

Rotary International President 2012-13

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# District Dispatch

JANUARY, 2013

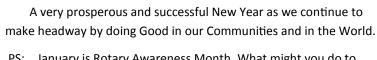
# The Dawning of a Happy New Year!

This time of year often imparts Peace. I am hoping that you and your loved ones had moments of Peace and Joy amid the hustle of the December holidays.

January marks the ½ way point of the Rotary year. To truly have a successful year, a setting aside time for a pause and some reflection is a very good strategic move! You are invited to take a look at the responsibilities you have in your club and ask if you will be able to meet the goals set forth before the end of the year. Engaged and active members are the heart and soul of sound clubs. That refers to each of us as Rotarians.

- Have you personally contributed to the Rotary Foundation (SHARE)? See on page 10 how we are doing as a district! Thank you to those who made it possible!
- Do you have a personal plan to meet the club goals in membership growth and retention? Recruited a new member or two?
- Are you engaged in a service activity of the club? How are you helping?
- If you have not served in a leadership role in the club, have you considered this role?
- Have you attended a Rotary Leadership Institute session? (Sometimes clubs will sponsor this education.) See schedule for times and locations on Page 7.
- Have you registered for the District Conference April 19-20 in Alpena?

If you can answer "yes" to all of these questions, drop me a line. I am in need of some encouragement, and I want to Opal know who is leading the way. ;-) I also hope you are encouraging others and providing support and working as a club to achieve all of your goals.



PS: January is Rotary Awareness Month. What might you do to increase public awareness? Wear your pin daily? Invite a friend, relative, or child to your meeting? Post on Facebook or LinkedIn that you are a Rotarian? Hold an open house for the public about Rotary's good work? Get your Peace Project in the news? Other ideas?



Guv Georgene

Sakuji Tanaka

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR APRIL 19-20, 2013

The Alpena Club has been planning for many months already, and we are all excited to have you join us for a wonderful two days in Alpena for the **2013 District Conference.** 

We have scheduled exciting speakers to captivate you, sessions to inspire you, and some very unique and interesting tours to excite you. Alpena will surprise you with its options!!

And, of course, we will have plenty of time to share fellowship with our Rotary District family. We will continue to update you with all the exciting activities being planned for you.

We are very pleased to announce that our Friday night speaker will be Dr. James Delgado, Director of Maritime Heritage, Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, NOAA. Because we are home to the (only freshwater) Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary here in Alpena, we are very excited to be hosting Dr. Delgado, and to share his presentation with you.



Our guest speaker has written 33 books, is known as one of the top experts in world maritime history, is internationally renowned for his work on shipwrecks such as the Titanic, and always brings adventures alive with expert knowledge and a passionate, yet down-to-earth, manner that quickly engages and captivates.

Dr. Delgado is a firm believer that no one is ever too old to learn, and history's lessons are never too old to teach. Today's business challenges are mirrored in the past, and drawing from what he's learned as an explorer, archaeologist, author, and CEO, Dr. Delgado speaks about what it takes to be successful at home, in business, or at sea.

You just don't want to miss this District Conference! We will continue to update you here each month with more details. Please also check our District Facebook Page for updates: **Facebook.com/Rotary District 6310.** 

We are also trying to make this as easy as possible for you.

You can register online by going to: clubrunner.ca/Portal/Home.aspx?accountid=2167

(Clubrunner.ca- Rotary Club of Alpena)

Print-out registration forms are also available.

We are looking forward to hosting you in Alpena in April.

To contact us, call 989-657-2427,

or you can email conference chair, Joanne Gallagher, at jayalgae@hotmail.com.

# Greetings from District 6310 Area 4

#### **Assistant Governor Paul Hornak**

The Rotary Clubs of Alma/St. Louis, Breckenridge, Ithaca, and Shepherd would like to share some of our club activities to confirm that the spirit of Rotary is alive and well in central Michigan!

#### Alma/St. Louis

#### by President Jan Amsterburg

This year's holiday season featured the Alma/St. Louis Rotary Club engaged in traditional club service activities. These included bell ringing for the Salvation Army and participation in the annual Toys for

This year, the Club introduced a "trip raffle" as a new fund raising initiative to provide even greater service to local and international projects. The raffle featured a chance to win a trip to any location in the United States. Included in the package were air fare, hotel costs, and cash, for a total value of up to \$2,000. Second prize was \$250, and third prize was \$100. The drawing was held December 18<sup>th</sup> at the annual Rotary Christmas dinner. Drawing the winning ticket for the raffle trip prize is Andrea Armstrong, daughter of new Rotary member Dr. Tom Armstrong. Andrea also sang and her father, Dr. Armstrong, played piano for the entertainment portion of the program. Looking on is Club President, Jan Amsterburg.

Tots campaign. Our Rotary Club remains committed to these vital, local causes.



Andrea Armstrong and President Jan Amsterburg

The winner of the grand prize was Gary Boog of St. Louis. Second prize winner was Deb Komperda of St. Louis, and third prize winner was James Weburg of Ithaca. Congratulations to the winners!

The Alma/St. Louis Rotary Club remains committed to local service projects such as last year's donation of AED (Automated External Defibrillator) units to the Alma Public Safety Department. The club also provides support to international projects such as Polio Plus, Clean Water, and Arms Around Sierra Leone

#### **Breckenridge**

#### by Assistant Governor Paul Hornak

On November 8th, the Breckenridge Rotary Club held is annual Veterans' Day Spaghetti Dinner at the American Legion Hall. The dinner was open to the public and veterans in the area. Veterans eat free and enjoy the company of other post members. A free will offering was accepted from the public. Funds from the event are donated back to the post or related auxiliary group.

The Breckenridge Rotary Club uses some unique projects for their fundraisers, such as the flamingo flocking fundraiser,



the annual chip drop (and we're not talking about potato chips or poker chips),

#### Ithaca Club, Unique Junior Rotarian Program

#### **by President Chelsey Foster**

Tradition is important to Ithaca Rotarians. The Ithaca Rotary Club, founded in 1935, is one of the oldest continuously running service organizations in Gratiot County. One of the most valued traditions for Ithaca Rotary is the Junior Rotarian program – a partnership with Ithaca Public Schools, dating back at least 75 years.

Each year, on a monthly rotation during the school year, cohorts of Ithaca High School seniors attend weekly Rotary Club meetings. At their first meeting, each student brings a biography sheet describing their interests, achievements, and plans for post secondary education or employment. One by one, an Ithaca Rotarian stands up with the student and verbally introduces them to the club.

Throughout the year, students are offered opportunities to provide community service with the club. As one example, Ithaca Rotary's largest fund raiser is the Bader & Sons (John Deere dealership) equipment auction, where thousands of farmers from throughout the state attend — Rotarians prepare breakfast and lunch for the attendees.

The participation of each student is documented, and in the spring, the club selects two Junior Rotarians to receive \$500 scholarships.

The "grand finale" for the Junior Rotarians is a special meeting hosted, organized, and administered by the Junior Rotarians themselves. Junior Rotarians call the meeting to order, lead the club in song, administer the 50:50 and member fines, then have a program that normally includes a "State of the School" address from the Superintendent and/or High School Principal. This past year, the club was fortunate to have Congressman Dave Camp attend the joint meeting, providing a wonderful chance for the students to meet one of their federal elected representatives.



Congressman Dave Camp at the Junior Rotarian Special Meeting

Recently, the late Ed Hooper, who passed away just before Christmas at the age of 92, attended an Ithaca Rotary meeting on behalf of the Ithaca Senior Activity Building. Mr. Hooper mentioned that he was the first Junior Rotarian, and he still valued the experience 70+ years later.

Recent Ithaca High School graduate and past Ithaca Junior Rotarian, Natasha Patrick, who now attends CMU, was instrumental in establishing the first CMU Rotaract Club, which is in its first year of existence.

Several current Ithaca Rotarians are past Junior Rotarians as well. It is hoped that this tradition will continue to supply the Ithaca Rotary Club with successful new members who want to come back and serve their community. And one thing is for sure, the students bring a vitality and freshness to the club every year – it is something our members look forward to, and the students enjoy it as well. As far as the club knows, Ithaca Rotary is the only club to have a Junior Rotarian Program. While we are proud of this, we would be happy to help another club start a similar program!

Contact us at <a href="mailto:com">cfoster@ithacami.com</a> for more information. Service Above Self!

#### Ithaca Club, Rotary Ormskirk Exchange Program

#### by Patrice Hornak

Winning a trip to England is just one of the benefits of belonging to the Ithaca Rotary Club—but it's certainly a fun-filled, enlightening, and heart-warming benefit.

Once a year, at the annual Ithaca Rotary Christmas party, an Ithaca Rotarian wins a trip for two to England, to renew an Ormskirk, England/Ithaca, Michigan exchange that began in1971—41 years ago. Maybe the Rotarian has to win a round of "Minute to Win It" challenges; maybe he or she has to win a game of musical chairs; maybe the winner has to answer the most "Jeopardy-like" questions. The quest to win the England trip always provides a lot of laughs.

Once a Rotarian wins the trip, he or she contacts the Ormskirk Rotary Club to arrange a date for the exchange. The last Ormskirk club visitor to Ithaca hosts the next Ithaca club winner.

(continued on Page 5)

#### Ithaca Club, Rotary Ormskirk Exchange Program (cont.)

Visits to Ormskirk must last a minimum of seven days but during those days, there is so much activity, the week feels a lot longer. Each morning a different Ormskirk Rotarian picks up the Ithaca guests and whisks them off for a day of sight-seeing in the Lake District, basking on the northwestern coast of Wales, visiting cities with Roman walls, going to Liverpool to visit the Beatles museum, and so much more.

A day of sightseeing is often followed by a dinner at a local restaurant or one of the Rotarian's homes, lasting until 10 or 11 p.m. Then the Ithaca guests are taken back to their hosts' home, only to repeat the previous day's agenda, but with different destinations.

While sightseeing is most enjoyable, it's the lasting friendships built during the exchanges that overwhelm the Ithaca Rotarians who make the England trip. Throughout the last 41 years, numerous Rotarians have journeyed back to Ormskirk to visit their English friends, apart from the exchange program.

Larry Trexler, an Ithaca Rotarian, and his wife Coleen, the first Ithaca Rotarians to participate in the exchange, visited the Ormskirk Rotarians four times, two of those visits being personal trips. During the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Ithaca-Ormskirk exchange, a group from Ithaca, including the Trexlers, joined a group from Ormskirk, and they toured Italy.

"The exchange program is one of the best things that has happened to the Ithaca Rotary Club," said Trexler. "We've formed life-long friendships. We still correspond with our hosts. It's a great bond between our club and those individuals."

Those from Ithaca who have made the trip at least once (Ithaca Rotarians can win the trip twice) include: Trexler, Chuck Larry, Wilbur Collison, John Kersbergen, Dave Roslund, Dick Brossard, Dale Nester, Gary Gruesbeck, Wendell Husted, Ed Lehman, Paul Sheets, Dale Kimmel, Dick Abbott, Harvey Thornton, Neville Pitcher, Bob Evans, Ken Federspiel, Jack Humm, George Bailey, Jeff Arnold, Jack Langan, Ed Taylor, Greg Siefker, Kevin Collison, Tom Wideman, Jack Arnold, Gordon Larry, John Davey, Paul Hornak, Rhonda Clark, Tom MacDonald, Sherry Weber, Steve Bakker, Barb McKenzie, and Chelsey Foster.

After the trip is over, the winning Rotarians host the Ormskirk Rotarian who wins the trip from their club. Weekend trips to cottages, visits to the Sleeping Bear Dunes, Greenfield Village, Mackinaw Island, golf courses, and many more tourist destinations, as well as numerous nightly dinners combine for a memorable trip for the Ormskirk Rotarians as well.

One group of Ormskirk Rotarians made numerous trips to Michigan during the hunting season, and tales of times at deer camp ensued.



Making the trip to Ormskirk in 2013 will be Rotarian Mark Craft who is Engineer Manager of the Gratiot Road Commission, and his wife Colleen. The "traveling box" presented to them following their win includes travel books, an electric current converter, and other helpful booklets on Ormskirk and surrounding areas.



During a farewell dinner for Ithaca Rotarian Paul Hornak and his wife Patrice, the Ormskirk Rotary Club gathers to sing "Auld Lang Syne" to the Michigan couple.



While attending the Ormskirk, England, Rotary meeting, most recent exchange winner Chelsey Foster, Ithaca City Manager, presents an Ithaca Rotary flag to their Rotary President, Peter Sewell.

#### **Shepherd Club**

#### by District Governor Nominee Delores "Dee" Brock







Joyce Gluch, Mark Gluch, and Jim Wyman

John Johnston, Kandy Johnston, and Sharon Bryce

The Rotary Club of Shepherd held its special Christmas meeting on December 18, 2012. After being called to order by President Kathy Kursch, the club members were treated to a performance by the Shepherd High School Madrigal Dinner Drama Singers. The group sang Christmas carols, songs from their Madrigal Dinner Drama, and even sang the grace before dinner. It was a very festive evening of "good will" and "friendship".

The Shepherd Rotarians are looking forward to another successful year of community and global involvement.

## **Update from Ambassadorial Scholar Jency Schnettler**

I am currently putting my nose to the grindstone as I have three papers due for school in the next two weeks. I also give my Rotaract presentation on Monday and Rotary Presentation on Tuesday.

On a more interesting note, I had this wonderful experience this weekend. Two fellow Rotaractors (who both happen to be Chinese) and I flew to Yuexi, a Yi Minority Village in Sichuan Province. In the past, Rotaract had donated clothes to this village as the temperatures tend to be very cold and families are very poor. Many of these students won't go to high school and many of those who do will drop out to work in factories before graduation.

These students come from very poor families with three or four brothers and sisters. Often times due to lack of ability to purchase medical care, one of their parents dies leaving the older children to help take care of the younger. One of the boys I met was only 15 and both of his parents moved to the city to work while he took care of his younger siblings.



This was an incredible experience as we visited local schools and also did home visits. We even saw a traditional Yi Minority ritual.

# The SHARE System and the New Foundation

On July 1, 2013, the Rotary Foundation will make some significant changes in the way the grants programs operate. The grants will continue to rely on the SHARE System which has been in operation for a number of years. Let's first review how this SHARE System works.

The money we all contribute to the Rotary Foundation is invested and the earnings help to fund the operation and administration of the Rotary Foundation. In the third year, the entire amounts contributed are spent on the Foundation's Grants Programs.

Our District's original contributions are allotted: 50% to DDF (District Designated Fund), and 50% to the World Fund. Under the new Foundation framework, the **World Fund** will be expended by the Rotary Foundation on Global Grants and Packaged Grants. World Fund/Global Grants will match our district and club money for international projects. Packaged Grants are fully funded for a small group of designated Rotary strategic partners. DDF will be used for district contributions to Polio Plus and the Rotary Peace Centers, but mostly for District Grants and Global Grants.

The chart on the following page shows how our contributions will be allotted in 2013-2014.

You will see that the total DDF for District 6310 in 2013-14 will be \$69,416. The District Foundation Committee has tentatively decided that it will allocate these funds as follows:

\$ 4,000 to Polio Plus

\$ 5,000 to support the Peace Centers

\$34,708 for District Grants (50% of our total DDF, the maximum amount available)

\$25,708 for Global Grants.

In addition, any carry-over of current DDF will be available for Global Grants.

#### **Eileen Jennings, Past District Governor**

#### **TERMS YOU SHOULD KNOW**

**DDF** - **District Designated Funds** - Funds returned to the district in a three-year cycle: Half of the funds donated by district members to the Rotary Foundation Annual Fund three years prior are returned to the district for grants and for donations (such as to PolioPlus or to Rotary Peace Centers)

**District Grant** - Grant to a club or to the district for funding short-term needs locally or abroad

**Global Grant** - Grant to support international projects that address one of the six areas of focus (see article in December District Dispatch)

**GSE** - **Group Study Exchange** (this spring's group will be the last group study exchange)

**Packaged Grant** - Grant fully funded by Rotary Foundation for a small group of designated strategic Rotary partners

**VTT** - **Vocational Training Teams** (replace Group Study Exchange) with a focus on vocational training

**World Fund** - Used by the Foundation for grants and programs available to all Rotary districts and to fund both Global Grants and Packaged Grants

Continued on Page 8

#### **Rotary Leadership Institute**

The following dates are confirmed for Rotary Leadership Institute Great Lakes training events. All three parts will be offered at each session. The fee remains at \$70 for 2013. Details and registration are found at www.rligreatlakes.org

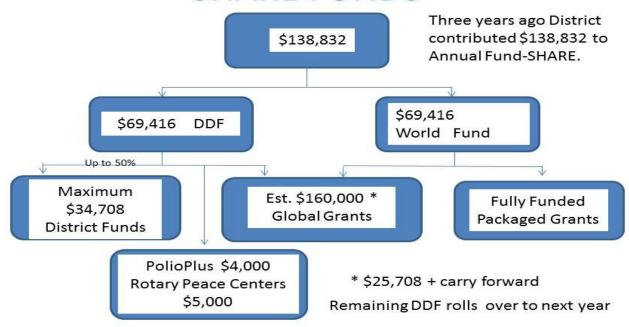
February 9 Swan Lake Resort, Plymouth, IN

April 27 Mt Pleasant, MI (Facility to be determined)

July 13 Somerset Inn, Troy, MI

October 19 Chatham, Ontario, Canada (Facility to be determined)

## 2013-2014 District 6310 SHARE FUNDS



The **District Grant** is a block grant to the District. Clubs (or the District itself) use this money to address short term needs in local communities as well as abroad. The District will apply for one District Grant in the early fall of 2013. That application must specify the local and international projects on which that money will be spent. Clubs will be asked to apply for a share of this money BEFORE the District submits its request to the Rotary Foundation. One of the biggest changes under the new Foundation is the pre-planning required. Clubs should begin NOW to plan their local and smaller international projects for 2013-14. Our district is drafting rules for the use of the District Grant and an application form, which will be available in early 2013.

Global Grants are similar to Matching Grants, but with some large changes. Global Grants support international projects that address one of the six areas of focus. Club and individual contributions will be matched with Global Grants, which will be further matched by the Rotary World Fund. Global Grants are for larger projects. Since the World Fund match must be at least \$15,000, the total project cost must be at least \$30,000. The World Fund will match DDF contributions on a 100% basis and club/individual contributions on a 50% basis. In addition to humanitarian grants, Global Grants may be used for Vocational Training Teams (VTT) or international scholarships. (More on these later.)

There are lots of details to learn about the new Foundation grants structure. This is why training will be offered in February (and required before a club may receive a District or Global Grant).

Some programs we have known and loved for many years are going away. This spring's Group Study Exchange will be the last GSE. There will be no more Ambassadorial Scholars from and to our District. International exchanges will continue, but will have a vocational training focus. International scholarships will also continue, but they will be funded either from the District Grant or as a Global Grant. District Simplified Grants will be changed and broadened into the District Grant program.

The new Foundation structure offers many exciting new opportunities. Yes, we have to learn the new rules, but the new Foundation gives the District much more discretion on how it spends the contributions of its Rotarians. Keep listening and reading for more information.

### Rotary District 6310 - 2012/2013 Youth Exchange Taylor Dean

#### Midland Rotary to Maitland, New South Wales, Australia

It was 8:30 at night when I got a call from Joe Sawyer about my host country assignment; the anxiety and nervousness I felt was incredible. But those negative emotions were completely washed away and replaced with the most powerful feeling of happiness I've ever experienced when Joe finally said "AUSTRALIA." About nine months later, with four of those months in my number one host country of choice, I still feel the same way. Every day I wake up happy that I went on exchange. When I left America I assumed that the culture in Australia would be the same as America's. I've never been more wrong in my life. Experiencing the Australian culture and sharing my own, especially food, has been great.



I've found that there are few things in this world that make me happier than having people say that my mom's fried chicken recipe is the best they've ever had. I'm blessed with an excellent host club location; the Rotary Club of Green Hills at Maitland (two hours north of Sydney and just 30 minutes from some of the best beaches in the world). Having a go at water sports like surfing and being able to explore Sydney has been spectacular, but they pale in comparison to the two-week aid trip I took with my Rotary Club to Papua, New Guinea.

Fifty or sixty years ago the natives in the highlands of New Guinea, where I went, were still cannibals - so it'd be easy to understand that I had a major eye opener. Right now it is early summer in Australia, it reaches 100 degrees often and always with high humidity. This is something I'm not at all used to from living in Michigan. Also it only takes about an hour of direct sunlight in Australia before you can get serious sunburn. That's something I had to learn the hard way.



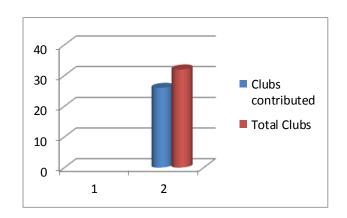
Thank you, Rotary, for such an amazing opportunity!

## How is our District doing...

# on Contributions to The Rotary Foundation? on increasing Membership?

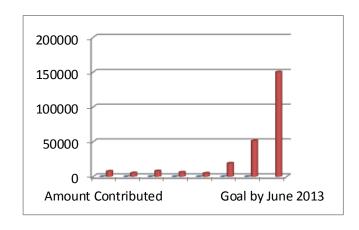
#### **Contributions to The Rotary Foundation:**

Total Clubs in the District 32
Clubs that contributed 26



#### **Contributions to The Rotary Foundation:**

July	\$ 7,704
August	5,256
September	8,080
October	6,271
November	4,950
December	<u>19,228</u>
To date (first six months)	\$ 51,489
Goal by June 2013	\$ 150.200



#### 1550 1500 1450 1400 1350 1300 Current Goal by June Membership 2013 12/31/12

#### **District Membership:**

Current Membership	1,371	
Goal by June 2013	1,502	

## **Around the District**

#### Frankenmuth Rotary Club



Frankenmuth Rotary Club President Terry Weiss presents two checks in support of the Frankenmuth Fish Passage and Dam Project to City of Frankenmuth Mayor Gary Rupprecht at the November 13, 2012, City Council meeting.

President Weiss presented a check in the amount of \$15,000 as the first installment of the Frankenmuth Club's pledge of \$45,000. Funds were earmarked by the Club from proceeds from the annual Taste of Frankenmuth event. A second check in the amount of \$2,000 was earned by the Club through a matching grant program sponsored by Rotary District 6310. The city is targeting completion of the fish passage project in the summer/fall of 2013. The fish passage project provides benefit to the whole Saginaw Bay Watershed by providing access for targeted fish species including walleye to historically significant spawning grounds. Natural reproduction is key to sustainability of the Saginaw Bay's world class fishery.

Don't forget to register for the Building Better Teams workshop sponsored by the Pigeon Rotary Club featuring Justin Maust.

You can learn more about the January 21 event and register by clicking on the following link:

<u>Event Webpage ~ Online Registration</u> Contact: pigeonrotary@nfcpa.com

#### **Pigeon Rotary Club**



Your Club article could be Ruby here in the next edition!

And a photo of the event could be to the left.

Get your information to Connie Deford by February 1st!

## Villa Trina Rotary Club, Dominican Republic

by Carl Hubinger, Saginaw Rotary Club

The Saginaw Rotary Club has decided to sponsor a Water and Sanitation (WAS) international project in the Dominican Republic (DR). This opportunity was made available this past summer when members of our District WAS Committee, Dave Morgan and Arnie Leriche, visited the DR and briefed our club leaders.



The Villa Trina Rotary Club wants to provide school children throughout the rural city as well as a small village of 45 families located 1 km away along the side of the mountain ridge with both clean drinking water and hand washing. The schools currently provide drinking water from inadequate rain water collection systems; however, they require major capacity expansions and repair work. There are eight elementary schools that must filter the rain water to provide safe drinking water for the nearly 700 students. However, there are no hand washing facilities at the school bathrooms. And safety is also a serious issue at several schools due to crumbling concrete walkways between classrooms and outdoor latrines as well as physical security from vandalism and theft of school property, including clean water systems. Point of use water filters are needed at many of the schools.

A small village of 45 families and 200 individuals has an unreliable, spring-fed water collection/distribution system that is in serious need of repair and expansion. This gravity-fed system consists of 1" tubing and a 5-gallon bucket that exposes the collected water to contamination and animals.

The benefits of rain water harvesting systems, hand washing/hygiene facilities, and physical security is a healthier and safer quality of life and surrounding environment for nearly 700 school-age children and over 45 families. Personal hygiene and overall health will be significantly improved in addition to significant reductions in certain water-born diseases.



Local Rotary Community Corps workers will do most work as one way to keep the cost down and take "ownership" in the project and promote sustainable hygiene and sanitation in the village. The Villa Trina Rotary Club has been involved with the design of the water harvesting systems and will be contributing money and significant project management efforts towards the project.

With the help of your club we can jointly help nearly 700 children at schools and 45 families drink safe, clean water that is dependably available and provide a safe environment for the children at school. Our next step in the matching grant process is to get approval of the grant. Your club's international donations will be needed to help fund the grant. Using the Matching Grant, the total cost of the project is just under \$25,000. Only one third of this amount (\$7,100) is needed from individual clubs because the remaining matching monies will come from the District and RI. Club contributions can range from \$100 to \$2,000.

We expect submission of the grant application in February or March. In the meantime, we need to receive donation commitments from District Clubs. Set aside these donation amounts, and when we get approval and a project number we will contact you. You can then send us your donation check. Contact me directly via email to make a donation pledge commitment from this year's budget for this project. Your thoughtful contribution can dramatically and positively change a village and thousands of lives!

I am also available to speak to your club and give a presentation on this project about how we can impact so many people, including school-age children. Please contact me ASAP if you are interested.

Contact Carl Hubinger at 989.642.5487 or email at <a href="mailto:ccarlhubinger@msn.com">ccarlhubinger@msn.com</a>

# Water and Sanitation Projects

by Dave Morgan

The fact that every 18 seconds a child dies somewhere on this globe due to the lack of clean water stirs our need to serve. Many of us realize this is unacceptable and when challenged, as we are, the task to improve the availability of clean water seems daunting. Our District has taken the challenge to do something about this and I want to share with you how busy we have recently been throughout the District. There are a number of stories that need to be told. First is the progress that has been made on existing Matching Grant (MG) Projects.

Three Dominican Republic Matching Grant projects have been completed with close out documentation accepted by Rotary International. These projects include the installation of latrines in villages of Amaceyes and Los Higos; installation of a complex water distribution system in the Village of La Cumbre; and a rainwater harvesting system in the Village of La Torre. We received notification of Rotary International (RI) closeout of these three Matching Grants on December 24. Wow, what a great Christmas present!

The **Frankenmuth Rotary Club** sponsored the La Cumbre MG Project as the beginning of a longer term adopt a village format.

In the Amaceyes and Los Higos, and the La Torre MG projects, multiple clubs from 6310 participated with Oscoda Rotary Club and Bay City Rotary Club acting as lead clubs. The other 6310 Clubs participating in funding the latrine and rainwater harvesting projects are as follows:

Amaceyes and Los Higos Latrines – Bay City Morning, Cass City, Midland, Harbor Beach, Saginaw, Saginaw Valley, Saginaw Sunrise, Millington, Sebewaing and Vassar.

La Torre Rainwater Harvesting – Alpena, Bay City Morning, Birch Run, Durand, Owosso, Breckenridge, Bad Axe, Midland Noon, and Oscoda.

The Dominican Republic host was Santiago Gurabito Rotary Club for all three of these Matching Grant Projects. Dave Morgan, Chip Sassone, Arnie Leriche, PDG Eileen Jennings, and Randy Ettema visited these various sites through different stages of their completion.

The Mt. Pleasant Rotary Club has been involved in Zambia water projects for several years, and this past year initiated a Matching Grant Project to drill a well to provide water to another village. They were supported by the Clare and Shepherd Rotary Clubs and initiated this project last Spring. Paul Siers is the contact for this project, which has recently completed. As soon as the final paperwork is completed and approved by RI, this grant will also be closed.

Going forward, the Hand Washing and Hygiene (HWH) Matching Grant led by the **Owosso Rotary Club** was initiated this fall. There was so much interest in this project that 21 of our District Clubs contributed to the funding of this seminal opportunity. The host Rotary Club in the Dominican Republic is Santiago Apostal.

This project was officially started last October and has been so well received that completion is forecast in several months. That said, a second HWH Matching Grant has been initiated to start in early 2013. We believe we have the sponsor but are awaiting that club's board approval. The Matching Grant will be fully funded once the sponsoring Rotary Club is finalized. Charles Adams and District Governor Alexandra Martinez Adams have taken the leadership in this great opportunity and are regularly reporting to us of their progress.

Continued on Page 14

# Water and Sanitation Projects (cont.)

We have been diligently working on three additional projects for this year, which are as follows:

Moca de Paso – Host is Moca Rotary Club and sponsor is the Frankenmuth Morning Rotary Club. An article on this project was in the last Dispatch and the Matching Grant application is nearing completion. Randy Ettema from Frankenmuth is the contact and is also available to make a presentation to your club upon request. Moca de Paso needs many latrines and three water pumps for sites in which they currently use very primitive hand pulleys to extract water from wells. We have visited this site twice this year and feel it to be a very needed project. The Frankenmuth Morning Club is currently looking for other 6310 Clubs to commit funds. The application will be finalized as soon as funding commitments are complete.

La Gumama Abajo – The sponsor for this project is the Midland Morning Rotary Club and our contact is Jude Patnaude. The host is Cayetano Germosen Rotary Club. The primary site is an impoverished community, La Guama Abajo, consisting of field hands and unemployed workers. It is approximately four miles outside of Cayetano Germosen and needs numerous latrines to initiate the sanitation in the village. Subsequently they will be trained in HWH in a future grant. In addition, there are serious water tank issues being experienced in the local Cayetano Germosen High School, which will be repaired using some of these grant funds. This grant application is still in the works but will need funding commitments from other 6310 Clubs by early March of 2013.

Villa Trina –The 6310 sponsor is the Saginaw Rotary Club and Carl Hubinger is the Saginaw contact (see his article on page 12 of this newsletter. Villa Trina Rotary Club is the host in the Dominican Republic. Villa Trina is a village at the summit of a very steep mountain. It is primarily a project to upgrade hand washing facilities in eight schools in and around the village. The grant application is also in process and will be seeking funding commitments by early March.

**Frankenmuth Rotary Club** is also working on a second grant application for La Cumbre. Santiago Gurabito Rotary Club is the host club. This project will include water filters, latrines, and HWH training. Chip Sassone is the Frankenmuth contact. This grant is fully funded as Frankenmuth continues to show their leadership with their efforts in La Cumbre.

There is, of course, no substitute for traveling to locations like we did last February and October. As a result of our experiences on these and other trips, I always come away with a deeper understanding by witnessing first hand the overwhelming needs. These three projects were selected from the many we visited on site surveys. Each situation provides us with opportunities to make a difference, and I believe help us understand how many places in this world cry out for our involvement however modest our ability.

Our hosts are very active Rotarians. In addition to normal activities, they search out and define projects; work to find funding with partner Rotary Clubs like us; and oversee initiation through completion. Most of our members have full-time jobs, families, a sense of responsibility to community, and fire in their bellies. These projects are absolutely the right thing to do and are exceptional examples of projects that meet The Four Way Test.

In conclusion, we continue to rise to the challenge to serve in resolving Water and Sanitation needs in developing countries. We have collectively become a Water and Sanitation District Champion. I feel the three new projects in the Dominican Republic are ideal for our District. They keep us on the path of working to meet this daunting challenge. The needed support for these next three matching grant projects is big. Our contacts are sound with strong Rotarian networks. The internal contacts are hardworking, exceptional organizations and people able to create and complete sustaining projects. As Jim Elliot once said "He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose."

## **New Foundation Grant Training**

by PDG Eileen Jennings

The new Foundation grant programs begin on July 1, 2013. All clubs need to become "qualified" in order to participate in the local and international grant programs. And of course, I know, all clubs in District 6310 want to be "qualified."

Qualification basically requires two steps: 1) attend a training program called a **Grants Management Seminar**; and 2) sign a Memorandum of Understanding agreeing to comply with certain RI and District requirements.

To comply with the first requirement and to learn more about the new grants programs, please attend one of the Grants Management Seminars to be held in February. Club presidents will be receiving more information about these seminars, but we want you to plan now to attend. It is essential that two members from each club, preferably including the president-elect, attend one of the seminars.

Grant Management Seminars will be held on the following dates in the following communities:

Saturday, February 2	Shepherd	10:00 AM - 12:00 Noon
Monday, February 4	Chesaning	5:30 PM - 7:30 PM
Tuesday, February 12	Cass City	6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Thursday, February 21	Oscoda	1:30 PM - 3:30 PM
Saturday, February 23	Bay City	10:00 AM - 12:00 Noon

Select one of these dates and reserve it on your calendar.

Although two persons from each club need to attend, ALL ROTARIANS ARE WELCOME!

# Important upcoming dates

January: Rotary Awareness Month

January 25-27: Peace Forum, Honolulu Hawaii; The Green Path to Peace

February: World Understanding Month

February: Grants Management Seminars (see schedule above)
February 9: Rotary Leadership Institute, Plymouth, Indiana
February 23: World Understanding and Peace Day; Rotary Birthday

March 14-16: President-Elect Training, Kalamazoo MI April 19-20: District Conference, Alpena, Michigan

April 27: Rotary Leadership Institute, Mt. Pleasant, MI (see additional RLI dates on Page 7)



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 Pearl District Dispatch to: Connie M. Deford, Administrative Assistant, connie.rotary6310@gmail.com