

District Dispatch

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MAY, 2013

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Leadership Transition

May and June are months for transition of leadership.

Clubs are getting ready to close out paperwork and loose ends in preparation for a change in Presidents. Committees are updating the communication of projects so progress can be shared with club members. Secretaries and Treasurers are getting the final numbers tabulated for reporting to Rotary International.

If you haven't heard about it, Rotary has a newly developed tool to make these processes easier. Club Central is located in www.rotary.org and can be accessed by Club Presidents after you sign in on member access. Presidents, you are invited to sit down with the President-Elect, sign in to the member access, take a look at the program, and begin populating the data from this year and for next year. Find a "techy" Rotarian to assist if the task is too overwhelming! But frankly, I found the program easy to follow. **The challenge is to see how many clubs can make entries in the month of May.** Would you let me know how you are doing?

The South Korean Group Study Exchange group was a delight to have in our District. Thank you Lynne Mischley for coordinating all the efforts and for the clubs who hosted! The pictures on Facebook have been outstanding. "Like" Rotarydistrict6310 and stay in the know.

And so our GSE team has returned safely back to the District from South Korea, they have stories to tell. Please contact [John Zimmerman](mailto:johnzimmerman@yahoo.com) to schedule your program with the team. It's an easy and informative way to keep clubs in touch with the wider world of Rotary. John is a member of the Midland Rotary Club, and you can contact him at johnzimm2@yahoo.com.

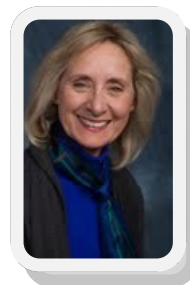
By the way, do you know of non-Rotarian leaders who would be interested in joining an e-club? This is a perfect fit for leaders who travel, who have obligations that keep them from attending your club because of scheduling, or leaders who are on the go and prefer the electronic method. Send names and emails to [Ed Eichler](mailto:Ed.Eichler@avci.net) at eeichler@avci.net.

Thank you to all Rotarians that attended the District Conference making it an overwhelming success. If you represented your club, take a few minutes to share some of the highlights with those who could not attend. Tell your story and encourage attendance for the next Conference May 2014.

Finally, would you print this newsletter and share at your Rotary meeting? We think many are deleting it and others are simply not reading it. If there are copies at the table during the meeting, readership will increase and questions that are answered in this publication will decrease.

I see what you do for Rotary!

DG Georgene



District Conference by the Numbers!

147

Enjoyed the hospitality of the Conference

8

Matching Grants reported this year
from District 6310

20 Yellow Roses

In memory of deceased Rotary
members during this past year



24

Clubs donated local baskets,
and we all had a ton of fun!

1

Person to make a difference.
Thank you Virginia Nordby!

\$1,840

Donated to clubs for the basket raffle
and all for the Foundation!

\$100,000

From clubs, District, and RI Foundation
to partner with our friends in the

5

Visiting South Korean Professionals
who charmed, educated,
and entertained us.

\$100 or more

Donated to the Foundation by
Club Presidents to get the DG to jump
into the freezing waters of Thunder Bay!



1 District Governor in Thunder Bay!

District Conference Photo Gallery



Some of the baskets donated by 24 District Clubs



Rotary ice sculpture



Groups Study Exchange in costume



Jeanne Parks, widow of
Dick Parks of the Saginaw Club



Korean War Veteran, Rotarian PDG Dick Campbell of
the Owosso Rotary Club, is honored for his service.



GSE Team with Exchange Students at Closing Banquet

To view the video of the above honor for PDG Dick Campbell, highlight the following link:

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<iframe src="https://www.facebook.com/video/
embed?video_id=10151871699765299"
width="320" height="240" frameborder="0"></
iframe>
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With you browser open, click on the highlighted link. To watch the video, just click on the picture.

Thank you to PDG Ruby Iwamasa for sharing!

Rotary District 6310 - Youth Exchange 2012/2013

Megan Levy - Midland Rotary to Trenčín, Slovakia

I'm going to be completely honest here: two years ago, if someone had asked me to locate Slovakia on a map, I don't think I could have pulled it off. When I first considered the idea of an exchange program, I had my eyes set on Spain or Latin America as a way to improve my Spanish skills. Or perhaps somewhere exotic, warm, and exciting like Asia. I think I must have changed my top countries at least six or seven times in the process.

Instead, I ended up in the heart of Europe, in a country where the national language is spoken by only 5 million people and still has over a foot of snow in April.



Slovakia is a small country, far overlooked by many tourists who, a) know it only by its reputation from movies like *Eurotrip* and *Hostel*, or b) don't know it exists at all. But having lived here for close to eight months now, I can say it's one of the most incredible places to be an exchange student. I have met some of the most hospitable and caring people, who are willing to allow me into their homes and lives. People who are willing to put in the time to work with an exchange student who could hardly speak the Slovak, one of the most difficult European languages, for months. Communication, a basic function that we are accustomed to using in our everyday lives, becomes a struggle. However, one of the big learning experiences for me was learning how to communicate in other ways: we smile, we dance, and sometimes, we wave our arms around wildly in an attempt to mime whatever it is that we want to say (generally eliciting laughter from anyone in on the conversation).

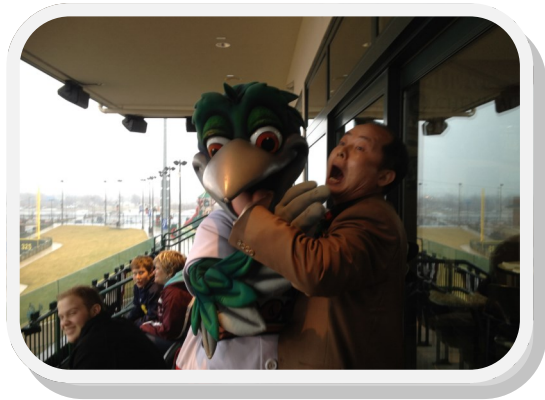


If there is anything I have learned from my exchange experience, it's that no matter how well you prepare yourself for what you expect to come, things aren't always going to go as planned. Things change, things go wrong, and it's how you deal with it that counts and truly shows how you've matured. I have made countless mistakes, embarrassed myself time and time again, and made decisions on all sorts of things that had never crossed my mind before. So maybe I never expected to end up here, in this crazy, wonderful country that I knew so little about only a few years ago, but I couldn't be happier that I'm here now. I only have a few months left here, but I'm looking forward to making them the best three months of the year.

Thank you Rotary, from the bottom of my heart, for this opportunity. In just eight months, I have learned so much about people, the world, a largely unknown yet exciting culture, and myself as well. Being able to see another way of life by living it instead of just studying it from a textbook has so much more value. I can't even begin to express how much that means to me as a to-be college freshman this fall with an interest in international studies. It's been a great year, and I can't wait to see where life will take me next!

Around the District

Caro Rotary Club



GSE District 3680 Team Leader Jung-Chol Pak with Louie the Loon, team mascot, when the Caro Club entertained the GSE team at the Loons baseball game. Note: He did get his hand back!

Northern Bay and Arenac Rotary Club

In conjunction with the Saginaw Basin Land Conservancy, 100 plant seedlings were planted at the Standish Nature Preserve on Earth Day, Saturday, April 20.

Bluebird houses were also erected at the preserve bearing both English and Ojibway peace inscriptions.

Another service day project involved assisting with separating and bagging thousands of seedling trees and shrubs that were distributed in the area.



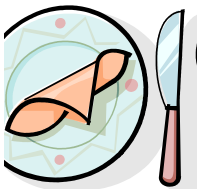
Youth Exchange Student Amy Wang, Jasmine Eichinger, and student volunteer



Paul Siers, Rich DeVine, and Dave Keilitz serving the beef in the take-out line



John Jensen, Mike Pung, Ken Schaeffer, and Amanda Schaffer work in the kitchen



In February, the Mt. Pleasant Rotary Club hosted its 50th annual beef tenderloin dinner. This is one of two fund raisers held each year to raise money for local community service projects. Rotarians gather to prepare approximately 700 meals at the local high school. The meals are sold for \$15 per plate.

Rotary Club of Saginaw

In March of this year, the Rotary Club of Saginaw sponsored its 10th annual Saginaw on Stage fund-raising concert. It has, in that decade, raised more than \$100,000 to benefit the arts and other non-profits.

And on May 2, the club and Saginaw on Stage received a prestigious 24th Annual All Area Arts Award, bestowed by the Saginaw Arts & Enrichment Commission to quality-of-life individuals, organizations, and businesses in Saginaw County. The awards were announced at a banquet from a list this year of 10 nominations.

Remarkably, the day before, on May 1, the Rotary Club of Saginaw also won the adult-age Bee for Literacy spelling bee, an annual fund-raiser luncheon by the local chapter of Altrusa International. Rotary's three-member team outlasted ten other community organizations in rounds where the words grew more and more difficult.

But back to the Saginaw on Stage series of concerts -- where 30 bands perform on five stages, between 4-11 p.m., at the Apple Mountain complex in Freeland. Each plays a 45-60-minute set and every genre is there: blues, pop, rock, jazz, latin, country, folk, big band; an a cappella vocal group. This year added a theatrical component performing mime, dance, poetry, improv.

Bill Koepke has served as the chair all ten years with all members on deck carrying off the event. And who were among the performers? Rotary Club of Saginaw members Dave Oppermann in New Reformation Band, Bill Federspiel in The Wolfpack, Rod Bieber in Mike Brush and Strings, Eric DeVos in Red Hawkins Band, and Todd Farley in Todd's Theatrical Picks.

Beneficiaries over those ten years are: Child Abuse and Neglect Council, Child and Family Services, Mid-Michigan Children's Museum, Community Prescription Support Program, Saginaw Bay Symphony Orchestra, Pit and Balcony Community Theater, Saginaw Art Museum, Saginaw Choral Society, Saginaw Riverfront Development, Saginaw County Business and Education Partnership, Saginaw Family Care Network, The Dictionary Project, and Covenant Sleepsack Project, all locally -- as well as, globally, Japanese tsunami relief, clean water initiatives, and polio eradication.



Members with the All Area Arts Awards plaque

Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI)

District 6310 is fortunate to have the Rotary Leadership Institute sessions available in and near our District. RLI is an excellent tool for your upcoming leaders. Every club should be sending at least one member to take advantage of this District resource. All three parts are offered at each session if a sufficient number enroll in that segment, and the fee remains a reasonable \$70.

Review the following schedule (each in a different venue) for 2013 and decide which sessions would work for you and your future leaders. Part III graduates express how their leadership and people skills have improved as a result of this training. Go to www.rligreatlakes.org for updated details and registration.

June 8	University Center, 80 Livingston Blvd., Gaylord, MI 49735
July 20	Somerset Inn, 2601 W. Big Beaver Road, Troy, MI 48084
	Hotel 800-228-8769 (79.00 plus tax)
October 19	University of Guelph, Ridgetown Campus Conference

What ever happened to...?

By PDG Pam Harkema

Many of you may remember Melinda Boznik, an Ambassadorial Scholar from Hungary to our District In 2005-2006. I connected with her on Linked In and thought you'd like to see what she has accomplished.

In the summer of 2006, Melinda served as an intern and assistant to the Consul at the Embassy of Hungary in Washington, D.C. At this position, she prepared summaries and analysis of Congressional hearings and conferences, and she took part in the organization of cultural events for the 50th Anniversary of the 1956 Hungarian Revolution.

After attending Saginaw Valley State University here in the U.S., she continued her studies at the Institut d'Etudes politiques de Paris where she focused on European Foreign Policy and International Migration. She completed her Masters degree in International Relations at the Budapesti Corvinus Egyetem. Melinda wrote her masters thesis on the migration policy in the European Union.

Currently Melinda is a transitions project manager at Citi, responsible for fully managing transfer of HR data entry, HR administration, and Payroll services to the Employee Services organization locally and coordinating transfer of work from the EMEA region to the Hungarian Shared Service Centre.

For the past 9-1/2 years, Melinda has been a member of the Budapest-Budavar Rotaract Club. She has organized social projects, such as a Children's Day for Orphans, collecting clothes and toys for orphans, cleaning the streets of the city, and rebuilding the play yard at a kindergarten.

Melinda has also coordinated the operation of 11 clubs all around the country and was responsible for the country level budget and external relations. She has also Initiated joint projects, encouraged cooperation between clubs, and organized training for the leaders.

We are certainly proud of her accomplishments and wish her all the best in the future!



2005-2206b Ambassadorial Scholar
Melinda Boznik

RYLA Registration Deadline is Fast Approaching!

By RYLA Co-Chair Krystal Campbell

The deadline for submission of registrations for High School Juniors to attend Camp Rotary June 9-13 under the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards is May 21, 2013. Participants are to have completed their third year of high school, so sophomores will have to wait one more year.

RYLA Chairmen should remember that the student's physical form from a doctor or a copy of their athletic physical for the year, a signed copy of the climbing consent form, camp ground rules signed by the student and a parent, and the completed health and medical record of the student which their parents complete must accompany the registration form

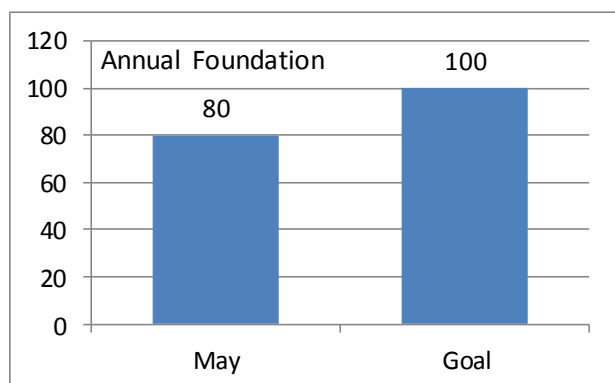
A check from the club for the tuition of \$250 per student must accompany the registration form. All of the forms may be downloaded from the District website.

Based on the recommendation of each Rotary Club, the students are accepted for camp, unless there are extenuating circumstances, in which case I will contact the Club Chairman. Remember, the club must provide transportation to and from camp; or if you approve the change, parents may provide the transportation.

Registrations are to be sent by May 21 to: Krystal Campbell
1201 Buckingham Place
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858



Update on Annual Foundation Giving



We are still short of our goal to have an annual contribution of \$100 per District member to The Rotary Foundation.

What have you contributed this Rotary year? If you're not sure, you can check with your Club's Rotary Foundation Chairman. It's easy to contribute—you can even do it online.

Let's do our best to meet this goal and see what we can do for Rotary!

Want to be a part of the World's Biggest Commercial?

If you want your picture included with Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Her Majesty Queen Noor of Jordan, Dr. Jane Goodall and other notables, it's simple to do — just click on the link below to access the tutorial to add your picture to the world's biggest commercial to End Polio Now, because we truly are this close!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ltByTQJomuw>

Important upcoming dates

- May 17-18: Global Peace Forum, Hiroshima, Japan
- May 21: Deadline for RYLA applications
- June: Rotary Fellowship Month
- 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