

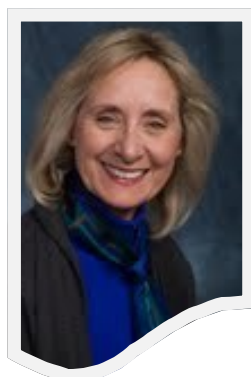
District Dispatch

VOLUME 23, ISSUE 10

APRIL, 2013

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April is...

...an exciting month for Rotary! The daylight is longer and spirits are lifted from the winter months. Club Presidents are finishing up their year with attention to the details of ongoing projects and Presidents-Elect are preparing for their turn in office starting July 2013.

Preparations are almost complete to host all of you at the **District Conference April 19-20 in Alpena**. I hope you have registered by now!

The **Group Study Exchange** team from South Korea is in the District and making the rounds to many clubs. Rotarians are doing a great job greeting, learning, and hosting the team. Jim and I will see them at the Conference!

Remember that **our Group Study Exchange** leader John Zimmerman along with four non-Rotarians have traveled to District 3680 in South Korea to begin their exchange. Keep them in your thoughts as they are hosted by fellow Rotarians. You will want them to come to your club sometime as a program to share their experiences.

The deadline for **Presidential Citations** was 31 March. Half of the Rotary Clubs in the District qualified! Impressive!!! Awards will be acknowledged at the Conference. Thank you, Rotarians, for your remarkable work in your community and around the world.

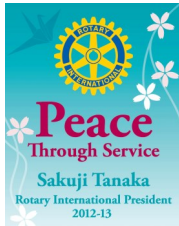
Rotary Leadership Institute is being held in OUR District on **Saturday 27 April** at the CMU campus. This means that you can come to learn more about Rotary for the day for \$70; and not need to stay overnight. We are part of this Institute to keep learning. If you are the President-Elect and have not yet attended Part I, this is a perfect time to enhance your learning and support your upcoming role as President. If you've completed Part I, how about enrolling in Part II? The goal would be for clubs to have two Rotarians attend every year! The more we learn about Rotary, the more we will want to stay!

Finally, this month is **Magazine Month**. Do you know how many magazines are published by Rotary International—International Published Magazines in hard copy or online? Submit your list to Connie at conmd@concentric.net or connie.rotary6310@gmail.com, and you will be part of this month's drawing!

Until we meet again, let's see what we can do for Rotary!

DG Georgene

It's APRIL! That means it is almost time for The District Conference in Alpena!



Is your calendar marked?—**April 19-20, 2013!**

Just in case you haven't registered yet, we remind you that you can certainly still register on line by going to: clubrunner.ca/Portal/Home.aspx?accountid=2167 (Clubrunner.ca- Rotary Club of Alpena) Print-out registration forms are also available.

We also want everyone to know that **there are now rooms available at ALL hotels, including the Holiday Inn.**

If you haven't registered yet, we hope you will reconsider. We, in Alpena, have been working overtime lately to be sure we will present a wonderful conference for you, full of education, excitement, and lots of fun. And, of course, you have the opportunity to spend time with so many great people from our District. If you go to our Clubrunner Site, clubrunner.ca/Portal/Home.aspx?accountid=, you can download the schedule for the conference. There you will see great programming being planned.

We are hearing that the community baskets being prepared for our auction are really incredible! What a fun way to learn more about our region's communities! You don't want to miss this.

For those of you who have already registered, a packet of information has been sent to you by mail. If you haven't received it, please call Joanne at the phone number below.



We are looking forward to seeing you all and to enjoying the friendship through Rotary.

See you in Alpena, April 19-20, 2013!

To contact us, please call 989-657-2427 or email our conference chair, Joanne Gallagher, at jayalgae@hotmail.com.

Seek Cultural Exchange Opportunities to Give Peace a Chance

By Rob Clark

(pictures and article reprinted from mlive 4/12/13)



Traditional south Korean drum routine performed at the Bay City Noon Rotary Club

On July 18, 1963, President John F. Kennedy, in a speech to a group of American Field Service students, said cultural exchanges between people of different nations, provides "some hope for peace" in the world. I recently went back and read that speech and was moved by how Kennedy's words still ring true today.

This past week, my family had the honor of welcoming a houseguest from South Korea named Seong-wook Choi. He is here as part of a Rotary International Group Study Exchange team. The five-member team arrived in Michigan on March 30 with visits planned in Midland, Bay City, Pinconning, Frankenmuth and Saginaw, among other cities.

The team is made up mostly of young business professionals who immerse themselves into American culture for one month before returning home. Team members typically live with host families at each stop on the tour and spend their days taking part in vocational visits at local companies, as well as attending events and simply hanging out with the locals. The program truly is an "exchange" as a similar group of young Americans currently is in South Korea.

This was the third time my family has hosted a team member from a foreign country. We've also welcomed guests from Thailand and Senegal, who remain as friends to this day. One day, I hope that I am fortunate to visit them again in their countries. There are many cultural exchange programs and opportunities to interact with people from other parts of the world. The key is to find those opportunities and then take advantage of them.

I believe every American student should take part in some kind of cultural exchange — either as a host or as an outbound visitor to another country — before they graduate from high school. Just imagine what something like that would do for world peace and understanding.

Just this week I learned more about South Korea than I ever knew before, including how our visitors feel about North Korea. I heard traditional South Korean music for the first time in my life; became fascinated with the city of Daejeon, which has a population of 1.5 million people and is considered a hotbed for scientific and technological discovery; and was reminded that although we may live on opposite sides of the world, there are threads of common concern and interest that unite all people.

President Kennedy touched on this idea near the end of his remarks on that day in 1963, saying to those in attendance visiting from other countries: "... When you go home you will not be a friend of the United States but rather a friend of peace, a friend of all people; that you will desire to see good will among all nations."

Fifty years later, as I look at the giant peace sign that hangs on the front door of my home, I hope many others have an opportunity to experience what I have through cultural exchanges. If they do, then peace truly does have a chance.



Seong-wook Choi, an international affairs and investment division employee for the city of Daejeon, South Korea, poses on Thursday, April 11, with Rob Clark, editor of The Bay City Times and The Saginaw News for MLive Media Group, at the Doubletree hotel and conference center in downtown Bay City.

Courtesy Photo



Local Professionals Travel to South Korea

By Stephanie Wirtz

Some local professionals are about to experience the trip of a lifetime. The Rotary International Foundation and District 6310 are sending a delegation of five members to South Korea to learn about their respective vocations as well as cultural education.

Team Leader, John Zimmerman, is a member of the Midland Rotary Club and represents the International Curling Fellowship of Rotarians. Zimmerman is retired from the United Way of Midland County. The team accompanying Zimmerman includes Kim McMahan of Midland, Monique Scott of Midland, Nate Payovich of St. Louis, and Stephanie Wirtz of Saginaw.

McMahan is the founder and director of Adams School Culture Club and is also an elementary Spanish teacher at Adams Elementary School. Scott is a secondary special education teacher at Midland High School. Payovich serves as the assistant director of student opportunity, academic support and disability services for Alma College. Wirtz serves as the outdoor recreation and event coordinator for Saginaw County Parks and Recreation Commission.

The Group Study Exchange (GSE) program is a unique cultural and vocational exchange opportunity for young business and professional men and women in their initial years of professional life. Rotary districts in different countries are paired to send and receive professional study groups of four to six non-Rotarian team members and one Rotarian team leader to travel for four to six weeks, staying in the homes of Rotarians when possible.

A delegation of members from South Korea will be exploring the culture in Michigan while the Michigan team is in South Korea. Some points of interest for the South Koreans include the Chippewa Nature Center, Zibiwiing Cultural Center, Frankenthum, Pinconning and many other destinations.

This just in...

It is 7:30 am Saturday in Daejeon. Our first free time. Our reception in Korea has been wonderful. Rotarian hosts greeted us at the airport with an 8' banner—Welcome District 6310.

By the way, there were two additional GSE groups on the plane, one from Philadelphia and one from Flint/Sarnia. So Korea is full of Rotary exchange groups.

Our hosts are not concerned by the threats from North Korea and there is no sense of danger. We are following the story on US media on-line and can't speak to how the Korea media is handling. Next Tuesday we will visit the newspaper here. Will let you know.

Yesterday, as planned in advance, we took a daytrip to the DMZ. Left hotel at 5:30 am. KTX fast train to Seoul. Then a tour bus to the DMZ area. Visited the train station through which South Korean managers commute to the Kaeseong factories which were just closed. We also visited one of the tunnels which North Korea had dug for a sneak attack. There were no special security measures during the visit. Exactly the same tourist experience we had expected from friends who visited previously and from the tour books. Weather was sunny but cold. Maybe the wind seemed particularly cold when we were on the platform with coin-operated binoculars gazing at North Korea. Lunch on the way back was great.

John Zimmerman



From left to right: Monique Scott, Kim McMahan, Nate Payovich, Stephanie Wirtz, and John Zimmerman

Around the District

Gratiot County Awards



Corley Bailey, Paul Hornak, and Harmony Nowlin

Recent award recipients in Gratiot County included three Rotarians!

Corey Bailey, member of the Ithaca Club, received the Spirit of St. Louis Award.

Paul Hornak, member of the Ithaca Club, received the Ithaca Citizen of the Year Award.

Harmony Nowlin, member of the Alma-St. Louis Club, received the Order of the Tartan Award (for Alma, MI)

Alma-St. Louis Club

By President Jan Amsterburg

Two ongoing club projects are:

Arms Around Sierra Leone that will provide artificial limbs for war or accident victims.

Donations to the Alma Public Safety Department will be used for the purchase of defibrillator devices.



Shepherd Rotary Club



New inductees Brian Jakubowski and Walt Berry with President Kathy Kursch

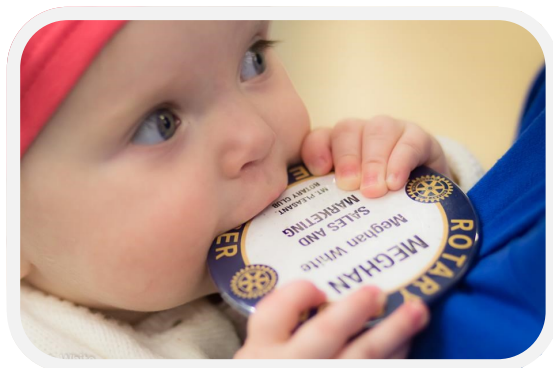
Midland Rotary Club

By President Jim Nigro



Exchange of banners with members of the South Korea GSE at the Midland Rotary Club meeting.

"I cut my teeth on Rotary!"



Youngest member, Aniston White, daughter of Mt. Pleasant Rotarian Meghan White

WE EXTEND THE ROTARY HAND OF FRIENDSHIP

Since July 1, 2012, we have added 118 new members in District 6310!

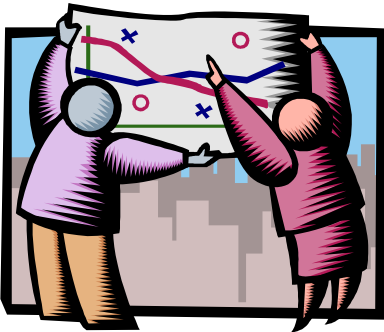


Alma-St. Louis:	Breckenridge:	Ithaca:	Pigeon (cont.):
Tom Armstrong	Sarah Dufour	Mary Humm	Raymond Leppien
Robert Conley			Timothy Loehrke
Meredith Lott	Caro:	Midland:	Clark Ramsey
	Tyler Colling	Bradley Duling	
Alpena:	Jodi Fetting	Scott Kiefer	Pinconning/Standish:
Larry Clark	Jonathan Laudra	Thomas Lane	Mary Ellery (honorary)
Bruce Duncan		Erin Malekadel	Barbara Fisher
Jeff Gray	Cass City:	Danielle McGee	Christina Houle
Michele Tippman	Barry Cronin	Jeffery McGraw	Lonna Hummel
	Mark Karkowski	Sharon Mortensen	Joshua Klee
Bad Axe:	Amy Kemp	Angelina Scarpelli	
Drew Brining		Jodi Scorsone	Saginaw:
David Lawson	Clare:	Michael Weinert	Marc Kaeckmeister
Leroy Pennington	Jennifer Bukovinszky		Melissa Spranger
Justin Straight	Travis Harrison	Millington:	
	Scott Moore	Jeff Baxter	Saginaw Sunrise:
Bay City:	Heather Swanson		Jennifer Molyneaux
Bill Bateman		Mt. Pleasant:	Joseph Stricker
Barb Behmlander	Corunna:	Brian Anderson	
Nikki Burgeson	Chuck Kerriage	Brandon Bliss	Saginaw Valley:
Mike Dewey		Jasmine Eichenger	Lindsay Barrett-Olgine
Matt Felan	Durand:	Alisson Meurer	Julie Curtis
Diane Hurley	Daniel Scow	William Mrdeza	Erik DuRussel
Annette Jeske	Kevin Wade	Amanda Schafer	R. Patrick Flynn
Lynne Moore	Chip Watt	Michele Sponseller	Keith Harder
Greg Rosecrans		Andrew Wheeler	Chanrasiri Jayakodi
Cathy Schell	Frankenmuth:	Matthew Young	Luke Lugthart
Harvey Schneider	Michael Fassezke		Timothy Moore
David Songer	Ed Foltz	Oscoda:	Rumi Shahzad
	Andy Knudsen	Earl E. Moore	Douglas Trombley
Bay City Morning:	John Schmitt	James Reitler	
Elizabeth Gradowski	Chuck Stadler		Sebewaing
Kelly Pettit	Amy Zehnder-Grossi	Owosso:	Odette Khoury
Anca Pop		Mike Ardelean	Sami Khoury
Dell Robinson	Gladwin:	Kimberly Bowen	Melanie McCoy
Meghan Tanner	Christine Gerace	James Carney	
	Jody Grant	Richard Cardonnier	Shepherd:
Birch Run:	Paula Wessel	Lynn Grubb	Walter Berry
Courtney Moliterno		Shane Nelson	Brian Jubakowski
Connie Putnam	Harbor Beach:	Whitney Rann	
Carmen Sawchuck	Todd Bucholtz		Vassar:
Mike Szukhent	Lawrence Kroswek	Pigeon:	Ben Guile
Shannon Weidman		Philip Fibranz	

Why Not Just Ask?

By Clare Rotary Club President Carol Churchill

We have all become aware that many cherished clubs are facing a membership crisis. Sadly but undeniably, many of us are aging. Rotary International has recognized the problem and is addressing the situation proactively through a variety of programs aimed at youth involvement, including Interact, Rotaract, RYLA, and Youth Exchange. However, individual clubs may benefit by simply asking new-- and often younger-- members how their local Rotary club can motivate and retain their active involvement and continued membership.



In 2011, Clare Rotary held a Focus Group consisting primarily of new members, although long-term members were welcome to attend. The attendance of the incoming president was particularly important so that he could better understand the opportunities for improving the club. The focus meeting began with an abbreviated "Fireside Chat," in which the mission and Object of Rotary were reviewed. With this shared understanding, the group considered their expectations for joining Rotary and the strengths and weaknesses of the organization as related to the Object of Rotary.

After identifying strengths and weaknesses, the group voted on the weaknesses they wished to address: occupations, service opportunities, social activities, and communication.

The group then developed a problem statement describing each weakness. Other clubs may face similar problems:

Occupations—Club members do not know the resources available.

Service opportunities—The opportunities to provide service are too narrow and often limited to giving or raising money.

Communication—Internal and external communication is weak and doesn't promote membership or community awareness.

Social Focus—The social activities of the club are too narrowly focused on the interests of some long-term members; there isn't enough variety.

To develop actionable steps, the group described the current state of each problem, the future state they would envision, and then the strategies that could be used to achieve the desired state. The practical ideas that were generated gave the incoming president and board a very concrete roadmap for change. Not every idea was implemented since the club's long-standing traditions are also important to both the club and the community. However, several activities have been modified or discontinued while new functions have been developed. For example, the club collaborated with the City of Clare to develop a Brewfest, featuring tastings that showcased several breweries Michigan. Starting small, the event grew into an attraction that brought many people to main street. As one participant observed, "This feels like the old days, when people spent summer evenings strolling main street and getting reacquainted with each other."

Communications have also become much more intentional, including weekly updates by email, monthly reviews of board decisions shared with the members, and the use of online surveys to assess members' preferences. To ensure better external communications, procedures have been developed to add consistency and transparency to the process for donating back to the community. A brochure has been developed to assist in providing information about costs and club activities, ensuring that expectations are set appropriately for potential new members. We find ourselves referring back to the insights of the focus group because their comments were so constructive.



FRANKENMUTH MORNING ROTARY CLUB'S 2013 Spring Fahrrad Bicycle Tour May 19, 2013

By Maria Bierlein

The Morning Rotary Club of Frankenmuth would like to invite all bicycling enthusiasts to participate in their 2013 tour. Three scenic routes are being offered to choose from—25K, 50K, or 100K. All routes begin and end in Frankenmuth at the Rittmueller Middle School located at 965 E Genesee Street. These routes parade through the city on the first leg, wind along the Cass River, across lush farmlands, have light traffic and are mostly flat with a few hills along the way.

Each participant receives maps, food stops of cookies, juice, water and fruit along the route and shower facilities upon completion. In addition, the 100K will feature a "light" lunch. The food stops are approximately 20 miles apart (7 miles for the 25K). An ANSI or SNELL bicycle helmet is STRONGLY encouraged.

Registration begins at 7:00am through 9:00am at the Rittmueller School gym lobby. Tour starting time begins at 8:00 am. Riders who are participating in the 100K MUST begin by 8:00 am.



Registration fees:

Before May 1, 2013	\$15.00
After May 1, 2013	\$20.00
Under the age of 14	\$ 5.00



Registration forms can be obtained by going to the Frankenmuth Morning Rotary Club website: www.fmrotary.com

For more information please contact Nancy at drnancy94@yahoo.com. Bring your family and enjoy our Little Bavaria!

Clean Water Funds —

Raised by the Bay City and Bay City Morning Clubs

More than \$1,300 was raised from the members of the two clubs competing to see which club's president would sing a solo at the Beatles Tribute Concert on April 11. The donations also included Mexican pesos, a Jamaican dollar coin, various Canadian coins, washers of different sizes, pennies glued together, a Cedar Point token, and a Detroit People-Mover Token. We really are a diverse group!

As it turned out, both presidents sang a rendition of Let It Be (or Woe is Me!).

Polio Plus Update

By District Chairman Ed Goyings

When polio was first called infantile paralysis in Germany in 1840, there was evidence of the disease as far back as 1400 BC when an Egyptian sculptured stone showed a priest with a deformed foot typical of polio. Since the identification of the disease, scientists has been searching for a cure. It was on April 12, 1955 that medical experts announced that the Salk polio vaccine was “safe, effective, and potent.”

In 1988, a Global Polio Eradication Initiative, a joint effort of Rotary International, WHO, CDC, UNICEF, and various governments, was actuated with the goal of eradication by the year 2000. Although that goal was not achieved, all of the Americas were polio free by 1994, the West Pacific by 2000, and Europe by 2002. To show how far we’ve come and how close we are: there were 350,000 cases worldwide in 1985, and in 2013 a total of just 5 new cases—in Pakistan, Afghanistan, Nigeria, and Somalia.

Instrumental in assisting Rotary achieve its goal for a polio-free world were the contributions from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation totaling over \$355 million with a match of \$200 million from Rotary International. On March 1, 2013, Mike Bloomberg, Mayor of New York City, pledged \$100 million to Polio Plus.

As of January 1, 2013, Rotary had invested \$1.2 billion and governments \$9 billion to wipe this crippling disease from the face of the earth — we are literally, this close to ending polio!

Contributions from Rotarians and Rotary Clubs to Polio Plus will help make the goal of a polio-free world a reality.



Important upcoming dates

April:	Magazine Month
April 19-20:	District Conference, Alpena, MI
April 27:	Rotary Leadership Institute, Mt. Pleasant, MI
May 17-18:	Global Peace Forum, Hiroshima, Japan
June 8:	Rotary Leadership Institute, Gaylord, MI
June 9-13:	Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (Camp Rotary)
June 23-26:	RI Convention, Lisbon, Portugal
July 20	Rotary Leadership Institute, Troy, MI



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