



ROTARY
SERVING
HUMANITY

District Dispatch

VOLUME 27, ISSUE 10

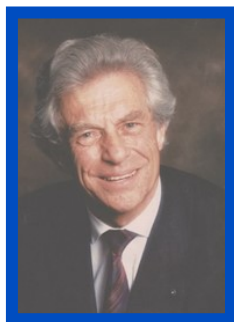
APRIL, 2017

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A Time to Celebrate Coming Your Way!!!

District Conference is coming **May 19 and 20** in Owosso! We are pleased to offer you a variety of excellent local and international speakers who will encourage, challenge, and celebrate Rotary with all of us.



On Friday night, we will hear from **Ron Denham**. I first heard Ron about two years ago in Detroit—he is an excellent speaker on a key area of interest in our district—water and sanitation. Here are some of the highlights of Ron’s experience: A Rotarian for almost 60 years, he first joined in Welland. He joined his present club—Toronto-Eglinton—in 1964. He was elected president of his club and later District Governor. He has been active with Rotary clubs in Siberia and the Far East since 1997. He participated in the chartering of clubs in Kemerovo, Novosibirsk, Komsomolsk-na-Amur and Omsk and has participated in Rotary conferences in Barnaul, Novosibirsk, and Khabarovsk.

Ron was the **founding chair of the Water & Sanitation Rotarian Action Group (WASRAG)**, a group of over 1800 Rotarians helping people in the developing world improve life and livelihood through the provision of safe water and sanitation. In that capacity, he has fostered many water and sanitation projects in Kenya, Ethiopia, Uganda, Ghana, and in many states in India. Ron will share with us a tremendous message about water needs and projects.

Much of Saturday morning will be given to celebration of how we have served humanity this year as we hear from: **Martin Correra** from the Dominican Republic, **our VTT team** to Uganda, our **Centennial Humanitarian Literacy Project** of Little Free Libraries and The Box of Hope (book donation to the Philippines), each other in the **House of Friendship** where we invite each of our clubs to exhibit a local project/fundraiser/best practice to share with others. Please bring a great success story from your club to exhibit/share with all of us—table reservation forms are on the district website. To conclude the morning, **Ron** will speak again—this time, **representing RI President John Germ** as the president’s conference representative sharing from the larger Rotary perspective.

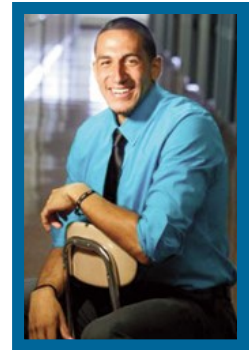
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Our lunch session will center around the **family of Rotary as we focus on Interact, RYLA, Rotaract, Youth Exchange, and Rotarians**. A highlight of this session will be sharing by **the Leipprandt family from our Pigeon Club** presenting the perspectives of a four generation Rotarian family, telling their Rotary story and the value they have experienced by engaging as active Rotarians in their community.

On Saturday, we will hear from some of our **Interact Students who are currently in the Dominican Republic** at this writing—a first experience for several in a different culture. They will bring their impressions of this cross-cultural experience and the value of this experience to them personally.

And then, on Saturday evening, we will hear from **Gian Paul Gonzalez**. Highlights about Gian Paul include: He delivered the now famous “ALL IN” rally cry message during the Giants’ 2011 chapel service and is now widely recognized as having inspired the New York Giants to their Super Bowl victory. He has been featured on ESPN, Fox News, and CNN. He has traveled across the nation as a motivational speaker for many corporations, athletic teams, government agencies, and educational institutions. He is the founder of Hope and Future, an organization dedicated to using basketball to share a message of hope and striving for excellence in inner-city public schools and juvenile detention centers.



Throughout the conference, we will **honor** the 2017 Rotary Hero from each of our clubs, recognize Interact, Rotaract, and Youth Exchange Leaders, and honor a Rotary Spouse/Partner with an award for humanitarian service. You are warmly invited to join us in Owosso for District Conference 2017.

We hope to see you there and celebrate together the good work of Rotary serving humanity!

Complete Registration information is available on the District 6310 Home Page at

<https://portal.clubrunner.ca/60077>

“None of us knows the effects that will ripple out from the things we do and say, the decisions we make, the opportunities we seize, and those we let pass. But I think we all know that when we choose to do good, good will follow; and that when we choose Service Above Self as our life’s path, the direction it will take us will be a good one.”

Rotary International President John Germ

Youth Services—the Month of May

The focus of Rotary in the month of May is on Youth Services. Opportunities abound to celebrate and recognize youth in Rotary during this time. During the last two years, we have seen a significant increase in the number of Interact Clubs in our district. Interact is directed to students age 12 to 18 years. Given this growth, we will offer an Interact Conference during District Conference on Saturday, May 19 at Baker College in Owosso. This conference will give students an opportunity to learn and share with each other about Interact, learn more about leadership, have fun, and make new friends.

We will have the privilege, on Saturday of Conference, to hear from some of our Interact students who traveled to the Dominican Republic this spring. They are there now as this article is being written.

And we will hear from a RYLA alumnus about the RYLA experience. Coming soon after District Conference is the registration deadline for RYLA 2017—May 25. Information, age requirements, and registration materials are available on our district's website. Do you know young people in your community with leadership ability and a commitment to community service? Consider recruiting them to five days of leadership training taking place in June at Camp Rotary near Clare.

This time of year begins to signal a closure for our Rotaract and Youth Exchange students. Before that becomes reality, how can you celebrate the accomplishments of your Rotaract Club before the end of the university/college term?

At District Conference, we will have opportunity to engage again with our Inbound Youth Exchange students, our Outbound students, and hear from a Rebound student about the exchange experience. As we approach the end of this school year, now is the time to celebrate with our inbounds and be excited for both our returning and new outbound students.

In this month of focus on Youth Services, look for opportunities to celebrate the accomplishments of young people engaged in Rotary programs and services in your community!

Polio Plus As Seen Through Different Eyes

Rotarians know the story of Rotary's efforts to eradicate polio from the face of the earth. With the help of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, millions of dollars have been raised and used in the battle. Today there are almost no cases of the dread disease left, and experts anticipate that there will be none in just a few years.

Although the story is familiar, when Chuck Cusick presented his periodic update at the [Bay City Rotary Club](#) meeting, he did something different. He showed the slide show and talk that Owen Clark, son of Past President Rob Clark, recently gave to "Mrs. Meggitt's 6th Grade Global Studies Class" at North Central Junior High in Owen's new home of North Liberty, Iowa.

Owen had been encouraged to research and talk about polio for a school assignment by his father Rob, always an ardent supporter of Rotary's efforts to fight the disease. Chuck relayed a story from Rob who said "Mrs. Meggitt asked me 'Now what is this POLO report anyway'. That simple misunderstanding is exactly the reason a report on POLIO is important to give to schools today.

Although familiar, seeing the story through Owen's eyes and his slides gave an entirely new perspective on the effort. Through research, images, and interviews Owen had crystallized the effort in a way more effective than many other talks.

Thanks, Owen! You make us proud and bring a new clarity to Rotary's efforts.



Shout Out! YEAH!!

The Rotary Club of Midland...

An Innovative Approach to EREY and RI Annual Fund Goals

By President Tawny Nelb

As the Rotary fiscal year end approaches and we looked at our goals the Midland Noon Club had had great success with over 1700 service hours, raised significant funds for our community outreach, and \$5,661 raised for Polio Plus (more than three times our goal). But one goal remained elusive: our RI Foundation Annual Fund donations. Our club also has its own foundation, too, which is a wonderful resource but there is sometimes confusion between the two. District officers sent reminders and helpful suggestions on possible methods to encourage donations to the RI Foundation.

In addition to overall giving, we wanted to increase EREY which is challenging in a club with 175 members, many of whom spend the winter in southern climates. PE John Haag and RI Foundation chair John Harken devised a bold plan to encourage donations but to make it fun. With the blessing of the club board a flyer was sent out to members to let them know about a *Give the Bunny Money* fundraiser (see the flyer on the next page).

John and John implemented the fundraiser on March 30, 2017 with tremendous success. John Haag came dressed as an Easter Bunny, and club members could take a photo with him for \$5, get their name put in an Easter basket raffle for \$20, and a \$50 or more donation earned a bunny-gram delivery. Many donations went well beyond \$5, \$20, or \$50 and the fundraiser also reminded the club's many donors it was time to write a check if they hadn't already donated for the year.

John Haag and John Harken took in \$1,684 before the club meeting and they will continue the fundraiser on the next two Thursdays. In addition to the overall donation which brought total giving from 72% to 85% of our monetary goal, there were 29 total donors; 23 with a first donation for this fiscal year; 6 repeat donors some of whom had already given to Polio Plus but not to the annual fund; 6 donors with their first RI donation ever; and 8 donors with their first donation in a few years.

The club used Facebook to spread the word about the next two collection dates and more information was included in the club April 1, 2017 newsletter. We anticipate continued success with the next two *Give the Bunny Money* days on April 6 and April 13, 2017 and our club is grateful for members willing to try something "way out of the box" to help accomplish our fundraising goal.





Give the Bunny Money!!!

*Welcome to Rotary I hope you are well,
I am a big giant bunny as you probably can tell.
I hop through the land and help charities you see,
And that's why I am here to help Rotary.*

*To those who have given, we stop to say thanks,
For showing support from your piggy banks.*

*And those who have yet to part with your money,
Here is a dude, dressed up like a bunny.
Check out my tail and my fluffy long ears
And let's reach our goal - Every Rotarian, Every Year*

*So reach for that wallet, you know what to do
Pay this fine fella, he'll help you through.
And help us accomplish our annual goal
Supporting our Rotary is good for the soul.*

*My story is over and the moral is clear,
Never put a tired CPA in charge of a fundraiser, at this time of year.*



March 30th, April 6th, and April 13th – there will be a table set up at the Midland Country Club to collect donations to help us accomplish our 'Every Rotarian Every Year' goal. If you are not able to attend but still would like to contribute, donations can be made by calling John Harken at 989-573-3020.

The Bunny accepts:

Cash - Credit/Debit - Pledges - Monthly payments via MyRotary
~~Carets~~ - *No longer accepted per management

\$5 or more – Take a selfie with the Bunny

\$20 – Drawing to win an Easter basket, donated by the Easter Bunny

\$50 or more – BunnyGram to be delivered on April 13, 2017

(Send to your kids/grandkids school, send to someone in a nursing home, make up for missing an anniversary, embarrass your teenager, send to a Rotarian who has not been able to attend meetings to show them we are thinking of them)

Donor(s) _____

Donor(s) phone number _____

Recipient(s) _____

Deliver to address _____
(must be within the Midland City Limits)

Occasion: _____

District Grant Training

District Grant training is right around the corner. We hope that at least one person from each club will attend one session of the training. We will offer our first training on Saturday, April 22, at COPOCO in Bay City. It will begin at 9:30 AM and end about 10:45 AM.

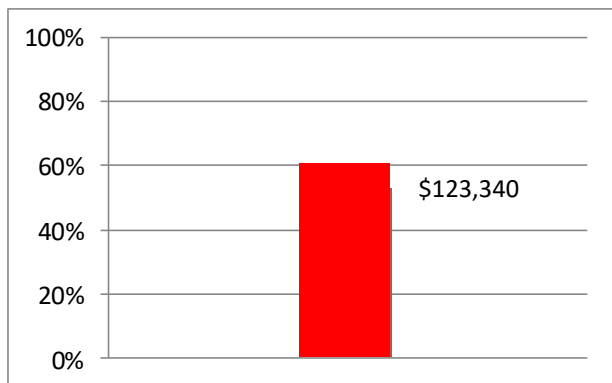
Our second and last training for District Grants will take place on Friday afternoon, May 19, at the District Conference in Owosso. It will run from 3:15 to 4:15 PM.

In order to apply for a grant for 2017-18, at least one member of the club must attend the training. Once again, clubs may apply for as little as \$500 or as much as \$4,000 for a project, providing their club matches the grant amount dollar for dollar.

We have **\$36,200** available for grants to clubs. Deadline for applying for a grant is June 30, 2017. Your club will be able to spend the money on the project as soon as Rotary International approves, which will probably be around November 1.

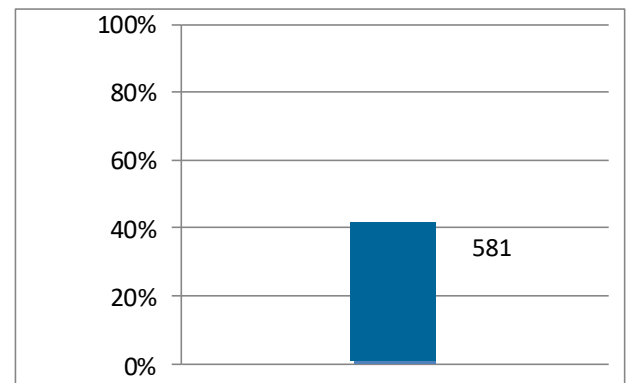
We will offer only one **training session for Global Grants**. This training will be in Owosso at the District Conference. It will run on Friday, May 19, from 4:15 to 5:15 PM. If your club is planning a Global Grant for this next year, it is important that at least one (preferably two) persons from your club attend this training.

\$200,000 goal for 2016-2017



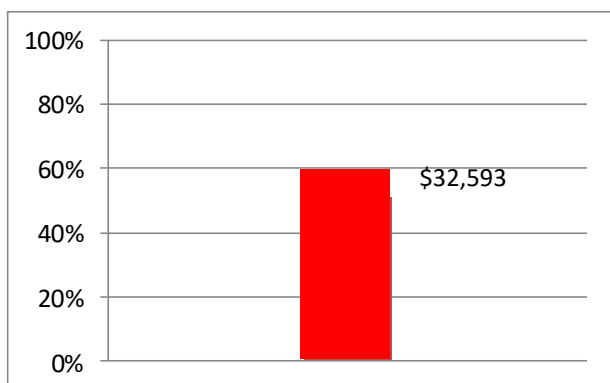
Annual Contributions as of April 9, 2017

1400 District Members



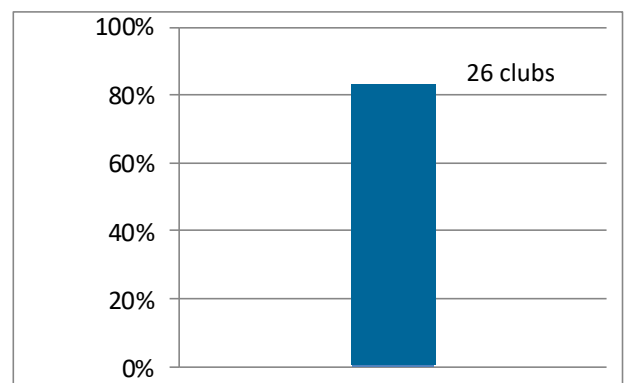
Contributing Members as of April 9, 2017

\$55,000 Goal for 2016-2017



PolioPlus Contributions as of April 9, 2017

32 District Clubs



Number of contributing clubs as of April 9, 2017

Rotaract News



Central Michigan University Rotaract members sort books to determine which will be used for the Little Free Library and which will be shipped to the children in the Philippines.

Members prepare questions to submit for the Peace/Conflict Resolution Conference.



District Governor Cheryl Peterson and students from the **Central Michigan University** and **Saginaw Valley State University Rotaract Clubs** at the Peace/Conflict Resolution Conference held in Midland.

AROUND THE DISTRICT



Fourth grade students from Pinconning Central Elementary School are shown viewing a program on birds commonly seen at the Pinconning County Park. The presentation was made by members of the Rotary **Club of Pinconning & Standish** as part of the 2017 Saginaw Bay Nature Festival. As a follow-up to the presentation, students will be taken on a tour of the county park in May.

In addition to the school tours, the festival is sponsoring tours for the general public in May of Pinconning County Park, two local nature preserves, and Nayanquing Point State Game Area. A nature art competition is being held in area schools as well. The festival ends with a banquet at the Saganing Tribal Center on Saturday, May 13th. (See flyer on Page 10)

The **Rotary Club of Pigeon** had a service project with the local Laker Elementary School. Many Rotarians from the club read books to the children in the classroom and money was donated for the book donation project.

Pictured in the back is Club President Brian Edwards.



The elementary students earned 652 books to donate to the Thumb Breadbasket. Reading goals were based on the student's grade level the student. The school used Accelerated Reader points and once students earned the points needed for their grade level, they earned a book to donate. Some students earned more than one book to donate because they doubled or tripled their goal. One 5th grader actually donated 19 books because he earned 177 points in the month of March! Students were able to put their name on a label so recipients could see who donated the book. Books will be handed out during the May distribution.



The **Rotary Club of Mt. Pleasant** provided Community Service Grants to the following organizations this past quarter:

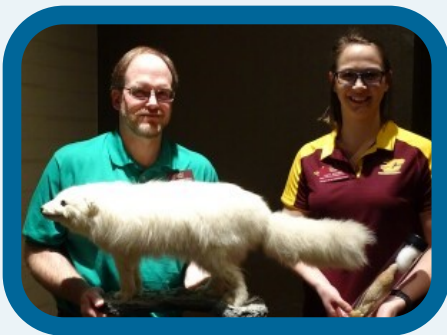
Foster Closet	\$1,000
Girls on the Run	\$1,500
Goodrow Fund	\$2,000
Habitat for Humanity	\$1,000
Total Grants this quarter:	\$5,500

Shown at left are some of the happy recipients.

The **Bay City Morning Rotary Club** continues its outreach to new members.

Shown in the picture at right is the newest member, Monica Baranski, being "pinned" by induction officer and charter member Stan Teliczan, with sponsor Lori Appold looking on.

Membership Chair Mike Bacigalupo donates \$50 to The Rotary Foundation Annual Fund in the name of each new member to get them started on the road to a Paul Harris Fellow Award.



Ron Bloomfield and Caity Burnell

The **Bay City Rotary Club** recently heard a program by former club president, Ron Bloomfield, who is now employed by the Central Michigan University Museum of Cultural and Natural History.

The museum exhibits many natural items including a reproduction of the ancient human fossil dubbed "Lucy," cultural exhibits, and stuffed animals

Caity Burnell (also shown at left) spoke about outreach programs and offerings to educators. .

SAGINAW BAY NATURE FESTIVAL



CONNECTING PEOPLE TO
THE LAND AND WATER

2017 PUBLIC EVENTS

Festival sponsored by the Rotary Club
of Pinconning & Standish and
Northwoods Wholesale Outlet

Consult Festival Facebook Page for
details on all public events:

www.facebook.com/SaginawBayNatureFestival

Public Programs [Sponsored by Williams Cheese Company]

Thursday, April 13, Noon—Kyle Bagnall, Chippewa Nature Center: The Unlikely Extinction of the Passenger Pigeon—Presented at Pinconning Branch Library

Thursday, April 20, Noon—Michael Stoner: Selections from *Pinconning Journal* "Birding Bits" Articles—Presented at Pinconning High School Media Center

Thursday, April 27, Noon—Dale Borske: Ducks Unlimited's Role in Preserving, Enhancing, and Protecting Wetlands in the Saginaw Bay Region—Pinconning High School Media Center

Thursday, May 4, Noon—Sam Burckhardt: Saginaw Bay Birding Opportunities through the Eyes of a Newcomer—Presented at Pinconning H.S. Media Center

Thursday, May 11, Noon—Anne Trahan: Wildlife Photography—Presented at Pinconning High School Media Center

Public Habitat Tours [Sponsored by Bittersweet Quilt Shop]

Thursday, April 27, 3:00 p.m.—Tours of Pinconning and Standish Nature Preserves by SBLC Staff [Meet at Preserve Entrance, Pinconning & Maloney Roads]

Wednesday, May 3, 9:00 a.m.—Tour of Nayanquing Point State Wildlife Area by Ducks Unlimited & DNR Staff [Meet at DNR Office, Tower Beach & Kitchen Rds]

Monday, May 8, 8:00 a.m.—Morning Walking Tour of Pinconning County Park by Birder Joe Soehnel [Meet at Park Gazebo, End of Pinconning Rd, \$3 entry]

Tuesday, May 9, 6:45 p.m.—Evening Walking Tour of Pinconning County Park by Rotary Members [Meet at Park Gazebo, End of Pinconning Rd, \$3 entry]

Nature Festival Banquet—Saturday, May 13, 2017, 5:30 p.m.

Saganing Chippewa Indian Tribal Center, Standish, Michigan

Youth Exchange

Rotary Youth Exchange has a goal to promote the advancement of international understanding, goodwill and peace at the person to person level. It is equal to a \$24,000 scholarship. It is for high school aged students, interested in living and studying abroad for one year.

This program provides thousands of young people with the opportunity to meet people from other countries and to experience their cultures. This plants the seeds for a lifetime of international understanding. The exchange lasts a full school year (11 months). Students attend school, are hosted by families (normally 2-3) and are supported by Rotary Clubs.

There are over 40 countries we exchange with. When applying, students indicate which 12 countries they are most interested in. Unfortunately, due to the nature of the program there is not a guarantee to be placed in a specific country.

The applicant must be a good student, minimum GPA 2.75, and between 15 ½ and 18 ½ years old at the time of departure (August)

The cost is approximately \$4,500-6,500 depending on the location and student's spending habits while on exchange. Primary cost includes open airline ticket, insurance and pre-departure training. This is probably less than a family typically spends on a child for a whole year. Optional trips are offered throughout the year at an additional fee.

A series of meetings is planned to spread the word to Rotary Club members, parents, and students.

Bay City, Wednesday, May 17, 6:30 PM, Wirt Library, 500 Center Avenue

Saginaw, Monday, May 22, 7:00 PM, Merrill Lynch Office Building, 4805 Towne Center Road

Mt. Pleasant, Wednesday, May 31, 7:00 PM, Veterans Memorial Library

Midland, Tuesday, June 6, 7:00 PM, Midland Community Center

Oscoda, Tuesday, June 6, 6:30 PM, location to be determined

For more information, contact Lynne Mischley, Outbound Recruitment Facilitator at lynnemischley@gmail.com or phone 989 430-5049.



Congratulations to the following clubs celebrating an anniversary this month:

Midland	-	97 years	-	Chartered April 1, 1920
Frankenmuth	-	78 years	-	Chartered April 11, 1939
Clare	-	72 years	-	Chartered April 20, 1945
Oscoda	-	45 years	-	Chartered April 8, 1972
Bay City Morning	-	27 years	-	Chartered April 25, 1990



The District 6310 Newsletter is published monthly. Articles originate from various Rotary International publications as well as from events and activities within District 6310. Thank you to all contributors.

We encourage the submission of articles. Please provide information and pictures for a future *District Dispatch* to:
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connie.rotary6310@gmail.com