

Mike Johns, Jr
Editor

ROTARY DISTRICT 6630 NEWS

Julie West
District Governor

November 2012

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Governor's Letter

November is Foundation month, when we focus on and celebrate The Rotary Foundation (TRF). We celebrate The Rotary Foundation because it gives us the ability to do more with less. Our contributions to the Annual Programs Fund of The Rotary Foundation provide matching funds for local and international projects, and support our Group Study Exchange teams and Ambassadorial Scholars. Here are some highlights from our recent investments.

Each year a portion of our TRF funds are used to sponsor an Ambassadorial Scholar for one year of graduate study abroad at a college or university of his/her choice. This Rotary year we will have two Ambassadorial Scholars studying abroad. Katie Spotz, who some of you know of through her record setting row across the Atlantic Ocean to raise funds for clean water, is currently working on her MA in Social Entrepreneurism at Goldsmith College in the University of London. In January, Andrea Sprockett will begin her Master's program in Public Health at the University of Sydney in Sydney, Australia. And many of you have had the opportunity to meet Alexander Hoffman, last year's inbound Ambassadorial Scholar from Germany, who has remained in Cleveland to finish his M.Sc. in Management-Finance at Case Western Reserve University. While Alex's scholarship was funded through his sponsoring

German District's TRF funds, he has shown us the value of these scholarships in "building goodwill and better understanding" through his presentations to our Rotary clubs, his work with our Rotaract clubs, his "Rent a German" fundraising dinners for Project YESS, and many informal conversations.

Each year some of our TRF contributions also are used for matching funds for both local and international projects. This year, so far, local project matching funds have been provided for Lakewood/Rocky River's Rachel's Challenge School Project for Middle and High School students which focuses on creating a culture of compassion and kindness; the Willoughby Autism project that will provide iPads to children with severe autism, providing them a means for expression and increasing the number of people with which they interact; and the Kent club project to renovate the Kent gazebo which is the focal point of a number of community activities.

On the International project level, funds from our TRF contributions have been allocated for water and sanitation projects in the Philippines (Strongsville), Nicaragua (Chagrin Valley), and India (Cleveland); maternal and child health in Zambia (Westlake/Bay Village with numerous others) and Bolivia (Mantua with numerous others); community

and economic development in Dominican Republic (Brunswick); and basic education and literacy in Patagonia, Argentina (Burton/Middlefield). The Patagonia project was started by and is still overseen by two former Ambassadorial Scholars, one of whom, Kimberly Berls, was sponsored by our District.

Our TRF donations are also being used for this year's Group Study Exchange with District 3640 in Seoul, Korea. The Seoul team will be hosted in our District from March 23rd through April 22nd. They will live in Rotarians' homes; learn about our business, government, political, education, and cultural systems and organizations; and share information about their country and culture. You can arrange for them to speak to your Club, or hear their presentation and meet them at the District Conference. Our outbound team will have a similar experience in Seoul during the month of May and will be available to speak to your Club after their return.

These humanitarian projects and educational programs are all possible as a result of our donations to The Rotary Foundation. I encourage every Rotarian to make a contribution to The Rotary Foundation every year. If you have already done so this year, thank you. If you have not yet done so, please do.



A Note From ShelterBox

Dear ShelterBox Supporter,

As you may know, ShelterBox has been working to identify emergency shelter needs in the United States, Haiti and Cuba in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy.

The US Northeast is now expected to be impacted again with high winds, flooding and snow from Nor'easter Athena.

We have deployed a ShelterBox Response Team, which has been working with partners and other agencies in the area. Our focus is to ensure vulnerable families have adequate temporary shelter and other emergency supplies. As temperatures drop, ensuring families are protected from the cold weather is a priority.

Our team has identified a need for warm blankets and is working as quickly as possible to distribute them to those in most need. Yesterday, hun-

dreds of blankets were distributed to evacuees at Suffolk County Health Services and other shelters in the area.

In the next few days, the team will be focusing on the most impacted areas in New Jersey and New York to distribute blankets and identify other unmet non-food needs.

In addition, ShelterBox is responding to multiple disasters worldwide, including the Syrian refugee crisis in Iraq and widespread flooding in Africa. To learn more about the disasters to which we are responding, please visit www.shelterboxusa.org or follow us on Facebook and Twitter. Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Emily S. Sperling

President, ShelterBox USA

District Governor Nominations Sought

I was extremely privileged to serve as District 6630 Governor last year and very much appreciate the counsel and support that I have been given by the Past District Governors. I only hope that I can be as helpful to the current and incoming District Governors. I am also thankful for the contributions made by all of the club presidents, club officers and Rotarians in District 6630 during my year as District Governor. Rotary begins with individual Rotarians. .

Each District Governor brings something of themselves to the position and each one creates a unique and individualized feel to the District. & are, after all, a wonderfully diverse group of individuals with a shared passion for Service Above Self. The only two qualifications to be nominated are that the individual must be a member in good standing of a district club and must have served as club president. Anyone with those two qualifications who has a passion for Rotary and an interest in contributing to this district's continued growth should be encouraged to apply. Of course we each have our own considerations we bring to bear on this very important decision.

I request that each of you think of Rotarians, including yourselves, who can build on the recent success of the district and who can challenge us to do more to strengthen our clubs, increase our membership and to build on the efforts to create stronger and more sustainable communities locally and around the world. If you, or someone you suggest for District Governor, is concerned about the time commitment or the cost of serving please have the person contact me, Julie West or any of the Past District Governors. The district provides considerable financial support to cover the activities of the District Governor and the personal rewards from service are impossible to fully explain.

It is a privilege and a wonderful experience.

Please help us identify qualified candidates who can move us forward. If you do not have someone in mind please talk with others in your clubs to bring forward the best candidates.

Yours in Rotary Service,

Steve

Stephen Zabor, PDG

District 6630

D6630 2013 GSE Team

By: Stan Socha GSE Chair
District 6630 will be represented in Seoul, South Korea by a very energetic team. The GSE Committee has selected the following people to represent our district in May 2013 on this vocational/cultural mission: Team Leader: David Diffendal, RC Cleveland
Team Members: Keshia Johnson, Jeffrey Sobieraj, Nora Hoxha and Donna Grigonis

Alternates: Tyler Allchin and Michelle Felder
The GSE Committee requests that the District gives its support to the outgoing Team and works with the sector captains to give our incoming team a warm reception when visiting our District this spring.

A Note From Alex

My dear friends,
I hope this mail finds you well!! Another month flew by very quickly and a lot happened again. All news and details can be found in my new report:
<http://ambassadorial-scholaralex.wikispaces.com/October+2012>

Sadly, there is not much time left for me here anymore, as I realize more and more. I hope

I can see as many of you as possible again before I leave. My flight back is December 18. That means that I will be at the meeting of the Cleveland Rotary Club for the last times on Dec 6 and 13. Hope to see you all soon again.

Yours in Rotary,

Alex

Alexander Hoffmann
Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar
2011/12

4-Way Test Speech Contest 2013

By Scott Pease

By now many of you have been thinking about the upcoming Four Way Test Speech Competition event to be held March 23rd 2013. I have received several emails and a number of phone calls asking for details of this important event. All information will be posted on the District's web site and information updates will be added to this site until the date of the event.

Approximately 150 people attend this event each year which include the students, Rotarian sponsors, and family and friends of the contestants. Attendees from prior years have truly enjoyed the event and have commented very positively about how this event promotes the importance of public speaking and the value of being able to address a live audience. Young people of today face a variety of challenges in their future years. Being able to stand in front of a group and deliver their message in a professional manner is a true talent. I applaud all the students who will be investing many long hours in preparation for their speeches.

This next competition will also provide an opportunity for District Clubs to promote their individual events to a broader audience. On the day of the event, as the students register they will be receiving a packet of information. This packet, in the past, has contained information about the Rotary Youth Exchange, Ryla and Rotaract as well as other Rotary activities. Again this year, I would like to offer to every club the opportunity to include information about your club and events in this

packet.

Keeping in mind that this packet must be kept to a reasonable size, please follow these guidelines when submitting your club's information:

Your document must be limited to (1) single 8.5x11 page of information, no exception! 150 printed copies must be provided as this is the approximate number of people in attendance. Please use white paper only, no color paper! The pages of information will be assembled in no specific order by committee prior to the event day. The copies MUST be received no later than March 15, 2013 to be included in the official packet.

Please ship your flyers to me at the address listed below. I suggest that it be packaged appropriately to

prevent any damage in shipping. All unused flyers can be picked up on the day of the event after the event has concluded. If you choose not to retrieve unused flyers they will be discarded.

Thank you and I look forward to seeing you on March 23rd 2013!

Mail Flyers to:

Scott Pease
District 6630
165 Harmon Road
Four Way Test Speech
Competition
Aurora, OH 44202

Rotary Foundation Update



Our District has now completed the five Foundation seminars. Representatives from 29 clubs did attend as well as representatives from the district. Each club received a packet of information along with a flyer for each member.

Each club representative was asked to make a similar presentation to his/her club during the month of November which is our Foundation month. The Foundation, The Heart of it All, is important

for Rotarians to continue the good works that they do both in local communities and the world

community.

Governor Julie is asking that each Rotarian give something each year to the Foundation. The clubs in the district have collectively pledged to donate \$160,000 this year to the Foundation. If each Rotarian helps, then this goal will be easily reached and even surpassed. As you know, the

amount of money we will receive to do good in our communities and do good in our world, is directly related to the amount of money we contribute to the Foundation.

In each newsletter, I will be charting our progress towards this goal. I will also be giving some other information. If your club has any successful ways of receiving contributions to the Foundation, we would appreciate your sharing of those ideas.

Thank you for your cooperation and support of Our Rotary Foundation.

Michael P. Davanzo, Ph.D.

Annual Giving Chair

****EDITOR'S NOTE****
BE SURE TO MOVE YOUR CURSOR OVER THE GRAPHICS OR PICTURES FOUND IN THIS DOCUMENT... MANY OF THEM ARE LINKS TO VIDEOS, WEBSITES, PICTURES OR OTHER GOODIES

**Helping Us Do Good
in District 6630
Helping Us Do Good
in the World**

District 6630 Goal
\$160,000
Collected to Date*
\$22,365

*as of Sept. 2012

Click here for information on how to help with Hurricane Sandy Relief

Many have asked how they might assist those in need as a result of Hurricane Sandy. Information is posted on our District Facebook page and it will be added to our District website as well, www.rotarydistrict6630.com, that relates information from Rotary Districts in NY and NJ regarding needs of their communities and options for making donations.

TRC Berea Helps Schools Dedicate Groza Field

By Linda Kramer

Berea Rotarians were among the dignitaries that helped dedicate the new Lou Groza Field at Roehm Middle School on Oct. 9.

The Rotary Club of Berea donated \$10,000 toward the scoreboard, which School Superintendent Michael Sheppard said would be installed shortly. The Berea Schools had hoped to have the scoreboard in place for the ceremony but recent rains left the ground too muddy for crews to work.



Note the Rotary Logo

The athletic field was made possible by a \$250,000 grant from the Cleveland Browns through the NFL's Youth Football Fund. The City of Berea contributed \$150,000. Other donations came from the Berea City Club, the Cleveland Touchdown Club, the Lou Groza Football League and the Berea City School District.

The facility will be used by the Lou Groza Youth Football League and other youth sports in the Berea City School District.

The synthetic turf field includes a logo of Groza's helmet with his No. 76 uniform number and Lou Groza's signature designed into the turf. The facility boasts a 300-seat bleacher section and a press box.

Sheppard called the project a fine example of public-private partnerships. "Our mission is to inspire excellence and this

field is proof of that. This is a first-class facility," he said.

Renee Harvey, Browns vice president of community outreach, said the team was very proud "to be a part of this project in our own backyard." She said players were very aware of the traditions and heritage of the Browns. "They realize the importance of giving back to the community - an example set by Lou Groza."

Current Browns players on hand for the ceremony were Emmanuel Acho, Johnson Bademosi, Travis Benjamin, Jordan Cameron, Craig Robertson and Mitchell Schwartz.

Retired Browns offensive tackle, Doug Dieken said Lou Groza scouted him for the Browns and is the reason Dieken spent 14 years with the team. He called Lou "The Toe" Groza an ambassador for the team, setting an example for other players. "The legacy of the Browns is that people come here, play here and stay here," he said.

Lou and his late wife Jackie lived in Berea and were very active in the community. Lou was a member of the Berea Rotary Club. One of the club's major fundraisers is the Lou Groza Charity Golf Event held in September. The Groza children attended Berea High School. Judd Groza, their son, played on the Berea High football team. "We as a family are so honored to be associated with this (field)," Judd Groza said. "I know Lou and Jackie are looking down from Heaven and smiling."

Documenting a War: During a Berea Rotary meeting on Oct. 16, Col. David Taylor, U.S. Army (ret.), recounted his experiences in Vietnam with the America Division. Taylor was wounded twice and was awarded the Silver Star. A military historian, he has written articles about the Vietnam War and World War II. After two trips back to Vietnam, he began writing about his battalion's experiences in the war. The book, "Our War: The History and Sacrifices of an Infantry Battalion in the Vietnam War," was published in 2011. The book is available at amazon.com or at www.warjournalpub.com. Taylor lives in Medina.

Feeding the Food Banks: Once a month, Rotarians collect non-perishable food items and household cleaning supplies for

donation to area food banks - the SCAN Hunger Pantry, Berea Welfare Assistance and Church Street Ministries. Food Drive Chair Ryan Tirbaso reports that Berea Rotary donated 43 pounds of food in July, 72 pounds in August and 50 pounds in September. Berea Rotarians also attended Strongsville Rotary's Savor the Flavor. A portion of the proceeds from that event will go to Berea area food pantries.

Kiva: Berea Rotary has made 323 KIVA loans to entrepreneurs around the world. The latest \$25 loans went to Armenia (farming), Mali (agriculture), Peru (agriculture, animal sales), Cambodia (farming), Uganda (farming), Rwanda (2 for farming), Chile (sewing), Nicaragua (agriculture), Democratic Republic of the Congo (farm supplies), Ecuador (animal sales), Yemen (livestock), Paraguay (animal sales) and Mongolia (agriculture). Ken Weber is the Berea Rotary's KIVA chair. To learn more about KIVA, go to www.kiva.org.

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Interaction 2012

Thanks to all Interactors and their advisers for making Interaction 2012 such a big success! Your enthusiasm and plans for future district Interact meetings convince me that this is the beginning of something big.

Sadly, some Interact clubs found out about Interaction 2012 when it was too late for them to make arrangements to attend. If you haven't already, please email me the name and email address of your Interact Club's adviser. This will allow us to get information to them in a timely fashion.

A big THANKS to Julie West, Bob Johnson, and Mike Davanzo for helping us celebrate the 50th anniversary of Interact by getting the inaugural Interaction off to such a great start! And to Larry Lallo from the Rotary Club of Barberton for his excellent presentation on Micro-banks.

Photos taken at Interaction 2012 have been added to the District 6630 Interact Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/Interact6630>
I have also attached the summary page

from Interaction 2012 for easy access to its hyperlinks to many of the things discussed at Interaction 2012.

Several attendees expressed interest in the Interact - Key Club Overview to help address questions from schools with an existing Key Club. It is attached and also available at the Interact portion of the district 6630 website. If a school is not amenable to starting an Interact club don't forget your Rotary club can always start a community based Interact club! Either way we are here to help. Our goal is for every Rotary Club to have at least one Interact Club. Interactors are the future of Rotary and provide an introduction to Rotary for their parents today.

There is wealth of additional information on Interact on District site that can help your club and help you start an Interact club. You can get to the Interact portion of the site using this link:

<http://j.mp/Interact6630>

Wishing you all much success with your Interact clubs,
Arne van der Heyde
District 6630 Interact Chair



Interact Club Yearly Activities

Complete at least 2 community service projects

One of which further international understanding and goodwill

Have their Rotary adviser attend board meetings

Update Rotary International

Start of club year update contact & all members

Interact with their sponsoring Rotary Club(s)

HAVE FUN - Very Important!

Annual Awards and Contests

Rotary Presidential Citation

Very prestigious - look at application for citation even if not applying

World Interact Book

Book of honor - award options for recognition

Interact Video Contest

Check for topics, deadline early December

Special Awards and Contests

Rotary International

Check for this year's special awards & contests

District 6630

Check for this year's special awards & contests

Annual District Events

District Conference

Check for this year's dates and location

RYLA - Rotary Youth Leadership Awards

Ask your sponsoring Rotary Club for details

Interact Club Resources

Sponsoring Rotary Club

Click on your district and region

Can get District & International grants

Work together on projects or fundraise

Invite Sponsoring Club to Interact event

Form Sponsoring Club - network & speaker

Other Interact Clubs

Share ideas, learn what works and doesn't

Interact projects, fundraise & events

Help new clubs get started

District Facebook Page

Communicate with other clubs and district

Share projects, fundraise, socials

Learn what other clubs are doing

Collaborate with other clubs

Learn about district and Rotary International activities

Support work on district events

Only clubs & district can post (email us to access)

District Interact Website

Collection of Rotary International and District Interact information

District Interact Email

Questions, suggestions, post access to Facebook

Rotary Interact Website

Public Relations (PR) queries, club

Fundraising ideas (eg like the gear, fundraising)

Project ideas & much more...

Rotarian Magazine

Projects, fundraise, and fun 200 countries

Rotary history

Small charge per year for online, print or both

Rotary Showcase

Showcase of worldwide Rotary projects

School Clubs, Teams, etc

Leverage other club's abilities (PR, etc)

Ask sport teams for help (eg raise sponsorship)

They earn service hours & earn income members

Community Organizations & Businesses

Donate goods, products, services, and/or money

(request ideas)

Help with projects (ideas and execution)

Provide space to publicize your club and causes

Other Service Organizations

Interact projects - they need your help too!

j.mp/Interact2012Links

Opportunity For Travel

By Carol Crimi

Looking for a unique travel experience? There will be a Rotary Delegation trip to El Salvador January 27- February 3, 2013. The delegation will include Rotarians, members of their families and friends from districts in Calgary, Canada, Michigan, Indiana and Ohio. Rotary has completed three sustainable water projects in various villages in El Salvador and is in the process of working on a fourth project that will encompass both water and sanitation for two villages. Rotary clubs from our district that have participated in these projects thus far include Kent, Stow-Munroe Falls, Aurora and Ravenna. El Salvador is a small Central American country with a beautiful terrain of jungle and mountains with many beautiful birds and butterflies. Delegates have an opportunity to learn about the history and culture of the people of El Salvador and their struggles through a twelve year civil war. Rotary has become their partner in working hand in hand with them to rebuilding their villages and their lives. There are

also opportunities to meet members of the Salvadoran Rotary clubs that serve as our local partners on these projects. This partnership is a great way to build good will and friendship. Many Rotarians have brought family members, including teen age children and friends on these trips. The agenda for the trip is attached. The cost is \$1,000 plus air fare which includes all food, lodging, ground transportation, programs, visits to cultural sites and translators for the week. The agenda for this delegation trip is attached. The Rotary club of Kent is presently looking for other clubs in our district to join it in sponsoring the current water/sanitation project. If anyone is interested in participating in the delegation trip or funding the next project, contact Carol Crimi (Rotary Club of Kent) as soon as possible. (330) 607-5105 cjcrimi@sbcglobal.net.

District Photo Contest

It's time to submit your amateur photos for the first half judging in our District photo contest. Share your photos that show Rotary and Rotarians in action, whether helping others, having fun and fellowship, or building goodwill and better friendships. Encourage your Youth Exchange, Interact, and Rotaract students to do the same. And if you have a budding photographer in your family (child or spouse/partner), encourage them to submit their photos as well. Details are available on our District website www.rotarydistrict6630.org or from your Club President.

Remember the cutoff date for section one is December 1, 2012

The monthly article by Eric Wethington [Dodd Company] is also on the website--- the main subject is Photojournalism

Send your photos and information to:

Fran Bayless PDG
fran@worldnaturephotos.net

[Click here for this month's Through The Lens](#)

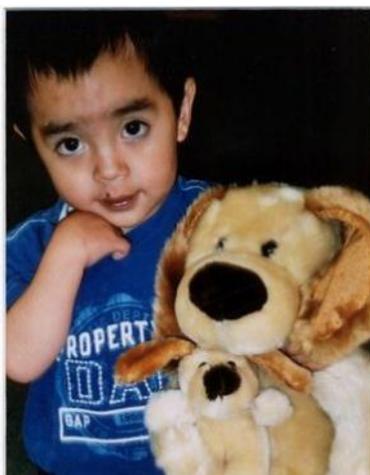
By: Richard E. Hart

Recent past project: Last Saturday's Sports Challenge we ran at the Development Center on Northfield Road for a number (50-60-70?) of disabled adults. This is like a Special Olympics, but much less challenging. We provide lunch and prizes for all the participants.

Current project: Hurricane Sandy Relief - we just sent \$1,000 to the Rotary Club of Farmingdale, LI, NY as our contribution to helping those in the area of that club who have lost their homes, have no heat, have lost jobs, etc. because of Sandy. We will have more updates from the President of the Farmingdale club as we go along. We are along collecting coats and hats, scarves and gloves to send to the Farmingdale Club for them to distribute. The first shipment goes out next Monday, and we will send shipments the next 3 Mondays with whatever we have. I have three garbage bags full of coats from tenants, friends and employees at my office.

Upcoming project: TRC, Chagrin Highlands Rotary Club's participation in a recycling day at Landerwood Plaza South, from 9AM to noon on December 8th. Landerwood Plaza is sponsoring paper shredding that day and TRC, Chagrin Highlands is sponsoring computer recycling program. We will securely collect computers and separately ship out for recycling to a business which is rated A+ by the Better Business Bureau. We can only accept actual PC's (CPU's) this time, not printers and monitors. The CPU's will be transported from the collection site to a secure location and will be disassembled at a later date for secure shipping via FedEx or Freight directly to the company's recycling location. There will be Rotarians at the drop off location the entire 9am - 12:00 noon time frame on 12/8. We also plan to hire some local high school and/or college students to help. We prefer to do so for young people who need mentoring, families are having a hard time, etc. to further our mission to serve the community.

Ariel Vanegas was lucky enough to have been born in a hospital in Quito Ecuador in 2005 while a visiting pediatric cardiologist was lecturing on congenital heart disease. After the lectures, Dr. Kenneth Zahka of University Hospitals Cleveland was asked to look at a couple of children at risk. Knowing there were no pediatric heart surgeons in Ecuador, Dr. Zahka recommended tying off an inappropriate artery in little Ariel's heart hoping to buy him some time. He would need open heart surgery within 2 to 3 years to survive. This gave mom "Cristina" all the time she needed to start the hunt for a surgeon to save her child's life.



ARIEL VANEGAS
2 Year old boy
EQUADOR
Aug. 2007

Cristina learned of Gift of Life International in New York and they connected her to Rotary District 6630 as their New York surgeon had moved to University Hospitals. PDG Jim Frame as Chair of Gift of Life NEO took the call and accepted the challenge. Ariel came to us from Ecuador in August of 2007 for life saving open heart surgery. It was only after the first visit to Rainbow that Cristina recognized Dr. Zahka as the doctor who had already saved Ariel's life once. Now Dr. Zahka would be able to turn Ariel over to Dr. Hani Hennein, one of the world's premier Pediatric Heart Surgeons who was Chief at Rainbow Babies and Children and a long time supporter of Gift of Life NEO.

In January 2008 Ariel had his open heart

surgery at Rainbow Babies and Children's. During his recovery Ariel was visited by numerous Rotarians including then Governor Bob Prevette, along with RI President Frank Devlyn, PDG and Gift of Life NEO founder Jim Frame, PDG Jack Young, and current DG Julie West. It was a complicated surgery. Dr. Hani Hennein, who performed more than 50 open heart surgeries for Gift of Life children, indicated Ariel's surgery did not fix all that needed to be done. Ariel

would have to grow a little before his final surgery, maybe in 3 to 5 years. Dr. Hennein subsequently left Rainbow's and unexpectedly passed away 2010. Cristina, like all good moms, never gave up and continued to work with Jim Frame and Gift of Life NEO trying to find an appropriate hospital that would take the risk of Ariel's complex heart.



Ariel in the PICU on November

On Thursday November first Ariel finally had what we hope is his final open heart surgery at Children's Mercy hospital in Kansas City on Thursday November 1, 2012.

Cristina sent us this picture of Ariel in the PICU recovering and tells us he is doing well.

To learn more about your District 6630 Gift of Life North East Ohio visit our new web site at www.golneo.org



Cristina little brother Ian & Ariel

Akron Rotarians Break Ground on Great Hall

By Dan Reynolds

The Final Sail!

We are almost there! The seven cabins have all been renovated; they are operational and aesthetically pleasing. The final piece of the project is now under construction, the Great Hall, a recreation and resource center for the campers and their families has begun.

Under sunny skies on October 17, 2012, 100 Rotarians and guests attended the



groundbreaking ceremony at our camp on Rex Lake.

To help in our celebration, Mayor Sara Drew of Stow, and a member of the Stow Munroe Falls Rotary shared her story as a parent of a camper: "..... Initially, the idea of sending Lindsay off on a bus to an outdoor camp far away from our home in Stow was frightening and caused me more than a little anxiety. Also, Lindsay had never been an "outdoor" kind of girl. She didn't seem interested in sports, hiking or other outdoor activities. However, I heard so many good things about Rotary camp from other parents, school personnel and the staff at the Summit DD Board that it seemed worth a try for a summer....."

I am happy to say that summer was an unqualified, huge success! The sense of independence Lindsay has from riding the camp bus to and from Stow every day is amazing. She has participated in activities that I never imagined she would: kayaking, boating, hiking and swimming in a big lake instead of the pool. Most importantly, she has made Rotary Camp "her" place. She doesn't have to be anybody but herself there and she can be as independent as she is able to be, without a parent, teacher, grandpar-

ent or anyone else nearby. She has made friendships and built relationships with the other campers and counselors and was thrilled to go back for a second summer in 2012. I couldn't be prouder of all the things Lindsay has accomplished at Rotary Camp."

"No matter what the circumstances, every parent hopes for their child to succeed. Sometimes life teaches us that our expectations need to be re-calibrated, but success can be measured by an infinite number of "possibilities. Rotary Camp has been such a big part of helping my daughter achieve success and for that I will be forever grateful."

Every year more than 1500 campers attend Rotary Camp. They laugh, learn and build lifelong friendships during their stay. If you have been to camp you've probably noticed these campers are impressive when it comes to including everyone into their world. A world they share which demands strength and courage every day.

Our Great Hall, a resource and recreation center will cost \$1,700,000. We have raised \$1,000,000 toward that building. We are so close! We want to insure that on June 1, 2013 the hall will be open and furnished and ready for campers. Please join us in making it happen!

We need your help, visit us at www.sailingthecourse.org or just click on the link below to make a donation.



For many years, my daughter Lindsay attended summer school through the Stow-Munroe Falls schools where she is a student in the multiple disabilities program. While that experience was very positive, when she was 12 her father and I knew that she needed new challenges and opportunities. Initially, the idea of sending Lindsay off on a bus to an outdoor camp far away from our home in Stow was frightening and caused me more than a little anxiety. Also, Lindsay had never been an "outdoor" kind of

girl. She didn't seem interested in sports, hiking or other outdoor activities. However, I heard so many good things about Rotary camp from other parents, school personnel and the staff at the Summit DD Board that it seemed worth a try for a summer. Her Dad and I agreed that if she didn't like it, or things didn't go well, we could always take her out of the camp and find alternate summer plans.

I am happy to say that summer was an unqualified, huge success! The sense of independence Lindsay has from riding the camp bus to and from Stow every day is amazing. She has participated in activities that I never imagined she would: kayaking, boating, hiking and swimming in a big lake instead of the pool. Most importantly, she has made Rotary Camp "her" place. She doesn't have to be anybody but herself there and she can be as independent as she is able to be, without a parent, teacher, grandparent or anyone else nearby. She has made friendships and built relationships with the other campers and counselors and was thrilled to go back for a second summer in 2012. I couldn't be prouder of all the things Lindsay has accomplished at Rotary Camp.

No matter what the circumstances, every parent hopes for their child to succeed. Sometimes life teaches us that our expectations need to be re-calibrated, but success can be measured by an infinite number of possibilities. Rotary Camp has been such a big part of helping my daughter achieve success and for that I will be forever grateful.



*As we begin the holiday season,
Gary and I wish you and your family
a safe and very Happy Thanksgiving.*

Julie



News From TRC West Shore

By: Luisa Heimburger

Dan Fronczak, current president of TRC West Shore and his committee (Rotarians Tom Eble, Kathy Murphy, Bryan Mollohan, along with non-Rotarians Mary Sue and Ron Claus) have worked diligently to raise funds to purchase a pickup truck for the OMNI Children’s Village at George Compound, Zambia, Africa. Dan had a wonderful slide presentation that showed why the need for the truck is so great and presented it to any club that would listen.

In order to raise the funds needed to purchase the truck our Rotary District 6630 needed to come up with half the money before Rotary International would match the funds.

This truck project is in conjunction with OMNI International, the Rotary Club of Ndola, Zambia and Prince of Peace Lutheran Church. Our club donated \$2000 toward this project.

Dan and his team were able to raise \$13,263.00 from many of the other clubs in our district. Out of 55 clubs there are 27 who donated to this international project. The \$13,263.00 raised by our district will be matched and will grow to \$26,526.00. Then Rotary International will match with another \$19,894.00 to make a total of \$46,420.00 for the truck.



This truck is so badly needed by the Children’s Village; just recently a child died of malaria, because she couldn’t be transported to the hospital in time to be treated. Dan Fronczak is the heart and soul of this project. It was his idea and he carried it through to the end. The process has taken a year so far, but he was able to reap the fruit of his labor, when, with tears in his eyes and all those around him, he presented the president of OMNI with a commitment of \$46,420 to purchase a pickup truck for the Children’s Village in Zambia.

TRC Strongsville Works to Raise Funds

By: Laurel Wirtanen-Siloy

TRC Strongsville works to raise funds for Pakistani education programs, inspired by Malala Yousafzai

The Rotary Club of Strongsville strives to raise \$10,000 for new and improved educational efforts for young women in Pakistan through their first-ever “Reach Within” campaign. The fund raising efforts coincide with two of six Rotary focus areas: education and peace. Educational efforts will be executed by the Swat Relief Initiative, a nonprofit humanitarian organization in Pakistan, along with Rotary Clubs in the Swat district of Pakistan.

Leading efforts to raise funds and pledging \$1,000 for the project, the Rotary Club of Strongsville emphasizes that Rotarians, along with Northeast Ohio citizens, can participate in the campaign in a multitude of creative ways. This includes, but is not limited to, promoting the “Reach Within” campaign through social networks, making a personal cash contribution to the efforts, or asking others to give (friends, family, co-workers). Bake

sales? Concerts? Tip jars? Rummage sale? Plain old begging? The possibilities are infinite.

Funds raised will help to achieve universal education, introduce a curriculum based on academic basics and service, form the first parent teacher associations, and devise new teacher training workshops in the Swat district of Pakistan. Malala Yousafzai inspired club members to take action. Malala, age 14, was shot in the head by Taliban gunman for advocating for education of girls in Pakistan. She was named the National Peace Award Winner of Pakistan in 2011, an award presented by the government of Pakistan.



“We hope others will join with us to do something positive,” said Laurel Wirtanen-Siloy, Director, International Avenue of Service. “Each gift or action, regardless of size, is significant and important.”

For more information on the “Reach Within” campaign, visit <http://wp.me/P2Tgjq-2> or contact Laurel at lwirtanen-siloy@yahoo.com

News From TRC Solon

By Matthew Liebson

The Rotary Club of Solon, working together with the Cleveland Food Bank, the Solon Senior Center, the Church of the Resurrection and the Solon Area Interfaith League, successfully launched a monthly mobile food pantry in Solon on October 23. The Rotary Club is providing funding for the mobile pantry; the Church of the Resurrection is making its facilities available and providing logistical support, the Solon Senior Center is providing publicity and volunteers, and the members of the Interfaith League and the Rotary Club are supplying volunteers to staff the monthly food distributions.

Distributions are hosted on the 4th Tuesdays of each month (except December, when the distribution will occur December 18) at the Church of the Resurrection in Solon, as part of a program offered by

the Cleveland Food Bank to bring food – by the truckload – to areas underserved by existing food pantries. Other mobile food pantries are currently operating monthly in Warrensville Heights and Parma, among other locations.

Visitors must meet income requirements (eligibility is restricted to 200% of the poverty level); approximately 9% of the Solon population falls within these limits. The first distribution assisted 36 families in need with supplies of breads, cereals, canned goods, frozen foods, and potatoes and onions, with leftover food supplied to a number of local charitable organizations for further distribution. Rotary Club of Solon service projects chairman Jim Hyde noted “nobody in this country should go hungry.” The Rotary Club is funding the pantry for the next year.

Outbound Youth Exchange Students Quoted Here

Here are several quotes from some of our current Outbounds' first monthly reports:

From Jessica Lyons (age 17): Garrettsville-Hiram RC to Ytre Enebalele, Norway:

I am doing well! I finally am beginning to think in Norwegian and am speaking a lot more quickly. Learning this new language has been the most challenging during my stay here. All of my classes except Spanish are spoken in Norwegian and have been since the beginning of school. I have been very fortunate to have a few students who have been kind enough to translate what the teacher has said for each class. I am also very fortunate to live across the street from a very elderly man; I think he's about 91 years old, who is a Rotary member. I meet with him twice per week to study Norwegian. He is a former teacher, and has been very helpful to me.

[Asked if she has been a speaker at any Norwegian Rotary Club meetings, she surprised us by answering the following. For Rotarians unfamiliar with SKYPE, it is the use of the internet to speak face-to-face with someone]

The closest to a speaking engagement is SKYPING with the Garrettsville-Hiram Rotary Club during one of their Monday night meetings. They asked some questions of me, and I was able to tell them about my experiences.

From Doria Stanford (age 17): Ravenna RC to Sao Jose do Rio Preto, Brazil:

My time here has been great so far. Everyone seems to be so nice, the weather isn't quite as weird and unpredictable as it is in Ohio, and the food is amazing. The custom is to greet everyone with a hug and a kiss. Even after 2 months I'm still not quite used to it, especially with strangers, but I think its part of what makes the culture so personal and welcoming. Eating beans and rice hasn't been a problem for me, which is great because we eat them every day.

Coming here has definitely been an eye opener for me as well. People know so much about our country and imitate the American culture so much. I guess I've never really understood the effect that the United States has on the other countries. This is really a great way for me to learn a

new language--so much better than a classroom. Of course, it's definitely harder and it comes with many more embarrassments, but it's completely worth it. Portuguese was hard to pick up on at first, but I'm finally getting the hang of it.

I've done a few cool things since I've been here: gotten free food for being a foreigner, fed monkeys that weren't in cages, gone ice skating on a day that was 104 degrees F, tried new foods, and I hope to do a lot more- like go to the Amazon!

From Evan Vargo (age 16): North Royalton-Broadview Hts RC to Natal-Portiguar, Brazil:

After 7 weeks of living in Brazil, I have the confidence to make small talk with other Brazilians. I study every day for about 1-2 hours and I practice with my friends on Facebook. One of the most interesting things I have done here was that I fed a monkey a banana.

From Katie Mehan (age 16): Lakewood-Rocky River S/R RC to Piest'any, Slovakia:

So far so great! Still feeling a little bit of culture shock! Everyone here is very nice and helpful, especially with the language. biggest challenge is the language! I study everyday and just got a tutor so hopefully it will come along a little faster! I just got back from Paris with my school, it was amazing!

From Eli Turk (age 17): Medina Sunrise RC to Molde, Norway:

First off, I am loving Norway! It is a great country and I think I made the best choice. I have made many friends and my Norwegian is getting better daily. Thanks for this opportunity! I have made several speeches to local rotary clubs. I was in a school run radio segment. I sometimes get frustrated with the language barrier.

From Dena Schadenfroh (age 16): North Royalton-Broadview Hts RC to Bottrop, Germany:

It has been a very stressful month and a half for me here. I changed families and I had to do the whole beginning process all over again. The kids in school are very nice and I have made a couple very nice German friends lol. This one girl Uta

helps me learn new German words and helps me with German grammar. I also got very lost after trying to come home on the bus from my German class. I had accidentally taken the wrong bus and ended up somewhere I wasn't familiar with. I was very scared and I was asking people how to get back, so I listened to them but I ended up farther away and then I was crying and asking people how to get back and bus driver helped me and I went back to a main station and my host parents came and picked me up. I am still getting used to the public transportation. But I am getting better at it because now I double check to make sure it is the right bus! lol

From Matt Smith (age 16): Westlake Bay Village RC to Mueang Nakhonsawan, Thailand:

It has been great but I'm a little upset because time is going too fast. I have already been here 3 months! I just got back from a 5 day Rotary event with all the other YE and I leave tomorrow morning for another one south of my town. I am learning so many things! Such as: Muay Thai, Thai language, Thai massage, Thai cooking and about Buddhism. I am becoming a monk for a week or so in December! I'm so excited!. Well, that's it. Thanks!

From Hailey Mertes (age 16): Brunswick RC to Gifu Shi, Japan:

I have been having a great time here in Japan, I am so glad I choose a country where everything is so NEW to me! I am always very busy here, whether it's with school, friends, Rotary, host family, volleyball club, and travel! I feel very safe and comfortable at all time. I seem to have a more positive attitude towards things, and I feel very happy. Everyday I experience or learn something new! This helps me keep my mind off of my home in America, so I don't become homesick. I do miss my family and close friends, but at the same time I would rather be here as an exchange student living life in a new way!

From Ben Lee (age 17): Westlake-Bay Village RC to Baden-Baden, Germany:

Hey, thanks again for everything you did, along with everyone else for your help in

Cont'd on pg. 11 

Outbound Youth Exchange Quotes cont'd

getting me across the pond. I'm having the time of my life over here! The school rocks, the parents understanding and helpful in my language education, and my fellow Rotarians are all fun and great to be around!

From Carla Kanieski (age 16): Medina RC to Edewecht, Germany:

ABSOLUTELY LOVE IT HERE IN GERMANY!!!! Every day I begin to notice more differences between the German and American cultures. For example, in Germany I have much more freedom. I can ride my bike anywhere and everywhere whenever I want (it is quite different because in the USA, young children cannot simply go out in the town on their own...whereas here I see six year olds riding their bikes into the city all by themselves). Also, EVERYONE rides bikes here. Whenever I go into the city, I am amazed at the amount of bikes I see parked on every corner. One thing I do not like so much about Germany is the lack of youth basketball and volleyball programs. I am currently playing on three

different basketball teams and two different volleyball teams just to try and make more friends and have something to occupy my time. Sports are not nearly as intense here as they are in the US, and I miss that. As of right now, my challenge is overcoming the typical American stereotype. Most people (especially at my school) view Americans as lazy, uneducated people who love to eat McDonalds. They are extremely surprised to learn that I can already speak German rather fluently (I guess the last few American exchange students spoke very little if any German), and that I have only been to McDonalds a handful of times throughout my life. Their views about America are slowly changing (hopefully for the better), and I hope that I can convince them to become Rotary Exchange Students! This exchange has really helped me to appreciate both the American and German cultures, and I believe that everyone should be an exchange student at some point in their lives!

I did experience some difficulties with school because I changed grades three

times in the first three weeks. The school did not know that I could already speak some German, so I was put in the ninth grade. Then I asked to be put in the eleventh grade so that I could be with other kids my age, and they put me in the tenth grade for a week (just to see about the difficulty of the classes). Then, finally after being in school for 2.5 weeks already, I got moved into the eleventh grade. Now all of the problems have been resolved and I am loving it here.

THANK YOU VERY VERY MUCH FOR THIS WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY!!!!

Patrick Kelley,
Rotary D6630 YE Outbound Chairman
District 6630 Web Page: <http://www.rotarydistrict6630.com>
17019 Headland Avenue
Lake Milton, Ohio, 44429-9600 USA
Email: ryepatrickkelley@gmail.com
Alt Email: ryepatrickkelley@yahoo.com
Phone: 216-759-2105
Cell/Text: 330-233-7200
SKYPE: patrickkelley

A Word From the District Membership Chair

By Al Conners

Your Rotary Club has a membership goal of 3. During the Rotary year, your club inducted 3 new members. Good job, right? Only if you did not lose any existing members. Suppose 4 existing members did not renew their membership? What is your answer now?

This, in a nutshell, is the problem facing Rotary clubs in the USA and Canada, We are losing more existing members than the new members we are inducting. Why is this happening?

Rotary International has conducted two surveys in the Summer of 2007 that may provide some answers. A sampling of Rotarians who resigned from their clubs and a similar sampling from those who retained membership, using the interview process,

turned up some findings that we might find interesting:

In order, the top reasons for leaving Rotary were as follows:

Unable to meet attendance requirements
Relocating to a new community
Health Issues
Too much fundraising
Not enough value

In order, the top three reasons given for staying in Rotary were as follows:

Club Fellowship (82 %)
Community Service Opportunities
Networking

Former members were also asked what kind of organizations would they prefer to join

in the future:

Those with a single focused fundraiser
Those with youth oriented activities
Those involved in community leadership

It's apparent that fellowship is a powerful glue for keeping Rotary clubs together. We all want to be welcomed aboard and to enjoy the warmth and satisfaction of

being "one of the gang". Good fellowship experiences may prove more motivating than the initial reason for joining. In the last issue, Jack talked of tenacity. We will surely benefit from tenacious efforts to make new members welcome and included in what we do.

The responses of former members suggests that they may be more responsive to shorter term commitments than do those who stay in Rotary. Nevertheless, fellowship may be the glue that was missing from the experience of these people, too. Certainly, being receptive to their self-fulfillment needs will do much to keep them involved. Good fellowship can then take over as a motivator.

Rotarians who have "stayed the course" may find it difficult to understand why attendance requirements are allowed to interfere with the Rotary experience. The "old hands" know that there are many routes to perfect or near perfect attendance. These include make-ups at other clubs, make-

ups on line, make -ups through participation in club and District activities, etc. We know about these and take advantage of their use.

How about the new member? Have we taken the time to explain what techniques may be used to keep up our and his/her attendance performance?

Spouse or family perceptions can play an important role in new member retention.

Former members are twice as likely to report their spouse/family believed that Rotary consumed too much time or was too expensive. When will we learn that inducting one new member onto our clubs involves satisfying the needs of the spouse/partner/children

as well. The answer, of course, is to extend the fellowship tool to those persons as well. Involving the family requires a more thoughtful and inclusive retention effort. The rewards can be well worth the effort.