



**Rotary International District 7090, Annual Business Meeting
Hamilton Convention Center, Room 203, Hamilton, Ontario
Friday, October 17, 2008, 3:00 PM**

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|-----|---|---|
| 1. | Call to Order
Welcome by District Governor
Invocation | Ralph Montesanto, DG
Charlie Fogel, PRID, PDG |
| 2. | R.I. President's Representative
Introduction
Greetings from
RI President D.K. Lee
Thank You and Resolution | Bob Bruce, PDG

Bruce Christensen, PDG, RI President's Rep
Pravin Suchak, DGE |
| 3. | District Governors' Reports | Bob Leek, DG, 2007 - 2008
Ralph Montesanto DG, 2008 - 2009 |
| 4. | Treasurer's Report
Motion to Accept Financial Statements
Status of Audited Financial Statements for 2007-08 | Marlene McGraw |
| 5. | District Governor-Elect Report | Pravin Suchak, DGE |
| 6. | District Governor Nominee Report | Karen Oakes, DGN |
| 7. | District Conference Report
Conference Resolution | M. Howes & R. Morrow |
| 8. | District Committee Reports
Membership
Service Projects
The Rotary Foundation
Public Relations
Youth Services
Training | Andy Skrypniak, Director
John Heise, Director
Bob Bruce, Director
Karen Oakes, DGN for Robert Klingensmith, Chair
Kevin Crouse, Director
Wally Ochterski, Director |
| 9. | Governor's Committees
Council on Legislation
Strategic Planning Committee
Friendship Exchange Committee | Bob Bruce, PDG, Chair
Bob Leek, PDG, Chair
Nan Bruce, AG, Chair |
| 10. | New Business
Resolution Ratifying Actions of Governor and District Council | |
| 11. | Announcements | |
| 12. | Adjournment | |

Immediate Past District Governor's Report

Business Meeting of the District 7090 Conference

Friday, October 17th, 2008

Highlights of the “Rotary Shares” year:

- **GSE wine/tourism partnering with Bulgaria**
- **Billboard P R grant and promotion featuring Rotary's work in water and polio**
- **Club twinning to promote fellowship and networking**
- **District Incorporation**
- **Interact/Earlyact charterings, strong Rotaract clubs, vibrant Youth Exchange programs**
- **Rotary Foundation support – average annual fund giving of over \$110 per member, plus strong club support for polio eradication, Ambassadorial Scholarship**
- **Membership**
- **Katrina relief continuation**
- **Expansion of WCS approved programs**
- **District Water Task force**
- **District Disaster Relief/Recovery entity**
- **New leadership training programs**
- **New club runner based web site**
- **Expansion of WCS approved programs**
- **World Water Conference in Haiti**
- **Peace Summit in Windsor**
- **This conference**

My thanks to the great district leadership team, and the 74 club Presidents for support and inspiration.

IPDG Bob Leek

District Governor-Elect Report
District 7090 Annual Conference
Business Meeting
October 17, 2009

As a DGE, this is the year of training. It is the year for me to participate in the training at the Zone and RI level. It is also a year of training for the Club President Elects for 2009-2010, Assistant Governors, District Directors & Committee Chairs as well as Club Officers and any one else who is playing a role in running of the District. It is also a year of planning, implementing some of these plans and goal setting. Finally it is a year when I continue to visit clubs and meet as many Rotarians in the District as I can.

PETS1, PETS2 and District Assembly

The District Trainers Dick Earne and Kevin Crosby and two other team members Bruce Baum and AJ Block have already started to work on the training for President Elects, Assistant Governors as well as District Committees chairs and Club officers and committee chairs. Dates and brief details for all the training events are on the web site.

We have also established a PETS Training Advisory Committee made up of previous and future District Trainers, one past AG, one AG, two Past Presidents, two Presidents, three PEs, DG, DGE, DGN and the 2008-2009 District Training Team. The mission of this committee is to advice and assist the DGE and District Trainers in all the training that we will be providing.

Governor Elect Training

As part of my training as DGE, I attended the Governor-Elect Training for Zone 27/28 in Sandusky, Ohio and the Zone 22 training in Victoria, BC. I also attended the Zone Institutes both in Sandusky and Victoria. My wife Sheela took part in the DGE partners training and the Zone 22 Institute in Victoria.

Besides getting trained, these two weeks were full of great opportunities to meet and interact with other District Governors-Elects in my class, Regional Chairs and Zone Directors, and of course, RI President D.K. Lee, RI President Elect John Kenny and several other RI and Foundation Leaders.

Group Study Exchange

Group Study Exchange for 2009–2010 will be between District 7090 and District 4250. District 4250 is made of clubs in Belize, Guatemala and Honduras. Formal applications from both the Districts requesting the GSE pairing with each other has already been accepted by RI.

District Conference 2009-2010

The District Conference Committee is well into planning the conference. I will continue to conform to the change of the timing of the District Conference to the fall. The conference will be at the Millennium Hotel in Cheektowaga, NY on October 16, 17, and 18, 2009. We will be announcing the conference theme and other details on Sunday, Oct 19th as part of the closing of this year's conference in Hamilton.

Meetings

During the first three months as DGE I attended various District committee meetings as well as District and Area events.

The International Assembly

As required by RI & as a condition of my taking the position of the District Governor next July, Sheela and I will be taking part in the International Assembly in San Diego from January 18–25, 2009. This is where 530+ District Governor Elects and their partners get their final training. RI President Elect John Kenny will announce his theme as well as expand on his and the RI goals for 2009-2010 at the Assembly. The International Assembly is also an opportunity for RI and the Foundation Leaders do presentations on various RI programs and goals for their area of involvement. Finally, this is where the DGE get an opportunity to interact with other DGE from all over the world.

Goals for 2009–2010

I am in the process of developing my goals for 2009–2010 and will be sending them out to District Directors, District Chairs and the Governor's Advisory Committee for their input. Once I return from the International Assembly in San Diego I will add RI President Elect John Kenny's goals and expectations to the list.

District Committees

I have started to work on the District team that will work with me to implement the RI and District goals and programs in 2009-2010. I hope that many of the current District chairs and committee members will continue to work in their respective positions next year. However, like in any other organization, some of them will be leaving their positions and taking on other challenges in the District or in their own clubs. So I have started the process of identifying District Rotarians who would fill these and other positions. I am urging every one to identify Rotarians in your clubs and areas who are capable candidates for District positions and communicate their names and areas of interest to me over the next few weeks.

Rotary International Convention

I am also the District's Promotion Chair for the Rotary International convention in Birmingham, UK. from 21-24 June, 2009. I want all of you to join Sheela and me and be a part of history and celebrate the 100th Rotary convention in Birmingham. Please take advantage of early registration pricing and register early to save on registration fees. You can go to www.rotaryconvention2009.com for more information & registration. Plan early and take a few days before or after the convention to tour the British Isles and Europe and make your trip a vacation of a lifetime.



Pravin D. Suchak
District Governor Elect



2009 RI Convention

Birmingham, England,

June 21-24, 2009

Be a part of history and celebrate the 100th Rotary convention, which will take place in Birmingham, the heart of England!

If you haven't been to Birmingham since the 1984 convention, you may not recognize this former industrial town. Now a lively canal city known for its outstanding shopping and dining, Birmingham underwent a dramatic facelift in the 1990s. The transformation resulted in a modern, more pedestrian-friendly city that retains traces of its Medieval and Industrial Age roots.

Registration

Go to www.rotary.org and download the convention booklet which outlines even more reasons to come to Birmingham in 2009. This 24-page booklet contains registration, hotel reservation forms, and Host Organization Committee forms.

Register early and save – Rotary offers special pricing for those who register early. First deadline: 15 December, 2008.

Register on-line. It's convenient and secure. Your confirmation materials will be e-mailed to you.

Convention venue

The National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham is Europe's busiest convention venue, staging more than 180 exhibitions each year. Its 21 interconnected halls offer ample space for a convention with the scope of The Rotary International Convention - registration services, plenary sessions, the House of Friendship and exhibits, convention luncheons, workshops and interactive discussion groups, and the Rotaract and Youth Exchange preconvention meetings.

Why attend?

You will gain a broader appreciation of Rotary's global impact and strengthen your commitment to service. Guests at the convention may be moved to become Rotarians.

In addition, you will enjoy:

- meeting Rotarians from all over the world and making lasting friendships;
- hearing interesting presentations on the scope of Rotary activities throughout the world;
- finding out how fellow Rotarians developed their service projects by visiting club and district project booths. These can lead to partnerships with other Rotarians in an international project or exchange;
- learning more about PolioPlus and other Rotary Foundation programs through plenary and workshop sessions which will illustrate how Rotarians take humanitarian action and promote peace and understanding throughout the world;
- getting to know Rotary leaders from both your own district and other areas of the world;
- exchanging ideas with club presidents and presidents-elect about the administration of your club;
- extending your convention experience with your family or friends, making this an enjoyable vacation in a beautiful country. There are also many pre- and post-convention tours and cruises from which to choose;
- staying with families in the local area either before or after the convention. This is an opportunity to develop life-long friendships.

Of Special Interest

Monday, 22 June - Theme of the day: Growth of Rotary. Speakers include Tom Henderson, CEO of Shelter Box, a disaster-relief organization that has provided assistance to 600,000 people worldwide.

Wednesday, 24 June - Theme of the day: Rotary in Action. Deepa Willingham, founder of the Promise of Assurance to Children Everywhere (PACE Universal). The PACE Universal School in Piyali Junction (outside Calcutta) teaches 130 girls, with 200 on the waiting list, and 10 mothers in PACE's vocational training classes.

If you are interested in a vacation package before or after the convention, please email pravin@localnet.com.



District Governor Nominee

**Annual Business Meeting
Friday, October 17, 2008**

Activities of note:

- **Joined in D.G. changeover celebration @ Liuna Station, Hamilton, Ontario
Congratulations I.P.D.G. Bob Leek on a great year, and all the best to D.G.
Ralph Montesanto**
- **Attended Y.E. Incorporation Meeting @ Grand Island, New York**
- **Attended Foundation Seminar, Mississauga 23-08-2008**
- **Participated in District Advisory Council Meetings, 1 F2F, 1 conference Call**
- **Attended DGN Training Zone 27/28 –Sandusky, Ohio**
- **Attended Zone 22 (24) DGN training, and Institute – Victoria, B.C.**
- **Pre-work assignments and follow up ongoing**
- **A.G. co-ordinator role – ongoing**
- **Attended Area Meeting hosted by A.G. Angela Carter.**
- **Engage in ongoing emails with fellow DGN classmates as we build upon our
September Face 2 Face to enhance our Rotary friendships.**

**Appointments of note: Special thank you to I.P.D.G. Bob Leek on accepting the
role as District Trainer for 2010-2011.**

**Both Bob and I joined in the Training Advisory committee meeting held on
Saturday, October 4th, 2008, in Amherst, N.Y. , led by DGE Pravin Suchak and his
trainers to build upon the 2009-2010 Training movement.**

**In conclusion, the past few months have been busy, with lots of opportunity for
Rotary involvement and personal development. Thank you again for this
wonderful honour to lead our District in 2010 -2011.**

Respectively submitted,

Yours in Rotary

Karen J. Bakes

District Conference Report

The District Conference held this week-end represents the culmination of almost two years of work by the planning team in conjunction with PDG Bob Leek and DG Ralph Montesanto.

The theme of the conference is water and the focus is on providing delegates to the conference with an overview of water related problems (and solutions) locally and globally. This seems like a logical choice for the conference theme in that we are on the Great Lakes and it has been deemed as a global issue by Rotary International.

All conference delegates will be able to hear an outstanding keynote speaker on Friday evening, Bob McDonald, the host of CBC radio's Quirks and Quarks. Ron Denham, a world authority on water and a Rotarian, will speak at Saturday's lunch, and our Rotary International representative, Bruce Christensen will speak on Saturday evening, followed by entertainment by the Ancaster Theatre Company.

As of Tuesday evening there were 717 registrants for the conference, with approximately 300 people attending each of the major meals – Friday dinner, Saturday lunch and Saturday dinner. In addition, approximately 100 people signed up for breakfast on Saturday morning.

The conference committee consists of Rotary members from the two clubs associated with the Past District Governor (Hamilton) and current District Governor (Dundas Valley Sunrise). We have been meeting for almost two years on a monthly (and recently, more frequently) basis. We are pleased with the turnout of Rotarians and guests, and have been blessed with excellent publicity from a number of sources. A full report on the conference and recommendations for future conferences will be provided after the conference to the planning team for 2009. This planning team has been kept informed of our progress during the past few months; hopefully, they will learn from any mistakes that we have made as the conference evolved.

Robert Morrow
Michael Howes

Co-chairs.

Rotary International District 7090
Membership Committee Report for Annual Meeting
Presented by Andy Skrypniak Membership Director
October 17, 2008

Membership Team:

We have 16 area membership representatives in place. We follow the area assignments similar to that of the AGs except in a few spots. There are 7 Canadian reps and 9 for the US side.

The US visioning team is lead by PDG Dick Earne and Kevin Crosby. They have a resource of some 10 facilitators to assist with US based clubs.

The Canadian visioning team is lead by Nan Bruce. Nan along with DGN Karen Oakes are growing the number of facilitators on the Canadian side.

The club extension team is lead by PDG Bob Leek.

Resources for Clubs:

The area membership reps will be holding quarterly meetings with all clubs. Most have had their first meeting and distributed a computer disc of Rotary materials collected from various sources to assist the clubs in membership development.

The district membership seminar was held on September 20, 2008 with 25 clubs represented.

The zone membership seminar was held in August 2008 in Toronto with some clubs being able to attend.

The Magic of Membership monthly newsletter has been launched via the district newsletter along with advance copies going to every club membership chair.

The district website will soon have a membership section with an array of membership material available for download.

Club Visioning:

A total of 8 sessions have now been completed. With a few more scheduled and some pending.

US clubs completed: Kenmore, Buffalo Sunrise, Lancaster-Depew, Clarence and Hamburg Sunrise.

Canadian clubs completed: Waterdown, Flamborough AM and Niagara on the Lake

Membership and Attendance:

Clubs are getting better at reporting their membership and attendance numbers utilizing our new Club Runner program,

Membership numbers are close to 2800 for the District. Clubs are using the various options available to them in order to grow their numbers. The future is positive and we should be able to get to the 3000 member mark in the near future.

Club Extension:

A new club should charter early in the new year: Fort Erie AM

Four other areas have been identified for future clubs.

Membership Video:

Kevin Crosby (Buffalo Sunrise) and John Paget (Buffalo) have volunteered their expertise to create a recruitment video that will be geared to 25 to 40 year olds. All of the interviews have been completed and the videos shot. The next step is editing which will create a 6 minute video.

Plans are underway to find a suitable launch date and preview of the video within the next 60 days.

Clubs with less than 20 members:

Every club with a membership count of less than 20 has received an email invitation to have an evening presentation from the membership director focusing on membership growth (14 in total).

To date, sessions have been booked with: Medina, Holley and Caledonia.

SERVICE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

October 17, 2008

World Community Service Committee (Chair: David Johnson)

The District Council has currently approved 23 projects. Three of these are international projects, i.e., Shelterboxes for disaster relief, Gift of Life, and Adopt-a-Minefield. A fourth, RADAR, is centered on the continent of Africa and has an AIDS focus. Other projects are in Belarus, Boliva, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Hati, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Nepal, Niger, South Africa, and Uganda. Finally, the list includes one project started by the RYLA class of 2006 and being carried on by former students and the Welland Rotary Club.

The committee uses the District website to promote these projects. The website also includes advice for participating in an international project.

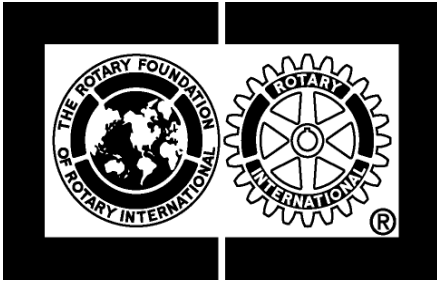
During the past few meetings the committee has spent time ensuring that approved projects are program oriented and deal with multiple issues in a given area.

The committee has also spent time discussing disaster relief vs. recovery and is working on guidelines for determining the role District clubs can serve following a disaster.

Community Service (Chair: John Crawford)

Last year the committee developed a format for club to use when considering a local community service project. The form assists clubs in determining community needs and whether a proposed project meets those needs.

The committee plans this year to move to the next level and develop an electronic scrapbook of community service projects. This will give clubs an opportunity to share their ideas and successes.



District 7090 Rotary Foundation Committee

Annual Business Meeting Report

October 17, 2008

Bob Bruce, District Rotary Foundation Director

2007 - 08 was another good year for our District clubs' contributions to the Annual Programs Fund. Our total target for the year was \$300,000, and the actual amount was \$321,853, or \$110.64 per member, the highest total in our history.

Clubs yearly contributions support The Rotary Foundation's annual programs such as Group Study Exchange, Ambassadorial Scholars, Matching and District Simplified Grants, etc. All contributions are eligible for Paul Harris Recognition.

Funds donated to the Annual Programs Fund are held by TRF for 3 years. Interest earned from these funds supports the administrative costs of our Foundation. After three years 50% of the funds are returned to the District to distribute for Humanitarian programs as Matching and District Simplified Grants, and Educational programs such as Ambassadorial and Peace Scholarships along with other recognized Rotary Foundation programs such as PolioPlus. The other 50% is designated as the World Fund and it is from this fund that our Rotary Foundation matches club and district dollars for approved grant programs and Group Study Exchanges.

Clubs also donate funds to PolioPlus and specific International projects, as well as to the Permanent Fund. These contributions are not part of the Annual Programs Fund.

The Rotary Foundation Annual Dinner

The Dinner will be held this year at ***Salvatore's Italian Gardens Restaurant***, 6461 Transit Rd., Depew, NY, 14043, telephone (716)-683-7990, on **Friday, November 14, 2008**. We are delighted to have Past RI President(2000-2001) and Past Rotary Foundation Trustee(1996-98 and 2001-03) Frank Devlin of the Rotary Club of Anahuac in Mexico City as our guest speaker.

DGN, Permanent Funds and Foundation Dinner Chair Karen Oakes expects that this year's dinner will surpass last year's sellout. Tickets are limited, so order yours today!

Annual Programs Fund

Every club in the District has now established a goal for Annual Programs Fund contributions for 2008-09.

This is the first Year that we have had all clubs report their Goal to TRF and thanks goes to Art Wing and Joe DePaolo for coordinating this so well. The total of club goals is \$267,007. Our DRFC is confident we will again surpass the \$300,000 mark in 2008-09, despite the downturn in the economy.

GSE News

District 7090 is hosting a Group Study Exchange team from District 4840 in Argentina and Paraguay. The team arrived on Oct. 1 and will depart Oct. 30.

The team consists of Group Leader Carlos Jesus Fernandez from Posadas, Misiones, Argentina; he is an architect.

Team members are: Cinthia Carolina Romero Apodaca from Asuncion, Paraguay, a lawyer; Francis Roland Galeano Penayo, an agronomist (soil scientist) from San Crstobal, Parana, Paraguay; Gerardo Jose Alonso Schwarz, an economist from Posadas, Argentina; and Federico Arturo Monte Domecq, a biologist from Asuncion, Paraguay.

GSE co-chair for the U.S. Bert Rappole reports that participating clubs included Dunkirk/Fredonia, Jamestown, Westfield/Mayville, Salamanca, Falconer, and Batavia.

GSE co-chair for the Canadian visit, Keith Lindberg has the following clubs hosting: Dundas Valley Sunrise, Hamilton, Welland, Niagara-on-the-Lake and Niagara Falls.

Wednesday, Oct. 29, there will be a farewell dinner in Niagara Falls. The team departs the next day.

For the return exchange to District 4849 in Paraguay and Argentina from May 10 to June 6, 2009, the deadline for team leader applications is Oct. 17, with interviews taking place at the Niagara Falls McBain Community Centre, Oct. 25. The deadline for the team members is Oct. 25 with interviews taking place at the Niagara Falls McBain Community Centre on Nov. 8.

Team members and the leader are expected to attend an orientation in Toronto, Friday, Nov. 14 and Saturday Nov. 15.

Polio Plus

The Rotary Foundation must raise \$103.5 million over the next 3 years to match the challenge grants of the Gates' Foundation and Google.

To do this:

- A. Every club is challenged to organize a public fundraising event to raise a minimum of \$1000 annually for the next 3 years.
- B. Individual Rotarians are invited to take part in the challenge with special emphasis on new clubs and newer Rotarians who have not yet had the opportunity to contribute to PolioPlus.

Our District Foundation Committee promised to match contributions from clubs at 50% on the dollar up to a total of \$25,000 from our District Designated Funds during the 2008 calendar year. Happily we have exceeded the \$50,000 mark of club contributions, and the \$25,000 of DDF funds has been contributed. A full report of club and district contributions will be on the District website.

PolioPlus Co-chairs Roger Crysler and Spud Ericson are prepared to speak to clubs during the coming year. Contact either of them for more information.

The Grants Sub-committee

The Grants Committee has had much difficulty in obtaining final reports from clubs who have received District Simplified Grants. As the Rotary Foundation only allows Grant Funds to be open for two years, we have had difficulty obtain new grant money until all the reports from DSGs two years previously were finally submitted. Failure to report by even one club delayed all other clubs waiting for grants from getting their projects underway.

Starting in 2008-09 all approved District Simplified Grant funds will be issued to clubs only upon receipt of the final report. It is hoped that this process, followed by many other districts, will enable us to let clubs proceed much more quickly with their approved projects.

3-H, Matching, and District Simplified Grant applications should be submitted to Grants Chair Don DeMeo on the US side and Vice-Chair Roy Sheldrick in Canada.

The Scholars Sub-committee

The 2009-2010 Ambassadorial Scholar is Andrea Barton, sponsored by the Brantford Rotary Club. Andrea is from Paris, ON. She is a former Youth Exchange student (Taipei, Taiwan, 2004-05) and is currently in her final undergraduate year at Queen's University in Kingston where she is majoring in Global Development Studies. As part of her university experience Andrea spent a semester studying in Shanghai, China. Andrea hopes to further her education at The London School of Economics.

2008-2009 Ambassadorial Scholar Laura Cranna, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Waterdown, is preparing to undertake her studies in Johannesburg, South Africa, in January,

Our District is host to three Scholars in the 2008/2009 Rotary year : Ueda Kyoko from Japan will be studying at the State University of New York at Fredonia and will be hosted by Fred Norton of the Fredonia Rotary Club; Sabrina Smith from Germany will be studying at the State University of New York at Buffalo and will be hosted by the Buffalo Sunrise Rotary Club; Chao Fu from China (through Japan) will also be studying at the State University of New York at Buffalo and will be hosted by the Buffalo Rotary Club.

Scholars Chair John Teibert is working with his committee to attract worthy applicants for the World Peace Scholar Program. The District has committed \$25,000 of DDF to the pool of funds that make this program possible.

The Alumni Sub-committee

Alumni Co-chairs Jean Armitage and PDG Jon Olsen are responsible for keeping track of Rotary Foundation Alumni, who are defined as all those people who have participated in Rotary Foundation programs abroad such as GSE team leaders and members, Rotary Volunteers, recipients of Discovery Grants, Individual Grants, and Volunteer Service Grants, and Ambassadorial and World Peace Scholars. This is a difficult task as younger people move frequently and tracking them can be a challenge.

Appreciation

The Rotary Foundation is our lifeline, our charitable arm as we reach out to do good in the world. None of the work of our foundation would happen without the support of all our members and clubs, and little of the organization would take place without the willing support of the District Rotary Foundation Committee and its many sub-committees. To all of these members I offer my deepest thanks. Your efforts have helped our foundation grow and make the world a little better, one project or one individual at a time.

While we are in a new 2008-09 year, the individuals below have exemplified the Service Above Self motto in 2007-08.

Special thanks goes to 2007-08 **Governor Bob Leek** for championing our foundation throughout his duties as governor.

Several sub-committee chairs are completed their term of office and to them very special thanks for their service are due.

David Greenfield and **Jean Armitage** have done yeoman work as co-chairs of the GSE. It is typical of them that they are staying on the GSE committee to provide assistance from the experiences that they have had over the last three years.

Sue Dolan was gracious enough to take on the task of pulling together alumni information from various sources to enable us to track them as they move about the world. Those of you who know Sue know that she gives her all in everything she undertakes. We wish her well in her new duties as President-elect of the Welland club. Sue will stay on the Alumni Committee next year to assist the two new co-chairs.

Richard Earne has taken on dual duties for 2008-09 as one of the District Trainers and is Co-chairing the Visioning Committee amongst his other Rotary activities and has stepped down from the Grants Committee's chairmanship.

We say goodbye to the following Area Foundation Specialists: **Peter Neziol** (Ancaster AM); **Roy Sheldrick** (Ancaster); **Paul Lakin** (Hamilton AM); **Ron Merzl**(Niagara Falls, ON); **Jon Olsen** (Amherst East); **John Heise** (Holley); **Pravin Suchak**(Amherst North); **Wally Ochterski** (West Seneca); **Charlotte Herlong** (Fredonia); and **Spud Ericson** (Jamestown). Most of these individuals have been part of our move to provide local assistance to clubs in their area and we thank them for their pioneering efforts. It is interesting to note that almost all of these people will continue to serve Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation in other capacities.

Rotary District 7090 Conference
Business Meeting October 17, 2008
Report of the Training Director

The District's training Director assists and works with the various training programs which the District carries out each year. The purpose of this assistance is to provide a continuum of experience and knowledge to have these training programs be of value to those attending. To this end, the Director has been an advisor to the following programs:

- President-elect Training Part 1
- President-elect Training Part 2
- District Council Roundtables
- Rotary Foundation Specialist Training
- Public Presentation Workshop
- Assistant Governor Training
- District Assembly

All these training and skill development programs have been organized by the individuals assigned. Dates and locations have been placed on the activities calendar. Richard Earne, PDG and Kevin Crosby have coordinated the President elect training sessions. The organization of these PETS sessions has become an easier task with members of the training team serving three year terms.

The Public Presentation workshop was held on September 13, 2008 with 19 attendees. The evaluations of this workshop, held under the auspices of Dale Carnegie Inc., rated the three hour session as outstanding in preparing District leaders and Rotarians for making public speeches.

The training of adult learners has benefitted from the use of audience participatory process. This methodology is used wherever possible to keep ideas flowing and to provide a genuine learning environment.

Submitted by:

Wallace J. Ochterski, PDG

District Strategic Planning Committee

- Annual meeting facilitated by Rotarian Rod Hollick with 17 district leaders in attendance
- Reviewed district vision statement and “desired outcomes”
- Identified top two priorities as being
 - 1) establishing a district membership plan to support club efforts in membership recruitment, education and retention
 - 2) having all clubs actively participating in all 4 avenues of service
- Developed action plans dealing with both issues
- Forwarded action plans with recommendations and time lines to relevant stakeholders

January 31st 2009 meeting date set to review plans and consider priorities for the future.

Bob Leek, Chair

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DISTRICT 7090 Friendship Exchange Committee
District 7090 Business Meeting
October 17, 2008

District 9790 Australia

District 9790 consists of 60 Rotary clubs and has approximately 1870 members.

It encompasses parts of the two states of Victoria and New South Wales, including the norther part of the city of Melbourne, the irrigation areas of the Goulburn Valley, the gold fields of the 1850's and the old mountains of the Great Dividing Range.

Our Districts participated in a Group Study Exchange in May, 2004.

Our team, led by PDG Wally Ochterski, will be visiting Australia from October 25 to November 11, 2008. The twelve participants represent the following Rotary clubs: St. Catharines AM, St. Catharines, Grimsby PM, Waterdown, West Seneca and Buffalo Sunrise.

The Australians visited our District June 19 to July 2, 2008. The team of 10 started in the Buffalo/Chautauqua area and finished in the St. Catharines/Niagara Falls area. PDG Wally Ochterski and his committee involved many Rotarians as hosts who had not been involved in Friendship Exchange Activities previously. As a result, there has been an increase in interest in future exchanges.

District 9930 New Zealand

This District of 55 Rotary Clubs is located in the North Island, south of Auckland and north of Wellington. The Exchange will include visits to the Waikato, Bay of Plenty, Hawkes Bay and Rotorua regions.

Our team, let by PDG Bob Bruce, will be visiting New Zealand February 25 to March 12, 2009. The ten participants represent the following Rotary Clubs: Waterdown, Fort Erie, Simcoe, Lockport and Jamestown.

The New Zealanders will be visiting our District from September 10 to 24, leaving on September 25, 2009.

Nan Bruce, AG
District 7090 Friendship Exchange Chair
Email: nbruce@cogeco.ca