

Floyd A. Lancia District Governor 2009-2010

Rotary International District 6540 5315 Tunbridge Crossing Fort Wayne, IN 46815 USA

July 2009

Fellow Rotarians:

Welcome to the year in which we take on the task proclaimed by President John Kenny of "**The Future of Rotary is in Your Hands**". President Kenny has asked us to stay the course and continue our efforts in Health, Hunger, Literacy and Water. He, as those in Rotary's leadership proclaim that the backbone of Rotary is its members and there needs to be an emphasis in helping coordinate the many efforts in directing the work of clubs and it's members in the areas where the greatest need and benefits exists.

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John Kenny said we must "strive for continuity of service, so that we may continue to go from strength to strength. In 2009-10, I will ask Rotarians everywhere to continue to learn from our experiences and to build upon our successes. I ask you to continue to work for the health and well-being of not only children but their families and people everywhere."

In District 6540 we have the opportunity to follow his lead. Much has been accomplished in the last 94 years in our district. In our 95th year we must continue our ideals of the Four Way Test and above all remember our motto of "service above self". We must learn from those that have set Rotary's tone in our district and continue working and expanding opportunities for those less fortunate.

We can do it. The opportunity to see the eradication of polio in our lifetime is possible. Clean water and proper sanitation is doable. Expanding literacy can be accomplished. Providing nutrition for those in need can be done. Going the extra mile to provide good health is but a few steps away. Each and every Rotarian has the challenge to accomplish noble goals such as these and can be done by caring, volunteering, joining forces and looking beyond that which we are most comfortable.

In 1905, Paul Harris and his colleagues had a vision--a vision that has far exceeded any of their expectations. In 2009-10, we must continue to expand that vision and meet the many challenges placed before us. Much can be accomplished one step at a time. As President Kenny said "Whether Rotary will thrive or falter, whether our service will mean much to many or little to few, whether Rotary is known with respect or seen as a relic of days gone by - all this is up to you. The Future of Rotary Is In Your Hands".

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