

LITERACY NEWSLETTER ZONE 22 (WEST)



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A NEW ROTARY YEAR — NEW DREAMS

EDITORIAL—PDG ROSS WHITE

Welcome to a new Rotary year. RI President DK Lee I continuing the emphasis of recent RI Presidents Boyd and Wilkin-son to highlight LITERACY. I appreciate your willingness to serve as the district literacy coordinator and to promote this area of focus.

During the year I will send periodic newsletters to you. These will highlight key literacy goals, dates and activities. Additionally, these newsletters are an opportunity to profile club and/or district literacy projects. Send them to me and I will endeavour to include them in the area publication and forward them to the North American Coordinator.

We all can share information and make literacy a key club and district activity. In true Rotary spirit we can **“Make Dreams Real”** through literacy.

PDG Ross White

Zone 22 (West) Literacy Resource
Coordinator



Key Literacy websites

1. The primary site for the RI Literacy Resource Group — www.rotary.org

2. A secondary site where new developments and the most recent literacy newsletter are posted. — www.rizones29-30.net

3. Sites for detailed information about specific literacy project areas and/or literacy contact information

A number of such sites exist. You will find the addresses for many of them on the primary and secondary sites identified above.

4. District, club and zone sites with interesting literacy information (If your club, district or zone has a site which isn't listed here, let the RI Literacy Resource Group hear about it .

5. This newsletter for the Zone 22 (West) Group will be placed on the District 5020 website: www.rotary5020.org

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HAVE YOU SET YOUR DISTRICT GOALS ????

RI LITERACY GOALS FOR 2008-2009



The 2008-09 Literacy Resource Group aims to raise awareness of literacy issues by encouraging:

- Every Rotary club to undertake a literacy project either at home or abroad;
- Every district to carry out a literacy seminar;
- Every district conference, Zone Institute, PETS, and District Assembly to include a literacy component;
- Every district governor to present a district literacy award;
- Every Rotary club to participate in International Literacy Day on September 8, 2007 and Rotary Literacy Month in March 2008;
- The seeking of opportunities for alliances with other organizations; and
- Every club to devote one meeting to the topic of the role of literacy in reducing child mortality and use the meeting to identify a literacy project to address the issue.

KEY DATES

There are **two key dates** on which to emphasize literacy at the club and district levels:

September 8, 2008, International Literacy Day

in conjunction with the IRA (International Reading Association)

- Sometime this week clubs are urged to outline their goals for literacy to their members and ask members for new ideas. A club program about the issue of illiteracy and how to combat it would be an excellent way to celebrate.

March 2009, Literacy Month -

We can celebrate World Book Day on March 6, Dr. Seuss Day on March 2 (US only), run a club literacy program or seminar, present literacy awards, etc.



Let's all encourage our Rotarians to join with other clubs, districts, and organizations in a concerted effort to bring the issue of literacy to the forefront.

We need to find ways to ensure that literacy skills are deemed essential to the development of an educated society. Rotary clubs around the Rotary

PLAN NOW—RECOGNITIONS FOR CLUBS—DISTRICTS

There are **three** worldwide literacy awards available to clubs as follows:

1. **District Awards** are available to clubs who complete five literacy activities during the new Rotary year. These activities must include recognition of International Literacy Day the week of Sept. 8 (eg a literacy program at a club meeting), recognition of Rotary Literacy Month in March (eg. Another literacy program at a club meeting such as CALS), and a book project such as a dictionary project.

2. **Zone Awards** are available to clubs who complete ten literacy activities during the new Rotary year. This requires a club to complete the requirements of the District Award, initiate a project in literacy that addresses child mortality, and one of the following type of project:

A school partnership literacy project;

A 4Way-Test or character literacy project;

Participation in a reading readiness project such as Books for Babies, Imagination Library, Sandparents, SOUNDS;

Do a local recognition project for teachers or literacy leaders;

Implement one of the following projects—CALS, CLE, Brainwise, Teach Your Children Well

3 Area Literacy Awards are available to clubs who have completed the Zone level criteria and have demonstrated outstanding literacy service beyond the club level in leading a project of initiatives at the District or Zone level.

This requires a club to submit a report along with photos through the Zone Coordinator who will

recommend the club's application to the Area Coordinator.



DISTRICT CONTACTS

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HERE IS A FUN READING / LITERACY CHALLENGE

I cdnuolt blveiee that I cluod aulacly uesdnatnrd what I was rdanieg. The phaonmneal pweor of the hmuan mnid Aoccdrnig to rscheearch at Cmabrigde Uinervtisy, it deosn't mtttaer in what oredr the ltteers in a word are, the olny iprmoatnt tihng is that the first and last ltteer be in the rghit pclae. The rset can be a taotl mses and you can still raed it wouthit a porbelm. This is bcuseae the huamn mnid deos not raed ervey lteter by istlef, but the word as a wlohe. Amzanig huh?