2011. Information at World Water Summit IV www.regonline.com/builder/site/Default.aspx?EventID=917841*



'CRUISING TO SCOTLAND' WITH ROTARY

'Set Sail' For
Scottish Adventure



SCOTLAND

The Rotary Club of Ann Arbor North and Jeff Crause of Edward Jones invite you to join them for **Cruising to Scotland With Rotary**. "Come Aboard" for this fun-filled evening to benefit the RCAAN Foundation. Dress is smart/casual cruisewear.

THE EVENING:

Saturday, April 9, 2011

6:30 pm - Reception

7:15 pm - Open Dining Buffet

Holiday Inn North Campus

3600 Plymouth Road, Ann Arbor

Questions? Call (734) 604-5031

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS:

- Full Dinner Buffet
- Silent Auction
- Scottish Dancing and Piping
- Duty Free Shop
- Spa
- Bingo
- Souvenir Photo

RAFFLE:

Purchase one \$20 ticket or several for a chance to win \$1,500, \$500 or \$250 in cash prizes. With only 250 tickets being offered for sale, your odds of winning are great. If less than 125 tickets are sold a 50/50 cash prize will be drawn.

REGISTRATION:

Complete this Registration Form and mail with payment to the address below.

RSVP by April 2, 2011. Join us for a delicious buffet dinner.

Ticket price is \$50 per person. Table of 8 is \$400.

- ☐ Dinner _____ @ \$50 each \$ _____
- ☐ Contribution \$ _____
- ☐ Sponsorship \$1,000 \$500 \$100 \$ _____
- ☐ Raffle Tickets _____ @ \$20 each \$ _____
- Total \$ _____

Checks payable to:

Rotary Club of
Ann Arbor North
P.O. Box 131022
Ann Arbor, MI 48113

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Fax: (____) _____

Making A Difference In Ann Arbor and Around the World

The following organizations benefit from Cruising with Rotary:

- Boy Scouts of America
- Great Sauk Trail Council
- Community Action Network's Green Baxter Court
- Food Gatherers
- Gallup Park - Butterfly Garden
- Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan
- Indian Sanitation Systems
- Ronald McDonald House
- St. Andrew's Breakfast Program



About Rotary:

RCAAN is a service oriented fellowship organization of professional men and women - one of more than 30,000 Rotary Clubs worldwide making a difference locally and globally. Rotary is also committed to eradicating polio worldwide.



Questions? Call (734) 604-5031

Lifelong Literacy! Rotary of Ann Arbor Fights Illiteracy

■ Amy Goodman

27,000

That is the number of adults in Washtenaw County who cannot read well enough to fill out a job application, decipher a map or understand notes from a child's teacher. That number is unlikely to improve since illiteracy is often passed from generation to generation. Fifty percent of children with illiterate parents become illiterate adults. The most powerful fight against illiteracy, a root cause of poverty, is to attack at every stage of the life span: early childhood, school-age and adults.

March is Rotary Literacy Month highlighting literacy and education issues. Rotary of Ann Arbor has a lot to celebrate. We have a long history of significant literacy efforts, for example, Rotary Readers (elementary-aged volunteer support), STRIVE (volunteer support for high school completion for at-risk teens and college scholarships) and Success by 6 (early childhood initiative). In the last year our club has launched a new committee, Rotary Lifelong Literacy, charged with focusing our club's literacy efforts across the life span.

The Rotary Lifelong Literacy Committee is partnered with the Literacy Coalition of Washtenaw County [<http://www.lcwonline.org>] Coalition members work together to improve literacy levels for all generations: infants and young children, school-aged children, and adults. By coordinating services, resources, and planning, the literacy coalition supports existing literacy efforts while striving toward 100 percent literacy.

The Rotary Lifelong Literacy Committee's aim is to focus literacy projects for all generations, improving the literacy skills and application of skills for preschoolers, school-aged children and adults. Currently, our club has direct literacy projects serving each age group:

EARLY CHILDHOOD

The committee launched a pilot program at Head Start of Washtenaw County replicating our successful Rotary Readers model. This traditionally elementary-aged program is being piloted with high-risk preschoolers through the end of the school year. Rotarians will read the current Dolly Parton Imagination Library [<http://www.washtenawsuccessby6.org/parents/imagination-library>] selection to the children as a group, and encourage conversation. Because the children have the same book at home, the hope is they can reinforce family literacy in the home, and with family members who may be struggling with basic skills and/or uncomfortable with reading books. Additionally, our club's support for Success by 6 is a literacy investment.



SCHOOL-AGED

Our club's traditional Rotary Readers committee has been providing literacy support at Burns Park and Angell schools for years by reading with boys and girls. The STRIVE program actively supports literacy by encouraging and supporting high school completion and continuing to acquire the skills necessary to obtain a family-sustaining job through post-secondary training at Washtenaw Community College.

ADULT

Rotarian Jo Ann Barrett supports our partnership with the Literacy Coalition of Washtenaw County by volunteering through Family Book Club. Jo Ann works with work with incarcerated fathers at Milan Correctional Facility. She helps each father record a book read aloud for their children. The recording is burned to CD and mailed to the family's home along with the book.

Are you interested in getting involved? The Literacy Coalition of Washtenaw County maintains a Rotary Lifelong Literacy Landing Page for Rotarians. [<http://www.lcwonline.org/find-help-volunteer/rotary-lifelong-literacy>] At this Web page, there is more information about the community agencies providing literacy services throughout the life span, and opportunities to serve specifically identified for Rotarians. Sign up online at the same link.

Illiteracy is a root cause of poverty, and any social challenge our community faces. Literacy is not a gift; it is a tool for self-determination. Please consider joining the fight against illiteracy in Washtenaw County!





Birmingham Rotary Club's Financial Literacy Project

■ *Mark Farlow*



The Rotary Club of Birmingham kicked off its multi-week financial literacy series to the seventh-grade students at Davison Elementary School in Detroit. The mission of the series is to provide students and parents with a basic understanding of financial matters, banking, credit, goal setting and budgeting. Training was on multiple dates beginning in February and continuing through May, ending with a poster contest.

The financial literacy project has been quite an invigorating experience – for all parties, particularly the students. Led by Rotarians Susan Earp (our president-elect), Richard Shapack, and Linda Hatfield, we are doing good in the world. Our team of Rotarians had its third meeting with the parents of our students. Yes, it's true, we're teaching the parents about financial literacy! We returned for our third visit to Davison Elementary School in Detroit. Three more sessions with the students are planned.



All students will receive a certificate, as well as other donated prizes, to celebrate their achievements and successful completion of the program. The material and a course outline are available for others to use if they wish to implement a similar program. Contact Susan Earp at searp@jvsdet.org for more

information. Susan will also be at the district conference and will be available to share more information.



Calli Hayes saluting the Birmingham Rotary Club

Something wonderful happened during our luncheon meeting. Richard Shapack, acting as our sheriff, collected \$181 from the wallets of our members and their guests. Plus, through the benevolence of an anonymous donor (\$169) and an additional check (\$50), we raised \$400 in one meeting. This \$400 will be delivered to Calli Hayes at Davison Elementary School. Calli was a recent speaker at Birmingham Rotary Club. She leads the Davison Reading Literacy program.

- One out of three working-age Michigan adults - 1.7 million people - lacks the basic skills or credentials to attain a family-sustaining job and contribute to the state's economy.
- 692,000 adults in Michigan do not have a GED or high-school diploma. If those working-age adults were to earn a diploma or GED, their annual net fiscal contribution to the State of Michigan would increase by \$4.97 billion.
- According to community colleges around the state of Michigan, at least 60 percent of students entering these institutions require remediation prior to engaging in post secondary education. Basic skills development is a major barrier for many who seek post-secondary credentials.
- 1 in 6 adults in Washtenaw County lack the basic skills to read, write or communicate in English, they are at the lowest level of literacy.
- In Washtenaw County's 48197 and 48198 ZIP codes the recorded unemployment rate is 13.6%, the functional unemployment rate is reported to be closer to 30% (Michigan Works/ETCS, December 2010).
- In 2010, Ypsilanti High School had a 69% graduation rate and Willow Run High School had a 49% graduation rate (AnnArbor.com, July 2010).
- Washtenaw County African-American babies are three times more likely to die by age one (Washtenaw Area Council for Children, 2010).
[http://www.ewashtenaw.org/government/departments/public_health/family_health/infant-mortality/3-times-more-likely]
- 61% of low income families have no child appropriate books in their homes (IEA Reading Literacy Survey)



It started with a book.
Of course.

And it began because of a single-minded passion for reading.

The Livingston County Literacy Coalition operates in Livingston County because of concerned Rotarians and community leaders who have a passion for literacy, and who were willing to get involved. Today, due to the generosity of Livingston Sunrise Rotary, Hartland Rotary, Brighton Rotary and Howell Rotary, the coalition operates as a clearinghouse for literacy needs and services in the county.

In addition, two individuals have been certified to train tutors, including Lois Halsted, from Hartland Rotary. Lois and her fellow-trainer offer continuing tutor-training programs. Fifteen trained tutors are assigned to adults who are struggling to read, all at no cost to the tutors or learners, and more tutor trainings are being scheduled to accommodate the growing interest in helping adults learn to read. Learners are improving their reading skills, and several are improving in their efforts toward passing college or military entrance exams.

A collaborative of community leaders formed a steering committee, including Rotarian librarian directors Nancy Johnson from Brighton Library, and Ceci Marlow of Cromaine Library in Hartland, interested Rotarians, Donna Gehringer, a representative of United Way (also a Livingston Sunrise Rotary member), Howard Dillman, Lansing Community College director (from Howell Rotary), former teachers, and retirees who love reading. LCLC extends thanks for their support to then-president of Livingston Sunrise Rotary, Jim Lawrence, and to current president, Linda Basista. The LCLC steering group meets monthly to plan and direct the sustained growth of the literacy coalition. A website (www.livingstonliteracy.org) directs interested volunteers and people who have need of reading skills to LCLC, through a coordinated effort utilizing the 211 service. All of this happened since September 2009.

So what is the story of how this project began?

How can other Rotary clubs initiate similar literacy projects?

LCLC started with a book and an individual. In the summer of 2009, Livingston Sunrise Rotarian Luanne Bibbee became captivated by reading "Three Cups of Tea," and grasped the drive and purpose of Greg Mortenson that led him to be instrumental in eventually opening 135 schools in the mountains of Pakistan and Afghanistan. Those who heard Mortenson speak at the 2010 International Rotary convention can grasp his purposeful passion to bring literacy, schools, and training to the war-torn children of these remote regions, facing the odds of Taliban opposition, cost inhibitions, and cultural restrictions against educating children, especially girls. Against all odds, he started, and continued to pursue his dream, through a "Pennies for Peace" program to fund his schools.

With the single-minded inspiration of Greg Mortenson, Luanne bought ten more copies of his book, and arranged a time to present an idea to her local Rotary board. She sprinkled pennies across the table, passed out "Three Cups of Tea" books to each of the board members, and presented her case of wanting to help build a school in Pakistan. "I can't do it alone, but together we can do it," she told the board. Board members were asked to read the book, and pass them on to other Rotarians in the club. Before long, the passion for literacy became the passion of the Livingston Sunrise Rotary.

A meeting of local Rotarians concerned about literacy met one morning in September 2009. Gently, but firmly, the group brought the Pakistan school idea down from the mountaintops of Asia to the realities of local needs. "Before we build a school in Pakistan, we need to help people read here at home." Great, all agreed. "Let's do it."

A community meeting was planned and publicized through United Way email lists. The meeting opened with a PowerPoint presentation, a speaker from the Washtenaw County Literacy Coalition who shared the struggles and successes of their growth, and a group discussion of the shared concern for a literacy coalition in Livingston County.

The Livingston County Literacy Coalition was born, and found unified support for meeting the literacy needs of county people. Through subsequent meetings with supporting community individuals, a steering committee was formed, and monthly meetings have been steadily building a platform to handle the potential numbers that could utilize LCLC services. Surveys of the community discovered that silos of literacy efforts were being made, but a single point of contact was not available. So through the 2-1-1 call center, LCLC is able to funnel requests for reading help or interest in tutoring, and an LCLC volunteer coordinator connects to those individuals. United Way has become the fiduciary sponsor of LCLC.

The LCLC Mission is: "To ensure that every person in Livingston County who wants to read, can." LCLC's purpose is to: 1. Assess literacy needs in Livingston County 2. Assess literacy resources in Livingston County 3. Establish, support, and encourage literacy programs to fill the gaps of needs

The consensus of the steering committee is to create a sustainable focus on reading literacy, knowing that as the group develops, the focus can be expanded to other literacy concerns, including writing, health, computer, workplace, financial, family, art and music literacy. Tutors are available to assist learners to read. Volunteers can be trained to become tutors. There is no charge to volunteers or to learners.

The story of Livingston County Literacy Coalition is the story of how individuals can make a difference, and through the combined strength of Rotary and the collaboration of the community, an organization can be birthed and built for sustained growth. In this case, the literacy needs of the community will be addressed. In stories across the globe, Rotarians have the potential to make a difference in their own community by following a dream, by taking a leadership role, by working together with others in Rotary and in collaboration with their community, and reach goals that can change lives.

And someday they may find themselves on top of that mountain, sharing the passion of their own hearts.



*Students of the Month (January 2010)
Jere Neill of Notre Dame Marist
Academy, and Christopher Davis, Pontiac
Middle School with club president Susan
Ebling*



*2009 scholarship winners with Pontiac
Rotarians president Ron Borngesser and Jeff
Love, president of Baker College*



*Last year's 23rd annual Career
Day and Scholarship Luncheon
scholarship winners Dominique
Sanders, Donte Graham (Pontiac
Academy for Excellence), Daniel
Terzano (Notre Dame Prep) and
Deondre Haynes (Pontiac High
School)*

I didn't think our programs with the Pontiac schools apply to how we promote literacy, because we aren't ourselves sitting down with kids and teaching them to read. But after more thought, I decided our programs really do. These are some of the things we do to promote and inspire not only literacy, but advanced literacy accomplishments for Pontiac students.

The Rotary Club of Pontiac each year focuses the majority of our efforts on literacy for the children of Pontiac. Since school is required for all children, we reach out to them in their schools. (What better way?)

Each month, we honor an outstanding eighth-grade student who is achieving scholastically in one of six Pontiac middle schools. They and their parents and guidance counselor, and/or principal, are treated to a beautiful lunch at the Marriot Centerpoint, where we hold our meetings. The guidance counselor or principal addresses our club, praising the students' scholarship and character qualities that explain why they were chosen, also telling us about their families and particular interests. The student also speaks to us. They almost always say they love to read -- and tell us about what they particularly love to read. We give them our full attention, extra praise and ask questions. This encourages them as well as their school mates, who will no doubt hear about it, to strive for greater literacy and higher educational and character development goals. Pictures are taken in front of our Rotary flag and displayed on our website for them to see and share. They are privileged, as

champions, to hold a 2002 Olympic Torch (Salt Lake City). Particular attention is directed to the words inscribed on the torch: "light the fire within."

Every year we sponsor Career Day to inspire and encourage 120 eighth-grade students in the Pontiac school system who are chosen both for achieving academically as well as for character qualities. These students are escorted from their schools and receive a school day off, of which their schoolmates are certainly aware. They are given VIP tours of local businesses. The business owners donate their time and honor the kids, striving to engage them and introduce them to a possible future career. (They are taken seriously as successful future adults.) Afterward, they attend a special banquet in their honor with the mayor, Pontiac School board members, principals and local dignitaries in attendance.

Every year we grant \$1,000 scholarships to four high school seniors, to assist them in furthering their education. These students are awarded their scholarships at our annual Career Day banquet for the 120 outstanding eighth-grade students previously mentioned, who witness the rewards of the scholarship winners' hard work in scholastic endeavors (advanced literacy). This inspires them to continue to strive for excellence in their upcoming high school careers.

Each month we donate four children's books to the library at Pontiac Academy for Excellence, signed by presenters at our meetings. These books, mostly for younger children, are new and fun, with

brightly colored pages that stimulate interest in reading.

This year, our club is planning a "Pontiac Rotary 150 Bike Tour" of the city's historical sites for families, in conjunction with the City of Pontiac Sesquicentennial Celebration (150 years). The first stop is the Pontiac Historical Society, where they will receive a presentation. They will read about and see pictures and memorabilia of the golden days of Pontiac, once one of Michigan's greatest cities. Along the route, they will read maps and signs that explain the significance of the historical sites and direct them to the next spot. The Pontiac School Board is enthusiastic about our plans and has committed to support this effort by announcing and promoting the event in the schools and displaying posters the school children will create in art class.

The Oakland County Sheriff's Department has committed to donating around 300 reconditioned bikes to be given away to needy children. Pontiac Osteopathic Hospital provides helmets for all second graders and, hopefully, also seventh graders.

The Pontiac School Board has traditionally maintained one member as a Pontiac Rotarian, to facilitate our efforts at reaching out to the children in their schools. We receive press coverage for our event through *The Oakland Press*, which spreads the word to parents, and others interested, about the rewards we offer to children who read and study, to support and inspire literacy.

Rotary of Mount Clemens Helps a Different Local Organization Every Month

Rochester Rotary Club

■ *Linda Eastman*

Each month the Rotary Club of Mount Clemens starts a collection for various local organizations. To date the club has donated:



115 care packages, one for every soldier in a Michigan National Guard Unit that is serving in Iraq

• 25 backpacks full of school supplies to Turning Point, an organization in Macomb County that helps victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. At the beginning of the school year, Turning Point has an average of 25 children living in one of their shelters.

- Crates of school and classroom supplies to George Washington Academy in Mount Clemens
- Everyday household supplies such as toothpaste, toilet paper, cleaning supplies, soap, shampoo, deodorant, etc. was donated to Good Shepherd Coalition
- Toys, books and children's gifts were donated to Big Family of Michigan
- Four carloads of coats went to The Salvation Army; given out at the Mount Clemens Corps location at 55 Church Street. The coats were given to the people at their warming site in December.



The January collection was for cold weather gear and that went to the Macomb County Rotating Emergency Shelter Team (MCREST). In February, food items (canned and non

perishables) were collected for the Macomb Food Program. In March we gathered children's books for the United Way for SE Michigan.

Upcoming projects are:

- April – diapers, formula and other baby supplies for the GSC Parenting Coalition
- May – new clothing and essential items for the Mount Clemens School District
- June – cell phones and eyeglasses for Macomb Senior Services

For more information or to see how your club can help, please visit www.MountClemensRotary.org or contact **Jamie Fitzpatrick** at (586) 601-6983 or jamief@hersheyinsurance.com

The Covenant Community Care Clinic on Detroit's southwest side has recently been named a Reach Out and Read site by the National Center in Boston. Reach Out and Read prepares America's youngest children to succeed in school by partnering with doctors to prescribe books and encourage families to read together. Learning of its need for new books, gently used books, literacy-related posters, book displays, and other things required to establish a new program, the Rochester Rotary Club "adopted" the site and set out to create a literacy-rich environment at the clinic. The environment in which the children receive books is a very important component of Reach Out and Read. We met with Dr. Mary Hakim, program coordinator, and toured the site. The fund-raising process began, and soon we had our funding in place (including a district grant) and could order what we needed to accomplish our goals.

On a frigid night in February, Rotarians met to sort, categorize, and affix identification stickers on the hundreds of books that will be used for the program. These new, age-appropriate and culturally appropriate books are given to children 6 months to 5 years old at their well-child checkups. Parents also receive personal encouragement and advice from their doctor about the importance of reading aloud to their children at home. In addition to purchasing new books for the children, the project included furnishing book bins for each individual exam room, a book cart for gently used books so that every child, regardless of age, can take one home, a puppet tree and multi-cultural puppets for imaginative play, a "Very Hungry Caterpillar" rug and beanbag chairs for the book nook, mounted posters for the walls, hardcover storybooks for the waiting rooms, and wooden book displays to hold those books.

We also provided a bulletin board to post community literacy resources and information such as local library hours and location, free reading help, literacy activities in the neighborhood, and how to apply for a library card. This project will incorporate our Interact students, as we need to establish a steady supply of gently used children's books for the book cart, and the Interactors will initiate a book drive.

The project is underway and will be completed in mid-April. We have already received these grateful words from Dr. Hakim: *"Thank you so much for your generosity toward our clinic at Covenant Community Care! The books that you donated to us are beautiful, and the children will love them! Thank you so much for your kindness and your thoughtfulness toward us – we are truly grateful. Sincerely and God bless, Mary Hakim and Covenant Community Care's Reach Out and Read Program."*

Literacy Month



The Mount Clemens Rotary Club has been collecting new or slightly used children's books to donate to the United Way's Early Learning Clinics.

The Rotary Club of Chatham is supplying books for women and their children their local Women's Centre (shelter)!

The Novi Rotary Club is welcoming Taylor Joseph, teenage author, to speak at their March 31st noon meeting on "Renewing Our Hopes for Today's Youths in Literacy."

At their April 21st Rotary meeting, they will be welcoming Pierette Simpson, author, speaker, voyager, survivor who will speak on "The Last Voyage of the Andrea Doria."

Special Request for Japan

PDG Dennis T Torp, Chairman of the Board of World Medical Relief and Sterling Heights Rotarian, has requested to partner with our District to provide support to the crisis in Japan. A Japanese non-governmental agency contacted WMR directly for assistance. WMR would like our help in providing baby diapers, adult diapers (small and medium), over the counter medications such as Ibuprofen, Aspirin, and Tylenol, and cash donations. More information can be found at www.worldmedicalrelief.com or you can contact Josephine Jabra, Director of Development and Community Affairs, World Medical Relief, 11745 Rosa Parks, Detroit, MI 48206 or at 313-866-5333, ext 243.

Invitation From Mt. Clemens

The Rotary Club of Mount Clemens is hosting their annual fundraiser at Zuccaro's hall on April 17th. Spring Zing, a "Night of Amazing Tastes", will feature a tastefest, Live Auction and silent Basket Auction. Tickets are \$65 a piece and can be purchased directly through mountclemensrotary.org.

District 6380 Status as of February, 2011

Rotary			YTD	2010-11	2010-11	2010-11	2010-11	2010-11	Annual	Annual
International District 6380 Statistics	Membership as of July 1-10 SAR	Membership Reported to District Feb-28-11	net gain or loss	Foundation Annual Giving (actual)	Foundation Annual Giving (Club Pledge)	Foundation Annual Giving Feb-28-11	Foundation Restricted Giving Feb-28-11	Foundation Permanent Fund Feb-28-11	Giving Per Capita Rank	Giving Per Capita
Club										
Anchor Bay	17	19	2	\$ 100	\$ 1,700		\$ 100			\$ -
Ann Arbor	309	305	-4	\$ 23,441	\$ 21,100	\$ 26,259	\$ 8,882			\$ 84.98
Ann Arbor North	33	30	-3	\$ 3,800	\$ 3,200	\$ 643	\$ 700			\$ 19.48
Auburn Hills	12	11	-1		\$ 1,300	\$ 575	\$ 1,000			\$ 47.92
Berkley	22	20	-2		\$ 550		\$ 2,000			\$ -
Birmingham	65	72	7	\$ 2,920	\$ 7,400	\$ 2,950	\$ 5,165	\$ 100		\$ 45.38
Blenheim	23	23	0	\$ 3,398	\$ 2,650	\$ 4,487	\$ 2,034		3	\$ 195.09
Bloomfield Hills	36	32	-4	\$ 3,700	\$ 3,800	\$ 75	\$ 132	\$ 20		\$ 2.08
Brighton	69	68	-1	\$ 7,200	\$ 3,500		\$ 2,500			\$ -
Chatham	60	76	12	\$ 7,961	\$ 6,500	\$ 3,130	\$ 1,626			\$ 52.17
Chatham Sunrise	39	39	0	\$ 4,436	\$ 4,100	\$ 1,731	\$ 97			\$ 44.38
Chelsea	29	30	1		\$ 1,550	\$ 300				\$ 10.34
Clarkston	22	22	0	\$ 12,368	\$ 2,875	\$ 7,258	\$ 2,350		1	\$ 329.91
Clawson	18	17	-1		\$ 2,500	\$ 1,000				\$ 55.56
Clinton/Macomb Sunrise	9	11	2	\$ 1,400	\$ 1,000	\$ 100	\$ 100			\$ 11.11
Davisburg	13	13	0	\$ 250	\$ -	\$ 1,000				\$ 76.92
Dexter	36	33	-3	\$ 500	\$ 100	\$ 850	\$ 2,650			\$ 23.61
Dresden	17	17	0	\$ 1,000	\$ 2,000		\$ 97			\$ -
Eastpointe	16	14	-2	\$ 500	\$ 500					\$ -
Farmington	23	25	2	\$ 3,300	\$ 1,000	\$ 585	\$ 350			\$ 25.43
Ferndale	19	20	1	\$ 345	\$ 1,300	\$ 70	\$ 326	\$ 149,807		\$ 3.68
Fowlerville	26	27	1	\$ 2,500	\$ 1,015					\$ -
Hartland	21	20	-1	\$ 1,000	\$ 500	\$ 800	\$ 500			\$ 38.10
Howell	37	49	12	\$ 25	\$ 3,200					\$ -
Lake Orion	21	25	4	\$ 2,725	\$ 2,900	\$ 1,400	\$ 2,200			\$ 66.67
Lakes Area	12	15	3	\$ 1,769	\$ 1,500	\$ 200	\$ 583			\$ 16.67
Livingston Sunrise	48	47	-1	\$ 5,400	\$ 5,000	\$ 2,200				\$ 45.83
Lyon Area	14	14	0	\$ 1,100	\$ 1,000					\$ -
Milan	18	18	0	\$ 200	\$ 1,000		\$ 1,100			\$ -
Milford	31	31	0	\$ 2,025	\$ 2,325	\$ 4,100				
Mt. Clemens	81	75	-6	\$ 7,380	\$ 5,380	\$ 1,351	\$ 500			\$ 16.68
Novi	37	40	3	\$ 5,500	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 726			
Ortonville	11	11	0	\$ 1,000	\$ 550					\$ -
Oxford	35	34	-1	\$ 1,800	\$ 3,400	\$ 1,900	\$ 350			
Pontiac	25	25	0	\$ 1,800	\$ 1,000	\$ 250	\$ 225			\$ 10.00
Richmond	31	33	2		\$ 2,000	\$ 1,000				\$ 32.26
Ridgetown	26	17	-9	\$ 3,335	\$ 3,335		\$ 6,784			\$ -
Rochester	87	87	0	\$ 20,000	\$ 8,900	\$ 220	\$ 100			\$ 2.53
Romeo	10	12	2	\$ 800	\$ 360					\$ -
Royal Oak	29	32	3	\$ 5,834	\$ 4,255	\$ 1,376	\$ 500			
Saline	32	31	-1	\$ 300	\$ 2,000	\$ 100	\$ 2,550			\$ 3.13
Southfield	10	12	2	\$ 150	\$ 500	\$ 50				\$ 5.00
Sterling Heights	22	24	2	\$ 3,365	\$ 2,300	\$ 3,495	\$ 397			\$ 158.86
Thamesville	7	7	0		\$ 500					\$ -
Tilbury	23	22	-1	\$ 5,339	\$ 2,300	\$ 350	\$ 2,651			\$ 15.22
Troy	34	36	2	\$ 1,470	\$ 2,700	\$ 700				\$ 20.59
Utica-Shelby	15	14	-1	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 100	\$ 600			\$ 6.67
Wallaceburg	11	13	2	\$ 971	\$ 1,000					\$ -
Warren	24	23	-1		\$ 2,500	\$ 260				\$ 10.83
Waterford	24	28	4	\$ 7,345	\$ 3,900	\$ 5,110	\$ 2,000		2	\$ 212.92
West Bloomfield	21	16	-5	\$ 1,950	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,775	\$ 75			\$ 132.14
Ypsilanti	25	26	1	\$ 1,235	\$ 1,250	\$ 250	\$ 50			\$ 10.00
District 6380										
District Total	1735	1761	22	\$ 164,937	\$ 142,195	\$ 83,000	\$ 52,000	\$ 149,927		
			Per Capita ->	\$ 91.75		\$ 47.84				