



District Dispatch

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January is Rotary Awareness Month

Our identity is more than our logo and colors. It is the essence of who we are and what we do. The Strengthening Rotary initiative helps us tell that story in a compelling way. By providing a clear and consistent image of what Rotary stands for and how we differ from other charitable organizations, we offer prospective members, donors, and other stakeholders a compelling reason to engage with us.

Research conducted among Rotary members worldwide revealed insights about who we are.

- Rotary members are responsible leaders, both socially and ethically. We define leadership by mindset and approach, not labels or titles.
- Connecting with each other and our communities will always be the driving force behind Rotary.
- Rotary affects local communities on a global scale to create lasting change.

We found our voice:

- Smart — we are insightful and discerning
- Compassionate — we tackle community challenges with empathy and understanding
- Persevering — we find lasting solutions to systemic problems
- Inspiring — we encourage others to take action, conveying hope, enthusiasm, and passion

We defined three core ideas to help you describe Rotary to a new audience:

- Rotary joins leaders from all continents, cultures, and occupations.
- Rotary exchanges ideas, bringing our expertise and diverse perspectives to help solve some of the world's toughest problems.
- Rotary takes action to bring lasting change to communities around the world.

Our story hasn't changed. But how we share it with the world is vital to our future. Through a unified Rotary look and clear and compelling voice, we are enhancing our legacy as one of the most widely recognized and respected organizations in the world.

Reprinted from the Rotary International Website

Water and Sanitation Corner

by Randy Ettema

What does it mean to have clean water in every home? How often do you wash your hands? What price do you place on good health? Our District 6310 is improving the lives of people, one person at time, in the Paso de Moca village in the Dominican Republic. Through clean water and improved personal hygiene and sanitary conditions, we help limit the spread of diseases, parasites and bacteria.



Water drawn from well

This grant, hosted by the Moca Rotary Club and sponsored by the Frankenmuth Morning Rotary Club, was approved by The Rotary Foundation on September 23, 2013. The clubs in **Alpena, Bay City Morning, Birch Run, Cass City, Durand, Frankenmuth Morning, Ithaca, Oscoda, Pigeon, and Sebawaing** contributed \$7,300. Our Rotary District matching grant fund contributed \$7,020 and The Rotary Foundation contributed \$10,669. The total grant is \$24,989. The focus for this grant includes 27 latrines for 100 families, hand washing training, water filter systems, pumps for two wells, and two water holding tanks.

It is important to note that proper hand washing reduces childhood deaths by 44%. and it is the most cost-effective method of reducing childhood deaths. Hand washing also significantly reduces malnutrition and increases school attendance.



New hole for latrine

During our November trip we saw the local Community Corps has started digging holes for 27 latrines. The cement foundation will be laid on top of the holes. It is very important that the local people take "ownership" by participating in the construction. Starting in February, a youth volunteer group, Builders Beyond Borders in Connecticut, will arrive to finish latrine construction, to assist in the placement of the water holding tanks, and to connect the new pumps. This volunteer group has done many projects in the Dominican Republic.

The Moca Rotary Club will be actively involved by overseeing much of the work, as well as spending money for the electrical lines and connections to the new pumps.

Everyone in our district should be proud of the progress being made for improving lives in Paso de Moca.

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Rotary members at site for new water holding tank

Water and Sanitation Corner (cont.)

What are the new district grant projects for the 2013-2014 Rotary year? We have two Global Grants that will need your support. The first is a Global Grant starting the national campaign for hand washing training in the Dominican Republic (Owosso sponsor). This training targets villages and barrios in and around the Town of Moca.



Location for new water holding tank

The next is a Global Grant involving projects in Cayetano-Germosen (**Midland Morning** sponsor) and Moca Dos de Mayo (**Birch Run** sponsor) and a Moca Seniors Lavatory (**Frankenmuth Morning**) sponsor. These projects involve new latrine installations and upgrades, introduction of water filters, and hand washing training. Information on these projects will be coming in the February District Dispatch. It is through our District efforts that we Engage Rotary and Change Lives.

**Please consider these projects
for your club's international service contributions.**

Club Giving to Annual Fund and Polio Plus

By PDG Eileen Jennings

Congratulations to those clubs that have already given generously to The Rotary Foundation.

Our District has given \$9,293.50 to support Polio Plus since July 1. And I know that this total does not include substantial sums raised by one or two clubs that had not submitted money at the time the reports were prepared. Leading clubs thus far are **Bay City** (over \$3,000), **Alpena, Saginaw Valley**, and **Saginaw** (over \$1,000 each). Eight other clubs have contributed some amount.

Our District's clubs have donated a little over \$60,000 to the Annual Fund, with much of that given in December. **Frankenmuth** has given the most dollars by far – over \$11,000. **Frankenmuth Morning** has given the most per member – an average of \$101.79 per member. **Pigeon** is in a virtual tie with them by giving over \$5,000 – an average of \$100.93 per member! These clubs are major supporters of the international work of Rotary. Thanks to their members for being partners with all of our international work.

These numbers reflect giving by individual members of clubs, as well as by clubs themselves.

If our District gives an average of \$100 per member to the Annual Fund this Rotary year, we will give about \$138,800 by June 30. Wouldn't it be great if we gave \$150,000!!!

Remember that one half of your gifts to the Annual Fund are returned to the District for us to spend on our District Grants and Global Grants. And Rotary Direct is an easy way to make regular contributions.

Around the District



Members of the **Shepherd Rotary Club** at their Annual Food Drive co-partnering with the Shepherd High School Student Council for the local food pantry. As you can see, the day was a snowy one, and they now call this their "Winter Picnic" as they roast hot dogs and have hot cocoa. A good time was had by all!

This is a very slow time for donations at the food bank, and they really appreciate the contributions.

The **Mt. Pleasant Rotary Club** will hold its 51st Annual Beef Tenderloin Dinner on Saturday, February 22, 2014.

Cost for Dine-In or Take-Out is \$18; kids 12 & under Dine-in for \$10.

New location this year is at the Mt. Pleasant Comfort Inn on Mission Street adjacent to the Central Michigan University Campus.



The **Frankenmuth Morning Rotary Club** is sponsoring a Winter Wine Affair at Zehnder's on February 13, 2014.

The \$30 cost per person includes five wine tastes, food, entry into raffle, entertainment, and fun!

Hope to see you there!

Around the District (cont.)

For the past seven or eight years, the **Rotary Club of Pinconning & Standish** has sponsored students from both Pinconning High School and Standish-Sterling High School to attend the annual Rotary Youth Leadership Camp (Camp Rotary) in Harrison in June. The club pays the tuition for students who wish to attend.

This past year's attendees were Brenden Vieau and Wesley Schwartz of Pinconning High School. They addressed the club following their experience. They both said they enjoyed spending time with about 75 other students from around the state, from as far north as Alpena and as far south as Saginaw.

The environment, they said, was different since it involved "the best of the best" from each school and included only students who were interested in being there and participating. Campers broke into groups of eight, and each group was assigned a counselor. The smaller groups engaged in practical leadership activities and team-building exercises in which they learned a lot about one another and about themselves.

The camp lasted five days and each day they were provided a couple hours of free time to socialize and get to know one another. Many opportunities were provided for students to express themselves. Talent shows were held nightly in which everyone was expected to participate. Both Brenden and Wesley played prominent roles in the talent program.

Motivational speakers addressed the students each day. One speaker stressed the importance of living life without excuses. Another speaker, a female judge who deals with juvenile delinquency cases, shared information on developing life skills, good manners, and effective observation techniques. A third speaker talked to the students about gaining knowledge from everyone they meet.

Brenden and Wesley said there was a good balance of structured activities and free time to get to know other students. They encouraged the Rotary Club to continue to send local students to the camp since, they said, the experience was one of the most significant of their lives and would help them pursue other leadership roles in the future.

This blank space could be used for promotion of your Club event or to let others know what good you are doing in your community!

Send your article to connie.rotary6310@gmail.com

What is VTT and what happened to GSE ?

By Lynne Mischley

Vocational Training Teams (VTT) is the new Future Vision program of Rotary International (RI) designed to continue the commitment to vocational training. A VTT is a group of professionals who travel to another country either to learn more about their profession or to teach local professionals about a particular field. It moves the **Group Study Exchange (GSE)** concept from observing their profession in another country a step further by offering participants the opportunity to use their skills to help others. A successful VTT increases the capacity of the host community to solve programs and improve the quality of life.

The Rotary International areas of focus are: Peace and conflict prevention/resolution, Disease prevention and treatment, Water and sanitation, Maternal and child health, Basic education and literacy, Economic and community development.

The Rotary Foundation district, global, and packaged grants all support VTTs, but each grant type has different requirements.

District Grant VTT

Requirements: Must support The Rotary Foundation's mission to promote goodwill and peace, improve health, support education, and alleviate poverty. May be proposed and sponsored by a local Rotary Club, through our 6310 District Grant process.

Team Composition: The District may determine the composition of the team to include Rotarians and non-Rotarians of any age.

Focus and Length of visit: Determined by the sponsor.

Global Grant VTT

Requirements: Must align with one or more of the areas of focus, build capacity of either the team members or the benefitting community, and have a sustainable and measurable impact. Must be sponsored by Rotary Clubs or Districts from two countries. The grant may support the travel of more than one team.

Team Composition: Teams must consist of at least two members (either Rotarians or non-Rotarians) with at least two years of professional experience in the designated areas of focus and a Rotarian leader who has expertise in the areas of focus, international experience, and general Rotary knowledge. No age restrictions of the participants.

Length of the visit: Determined by the sponsors

Budget: At least \$30,000, may be included as a portion of a Global Grant

Packaged Grant VTT is carried out with a strategic partner. Check the Rotary International website for more information.

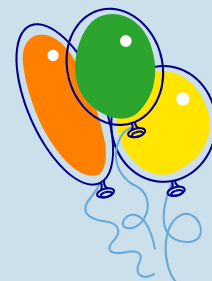
Local Rotary Clubs can initiate grants and submit a proposal to the District Grants Committee for matching funds, for a District Grant VTT, or for a Global Grant VTT.

Contact Lynne Mischley, District 6310 VTT Chairperson, at 989-430-5049 or lynnemischley@gmail.com if you are interested in more information or would like to participate on the District VTT planning team.



HAPPY CLUB BIRTHDAYS!

January 1	Bay City	99 years
January 5	Frankenmuth Morning	7 years
January 11	Shepherd	74 years
February 1	Saginaw	100 years!!!



My very best wishes to each of you in this new year. Let's share with others the good that Rotary does in our local communities and in the world.

If you missed donating to The Rotary Foundation during Rotary Foundation Month last year, you still have time to donate in this Rotary Year. Ideally we would like to employ the motto, Every Rotarian Every Year, with a donation of at least \$100 annually. If that's not possible for you, whatever you can give will be greatly appreciated.

I hope you have marked your calendar for the District 6310 Conference May 2-3, 2014. It will be a great opportunity to meet other District Rotarians, find out what's happening in the Clubs, the District, and at Rotary International. And most of all, we can celebrate all that you do for Rotary!

And it's not too early to think about summer. The Rotary International Convention is June 1-4 in Sydney, Australia. It will bring together some of the world's leading experts on water, polio, and social media. You'll find new ideas for service—and perhaps a new partner for creating change—in the House of Friendship. Consider making this year's convention a memorable family vacation. Register at www.riconvention.org. The registration fee for Rotarians is \$310 through January 15 and \$360 after that.



**2013-2014 District 6310
Governor Duane Reyhl**

Eager for the polio vaccine in Ethiopia

By John Adams, a member of the Rotary Club of Somerset-Pulaski County, Kentucky, USA

At first, I thought the pull on my volunteer's vest was one of the 50 or so village children who were following us, touching me to see if I was indeed real, because I was so different from them. But this was more than a child's curious touch; it was a pull that caused me to lose my balance. I turned in the direction of the pull to find it was not a playful child; but a determined mother, holding an infant. I will never forget her expression. I had no idea what she said in her dialect of Amharic or the local tribal language, but I knew exactly what she wanted.

I understood because I am the father of a 3 year old and I want the same for my child. We share the want to protect our children from polio. She came to me because I could protect her infant child. It is a powerful and gratifying emotion to know you can instantly change the life of another for the better. I called over to Nancy, a Rotarian from Indiana, USA, who had a ready vial of polio vaccine, and we vaccinated the infant against polio.

I understand health workers in other parts of Africa have to spend considerable amounts of time convincing parents to let their children be vaccinated against polio. Not so in the ethnic division of Ethiopia known as the Southern Nations. These folks remember polio from a few years ago before Ethiopia was free of polio. I don't think they actually know about the recent cases of polio in Ethiopia which migrated from neighboring countries. They just know that when health workers, even volunteers of another skin color from 8,000 miles away, have the vaccine you make sure your small children get the two precious drops.

As the day progressed, our noisy parade of Rotarians, Rotaractors, and village children, led by a highly dedicated local health worker, continued through the East African countryside. We had no resistance to our efforts to vaccinate children. We had mothers and fathers carrying small children running and calling to us. They were not taking the chance we would miss their door; they were not taking the chance on their child getting polio.

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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