

District Dispatch

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These days I feel like Johnny Cash must have felt when he sang, "I've been everywhere, man. I've been everywhere."! Perhaps Johnny was a District Governor! In any case, I'm meeting so many wonderful Rotarians.

I have now visited nearly half of our clubs, and I'm having a great time. I'm finding the clubs to be warm and welcoming ... and fun! It's important for us to have fun in Rotary! I'm also learning that our clubs are doing some great work in our District.

Rotary Day at the Loons

On August 17th we will enjoy a Rotary Day watching the Great Lakes Loons play the Michigan Whitecaps at Dow Diamond. The game begins at 3:05 but arrive early and enjoy some Rotary fellowship before the game begins. This is our day to share our Rotary story (all the good works we do!) with non-Rotarians! I'm looking forward to seeing all of you there!

World Polio Day

World Polio Day is set for **October 24, 2014**. Club presidents will soon receive information about a District-wide "Pizza for Polio" Fundraiser to be held that day. I am asking each club to take part in this fundraiser as well as other fundraisers your own club may sponsor.

The Change In Your Pocket Will Change A Life

I am also asking each club president to prepare a jar, canister, or similar container with the words, "The Change in Your Pocket will Change a Life". Ask club members to deposit any change they might have in their pockets or purses into the container **each week**. Add the change to your club's polio plus fund. I think our Rotary meals will taste that much better knowing that we made a difference in someone's life that day!

Youth Exchange and RYLA Notes

One of the District goals this year is to focus on our Youth Services. We are fortunate to have some very hard-working, dedicated volunteers who make our District programs so successful. However, those volunteers need the support of the clubs to sponsor Interact and Rotaract clubs, and to host or sponsor Youth Exchange students and to sponsor students to Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) at Camp Rotary. My hope is that students who take part in one or more of these programs will find it a natural choice to join a Rotary club when they are settled in their careers.

(continued on page 2)



2014-2015 District Governor
Delores "Dee" Brock

Notes from DG Dee (continued)

Please take the time to read the two letters that have been printed here.

One is from Ozan Yakar, a Youth Exchange student from Turkey, reflecting upon his year in our District. He was sponsored by the **Rotary Club of Midland**. The other is a thank you note written by RYLA student Kenna Boyd to her sponsoring club of **Mt. Pleasant**. Both of these letters will touch your heart and make you glad you are a Rotarian! After all ... it's always a great day to be a Rotarian!!

Hello everyone!

I love a Jewish saying: What is truer than the truth? Answer: Stories.

I am a storyteller. That's what I do in life. I collect stories, sometimes changing them, and later telling them.....

I have such a good story about my experiences in America and like every story, it has an ending and a moral..... My American story is coming to an end, and today I want to tell the moral of my big story.

I have a belief. We all have social and cultural circles. We all do. We are born into a certain nation, class and a family. But if we don't have a connection between these circles, these circles will turn into mental walls and our soul will dry and shrink inside. On the other hand, if we have a connection between those circles, our soul will grow strong because we will learn the precious lessons inside and outside of these circles.

Currently, the world is getting more polarized. People really don't want to listen to each other. Such as conservatives watch Fox, liberals listen to NPR and so on. The identity of politics splits us. Stories connect us. One creates borders, the other one connects continents.

Here is the moral of my story: Throughout my story in America, I have connected many circles that made my soul stronger and I have learned many precious lessons that I will carry back to my homeland.

It was a pleasure to meet you and your organization here in America.

Thank you for your support .

Ozan Yakar

The following letter was addressed to the [Mount Pleasant Rotary Club](#) and serves as a testimonial to the outstanding Rotary Youth Leadership Award program, or as some know it, "Camp Rotary."

Dear Mount Pleasant Rotarians,

Thank you for sponsoring me to attend Camp Rotary earlier this month. I apologize that I cannot be there to personally thank you, but I am attending the Summer Scholars program at the University of Notre Dame. However, I wanted to express my sincerest thanks and to let you know that I cannot begin to explain the wonderful impact this camp has had on my life or the amount of leadership skills I acquired while attending. The counselors at Camp Rotary are spectacular; each counselor offered every camp attendee acceptance, advice, and countless opportunities to learn life changing skills in a safe and non-judgmental environment.

Camp Rotary captures the fears, goals, and friendships of every camp attendee. It challenges each individual to interact with new people, experience a variety of activities they wouldn't normally encounter, and most importantly, Camp Rotary challenges you to push beyond what you think your limits are to become a better leader. Activities like the high ropes course, archery, the gun range and overall team building taught me how to encourage others to overcome their fears while in reality I was encouraging myself too! I never saw such strong bonds grow between teenagers like those we developed at camp nor have I ever witnessed people open up to complete strangers without the fear of being judged.

Outside the team building activities Camp Rotary brought in exceptional speakers. These speakers taught the entire camp what it takes to be a leader, how to build strong organizations, techniques to develop new ideas, and how to work with people from a variety of backgrounds. After reflecting on these speakers I learned that being a leader is not solely based on your ability to guide people, but being a good leader and positive role model is based on a collection of skills including valuing others' opinions and taking others' needs and wants into consideration when making group decisions. A quote by the final camp speaker, Jason LaDean, truly captures the motives every leader should follow: "Be. Do. Have. To be something, do something and then you will have something."

Camp Rotary was an experience that no other leadership development opportunity I have been a part of offered. I learned many skills I plan to bring to my role as Mount Pleasant High School Student Senate President as well my other leadership role in NHS. Thank you again for giving me the opportunity to attend this life changing experience and I look forward to playing a role in MPHS's Interact Club next year.

Sincerely,

Kenna Boyd

SPECIAL MEMORIES



Clean Water – The Next Step

By Charles Adams

What is it?

The Aqua Clara Filter is a low-cost, high-technology, point-of-use water filter designed for mainstream use in humanitarian projects in Developing Nations. It requires no electricity, chemicals or replacement parts. It is backed by a three-year performance guarantee.

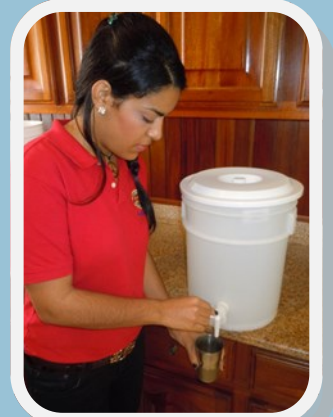
The Aqua Clara Filter is based upon **hollow-fiber membrane technology**, which, for decades, has been used in medical, water, food, and industrial applications for high-precision ultra-filtration. Improved manufacturing processes now make the technology economical for humanitarian projects.

How does it work?



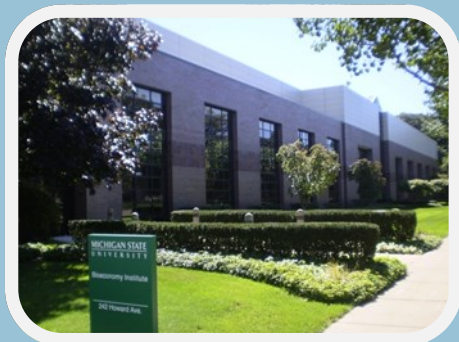
Hollow micro-tubes are created of polysulphone plastic. The walls of the tubes are perforated with tiny holes (pores) not greater than 0.1 microns in diameter. Water enters the filter elements on the outside of the tubes. Since bacteria are larger than 0.1 micron, they cannot flow through the pores in the tubes. Only water can get through the pores. Bacteria and debris are left on the outside of the tubes.

Pure water is collected as it flows on through the filter elements. Bacteria removal is 99.999%. The filters are easily and quickly back-flushed to wash away the impurities that collect outside the tubes in the filter elements. The filtration process is completely mechanical. No biological or chemical processes are involved.



Who makes the Aqua Clara Filters?

The filters were designed and engineered by Aqua Clara International in their laboratories at the BioEconomic Institute of Michigan State University, in Holland, Michigan, USA. (www.aquaclara.org)



The filters are presently assembled for Aqua Clara by Safe Water Institute in the Dominican Republic. Filters are available (or can be produced) in other countries, as well.

Both Aqua Clara and Safe Water Institute are not-for-profit organizations in the U.S. Safe Water Institute is also registered and qualified to do business in the Dominican Republic.

For more information.

Contact Charles Adams, email charles@taeria.com; phone 1-518-685-4285. Request Power Point presentation by email.

Around the District



Front Row:

Amy Peters, Alice Zaleski, Val Hartel, Mary Cunningham,
Mark Karwowski

Back Row:

Jim Bolton, Mike Sines, Greg Biddinger, Carolyn Sorenson

The **Cass City Rotary Club** obtained grant funds to help construct this fence at our downtown Cass City Rotary Park. It turned out perfect, and we wanted to share the finished product with everyone. As well as looking great, the fence provides safety for the children as the park borders Main Street in Cass City.

We conduct ten weekly concerts during the summer at the band shell, and our park is used for several community events during the year. These include a breast cancer awareness festival called "Pinktober" in October and also an event called "Summermania" hosted by the Chamber of Commerce in Cass City, where everything is free for the children who attend - inflatables, face painting, snowcones, cotton candy, etc. Rotary Park is also home to our Farmer's Market every Thursday in the summer.

We took an empty lot that had a building on it that burned down and turned it into this wonderful park.

At a recent meeting of the **Mount Pleasant Rotary Club**, Rotary Global Scholar Peter Ekadu shared a power point of his trip to the Dominican Republic that he took as a part of his summer studies at CMU.

Peter worked with Haitian people who were working in the sugar cane plantations. He experienced firsthand the poverty and needs that are prevalent there. Haitians who cannot find work in Haiti travel to the Dominican Republic to work. They bring their families with them. The women do not work in the fields, but they do tend to their families' needs as well as they are able.

The top concerns Peter found are clean water, sanitation, food, vitamins, education and medical care. He has great concern for the children living in poverty stricken conditions, and he didn't see an immediate remedy for them. He enjoyed helping with the water filtration systems.

A great gift to the women in the Dominican Republic is a sewing machine. Sewing gives them a way to make money. They do not have electric, so the old trundle or hand cranking type of machines is preferred. However, there are plans in the works to supply solar powered generators to create electricity. Then newer machines could be used.

Peter thanked the Rotarians for supporting him and for sending him on this trip to experience and to learn things related to his field of study. He also thanked Rotary for all the work we do worldwide.





From left: Ryan Bladzick, Sponsor Linda Keenan, and College of Owosso President Aaron Mailke

Ryan Bladzick, the newest member of the **Owosso Rotary Club** was properly inducted with humorous comments by past club president David Hood. Drawing a comparison with Crayola, "So, what's this got to do with Rotary?" Hood asked. He then answered his own question: "Nothing." But he then tied in the multi-colored box of Crayons with, "Like the box of Crayons, we all must pitch in to make Rotary work."

College of Owosso President Aaron Maike transferred to the Owosso Rotary from the Rotary Club of Allen Park, which he had joined in 2002 and where he served as president in 2008.

The **Frankenmuth Rotary Club** kicked off their 75th Anniversary with a wonderful celebration at Zehnder's of Frankenmuth on May 15, 2014. Over 200 people were in attendance including District Governor Duane Reyhl and District Governor Dee Brock.

The evening featured a spectacular and historically inspired dinner with charming music from local musicians. The social hour was filled with a wonderful historical display that, along with the printed 75th Anniversary Booklet, reflected upon the Club's history and accomplishments. The booklet not only serves as a nice historical document and keepsake for members, but also now serves as a guide for the club to design a new website that aligns their priorities with current trends.

The evening also featured a fun DVD movie with interviews from newer members as well as some historical video of past projects. This showcased the past, focused on the present, and the club continues to plan for the future with a number of special anniversary projects being targeted.



2013-2014 President Brian McLeod (right) accepts a certificate from DG Duane Reyhl acknowledging the 75th Anniversary of the Frankenmuth Club

MaryAnn Rummell and Louise Rau review the club's historical display



From left: Lyle & Julie Davis with 2014-2015 President Steve List

Passing of the Gavel



Past District Governor Georgene Hildebrand presents the gavel to Governor Dee as Past District Governors look on. Immediate Past District Governor Duane Reyhl was unable to attend the ceremony, but addressed the assembly via phone when Skype failed!



District Governor Dee presents her two sons, Ben (left) and Tim (right) with a Rotary tie.



District Governor Nominee Cheryl Peterson is welcomed to the team by Mike Kelly, District Governor Elect, under the watchful eye of DG Dee



DG Dee accepts the ceremonial gavel from Immediate PDG Duane Reyhl. The "Home of the District Governor" banner now has a new home in Shepherd.



DG Dee expresses her appreciation to PDG Eileen Jennings who nominated her for the position three years ago

August is Membership Month...

...the perfect time to recruit new club members and find ways to get members more involved. Our clubs thrive when we connect with new friends, welcome new voices at our meetings, and work together to improve life in our community.

What's the way to invite new members? Just ask! At your next club meeting, brainstorm compelling answers to the question, "What is Rotary?" so that a prospective member's next question will be, "How do I join?"

Rotarians join and stay with the club primarily because they seek opportunities for community service, fellowship, and friendship. Many of the non-Rotarians you know are looking for the same things. Invite them to help with your service projects, attend a meeting work night, or participate in a club get-together. Help them to see for themselves how Rotary connects leaders to make a positive change.

Here are some potential candidates to consider for membership:

- Friends and family members
- Business acquaintances
- Professional colleagues
- Young community leaders who may already be connected to Rotary through Rotaract, RYLA, peace fellowships, youth exchange, and other programs

Work hard to develop an experience that will keep members engaged and excited about Rotary. Successful strategies include:

- Regularly recognize members for achievements
- Keep members involved in club projects and activities
- Encourage members to take on club leadership roles

Let's make Rotary District 6310 even stronger with more members involved in Rotary service!



Congratulations to the following club celebrating a birthday this month

Breckenridge - 76 years - Chartered August 30, 1938

Millington - 74 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:

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