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Rotary
District 6690

News



February 2010

"Education is the biggest gift that one can give"

Education is the answer for poverty, hunger, poor health & conflict, tension, hate crimes and violence.

So invest in education



If you educate a child he/she will educate their children, and that will flow to the next generation like a river and all these will join in the ocean of peace.

Education is the key to man's survival and happiness- resulting in harmony in personal life that translates into peace.

Peace is in our hands- all it takes is education



Namaste!

Surprise! Surprise! It seems in a blink of my eyes 8 months have passed quickly. It was because we were having such a good time in achieving our goals, and now we have to get ready for our District conference in 10 weeks! On behalf of the three Rotary clubs of Athens County, we are very pleased and honored to host this conference on May 13-16, 2010 at the Ohio University Baker Center, the home of the Bobcats.

I am thankful to the Nelsonville Club and the two Rotary Clubs of Athens for their hard work for the last 3 years to put together this excellent District Conference. Under the leadership of Diane McVey, the conference committee has planned an event that you will enjoy and remember for years to come.

This is my personal and cordial invitation to you and your entire family to come and enjoy our warm Appalachian hospitality for the May13-16th weekend. We have planned a perfect weekend for you and your whole family.

We all should be very proud of the achievements of our Rotary year and now it is time to celebrate with gusto. Our R.I. President John Kenny gave us the theme “The Future of Rotary is in Your Hands” and now we all can proudly say that our District has made the future of Rotary shine. Many of our projects and programs will be showcased at the conference. Come and share in the pride of our accomplishments.

My son Atul Gawande, author of three bestsellers, has planned a stimulating talk. You can enjoy the fun and fellowship of a Home Hospitality Dinner or ride the Hocking Valley Scenic Railway for a wine tasting. Other events and activities are published in a brochure that you will be receiving soon. There is enough variety to satisfy everyone.

We encourage you to register Online at www.district6690.org . It’s quick and easy to choose from the variety of activities and planned events. You can also find complete information about everything we have planned for you that weekend.

We’ll have a lot of fun and fellowship, and leave on Sunday inspired and fulfilled. We’re looking forward to seeing you in Athens.

Bring your family, your members and your new members to win the \$500 cash award and 500 points toward Paul Harris Recognition!

*Ram and Sushi Gawande,
District Governor, 2009-2010*

Deadline Dates for Award Applications

RI Significant Achievement AwardMarch 1
Presidential Citation.....March 15
Four Avenues of Service.....March 15
Star club Award..... March 15
Literacy.....April 15
RI Cooperative AwardMay 1

All requirements, criteria, and forms are on RI Web site www.district6690.org



February is World Understanding Month

This month has an auspicious beginning, as the first meeting of Rotary's founders was held on February 23, 1905 and now the month is designated as World Understanding Month and Peace Day.

I was thinking what is the best way to focus and to celebrate this month? What can we do in a real world, in a practical way to show we care for the world around us? How can our District membership promote Rotary's 4th objective, the advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace?

I suddenly realized that our district already had the answers for these questions, as we are already involved for the last many years to promote international understanding. We are doing matching grants, ambassadorial scholarships, GSE teams, youth exchanges, peace scholarships, PolioPlus program and medical missions. Past R.I. president from Ohio Arch Klumph would be very proud of us as we are fulfilling his dream of "doing good in the world."

I am particularly proud of our district, as we have taken a special interest in helping typhoon victims in Philippines and earthquake victims in Haiti, thus furthering the cause of international understanding. For emergency care, the clubs in our district are participating in sending Shelter Boxes. The second phase of our action is to send a medical mission to provide urgent health care. Our third phase is to continue to help victims and develop sustainable water or school projects.

These natural disaster victims of typhoon in Philippines and earthquake in Haiti had no support. They were terrified, heartbroken, desperate, hungry, thirsty, cold, and without medical care. When everything was against them, Rotary was there to extend a helping hand and give hope where there was despair. This was heart to heart action; our actions spoke louder to create mutual understanding. Thus our district needs to be congratulated for creating international understanding and good will. There is no better way to celebrate this month than what we did.

District Governor Ram Gawande

Declining Membership is a Problem

by DG Ram Gawande

I am not very pleased to deliver the news that our RI monthly report tells us that this month our membership is down by 4 members. Last year this month our District membership was up by 84.

We are blaming our present state of economy, job losses, and unemployment. While it is true that we can't do much about that, my question is, "How come we did better last year?" As you probably realize, there are many other causes besides the bad economy affecting our membership - things that we can do something about.

Some of our clubs have taken important steps to prevent a further decline. Some clubs are coming up with innovative ideas like the Dublin AM "Angel club" which supports members who are in financial distress.



**ROTARY
WANTS
YOU!**

Some clubs like Westerville are giving incentives for new, young members to join the club. Some clubs are giving credits to members who are putting sweat equity into service projects. The Mount Vernon Club grew because they introduced a sergeant-at-arms and made the club more fun. Other Clubs are increasing interest by holding meetings at businesses. Some clubs have increased fellowship with progressive dinners. Some clubs, like Grove City, are having more group outings, birthday and anniversary celebrations.

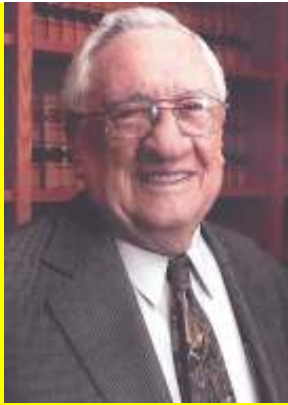
Some clubs have started the campaign "Every Member Get a New Member." Most clubs have now started orientation programs to get new members involved right away, which helps retention. The Lewis Polaris Club is killing two birds with one stone. They are personally visiting local businesses, collecting business cards, promoting Rotary and collecting funds by raffling off baskets. The Reynoldsburg Pickerington Club is offering \$50 to each member who brings in a new member. The most significant thing clubs have started is doing more local service projects and international service projects, thus changing the public perception to recognize us as a service organization and not a luncheon club.

Some clubs are aggressively promoting their public relations campaign in the news media and Zanesville Sunrise is even putting Rotarian faces on bill boards. Our district is involved in PR activity under the leadership of Stacy Wood who was able to get two RI grants, thus reaching more than a million people.

We Rotarians are the people who get tougher when things get tough. We are looking at the bad economy and giving it a positive spin and we are uniting as a group by sharing and caring for each other. We are using this opportunity to build a stronger and more meaningful membership that is everlasting.

Let us take this membership challenge seriously and reverse the trend. *One thing everyone can do is to ask a friend or colleague that you think is a great citizen to join your club.*

"The Future of Rotary is in Your Hands"



RI Special Representative Abraham Gordon

Appointed by RI President John Kenny for District 6690

Abe served as Vice President (1999-2000) and as a Director (1998-2000) of Rotary International. He also served as President of the Rotary Club of Bridgeport, CT (1981-82) and Governor of District 7980 (1989-90). He served as chairman, RI Committee on Fellowships 2006-07; 2007-08; 2008-09); Chairman, R. I. Election Review Committee (2000-01 & 2002-03); Chairman, R.I., RYLA Committee (2000-01 & 2002-03); Chairman, Northeast USA Region of Polio Eradication Private Sector Initiative (2000-2003), Chairman and Founder RYLA Conventions, 2001 (San Antonio, Texas) & 2003 (Brisbane, Australia), Member, PolioPlus Speakers Bureau. He has served a delegate to the 1992, 1995 & 2001

Councils on Legislation and was appointed a member-at-large at the 2004 Council and will be a delegate to the 2010 Council.

Rotary International has honored him with their "Service Above Self" award and The Rotary Foundation has honored him with their "Distinguished Service Award" and "Citation for Meritorious Service." He presided over the opening plenary session of the Rotary International Convention in Buenos Aires, Argentina in 2000. He serves as a Director of Rotarian sponsored Pure Water for the World, Inc.; Director Emeritus for Rotarian sponsored Gift of Life International, Inc. and is the founder of the Gift of Life program in Penang, Malaysia which has saved over 500 lives to date. He led the Rotary Foundation's National Immunization Day in Ghana & Togo in 2000.

He has been twice honored by the University of Bridgeport as "Most Distinguished Alumnus" and. He was awarded a Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of Bridgeport and a Juris Doctor degree from Duke University School of Law.

He is a partner in the law firm of Gordon & Scalo, Bridgeport, Connecticut. He serves on the Professional Discipline Committee of the Connecticut Bar Association and as an Attorney Trial Referee for the State of Connecticut. He is a Trustee of the University of Bridgeport and a past president of the Bridgeport Heart Association. For over 30 years, he has served as a civilian search-and-rescue boat crew and aircraft pilot for the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary and has served as president of the Bridgeport Council of the Navy League of the United States and as their regional vice-president.

Abe will be at our District Conference to offer his knowledge and inspiration. It is not often that we get the chance to meet such a distinguished Rotarian.



Family of Rotary

HOW CAN YOUTH EXCHANGE STUDENTS BECOME ROTARY FAMILY MEMBERS?

1. Involve other club members to invite them to join them in family functions
2. Communicate with the student's family back home
3. Lifetime contact after the student has returned home

HOW CAN RYLA, INTERACT AND ROTARACT STUDENTS JOIN OUR ROTARY FAMILY?

1. By participation in projects, fundraisers, club and district social events, Christmas parties, changeovers, district conferences and assemblies
2. Attendance at other Interact, Rotaract, and RYLA activities

PDG, PEGGY MURGATROYD



A Letter from our Youth Exchange Student in Russia

Dear Rotarians,

As you are all aware, I am currently finishing the second month of my year-long Rotary exchange here in Blagoveshchensk, Russia. Everything has been going great here in Russia, but I am not writing you to talk of my adventures, but instead to ask for assistance for my host club—the Blagoveshchensk Rotary Club of district 5010. For those of you who do not know, Blagoveshchensk is the capital city of the Amurskaya Oblast, home to over 250,000 people. From attending their weekly Rotary meetings, I have learned that my club is undertaking a grand project here locally in Blagoveshchensk to help fight tuberculosis. Their project includes buying diagnostic machines to help detect tuberculosis in patients early, so that the necessary measures can be taken before it is too late. From what I have learned, tuberculosis is still a problem here, and these diagnostic machines are desperately needed. Their project is starting to receive local press, and the story of their project will soon be featured on the Rotary International website, with a call for help with funding their project. Their goal is to purchase six of these machines for hospitals here in Blagoveshchensk. They have already raised enough to buy one machine, but five more are needed at a cost of 1.2 million rubles (about \$40,000).

If any of you from the New Albany, Westerville Sunrise, or any other of the Rotary clubs in district 6690 who helped sponsor me and get me to where I am today can somehow help donate to this cause, I, along with all the Rotarians in Blagoveshchensk would be extremely grateful. I am only trying to get involved in one of the local Rotary projects, but I also believe that helping sponsor this project can and will foster good relationships between the respective clubs, districts, and countries of the clubs involved in this project. I believe that trying to assist in this project is part of my mission as a good will ambassador from the United States of America, and will show the Rotarians here how exchange students really do help connect Rotarians from across the world and unite them to help advance the common goals of Rotary. As it is also my duty as an exchange student to represent my home country, what better a way to demonstrate the American generosity and compassion than to show that we do not only think of our own local projects, but that we reach out to other clubs around the world in their times of need. I understand if your clubs do not now have the resources to divert into this project or if your resources are already tied up in other avenues of service, but if any club is looking for a new international project, please consider this project which for me is also now “close to home.”

I thank you for your consideration,

Gregory J. Miller
Rotary Youth Exchange student
New Albany Rotary Club, District 6690 to
Blagoveshchensk Rotary Club of Russia, District 5010

An update on the above request: The board of the Rotary Club of Westerville Sunrise decided that to donate \$1,000 to help the Blagoveshchensk Rotary Club with their project to help detect tuberculosis in patients early. They are planning for a possible matching grant project to create a far larger donation for next year.

Gregory has now started an Interact Club in his home in Russia and is the current Charter President of a Rotaract Club. What a terrific ambassador. And what an opportunity Rotary has given him to use his talents.



Greg Miller



Meet Tom Albaugh, ADG

Tom is an Assistant District Governor, covering the Dublin-Worthington, Dublin AM, Olentangy, and Mt. Vernon Clubs.

After four years in the Air Force (I always wanted to fly...but I was in radar operations watching aircraft fly all of the time... real torture!) I decided to go to "Steuby U" Steubenville University. I received a B.S. in Accounting. My senior year in college I decided to be a teacher.

I have taught at Columbus South High School, Beechcroft High School, Brookhaven High School, Eastmoor High School, Indianola Middle School, and Columbus Alternative High School. I always taught Business Education subjects. At CAHS (Columbus Alternative High School) I was the Community Internship Coordinator and the advisor of the CAHS Key Club. During the summers I attended graduate school and received an MBA from Ohio State. I also worked on my Doctorate degree while being a Graduate Teacher at OSU. After thirty years, I retired from teaching from Columbus Public Schools. I still teach part-time at Columbus State Community College.

I am married to Patti Rudin. We moved to Mount Vernon, Ohio, in 2000, Patti's home town. Patti is a retired Professor from Otterbein College with two children, Amy and Justin.

Patti and I love to travel (she more than me). We have seen Great Britain, Ireland, Holland, Switzerland, and Nova Scotia. Patti's favorite trip was a safari in Kenya and Tanzania. We are committed to play golf in all 50 States. Whatever you do, do play golf in Hawaii and DO NOT play golf in Alaska (way too cold and the greens are nonexistent).

Mount Vernon Rotary has been good to me. I really enjoy working with other Rotarians. I served a tour of Presidency in 2007-2008. It is nice to see the hard work that Melanie Bolender achieved as President and I know that Susan Sukys is a very capable replacement. Things are looking up at Mount Vernon.

Tom, the Rotarians of District 6690 would like to thank you for all you do for Rotary.



**District Conference
District 6690
May 13 -16, 2010
Athens, Ohio**

This is a busy weekend in Athens. Call a hotel to book a room now to avoid having to stay outside the area. Info on web site www.district6690.org

New Year Resolutions

Excerpt from his book "As I Was Saying"
By Cliff Dochterman, Past RI President



As we begin a new year, it is traditional that some resolutions are made. As we enter the New Year, how about considering this resolution list as a responsible Rotarian?

- I will find a person or two who should be a member of our club and bring them as a guest to our meetings.
- I am going to spend just a few minutes each week chatting with two members with whom I usually have no contact, just to expand my circle of friends.
- I am going to see if there is a committee which needs my personal service, and become actively involved by contributing my time and service.
- I am going to have a totally new Rotary experience by attending the Rotary International Convention in June, or the District Conference in May, or the Foundation Seminar in October.
- I am going to become more involved in the club meeting each week with some high fives and happy dollars because good things are happening in my life and I wish to share the news.
- I am going to become a regular contributor to the Rotary Foundation starting THIS year!

And if you make, and keep these resolutions you will enjoy the privilege of being a Rotarian even more in the coming year.

First Capital Rotary Club Teams with The Gates Foundation to Buy Computers for Ross County Libraries



First Capital Rotarian Randy Davies, foreground, unpacks computers recently received by the Chillicothe and Ross County Public Library. Also pictured are Rotarians Randy Drewyor, left, and John Sams and library employee Doni Haney. (Frank Robertson, Gazette)

See story on the next page New

Library computers were unpacked Thursday, thanks to a community partnership that helped the Chillicothe and Ross County Public Library qualify for a grant for the machines. The library system was awarded the \$35,100 grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation during the latter half of 2009 to allow the purchase of the 18 new, public-access computers the library could place throughout the system.

The Gates Foundation did a survey of Ross County in such areas as poverty, income and demographic factors. Based on the findings, the foundation provided the library system with a list of branches where it wanted the computers to be installed. The library had to provide a 25 percent funding match for the two-year grant, which is where the community partnership came into play. The David Meade Massie Trust, First Capital Rotary Club and Rotary District 6690 provided financial assistance that made it possible for the library to meet the matching-funds requirement.

THOMAS R. CARLISI, M.A., LPCC

Tom is the District Rotaract Chair and a member of The Columbus Rotary Club.

Tom Carlisi is the founder of Northwoods Counseling Center. He has provided counseling services for over 30 years in Franklin County. His counseling and consultation focus helps people realize their full individual and relationship potentials. His work emphasizes compassionate communication skills based on the Nonviolent Communication™ (NVC) model by Marshall Rosenberg, Ph.D., the positive visualization work of John Powell, S.J., and the spiritual foundation of the 12-Step Program.



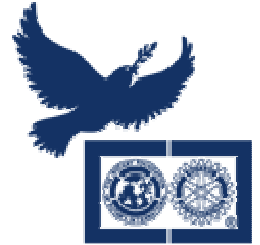
Mr. Carlisi has a Master's Degree from The Ohio State University in Education, Special Services. He is a Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor. He also is a graduate of the Family Therapy Institute, in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Mr. Carlisi also serves as founder and CEO of Winners' League Foundation, a non profit organization, that specializes in Service Learning and Workforce Development educational programs for youth and families. He currently is developing a Social Justice program, utilizing the NVC model and Service Learning Activities.

Mr. Carlisi helped establish Compassionate Communications of Central Ohio (CC-CO), a local organization, whose mission is to promote peace, eliminate violence, and work through conflict by systemically using NVC in Central Ohio and beyond.

Thanks, Tom, for all you do for Rotary.

Call for Rotary Peace Fellow Applications



The Rotary Foundation invites all districts to submit applications for the 2011-12 Rotary Peace Fellowships. **Complete applications must be sent to the rotary foundation by 1 July 2010.**

Dear Rotarian District Leaders,

In these uncertain times, there is a growing demand for well trained international leaders to promote national and international cooperation and peace throughout their lives, in their careers and through service activities. The challenges of the 21st century require people skilled in the art of diplomacy, mediation and conflict resolution. The Rotary Peace Fellowship program was developed to meet this very need.

Rotary is seeking non-Rotarian professionals interested in expanding their knowledge in international relations, public administration, sustainable development, peace studies and conflict resolution or a related field. Each year, up to 100 Rotary Peace Fellowships (50 master's degree fellowships and 50 professional development certificate fellowships) are offered on a competitive basis at six prestigious Rotary Centers around the world.

Participants in the master's degree program gain access to:

- Two years of Rotary-funded graduate study toward a master's degree at one of our six Rotary Centers
- Training in the root causes of conflict, theories of international relations, and effective models of cooperation, conflict resolution, and negotiation.
- A growing network of committed alumni employed around the world in diplomacy, government, non-governmental organizations and private corporations.

Candidates already working in the field of peace and conflict studies may opt for the three-month professional development certificate program at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok, Thailand. Both programs require, at minimum, a bachelor's degree in a related field; 3 years of relevant work experience for the MA program and 5 years for the professional development certificate.

Since the Rotary Peace Centers inception, more than 85% of all Rotary districts have endorsed at least one Rotary Peace Fellowship Applicant totaling over 1,700 application submissions. Now is the time to start recruiting for your district! Please share this information with business associates, local universities, service organizations, religious institutions, and community groups that may know of individuals interested in conflict resolution and diplomacy. For eligibility and application information, please direct candidates to:

<http://www.rotary.org/en/StudentsAndYouth/EducationalPrograms/RotaryCentersForInternationalStudies/Pages/HowToApply.aspx>

Candidates for the 2011-2012 academic term should send their applications to Rotary clubs now.

Contact rotarypeacecenters@rotary.org for further information or click below:

<http://www.rotary.org/en/StudentsAndYouth/EducationalPrograms/RotaryCentersForInternationalStudies/Pages/ridefault.aspx>

Rotary Peace Centers Department
The Rotary Foundation

rotarypeacecenters@rotary.org

will you?

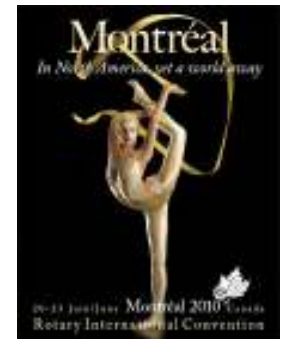
Include The Rotary
Foundation in your estate
plans to forever be a
part of Rotary's legacy
of doing good in the world.

Receive a special
invitation to join
the Bequest Society
by contacting
847-866-3100 or
plannedgiving@rotary.org.

Thank you.



20-23 JUIN/JUNE **MONTREAL 2010** CANADA
ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION



A performance by the world-famous Cirque du Soleil and an award-winning musical adaptation of *Les Misérables* are two of the entertainment opportunities during the 2010 RI Convention in Montréal, Québec, Canada, 20-23 June.

Register early to save:

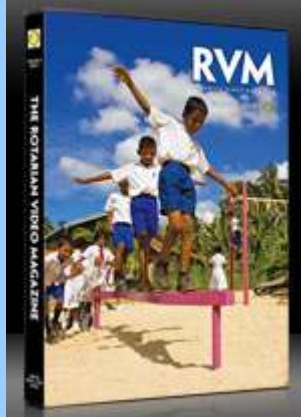
http://www.rotary.org/en/MediaAndNews/News/Pages/091210_news_conregistration.aspx



In the \$200 million challenge,
we are at \$107 million.

Please donate now
to eradicate polio

https://riweb.rotaryintl.org/donor_xml/contributionmenu.asp



Click on the URL below to see the latest video in the Rotarian Video Magazine.

You can also see archived issues on this site.

<http://www.rotary.org/en/MediaAndNews/Multimedia/RVMVideoMagazine/>



Why I am a Rotarian

Some of the pleasant experiences of life which I treasure include listening to speeches and participating in debates and discussions of world affairs. I love travelling, enjoy meeting and interacting with people, and I derive immense pleasure in making people happy by the little I am able to do for them by way of service. Rotary provides a ready avenue for a continuum of these activities

Living in the developing world of Africa is a contrasting experience. It affords the opportunity of seeing human suffering in action. Not only do poverty, hunger, and misery stare one in the face, there are problems of illiteracy and disease; all sorts of wants and a dearth of ability to fulfill those human needs or even bridge the gap between haves and have nots.

All over the world there are wars and tales of woes that follow in their wake; there are disasters, too; sometimes man-made, sometimes natural, but each makes someone unhappy. And then there is loneliness – even with people milling around you and there is no more debilitating condition than loneliness! In this melancholy catalogue of life experiences there are the virtues of peace and understanding, crying to the high heavens for a place on earth.

Ruminations over all these constantly nudge us not just to stand and stare but to show concern – to care! I often ask myself, “What can one man possibly do?” The answer I come to is this: “Who does not get stronger and more able to face the world when he knows that someone cares about him?”

When I attend my club meeting, I see the glad hand at the door to bid me welcome, and the friendship and fellowship that permeates the room in ceaseless flow. In the coming and working together of people of goodwill rendering service to their community and the world, there is always the satisfying feeling of upliftment and achievement. Again, outside the meeting, when I see the smile of gratitude, the brightened eyes of hope in someone who has gained from the selfless devotion of the people who strive to make the world a better place, then I come to the conclusion that Rotary cares. Rotary is a vehicle for the fulfillment of those noble desires and aspirations that one can have for humanity. These, then, are the reasons for being a Rotarian.

Jonathan B. Majiyagbe
President, Rotary International, 2003 - 04