

District Dispatch

VOLUME 27, ISSUE 2

AUGUST, 2016

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Supporting Literacy Worldwide	2
Shout Out!!! Club Success Stories	3-5
Grand Totals of Giving for 2015-2016	6
End Polio Now Update	6
Dominican Republic Rotarians Visit	7
Membership: The Substance of Rotary Success	8
Special Paul Harris Fellows Recognition at Gala	9
International Convention	9
Travel Opportunity	10
District Directory Update	10
Around the District	11-14
Upcoming Events	15
In Memoriam, James Peterson	16
Club Anniversaries	16

The Rotary Foundation Centennial

The Rotary Foundation was born in 1917 as a result of the dream of Arch Klumph to create an endowment to do good in the world. Rotarians the world over will join together this year to celebrate 100 years of humanitarian projects and services, support for both district and global grants to make a difference in local and global communities.

Our District 6310 will celebrate this milestone through our Centennial Humanitarian Literacy Project, through the naming of a non-Rotarian Paul Harris Fellow by each club, and through a focus on service projects and support for the funding stream.

If you have not heard of the Centennial Humanitarian Literacy Project, you will soon be introduced to it by a member of the committee working on this project. The project has both a local focus designed to impact our 32 local communities and an international focus designed to address needs in two districts in the Philippines.

Recognition of non-Rotarian Paul Harris Fellows will take place at the Foundation Gala on November 18 at Zehnder's in Frankenmuth. More information on what is needed for this recognition will be shared in preparation for the Gala.

We are expecting a great year in the area of grants funded by our giving to the Annual Fund of The Rotary Foundation. Fifteen clubs applied for a total of 21 district grants, totaling \$27,060.

Several global grants are also in the pipeline: equipment to fully supply a second operating room at the Rotary Eye Hospital in India, furnishings for housing and vocational training for orphans of the Ebola crisis in Sierra Leone, a safe water and computer technology lab in Chiwala Technical School near Ndola, Zambia, and a further HandWashing and Hygiene project in the Dominican Republic.

(continued on Page 2)



District Governor Cheryl Peterson

The Rotary Foundation Centennial (continued)

These projects happen, in part, because we as Rotarians fuel the funding stream through our gifts to the Annual Fund. In recent years, our district has exceeded its goals for giving to this fund. This year, the 100th anniversary, should be no exception. In round numbers, our members gave \$180,000 in 2015-16. We have established a goal for 2016-17 of \$200,000 for the Annual Fund. We know that about 65% of our members are current givers to the Annual Fund---about 900 individuals. About 35% of Rotarians in our district have not yet begun to give to the Annual Fund---about 500 individuals. If you currently give to the Annual Fund, thank you for doing so---your gifts have helped to create meaningful humanitarian projects. If you have not yet begun to give, please make this year the year that you will do so. Help us to reach this milestone giving goal in this milestone anniversary year.

There are many avenues for giving to the Foundation. An outstanding accomplishment in this Centennial year would be for each club to achieve EREY status---meaning that every dues paying member gave a financial gift. There are other giving strategies as well: 100% Sustaining Member Clubs, Clubs with a 5-year giving high, Clubs increasing the number of bequest society and benefactor members. There are several members of the District Foundation Committee who would be pleased to provide a program for your club on the 2016-17 goals and avenues of giving. Eileen Jennings and other committee members would welcome your request.

And let's not forget Polio Plus. Our goal for giving to Polio eradication in 2016-17 is \$55,000. This is a great opportunity for Interact and Rotaract Clubs to get involved in fundraising and collaborate on a project with their sponsoring Rotary club. And remember that World Polio Day is coming on October 24—another day that lends itself to special fundraising activities. I encourage your club to plan something unique for that day.

The opportunities for giving are many and varied; the need for serving humanity is great. Outstanding work has been done in our district—let's continue to build on that and reach another record year in giving and serving!

Supporting Literacy Worldwide

September is the month when Rotary International places a focus on Basic Education and Literacy. Per the RI website, worldwide, 67 million children have no access to education, and more than 775 million people over the age of 15 are illiterate. District and global grants can support educational projects that provide technology, teacher training, vocational training teams, student meal programs, and low-cost textbooks. Goals in these projects can be directed to strengthening the capacity of communities to support basic education and literacy, reducing gender disparity in education, and increasing adult literacy.

During this Centennial Year, District 6310 is promoting literacy through the construction of Little Free Libraries in our local communities and donations of English written children's books for libraries in the Philippines. We will celebrate the "kick off" of this project by sharing information with media outlets and through social media beginning in September. For more information, please contact your Centennial Humanitarian Literacy Committee member through the Chairperson Louie Schultz in Birch Run.

Our Mt Pleasant Club is making a difference in the focus area of literacy as they submit a global grant for approval, part of which is directed to developing a computer lab, teacher training, and curriculum development at the Chiwala Technical School near Ndola, Zambia. Mt. Pleasant's partners in the project include the Rotary Clubs in Alma/St. Louis, Alpena, Bay City, Midland, and Saginaw Valley.

Several of our clubs have dictionary and/or thesaurus placement projects in their local elementary schools, participate in the Imagination Library project, implement the Apple Dumpling Literacy project, or other literacy project. If you sponsor a literacy project in your club, consider sharing that project with us in the September dispatch—Basic Education and Literacy Month. Thank you to each club that sponsors a literacy project in your community!

VOLUME 27, ISSUE I



Shout Out! Shout Out! Shout Out! YEAH!!!

One of the purposes of my District Governor club visits is to identify unique or best practice activities that may benefit/interest other clubs in our district. Each month we will do a Shout Out! for those clubs where I have learned of such activities. This month, we are featuring the following:

Rotary Club of Bay City:	Our Nurturing Committee
Rotary Club of Breckenridge:	Book Collection for the Philippines
Rotary Club of Midland:	PolioPlus Promotion August/September

A Great Idea in the Care and Nurturing of New Members

The Bay City Noon Club has formed a small Nurturing Committee for the purpose of contacting new members. Personal touches are made quarterly in the first year of membership either face-to -face, via email, or by phone. Two cards are mailed during the new member's first year---one as a THANK YOU for joining the club within the first month of new membership, and the other mid-year to ask if Rotary is meeting their expectation and "Thinking of You."

Items that the committee members may recommend during these contacts may include:

- 1. Encourage new member to become a greeter during club meetings
- 2. Encourage new member to sit at different tables to meet new people
- 3. Ask if he or she would be interested in becoming involved with one of our committees
- 4. Ask if there is anything the club should be doing to meet their expectations

Additional thoughts to consider:

- 1. Weekly announcement of new members should be done for no less than one month
- 2. Several new member folders to be placed in the file cabinet for hand out if an interested person attends a meeting and wants more information
- 3. If a guest is brought as a potential new member by a Rotarian, then the club should pay for the guest's lunch
- 4. If a member has not shown up for four consecutive weeks in a row, then the committee should make contact with the member
- 5. Orientation to club to be complete prior to becoming a member
- 6. Try to conduct an exit interview with anyone who leaves the club

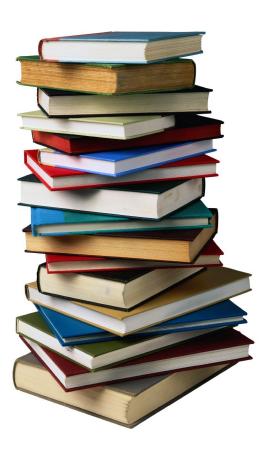
Contact: Rotary Club of Bay City President Andrea Hales: ahales@wildfirecu.org





Shout Out! Shout Out! Shout Out! YEAH!!! (continued)

Turning a Small, Attainable Goal into a Community Project in Breckenridge



I chose to focus on the book drive to help restock libraries in the Philippines over the other worthwhile projects presented at the 2016 PETS convention because I knew it was a goal that was attainable for our small Rotary Club. Although I have never been one to sell myself (or our club) short, I knew that the ten members of our club were already stretched thin performing community service with other organizations.

The first step was to present the idea at our meeting. I did this as I soon as came back from the convention—before my PETS-inspired enthusiasm waned. The club was more than willing to take on the project, and we set our sights on collecting the 350 books it would take to fill one box. Since shipment of the first box of books was paid for by District 6310, there was no fund raising involved at this point.

We compiled a list of contacts, including co-workers, Rotarians, family and friends and sent out a mass e-mail. Fortunately, that list included Karla Fleming, an employee at Breckenridge Schools. Karla took it upon herself to communicate our cause to the teachers and students at the school through email, daily announcements, and posters.

The donated books began to trickle into our drop off sites a few at a time. At that point, we were confident we would fill one box. About two weeks in, I received a text from Karla wondering if we had anywhere to store the books as they were starting to take over the conference room at the school. And so it began, we would meet at the school every week and students from gym class would load the boxes into my truck. From there I would take them to my garage for storage (much to my husband's dismay).

By the end of April we had enough books to fill three boxes, and the cost of shipping was donated by the Isabella Bank and Breckenridge Insurance Agency. Ultimately, what started as a small, attainable goal turned into a community project that greatly exceeded our expectations—ultimately collecting and shipping nearly 1000 books. Fortunately, our story does not end here because every time a child thousands of miles away reads *Diary of a Wimpy K*id or *Wuthering Heights* or one of the many other books we collected, the story will continue. That's the thing about books – as long as they are read, the story never ends.



Contact: Rotary Club of Breckenridge President Kelly Packard: kpackard@biaofmi.com

(continued on Page 5)

Shout Out! Shout Out! Shout Out! YEAH!!! (continued)

Polio Plus Events in Midland, August 30-September 5, 2016

An iron lung on loan from the Cheboygan, Michigan Rotary Club, will be the centerpiece of five Polio Plus events the Midland Noon and Morning Clubs are holding this fall to educate their members and the public about polio, share information on Rotary International's role in polio eradication worldwide, and collect funds for polio eradication from the community. We are pleased to have the Mid-Michigan Medical Center collaborating on these events to provide their expertise.

Most people have never seen an iron lung nor do they know its important role in saving the lives of polio sufferers paralyzed by this terrible disease. The exhibition of the iron lung and the displays and talking points provided about polio will be a poignant reminder of why its eradication is so important. Displays will share the impact polio had on Midland, including the deaths of two children from the same family in 1949 just days apart and will allow polio survivors to share stories about their own experiences.





In addition to the two Rotary Club meetings, the iron lung will be on display to the public at the Great Lakes Loons baseball game, at a District Social Event held concurrently at the Loons game (chaired by Kevin Kendrick, contact <u>kevin.kendrick@dowcorning.com</u>) with fireworks at the end of the evening, and at the Midland Clubs' signature event, The Tridge Walk, where community members are led across our three-legged bridge at the confluence of the Tittabawassee and Chippewa Rivers in downtown Midland by a brass band in homage to the Mackinac Bridge Walk, and are treated to donuts, coffee, and free gift certificates.

The events are:

- 1. August 30, 2016 Midland Morning Club meeting, Midland Country Club, presentation by club members, 6:45 am
- 2. September 1, 2016 Midland Noon Club meeting, Midland Country Club, presentation by Chuck Cusick 6310 District Polio Chair, 12 PM
- 3. September 3, 2016 Iron Lung at Great Lakes Loons Baseball game, Dow Diamond Stadium, 6:30-9 PM
- 4. September 3, 2016 District Social event held concurrently at Loons Baseball game, Dow Diamond Stadium, 7:05 PM
- 5. September 5, 2016 Tridge Walk, Downtown Midland, 8:30-10:30 AM

Contact the Polio Plus Events Chair, Joan Herbert at <u>Joan.Herbert@midmichigan.org</u>. Hope to see you there!

Written by: President Tawny Ryan Nelb, Rotary Club of Midland tawnynelb@gmail.com

Grand Totals of Giving for 2015-2016

By Chair Eileen Jennings

You already know that our District set records for its giving to both the Annual Fund and Polio Plus during the Rotary year that ended June 30, 2016.

The grand total of giving to the Annual Fund was \$183,107. The grant total for Polio Plus giving was \$51,470.

Clubs had committed to Annual Fund goals totaling \$154,836. DG Mike Kelly and Foundation Chair Eileen Jennings set a goal we thought was ambitious of \$161,000. Clubs set goals of \$40,430 for Polio Plus, and Mike and Eileen asked for more. You blew all those goals out of the water with your giving. You even surpassed the tentative goals Cheryl and Eileen had set for the *new* Rotary year!!

Fourteen (14) clubs gave more to the Annual Fund than they have in at least the last five years. Fifteen (15) clubs set new records in Total Contributions (Annual Fund plus Polio Plus) for at least the last 5 years. *Alma-St. Louis, Bay City Morning, Caro, Cass City, Gladwin, Midland, Midland Morning, Owosso, Pigeon, Saginaw,* and *Saginaw Valley* set records in both categories. *Breckenridge, Clare, Corunna, Harbor Beach, Ithaca, Millington, Pinconning & Standish* set new records in one or the other category.

Congratulations to all clubs for their commitment to the humanitarian work of The Rotary Foundation. All of you have allowed us to **Do Good in the World**. Your gifts to the Annual Fund will be shared with our District for use on District Grants and Global Grants. We will be able to continue our projects and relationships with the Dominican Republic, Zambia, and India, and develop our relationships with Sierre Leone and other countries because of your generosity. On behalf of orphans who have no homes and all those who lack drinkable water, basic education, sanitation, health care, we thank you. And your gifts to Polio Plus have moved us that much closer to the total eradication of polio from the earth. You have truly been a **Gift to the World**.

End Polio Now Update

By Chair Chuck Cusick

Congratulations to the Rotarians in District 6310. Last year, we raised \$51,470 to help eradicate polio, an almost 20% increase over the previous year.

Nigeria celebrated two years without a case of wild poliovirus on 24 July. This is an important milestone for polio eradication efforts in the African region, but much still remains to be done to keep the country and region polio-free. When we visited Nigeria in 2007, 720 cases were reported.

Nineteen cases of polio have been reported this calendar year; 13 cases in Pakistan and 6 cases in Afghanistan. In Pakistan, both the oral polio vaccine and the inactivated poliovirus vaccine are being used hand-in-hand to boost immunity; and committed healthcare workers are going to great lengths to build trust and ensure every child is vaccinated.

Mark your calendar for September 3. Rotarians from the Midland Rotary Club will have an iron lung displayed at the Great Lakes Loons baseball game. You will see information about polio, Rotary's involvement, and have an opportunity to visit Rotary friends and help with a fundraising and polio awareness project.

Dominican Republic Rotarians Visit

By International Services Chair Randy Ettema

For the past six years our District has been partnering with District 4060 on many Matching and Global Grants. Every year, Rotarians from our District have visited the Dominican Republic Rotary Clubs in the Santiago and Moca areas. Everyone that has traveled experienced the warm welcome from the local Rotarians.

In June, our District had the privilege to host four people from Moca, Dominican Republic. We were able to show them our hospitality. Martin Correa and wife Tabania, Pedro Gonzalez, and Jose Cepin experienced a warm welcome by our District. A highlight of the trip was Martin being recognized as a new Paul Harris Fellow from Foundation Chair Eileen Jennings at a reception at Lynne Mischley's house in Midland. Members from many clubs in our district were present at the reception to welcome them. They also enjoyed giving their Moca Club flags to several clubs and individuals, including District Governor Mike Kelly.

They fit a lot in a short amount of time. They attended Birch Run, Frankenmuth Morning, and Owosso Rotary Club meetings, a Bad Axe Interact Club meeting, as well as touring the River Rouge Ford Factory, Mackinac Island, Green Meadows Dairy Farm in Elsie, Curwood Castle and the Steam Railroad Institute in Owosso, Paul Holz row crop farm in Bad Axe, the Alden Dow home in Midland, and a tour of Frankenmuth including Bronner's Christmas Wonderland. They saw and experienced things that many of our own district members have not!

Martin's comments after the trip "Randy, this trip was the most exciting experience that I have had. Everybody in Michigan was so friendly and kind. I hope to one day come back to Michigan, I do not know when but I hope so. I have lots of things to tell others in D. R."

Tabania "It was a very nice experience to meet new people (good people) and I enjoyed the time in Michigan!"

Jose "I appreciate the great hospitality and attention I was given from all of you in Michigan. We are extremely grateful."

Pedro "I have lived the most wonderful experience with such kindness and friendliness from everyone. There is much order, peace and beautiful landscapes. I congratulate you on how quiet you live. It felt like a paradise, and I will be eternally grateful for your hospitality to me."

As we reflect on this unprecedented event, it is truly a start of a special Rotarian relationship that could have many years of positive influence on our District 6310 members. This enables us to focus on additional water projects in the DR. It allows our youth and future Rotarian leaders to be more involved and create an understanding that will have long lasting impacts. And lastly, it can be the beginning of a long lasting Rotarian relationship that could open the door to many unknown, yet to be determined, projects of positive value.

I challenge our district membership to be more involved in future visitations, to the DR and elsewhere, by using this as a springboard to "Service Above Self."









Membership:

The Substance of Rotary Club Success

By Chair Rich Fleming

One of the primary emphases of Rotary International these days is a focus on membership, second only to Polio Plus. This is a result of a troublesome fact from recent years—a decline in membership. This decline has been felt among all service clubs in our country, and RI has begun to meet the problem head-on. Although a couple of years old now, I want to relate a statistic that I found staggering: In a period of several years in North America, an average of 44,000 people were added each year while 51,000 were lost. It is clear why RI has taken notice. The emphasis, which included robust regional membership plans, has begun to show results. In the past two years Rotary International has grown from 1.189 million to 1.221 million. In our own District 6310, we grew by four members in the past year.

The importance of membership maintenance and growth in maintaining vital and active Rotary Clubs is obvious. Without strong membership, it is impossible to carry out our objectives of fellowship and service. Declining membership promotes a decline in morale, enthusiasm, and activity—it is hardly necessary to even comment about this. Strong membership, on the other hand, raises public awareness of Rotary, increases support for The Rotary Foundation, encourages the members, and enables clubs to do great service in their own communities while enjoying the friendship and fellowship of happy, energizing Rotarian colleagues.

There is a Rotary International publication that I believe is an excellent guide for clubs in regard to membership. It is called *Strengthening Your Membership, Creating Your Membership Development Plan*. Each club president in our district should already have a copy of this document. It outlines plans for evaluating your club, creating a vision, attracting new members, engaging your club's members, mentoring new clubs, and suggesting resources and tools.

I want to single out one of the items mentioned above—engaging the club's members. This is the term RI likes to use, but an older term that may be appropriate to use here is the word "retention." In our own district in a recent ten-year period, there were 631 new members added and 236 of those same members lost. This would indicate that we might be falling down on the job of "engaging" our new members. As we all know, there can be many good reasons for someone to leave a club. However, we need to be working hard to keep members interested and involved in ways that make them want to be at Rotary and serving their community as a committed Rotarian.

One of our District plans under Governor Cheryl Peterson is to establish a District Membership Committee that will be able to provide help to clubs in pursuing their membership goals. The members of this committee will try to be well informed on membership issues, be aware of RI resources, and be willing to visit clubs and make presentations if that is desired.

There are certainly many ideas that can be important in helping us to build our club membership in Rotary. Yet one of the most valuable, effective, and simple ideas is the one put forth by our current President of Rotary International, John Germ. President Germ says the answer to membership problems is one nine-letter word: AskAskAsk.

"...an invitation to Rotary is something that only you can give. An invitation is a gift. It's saying to someone: I think you have the skills, the talent, and the character to make our community better, and I want you to join me in doing that."

Rotary International President John Germ

Special Paul Harris Fellows Recognition at Gala

By Chair Eileen Jennings

This year we are encouraging all Rotary Clubs in our district to select one non-Rotarian to be awarded Paul Harris Fellow status. This person will be presented with the Paul Harris pin at the District Foundation Gala on November 18. Because the Gala will be here before we know it, we urge clubs to <u>select your recipient now</u>.

Clubs may use any method they choose to select their Paul Harris Fellow. The only rule is that the person is not a Rotarian and is not already a Paul Harris Fellow. We will want a brief bio of the person selected and a few sentences about why your club selected this person to be recognized. You will not be able to keep the selection a secret because you need to arrange to have the person (and spouse/partner), along with someone from your club, attend the Foundation Gala in Frankenmuth.

The Paul Harris Fellow is intended to recognize persons whose lives exemplify the humanitarian and educational objectives of The Rotary Foundation. We recognize members who have given \$1,000 to the Rotary Foundation, but we also give this recognition to others who have given talent, commitment, and time to helping persons in need here and around the world.

To obtain a Paul Harris Fellow status for these non-Rotarians, clubs must use 1,000 Recognition Points, transferred from clubs and members who have accumulated these points for prior giving to the Foundation. Nearly all clubs have more than enough Recognition Points to name a Paul Harris Fellow. A few clubs do not have enough points, and they should contact Eileen Jennings. She has a bank of Recognition Points donated by individual Rotarians.

Your club Foundation Chair may know about the use of Recognition Points. Help is also available from Michelle Kocan (<u>michkocan@gmail.com</u>), Rod Bieber (<u>rjbieber@ft.newyorklife.com</u>), or Eileen Jennings (<u>eileen.jennings811@gmail.com</u>). We will be sending more details about this program to Club Presidents and Foundation Chairs soon.

We are excited about this opportunity to celebrate the contributions of non-Rotarians to Serving Humanity. We believe this program may help to recruit new members into your clubs and will allow us to promote the public image of Rotary throughout our District. Please make sure that your club takes part.

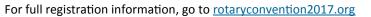
International Convention

By Chair Dee Dee Wacksman

Hi y'all!

it's time to think about going to Atlanta for the International Convention in June, 2017!

There's lots to do and see—Georgia Aquarium, Civil War sites and cyclorama, Coca-Cola, and more. Of course, the Convention will be fantastic, celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the Foundation started by Arch Klumph. You will really learn and see the length and breadth of our great organization.





Travel Opportunity—Are you interested?

By International Services Chair Randy Ettema

Have you heard about some of our past trips to the Dominican Republic? Are you ready to meet other Rotarians with big hearts to learn and to experience their culture?

Our next District 6310 trip to the Dominican Republic will be the first week in November to the second week of November. Exact dates are not determined yet. We will leave either November 1,2, or 3 and return November 8,9, or 10.

Many have said they would like to know in advance so they can adjust their work schedules. If you have an interest in going, please contact me.

Our hosts will be members of the Moca Rotary Club in Moca, Dominican Republic. This is just outside of Santiago and it is a 15-20 minute drive from the airport. We will stay in member's homes and experience their culture.

The purpose of the trip is to follow up on our district grant projects and to look at new possible grants.

If you are interested, please let me know by the first of September. You can always commit later, however, the earlier you can let me know, the better. We will plan more details and make flight arrangements in September.

My contact information: Randy.rotary6310@gmail.com_or 989.751.4636 mobile

District Directory Corrections and Updates

New Secretary: Birch Run: Janet Schultz jdogdvm@charter.net Cell: 810-397-4865

New Email Address: Randy Ettema The Rotary Foundation Global Grants Water & Sanitation Subcommittee Randy.rotary6310@gmail.com

Corrected Email: Roderick Bieber The Rotary Foundation Fundraising—Annual Fund rjbieber@ft.newyorklife.com New Secretary: Midland: Dallas Rau dallasr@secureconinc.com Home: 989-948-1504 Office: 989-272-9652

New Email Address & Phone #: Don Rogers Assistant Governor, Area No. 2 donr2829@gmail.com 989-315-1025 New Secretary: Saginaw Valley Joan Douglas douglasjoan80@gmail.com Phone: 989-980-4710

New Email Address: Dee Dee Wacksman International Convention Chair <u>dswacks@hotmail.com</u>

Corrected Phone #: Delores "Dee" Brock

District Trainer Interact Chair and Rotary Youth Leadership Award Co-Chair 989-390-4897

AROUND THE DISTRICT



The **Rotary Club of Breckenridge** collected, and boxed for shipment to the Philippines over 1,000 books to help restock children's libraries that were damaged in a hurricane.

This was made possible through the combined efforts of the Rotary Club, Breckenridge Schools, Breckenridge Insurance Agency, and Isabella Bank. This combined effort shows that together we can "Make a difference today!"

The second annual Freedom Run/Walk 5K was held on July 4th, with 50 participants—an increase from last year.

Winner was Alex Giles with a time of 17:12.4. Alex was also one of the clubs RYLA attendees this year. It is hoped that this event will becomes a tradition in the Breckenridge community and that we will have even more runners next year.





At a recent meeting of the Rotary Club of Corunna, District Foundation Chair Eileen Jennings, presented financial opportunities available to assist with service projects in local communities as well as global service project opportunities.

Pictured from left are Joe Sawyer who is Co-outbound Recruitment Facilitator, Treasurer of Central States Rotary Youth Exchange, and Treasurer of Great Lakes Rotary PETS; Eileen Jennings, District Foundation Chair; Joyce Bremer, Assistant Governor and Corunna Youth Exchange Officer, and Dave Moore, President of Corunna Rotary Club.

PAGE 12

VOLUME 27, ISSUE I



The following members, pictured at right, were honored for perfect attendance this past Rotary year.

L to R: Jeff Arnold, Paul Hornak, Kim Hodge, Jack Humm, Jim Wideman, Marci Browne, missing from photo was Britnee Collison. Members of the **Rotary Club of Ithaca** recently gathered outside their new meeting site: Thompson Home Library.





Members of the **Rotary Club of Mt. Pleasant** recently installed playground equipment at Yost Park.

The City of Mt. Pleasant (and the children) were most appreciative!







shutterstock · 216851662





The **Rotary Club of Pigeon** newsletter recently noted that giving to The Rotary Foundation is important. The club has a strong record of each member giving something to the foundation each year. Giving a \$20 bill to the treasurer, with the extra over the cost of a meal designated for the Foundation, is an easy way to give. Over the course of a year that will add up and allow members to contribute almost painlessly to the Foundation.



It was noted that Rotary Hill and Adopt-a-Highway clean ups were accomplished by Rotarians, at least two family members of Rotarians, and at least one Interact student. The job was well done. And thank you to Michelle and Mark Hill for refreshments afterward. Many hands make the job much easier.

The June 23 Chicken BBQ was a great success. Again, many hands make for easy work. All chicken was on the grill in record time. The first test birds were off just before 10. The quality was as good as ever. Social media late in the afternoon reported the BBQ was a sellout.

At a recent meeting of the Rotary Club of Pinconning & Standish, members heard about a literacy project being promoted this year by Rotary District 6310. Rotarian Gena Gates discussed the *Little Free Library* project, which involves the installation of mini lending libraries in communities, like the one installed recently by another organization in Doc Letchfield Park near the Lions Pavilion.

Every Rotary Club in our regional has been asked to install at least one such library in its community. Clubs have been asked to identify good locations where lending libraries might be placed, and then register the sites on the *littlefreelibrary.org* website, which shows such locations all over the country. It is allowable to re-purpose things like metal boxes formerly used to sell newspapers for this purpose, but it was felt that it would be better to produce the boxes locally to gain local buy-in.



A second literacy project was also presented involving the shipment of books to an elementary school in the Philippines. The school was built 60 years ago but in all that time it has never had a library where young children can borrow books to read. The district is hoping that every Rotary Club will ship at least one box of 300 books this year to the Philippines.

The consensus of opinion at the meeting was that the club should participate in both components of the District project—lending library and book shipment. It was suggested that the club involve the Interact Club with the construction of the Little Lending Library as well as a location. Gena also reminded members that it will be necessary to put in place a maintenance program to keep the libraries stocked with books and to make necessary repairs.



Samantha and PDG Dee Brock

Samantha Rogers is the recipient of the 2016 Rotary Youth Leadership Awards Scholarship. After attending RYLA in 2015, Samantha was instrumental in starting the Bad Axe High School Interact Club and also participated in the District 6310 Interact trip to the Dominican Republic with the Water and Sanitation Committee. She was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Bad Axe and is the daughter of Don and Amy Rogers.

Samantha is no stranger to awards. In a recent article in *The Bay City Times* newspaper identifying top graduating students, it was noted that she has received the Chemistry Award, Physics Award, Academic Pin, All-A-Honor Roll, US History Award, Honors English III Award, Advanced Biology Award, Psychology Award, and Top Mathematics Student Award. Samantha was also a member of the National Honor Society and Student Council. She culminated her high school years by graduating as Valedictorian!

Samantha plans to attend the University of Michigan to major in biomedical engineering with a minor in genetics.

The **Bay City Morning Rotary Club** recently inducted its newest member.

Shown in the photo are:

L-R: Sponsor Matthew Hewitt, new member Marcus Garske, and Membership Chair Stan Teliczan





Angel Moore, Jen Idalski, and Rotarian Tara Welch (pictured at left) recently spoke to members of the **Rotary Club of Bay City** about Leadership Bay County (LBC), the community education program run by the Chamber of Commerce for almost 30 years. LBC focuses on three key initiatives: **connectivity** leading to life long friendships, **advocacy** for getting people involved, and **education** in becoming better leaders. Graduates go on to work as leaders in the community and community non-profits.

Each year's class selects a community project from requests from Chamber member organizations. The highlight this year is the "Compass Rose with Sailboat" painted on the street at the intersection of Center and Water outside the Planetarium. The art was studied and selected to have a long lifespan even with Michigan seasons and with regular traffic.

Upcoming Events

Peace. Let It Begin With



Too much violence and conflict getting you down?

You deserve a break today...

Nonviolent Conflict Resolution

IT WORKS -- and YOU can learn how to use it EVERYDAY!

JOIN US and BRING a FRIEND!

Workshop - Saturday, September 17; 9:00am -12:30pm

Light Refreshments - No Registration Needed

Presented by Anne Fifer, Mediator, Trainer, Peacemaker Sponsored by Nonviolence Peaceforce - Midland Chapter

> St. John's Episcopal Church 405 N. Saginaw Road, Midland MI 48640

For More Information Contact Judy Timmons at: timmonsj45@gmail.com or 989-631-9227 The Saturday, September 17th, training on conflict resolution is open to adults and to youth and is hosted by St. John's Episcopal Church in Midland. Pastor Ken Hitch is a member of our Nonviolent Peaceforce Midland Chapter that is sponsoring this. <u>There is no cost to attend.</u>

I wanted to get the word out early to Rotarians, knowing how busy you are with all the work you do. I thought spreading this word and having some Rotarians participate during this Rotary Foundation Centennial Celebration year might fit well with celebrating all the valuable work Rotarians have done through the peace programs and inspire a local focus in this topic.

Rotary Peace Scholar Jeanne Schaller

Polio Plus Chair Chuck Cusick asked that the following information be shared in the Dispatch. This is the same group that he and Nancy traveled with to Nigeria in 2007.

Dear Fellow Rotarians:

A trip to Port Harcourt, Nigeria, West Africa, to participate is planned for October, 2016 to participate in a polio immunization exercise, attend the 11th Annual West Africa Project Fair, and engage in a hands-on work project.

Trip Dates:	October 18-26, 2016
Travel to:	Port Harcourt, Nigeria, West Africa
Per Person Price:	\$1,629 double occupancy

The program includes: hotel accommodations, transfers, most meals, polio immunization exercise, hands-on community service field work, West Africa Fair registration, special Rotary and fellowship events, sightseeing, etc.

In October 2016, North American Rotarians will travel to Port Harcourt, Nigeria, for a life-changing experience. Have you, or others you know, heard a Rotarian speak about their personal experience participating in a polio eradication exercise, a cleft lip/cleft palate mission, or work on a humanitarian grant? These trips have a profound effect upon the individual. For those of you who have gone on one of these trips you know, and for those of you have yet to enjoy the experience, you should. The experiences you have stay with you forever.

Help Rotary Serve Humanity.

For additional information, contact Jolene R. Borts, Manager, Howard Travels, <u>JBortz@HowardTours.net</u> or go to <u>www.HowardTours.net</u> or phone 1-510-834-2260.

In Memoriam



James Harold Peterson, member of the Rotary Club of Owosso and husband of District Governor Cheryl Peterson, passed away Saturday, August 6, 2016.

Funeral Services were held on Tuesday August 9, 2016 at Owosso First Church of the Nazarene with Pastor Brad Stockton and Pastor Mark Green officiating.

Jim was born January 29, 1949 in Harbor Beach, Michigan. He graduated as Salutatorian from Harbor Beach Community Schools, Class of 1967. Jim then went on to receive his Bachelor of Science Degree in Music Education from Olivet Nazarene University in Kankakee, Illinois.

He married Cheryl S. Binder in Bad Axe, Michigan on July 15, 1972.

Jim was a member of The Rotary Clubs of St. Johns, Breckenridge, and later, Owosso. He was also a member of the Gideon's where he was an active speaker at the Owosso camp. Jim was also a very active member of the Owosso First Church of the Nazarene where he served as a board member and a Sunday school teacher. He enjoyed volunteering for the Owosso Community Players at the Lebowsky Center. Jim enjoyed music, singing, and even playing his trombone.

Jim spent his career in agriculture and was very involved in the family farming business. He went on to become the District Sales Manager for Mycogen Seed and finished his career as National Sales and Marketing Manager for AgroCulture Liquid Fertilizers.

He is survived by his wife Cheryl; children Douglas (Jen) Peterson of Henderson and Curtis (Sue) Peterson of Otisville; grandchildren Delaina, Kendra, David, Donovan, and Ryan; sister Elaine (Bill) Bierie; brother Jerry (Sue) Peterson; several nieces and nephews and many other loving family and friends.

Condolences may be sent to District Governor Cheryl Peterson, 6447 Krouse, Ovid, Michigan 48866

Members of District 6310 extend our heartfelt sympathy to District Governor Cheryl and family.

Congratulations to the following club celebrating an anniversary this month:



Breckenridge - 78 years - Chartered August 30, 1938 Millington - 76 years - Chartered August 31, 1940

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

We encourage the submission of articles. Please provide information and pictures for a future District Dispatch to: Connie M. Deford, Administrative Assistant connie.rotary6310@gmail.com