



ROTARY:  
MAKING A  
DIFFERENCE

# District Dispatch

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JULY, 2017

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## Rotary: Making A Difference

### Welcome to 2017-2018



District Governor  
Patricia Post

It's that time of year in Rotary, when all clubs and districts throughout the world end one year and begin another on July 1st. The same holds true for District 6310. We can be very proud of the accomplishments achieved during 2016-2017 under the leadership of Immediate Past District Governor Cheryl Peterson and her team. The District had a very successful year and represented Rotary well in serving humanity.

It's quite bittersweet to perceive one year ending at the Passing of the Gavel ceremony with a new governor and leadership team beginning a new year. When I accepted the gavel, it was with pride and a dedication to serve the District as best I can throughout 2017-2018. I am quite confident I have formed a well-qualified leadership team to take us into the future.

2017-2018 is the beginning of the 2<sup>nd</sup> century of The Rotary Foundation. As my classmates were advised at International Assembly in January, we all will serve as change agents at the District and club levels to move Rotary towards the future. A strategist has been hired by Rotary International, a strategic team has been formed, data is being gathered, and a new vision statement was recently presented to the RI Board, completing Phase I of our strategy for sustainability. This coming year, under Phase II, a new strategic plan will be developed to make Rotary relevant for years to come.

Ian Riseley, our new International President and an accountant, is starting the change. He said we cannot promote Rotary to the world, without knowing what we have contributed and to be able to answer the question, "What is Rotary?"

(Continued on Page 2)

# Rotary: Making A Difference (continued from Page 1)

Through Rotary International, you are being asked to meet two requirements this year.

- 1) Pay your invoices in July and January on time; and
- 2) Report volunteer hours and service project contributions in Rotary Club Central.

This allows us to measure and publicize Rotary's impact around the world and authenticate the theme for the new year:

**Rotary: Making a Difference.** Rotary Club Central is changing to capture these measures. You and 1.2M Rotarians have or will be receiving an email from RI requesting you register in My Rotary and if already registered, to re-register.



The new logo, in President Ian's own words, "symbolizes diversity with people from all races and backgrounds uniting under the banner of Rotary to make a difference.

It symbolizes all of us striving to do better, reaching ever higher to do good in the world, in the name of Rotary. Even those of us who are modest in our achievements can, when combined with 1.2 million colleagues, contribute to making a difference, in our own communities and more globally. The circle shows that we are in almost all parts of the globe. It is a busy and active design, just as Rotary is busy and active."

As your new District Governor, I am asking for the following:

- Register for "My Rotary" and set and update goals in Rotary Club Central
- Contribute to The Rotary Foundation Annual Fund
- Contribute to the "End Polio Now" campaign. Bill Gates declared a new theme, "Drop to Zero"
- Grow and retain your membership
- Build your programs around RI's theme calendar
- Interact with other clubs and organizations
- Engage in the youth programs

And, at RI President Ian Riseley's declaration under Humanitarian Service, plant one (1) tree for each Rotarian in your club. He states: "The time is long past when environmental sustainability can be dismissed as not Rotary's concern. It is, and must be, everyone's concern." That is why I have established an Environmental Committee with Tom Cook, Rotary Club of Owosso, and Mike Stoner, Rotary Club of Pinconning/Standish club acting as co-chairs for this endeavor. (See Mike's article on Page 7). As a team, they will find a distributor of trees and identify areas in the district that need tree planting. You can carry out this edict by planting a tree in your yard, your local community or park, or as a district project.

We have a solid leadership team in place to work with you to achieve these responsibilities. You can call on the following Rotarians for information as well as to provide a program for your club: Eileen Jennings of Mt. Pleasant, The Rotary Foundation; Chuck Cusick of Bay City, Polio; Rod Bieber of Saginaw, Annual Fund; Troy Leipprandt of Pigeon, Membership; Mike Ardelean of Owosso, Youth Exchange; Nick Tereck of Owosso, Youth Services; Dee Brock of Shepherd, RYLA and Interact; and Kathy Beebe of Mt. Pleasant, Rotaract.

Just as a note, under the leadership of Club Extension Chair Melanie McCoy of the Rotary Club of Sebewaing, we are in the process of establishing a new club in Harrison, Michigan. They had their first-stand-alone meeting this past week. There is also the hope of extending a club in the Tawas area.



**Juliet Riseley, RI President Ian Riseley, and District Governor Patricia Post**

(Continued on Page 3)

# Rotary: Making A Difference (continued from Page 2)

For 2017-2018, I have established or reinstated the following committees and the chairs are willing and eager to serve you.

Alumni Relations – Leslie Dietrich, Durand

Rotary Global Rewards – Brenda Scramlin, Bay City

Friendship Exchange – Paul Hornak, Ithaca

This *Dispatch* belongs to you and your clubs. It's not a newsletter without your input. In the past, I always have read from the back of the newsletter to the front, as I am most interested in what the clubs and their members are doing to make a difference in the world. Please send Connie Deford, [connie.rotary6310@gmail.com](mailto:connie.rotary6310@gmail.com) your pictures and stories—lots of them throughout the year.

I'll report on the District's train trip to Evanston and the tour of the Paul Harris home and gravesite in the next issue. Thirty-seven members have signed up for the trip, July 25 and 26. If the train is not delayed, part of the group will also be guests at Rotary One's luncheon. Wish us good, safe travels!

**Let's start Making a Difference.**

*Pat*

Patricia Post

DG 2017-2018

## 2017-2018 Monthly Themes

The Rotary monthly themes have not changed for 2017-2018. You can use these themes for program ideas during the theme month.

August – Membership and New Club Development

September – Basic Education and Literacy

October – Economic and Community Development  
(including World Polio Day)

November – Rotary Foundation

December – Disease Prevention and Treatment

January – Vocational Service

February – Peace and Conflict Prevention/Resolution

March – Water and Sanitation

April – Maternal and Child Health

May – Youth Service

June – Rotary Fellowship

August is **Membership and New Club Development Month**.

Membership Chair Troy Leipprandt of the Rotary Club of Pigeon and his committee have had their first meeting for the year. They are here to serve you and are willing to come to club meetings in their assigned areas. Please contact Troy at [e.t.leipprandt@gmail.com](mailto:e.t.leipprandt@gmail.com) or cell, 989-963-9158.

You can also go to [www.myrotary.org/membership](http://www.myrotary.org/membership) to find information for all aspects of membership development.

At this time, Club Extension Chair Melanie McCoy is involved in the extension of a club in the Harrison area. In the fall, she will make further contact with individuals in the Tawas area for possible club extension. Melanie's contact information is [melmccoy22@gmail.com](mailto:melmccoy22@gmail.com) or phone 734-516-5525.

The District is also working on establishing an evening satellite club in the Freeland area.

The District Governor's focus this year is on expanding our district membership and working on retention of members.

# 2016-2017 Year Wrap-Up

By Immediate Past District Governor Cheryl Peterson



Thank you to many who worked so diligently during Rotary year 2016-2017. I can only marvel at the lives that were touched—changed for the better—by your work in your local communities and around the world. I trust that your Rotary hearts are strengthened by the outcomes that you have seen from your efforts and that you are encouraged to go forward doing good in the world, serving humanity, and making a difference.

Some highlights of 2016-2017:

- **16 clubs saw a total net gain of 42; 2 clubs had no change in membership; and 14 clubs had a total net loss of 52.** Thus, our district membership declined from 1378 on July 1, 2016 to 1368. Many efforts have gone into membership during the year in individual clubs—congratulations to each one who attracted new members.
- We are **well down the road to forming a new club in Harrison**. After some preliminary work in this community, a highly engaged group of potential Rotarians have been meeting as a club in the formative stage during June with as many as 14 in attendance. They are in the process of identifying local officers and possible projects and fundraisers are being discussed.
- We began the development of a **satellite club in Freeland**. While a satellite is not accounted for as a new club by RI, it will be an extension of the Rotary Club of Saginaw and will give Rotary a presence in a growing community with many young professionals.
- **Record giving to the Annual Fund and Polio Plus of \$187,898.71 and \$53,426.32 respectively.** The 2016-2017 reports are still labeled “interim” by RI which means that additional gifts may still be waiting to be processed. Gifts had to be made by June 30 and received by RI by July. Numbers as of this writing may not reflect the final total, and we will keep you posted on any changes. We will gladly welcome 50% of the Annual Fund giving (\$93,949.36) as our District Designated Funds in three years.
- We welcomed **29 new non-Rotarian Paul Harris Fellows** as part of our Foundation Centennial Celebration.
- **100% of our clubs participated in our Centennial Humanitarian Literacy Project** with clubs committing to 40 Little Free Libraries in their local communities and a joint effort that sent 53 boxes of books (approximately 15,900 books) to Districts 3860 and 3870 in the Philippines.
- **Several local and global grants** supported humanitarian work both “here and afar.”. A broad range of local projects were completed by our clubs serving humanity in their local communities.
- Our first **VTT** occurred with a five member team traveling to Uganda.
- We sponsored **our first peace related workshop** when we collaborated with the Rotary Club of Midland and the Nonviolent Peaceforce to offer the Creating Peace by Practicing Peace Workshop.
- We realized the chartering of the **Alma College Rotaract Club, the Laker High Interact Club (Pigeon), and the West Intermediate Interact Club (Mt Pleasant)**.
- We awarded our first **Rotary Spouse Award** at District Conference as we celebrated the family of Rotary.
- And lastly, **27 district members attended the International Convention in Atlanta**.

This work was only possible because of, in John Germ’s words, willing hands and hearts. Thank you for your humanitarian heart and your engagement in the work of Rotary!

# Congratulations and Thank You!

By Annual Fund Chair Rod Bieber

Congratulations and thank you to all who contributed to the Annual Fund this past Rotary year! We had an extremely successful year and nearly topped last year's record as we contributed \$187,898.71 to the Annual Fund. The Annual Fund is the shared fund and as such, one half of this money will be available for grant funding in three years.

July marks the beginning of a new Rotary year and a new opportunity to make a difference in the world through our giving. Let us remember how fortunate we are for all that we have. The Annual Fund allows us to share our resources with others who can benefit from our help and generosity.

Many of the world's citizens who benefit from our giving will never know our names nor we theirs. However, they will know that the name Rotary is associated with kindness, compassion, and comfort in a time of need.

Allow me to suggest that we consider a contribution or contributions to The Rotary Foundation during this new Rotary year. And, let us have some friendly competitive fun in doing so.

You will be hearing from me throughout the year with reports about per capita giving, Paul Harris Fellow, Every Rotarian Every Year, Paul Harris Society, and where each club stands in these categories. All is in good fun and all is for the benefit of those around the world and in our own neighborhood who need us.

Thank you for being a Rotarian and Happy Giving in Rotary Year 2017-18.



## Polio Plus Update

By Chair Chuck Cusick

Wild poliovirus cases are holding at six thus far this year: 4 cases in Afghanistan and 2 in Pakistan. However, Syria has reported 24 cases of the circulating vaccine derived polio virus (cVDPV). Syria has reported no cases of wild poliovirus.

cVDPV is very rare and occurs in areas where polio vaccination coverage is very low. All cases have been type 2 polio. Wild poliovirus type 2 was last seen in India in 1999. There have been two campaigns this year to vaccinate the children with the bivalent oral polio vaccine. The bivalent vaccine does not contain the type 2 virus.

Our efforts are now centered on vaccinating all children in Syria with the bivalent polio vaccine. This is difficult in war-torn areas, but we are working with governing bodies of each local area to gain access to the children. It is important to vaccinate each child to prevent the cVDPV from spreading from child to child.

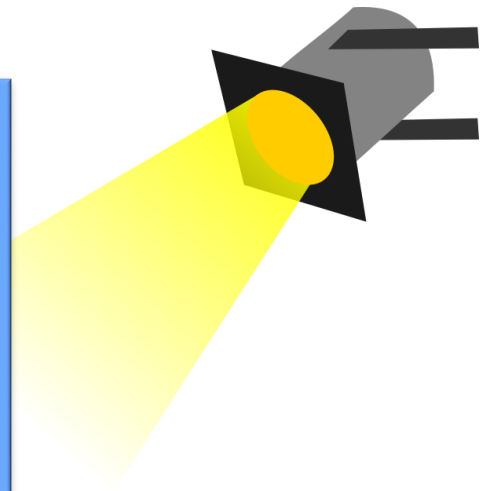
To learn more about this go to [www.polioeradication.org](http://www.polioeradication.org).

If you are interested in a program for your club membership, contact Chuck Cusick [cvcusick@aol.com](mailto:cvcusick@aol.com).

# In the Spotlight...

## District Treasurer

### Shannon Wilson



Shannon joined the Rotary Club of Clare in November 2004. She was elected treasurer in July of 2006 and remains current club treasurer. Shannon also serves as treasurer for the Michigan Association for Gifted Children.

Shannon is a partner at Weinlander Fitzhugh. Since joining WF in January, 1999, Shannon has performed extensive work for municipalities, townships, school districts, and nonprofit organizations. She specializes in audit and review, tax preparation and planning, and business consulting services.

Shannon and her family reside in Clare. They enjoy spending time outdoors, camping and attending sporting and school events.

## Additions/Corrections to District Directory

Area No. 6 Assistant Governor Joyce Swartzmiller has a new email address: [jbraley03@gmail.com](mailto:jbraley03@gmail.com)

Please note that the Rotary Club of Owosso meets at the D'Mar Banquet and Conference Center.

"For 112 years, Rotary has made a difference to more lives, in more ways, that we can count or will ever know. Today, each of us bears a torch, its flame lit by Paul Harris, that has been passed forward from generation to generation, in *Rotary: Making a Difference*."

**Rotary International President Ian H. S. Riseley**



# 2017-2018 Tree Planting Project

By Environmental Committee Co-Chair Michael Stoner

Rotary International President Ian Riseley of Australia has challenged Rotary clubs around the world to plant trees this year to help him fulfill the theme, “*Rotary: Making a Difference.*” Our District Governor has shared information provided by RI on ways to accomplish this goal.

There are other ways to do this as well. During the last two years, the Rotary Club of Pinconning & Standish has included a tree planting component as part of its Saginaw Bay Nature Festival. Each year, working with local groups and school children, our club has overseen the planting of hundreds of seedling trees and shrubs. As part of this project, we have established partnerships with organizations that provide us with native plants each year.



Due to the success of this project, District Governor Pat asked that I co-chair the District 6310 Environmental Committee in 2017-18 to guide clubs in implementing RI President Riseley’s tree planting challenge.



A great target date for accomplishing this project is Earth Day, April 22, 2018. It gives each club about nine months to make all arrangements necessary to complete this goal. In theory, a club member could plant one tree in a high profile location and meet the RI challenge. That would be a symbolic, but not very meaningful, act.

On the other hand, a club could develop a set of partnerships (with schools, churches, other service organizations, conservation districts, and so forth) to provide for the planting of many trees—one for each club member. The community impact would be much greater, and the planning effort, itself, would be a means to put in place a continuing and sustainable community-wide conservation effort led by Rotary. If that were to happen, Rotary would indeed be making a difference—in the long run, not just in 2018.

In next month’s *District Dispatch*, specific suggestions for ways to accomplish the RI tree planting goal will be presented.

# Rotary Youth Exchange

By Chair Michael Ardelean

The Rotary Youth Exchange Program is deep into our summer busy season. We have just completed submission of paperwork from our Youth Exchange Officers on guarantee forms that our eight future Inbounds will need in the next few weeks to secure their Visa to arrive in the USA in mid-August. No guarantee forms can be completed until a host family has been secured by the Youth Exchange Officer for the arriving students. This continues to be the biggest challenge for our clubs. All eight sponsoring clubs have now submitted, and the process can move forward. We cannot wait to meet our new group in August at our orientation in Cass City.

On the Inbound side of things, we have just had eight of our current Inbounds return from their West Coast trip. This is always a highlight for those who participate. They all had a wonderful time exploring California, Nevada, and Arizona. Most of these students will board a plane home the week after conference. The tears will begin soon!

Our five current Outbounds are arriving daily from their 11 months abroad. We had students in Thailand, Brazil, Chile, and Mexico this past year. They will participate in the Central States Youth Exchange Conference at Calvin College July 14-16 as will our new Outbounds and current Inbounds. This conference helps them all deal with their return home and reverse culture shock. It also helps prepare our new Outbounds for their adventures, which will begin a few weeks after the conference.

Our new Outbounds have been participating in monthly training meetings with our District staff and preparing for their departure. Their clubs on the other side of the globe await their arrival in the next few weeks as well.

As you can see, there is lots going on with Youth Exchange. We continue to look for more clubs to participate at either the Inbound or Outbound side of the program. Anyone interested in more information can contact me at 989-277-0984 or [mike@clh-insurance.com](mailto:mike@clh-insurance.com)

# Rotary International Convention June 23-27





## Passing of the Gavel to 2017—2018 District Governor



From left: PDG Eileen Jennings, PDG Delores Brock, PDG Mike Kelly, IPDG Cheryl Peterson, DG Patricia Post



District Governor Patricia Post presents a thank you gift to outgoing District Governor Cheryl Peterson

Thank you to Rodney Volk, Rotary Club of Saginaw Valley, for providing pictures.



District Governor Elect Michael Elliott, District Governor Patricia Post, and District Governor Nominee Thomas Miles

## INTERACT NEWS

Members of the **Mt. Pleasant West Intermediate Interact Club** celebrated the end of this school year's charter club with a banquet at the Italian Oven.

Rotarian Krystal Campbell, club advisor, presented a pin and certificate to all club members.

Former Club President Jonah Ervin was a guest speaker who shared his experience as an Interacter, both at Junior High and High School clubs.

Earlier in the year, the club provided water bottles for 500 Jr High students who participated



The Rotary Club of Shepherd hosted the **Shepherd High School Interact Club** at an SHS Interact Banquet on June 8, 2017. Approximately fifty members of the club and their parents attended the dinner and program. The students were honored for their service during the past school year and were presented with certificates and Interact pins.

The program included presentations about the SHS Interact Club achievements by Rotarian advisor Walt Berry, a general presentation about Rotary and its work in local communities and around the world by PDG Dee Brock, and a presentation from Kathy Beebe, Past District Youth Services Chair, about the opportunities students have to join other Rotary Youth Service programs.

## AROUND THE DISTRICT



Visiting the **Rotary Club of Bay City** recently was Past President Rob Clark, who now resides in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Rob even led the singing, as he did in the past.

Shown at left are Andreas Teich, Chris Girard, Rob Clark, and Jim Griffiths.

The **Bay City Morning Rotary Club** recently honored its two newest Paul Harris Fellows.

Shown from left are Assistant Governor Larry Arendt with honorees Dorothy Dean and Sharon Neetz.

The club now has 23 Paul Harris Fellows, with five of those in the +1 thru +4 categories.



The Rotary Club of Caro recently held a ribbon-cutting ceremony for their Little Free Library located in Atwood Park, Caro, Michigan. Many people have been seen taking books and dropping off books to support this program.

Rotary members paused for a photo at the ceremony led by current Rotary Club President Marc Augsburger (center). In attendance were Erin Schmandt, Margo Hahn, Tyler Colling, Marc Augsburger, Lee Teschendorf, Jodi Fetting, Kent Graf, Jamie Wark, Susan Holder, and Brenda Kretzschmer.





The **Rotary Club of Midland** Scholarship Committee, established in 1934, is the oldest continuing committee in the club. Originally, interest-free college loans were given out until the early 1960s. Since then scholarships have been established in the names of Herbert H. Hardy (\$2,500 each), Calvin A. Campbell (\$1,300), and William Dixon (\$1,200 each to three students). Over 59 years, 240 students have been awarded close of \$360,000 in scholarships.

This year's winners include Jenny Albrecht, a 2010 Midland High School graduate who is a graduate student at Saginaw Valley State University; Allison Lovejoy, a Coleman High School student attending Eastern Michigan University; Courtney Beauchamp, a Coleman High School student attending Delta College; Lauren Curtis, a Midland High School student attending Grand Valley State University; Alyssa Coffey, a Midland High School student who will be attending Western Michigan University; and Annalise Wohlford, a Herbert H. Dow High School student who will be attending Northern Michigan University.

The club recently held a Passing of the Gavel ceremony with outgoing President Tawny Nelb passing the gavel to 2017-2018 President John Haag.



The club (and District 6310) will greatly miss two of its outstanding members, Jennifer and Kevin Kendrick, who will be moving south in August.

Jennifer served as the District 6310 Webmaster. Kevin was Club President and this past year was a member of the Membership Committee.

Best wishes to Jenny and Kevin on all their future endeavors!



RYLA students attended a recent meeting of the **Rotary Club of Mt. Pleasant**. They spoke about their week at Camp Rotary and what they learned.

Through this experience, the students made very close friends, learned confidence they didn't have before, had fun, learned how to be a leader, and helped them think more about their future and where they wanted to go.

They greatly encouraged Rotary to continue sending students in the future, it was very worthwhile.

On June 22, 2017, Erik Rodriguez, Interim Public Relations Director for the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, addressed the **Rotary Club of Pinconning & Standish** on activities of the Tribe. He announced the groundbreaking for the new 148-room hotel next to Saganing Eagles Landing. The project also includes expansion of the casino, itself. This will be an 18-month project with a grand opening expected in early 2019. Ultimately, 200 jobs will be added.

Erik said although some people think the Chippewa Indian Tribe is simply the operator of casinos, the Tribe is involved in many things, such as the promotion of cultural activities, water quality issues, public safety, and more. He said the Tribe is very interested in collaborating with local organizations to promote economic development, educational, and cultural activities in the region.



Sandy McCreery, Public Relations Manager and Erik Rodriguez, Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe

Members of the **Rotary Club of Pigeon** were recently treated with hearing reports of students who had attended RYLA (Camp Rotary) in June. All four will be seniors this fall and the officers for the Interact Club. Here are their thoughts about their experience.

**Lance Gascho:** "I loved the opportunity to meet new people, have some fun, and become a better and stronger leader"

**Aubrey Dickens:** "The camp was an amazing experience. Everyone who went was moved and felt a need to do more in their life. Others should really go next year."

**Chelsey Katshor:** "I really enjoyed everything about the camp. We did a lot of amazing things and met a lot of amazing people. I feel like this camp taught me a lot of new things, and I feel it made me a better person."

**Brittany Richmond:** "I enjoyed being able to be myself and connect to others and strengthen our leadership abilities."

# Presidential Peacebuilding Conferences

Rotary International President Ian H.S. Riseley will host six presidential peacebuilding conferences in 2018 to explore the connection between peace and Rotary's five other **areas of focus** plus environmental sustainability. By focusing on the areas where Rotary does its most significant work, the series seeks to:

- Elevate Rotary's status as a global leader in each area of focus
- Demonstrate The Rotary Foundation's impact on our causes
- Educate and inspire participants to increase their Rotary service
- Provide an opportunity for members and nonmembers to explore project partnerships

Members and nonmembers are invited to attend. Learn more about each event and register on the Rotary website:

10 February – [Environmental Sustainability and Peace](#), Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

17 February – [Water and Sanitation and Peace](#), Beirut, Lebanon

24 February – [Disease Prevention and Treatment and Peace](#), Coventry, England, United Kingdom

17 March – [Economic and Community Development and Peace](#), Sydney, New South Wales, Australia

28 April – [Maternal and Child Health and Peace](#), Taranto, Italy

2 June – [Basic Education and Literacy and Peace](#), Chicago, Illinois, USA

You can hear President Riseley's invitation at the following: <https://youtu.be/bwn0SMjBAxQ>



**Congratulations to the following club celebrating an anniversary this month:**

**Caro** - 92 years - Chartered July 29, 1925



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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