



The District Express



Rotary District 5020 - Vancouver Island & Western Washington State

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able on the
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www.rotary5020.org

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Rotary Shares

And so another Rotary year begins. A new team of club presidents in District 5020 take the helm of each of our clubs to lead us forward so that we might enjoy the fellowship of Rotary, and serve communities everywhere.

I like to use the analogy of a train to capture the spirit and the work of our Rotary district. This is not an ordinary train but an express train called "The Rotary Express", made up of 86 cars, club cars if you like, lead by engine 5020 on track for another great Rotary year.

Oh, I recognize that the cars of this train are unique, each may look different for Rotary clubs enjoy their own way of doing Rotary, and each has goals and plans for a Rotary year. But the analogy of a train works for me because we are all pulling together to contribute to service in this district and throughout the world.

The most important feature of this train is the people on board. There are 5200 Rotarians in the district working together to achieve Rotary's goal of Service Above Self. I invite every Rotarian to share this wonderful experience of Rotary "by getting aboard" this Rotary Express so that you may fully appreciate the joy of Rotary.

Our Rotary International President, Wilf Wilkinson from Trenton Ontario, has stated that Rotary is nothing short of magic: "The magic of Rotary is that Rotary allows ordinary men and women to do extraordinary things. Rotary allows us to open our hearts to people whom we may never meet and to share the love and concern which we have for one another." He has chosen the theme "Rotary Shares" for this Rotary year.

President Wilf has asked us to share our resources, our abilities, our strengths, our money and our love for others. In Rotary we share through each of our avenues of service: club service, vocational service, community service and international service.

In this Rotary year we are asked to continue our Rotary emphases of water, health and hunger, and literacy. These basic needs have been at the forefront of Rotary's efforts for several years. With each of these needs met so many people who need help will find the ability to help themselves.

In this Rotary year we are also asked to focus on youth for young people are the future, not only for Rotary but for all of us. We must work together to strengthen our youth programs such as Rotary Youth Exchange, Rotaract, Interact, RYLA.

This year I am asking Rotarians in this district to take time to invite young people to Rotary meetings. Follow the example of Jack Jeffrey, a long time Rotarian and member of Victoria Harbourside, who makes a regular effort to bring young people closer to Rotary and by extension Rotarians closer to youth.

Marion and I look forward to meeting each of you during our visits over the coming months. Make this the Rotary year in which you learn a good deal more about Rotary. Share the experience and enjoy Rotary!

District Governor Norm
Rotary Club of Qualicum Beach

District Foundation Grants

Each Rotary year District 5020 leadership team allocates grant money from our District Designated Fund. The major portion of this money goes to support grant applications made by clubs for Matching, 3H and District Simplified grant projects. Rotary clubs in District 5020 should get onboard early in this Rotary year to move their projects from the "planning board" onto a grant application form.

In the Rotary year 2006-2007, 19 Matching/3H grants were submitted by District Rotary Clubs for District and Rotary Foundation funding. Among those projects approved were a large 3H grant to drill 48 water wells in Uganda by the Rotary Club of Bainbridge Island (\$259,654) and two large water projects in Malawii by the Rotary Club of Olympia (\$79,915). Also funded was a two pronged project in Russia by the Port Orchard Club to provide hospital equipment and to

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District Governor 2007-2008

Norm Watts

Norm joined Rotary in 1985. He immediately took on responsibilities in the Rotary Club of Wolfville Nova Scotia and served as President in 1993-94. Within District 7820 Norm was involved as a conference organizer and as a district trainer. With a move to Vancouver Island he has become a member of the Rotary Club of Qualicum Beach, serving as a committee chair, as a director, and as President in 1998-99. In the year 2000 he was appointed Assistant Governor in District 5020.

For twenty years Norm worked as a university teacher at Acadia University in Atlantic Canada and previous to that he taught at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia Norm's career focused on education; he has also taught within the public schools as well as worked as a curriculum consultant for the Nova Scotia Department of Education.

Norm has always contributed to his community within and outside of Rotary. He has served on town recreation commissions, worked as a volunteer fireman, served as chair of curling and golf organizations, and volunteered as an elder and a steward within his church.

He was raised on Montreal Lakeshore, Quebec. There he met his wife Marion and married in 1962. Marion, who is also a Rotarian, and Norm reside in Qualicum Beach, British Columbia. Their daughter, Linda, lives in Vancouver BC and she works at St Paul's Hospital in that city.

When Norm is not involved in service you might find him on a golf course, at a curling or hockey rink, or perhaps running his garden railway in his back garden.



Sixty Years of Rotary

May 1, 2007 marked the 60th anniversary of Rotary service in Qualicum Beach. From the very beginning, Rotarians in this community have made a significant contribution to life by devoting countless hours to community projects and fund raising activities. In the early years a local fishing derby provided not only great fun for everyone, but it also yielded funds for improvements to a local playground, Rotary Park, which remains an important part of the community to this day.

Long time residents of this community will not forget the annual Rotary Auction and Rummage Sale at the Community Hall which for many years drew hundreds seeking great bargains and a chance to support the work of Rotary. With the community behind the Rotary Club, ambitious projects like the building of an airport, improvements to the curling club, renovations to the community centre, and the building of a Boy Scout Hall were undertaken. It was also the energy of Rotary leaders and their fund raising efforts which led to the construction of the Civic Centre in Qualicum Beach.

In more recent years the Rotary Club of Qualicum Beach has been involved in two highly successful fundraisers, the Gala and the Wine Festival. These two popular events have helped club members construct a skate park, award annual post-secondary scholarships, and sponsor local students to live in many parts of the world through the Rotary International Youth Exchange program. For the past three years the Rotary Club has supported a Youth

Fire Camp where young people get superb training in fire fighting skills and leadership activities.

A Rotarian in Qualicum Beach, Norm Watts, will be the District Governor in the Rotary year 2007-2008; this area has not been the home of the District Governor for 37 years when Craig Reid held the position. Plans are underway to invite Rotarians in all 86 clubs of the district to come to Parksville-Qualicum in June 2008 to "share the celebration" of over sixty years of Rotary in this community.



Honorary Members. Dave Willie, Pres of Qualicum Beach (right), welcoming two honorary members Phyllis McMillan (left) and Sylvia Hooker (center).

Aid on its way to Pakistan's cyclone victims

Aid for thousands of cyclone victims in Pakistan is on its way from the disaster relief agency ShelterBox. Cyclone Yemyin has battered Pakistan's Arabian Sea coast over the past few days, leaving hundreds feared dead and many thousands homeless.

The storm has inflicted major damage to houses and roads all along the coasts of Pakistan's Sindh and Balochistan provinces. Many buildings have been flattened and the Pakistani navy has been searching for more than a dozen fishing boats with 200-plus crew on board that have been reported missing at sea.

Despite the scale of the damage, Pakistani officials say tens of thousands of people were safely evacuated ahead of the storm, taking refuge in hills further inland. However, there are still fears that a dam in the region could burst and more rain is expected in the area.

ShelterBox, which is based in Cornwall and was set up by the Rotary Club of Helston-Lizard, is sending 220 boxes of emergency aid to Pakistan – containing 10-person tents, blankets, cooking equipment and other survival gear.

The aid will leave the UK tomorrow and is expected to arrive in Karachi on Tuesday 3rd July, along with a ShelterBox Response Team. The volunteers in the team will work with Pakistan's National Rural Support Programme (NRSP) to distribute the boxes.

ShelterBox previously worked with the NRSP in the aftermath of the 2005 Kashmir earthquake and again last year when the charity was asked by the Pakistani government agency to provide further help for victims of the disaster who were still homeless.

ShelterBox founder and general manager Tom Henderson said: "We understand that the situation for some of the fishing communities along the Arabian Sea coast is quite devastating. People had to flee inland to escape the waves pounding the coast.

"Waves and floods have washed away thousands of homes, destroyed roads and caused at least one major bridge to collapse. The NRSP has said they will be able to fly our boxes in by helicopter but it's still going to be quite an operation getting aid to those in need."

For more information about ShelterBox visit: <http://www.shelterbox.org>
 Anne Ohlgren aohlgren@shaw.ca
 phone 250 595 5974, fax 250 595 5984

PROUD MEMBER OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF ROYAL OAK



ShelterBox

When a disaster occurs there are four immediate needs: food, drinking water, clothing and shelter. A ShelterBox provides shelter, the means to have clean water and equipment for cooking.

The contents of the ShelterBox are as follows:

- Ten person tent
- Ten sleeping bags
- Water purification tablets
- Multifuel stove
- Pots, tools, blankets,
- groundsheets, rope, and other survival items
- Children's school supplies

ShelterBox in District 5020 is administered by Rotarians and the goal in 2007-2008 is to purchase 100 ShelterBoxes throughout the district. This is a wonderful way for Rotary clubs and individual Rotarians to respond to immediate needs when ever they occur in the world. The cost is 1000 US\$ or \$1200 Cnd and individual donations are tax deductible.

All information is available on the District website or you can contact the following Rotarians. It is possible to donate online or send cheques to the centres given below.

Alan J. Lomax , Director of Shelter Box Canada
 1128 4th Avenue, Box 399
 Ladysmith, British Columbia.
 V9G 1A3
 Phone: (250) 245-5944

Or: Don Ohlgren, Director Programs and Promotions
 1-800-677-0990

Information & Club Presentation
 Jim Pickett, Rotary Club of Sequim Sunrise
 Phone: 360-681-4830
 Cell: 360-670-6506

Shelter Box USA is sponsored by the Rotary Club of Lakewood Ranch, Fl.

All orders for boxes made by US clubs will be processed through the Lakewood Ranch club. The Executive Director of the US project is Beth Palmer, who can be reached at bethp@shelterboxusa.org



DG at the World Convention in Salt Lake City. Chris Veblen, Victoria Meadows and Roxanne White of Rotary Club of Shelton with Marion and Norm Watts.

Assistant Governor Kim Sleno – Area 1



I was raised as a military brat and lived 5 different provinces as well as Germany while growing up. My father was stationed to CFB Comox and I have lived in the Comox Valley since 1971.

I have worked in construction and the logging industry as an accountant, before venturing off on my own to start a computer training and small business solution centre. I have a small staff and we have over 40 businesses that we work with on a regular basis. We also provide Corporate and Personal Income Tax services.

I also used to teach Scuba Diving for a number of years, but the cold water here was starting to take its toll on my body. So the only diving now is on vacations in warm waters.

I joined Rotary in 1992 and have always been very involved with one project or another. I joined the Comox Orientation for the Youth Exchange the first year and remained on the committee for 13 years. I have also been on the District Youth Exchange Committee as the treasurer and administrator for over 5

years. We have had many exchange students stay in our home over the last 14 years.

My husband, Charlie Sallis (also a Rotarian) and I have been very involved with water projects in Honduras and visited there 5 times in the last 8 years. What started out as a desire to learn Spanish turned me into a real Rotarian. After completing the first water project we went to Honduras with another Rotarian Gayle Helyer from Poulso North Kitsap. We walked (actually I could not do it, so I used a horse) over a km straight up a mountain to meet the people of the village that now had water. I will never forget those people and the one woman elder that kept hugging me and thanking me for giving them water. That day I truly became a Rotarian.

I enjoy gardening, photography, traveling, renovating our 1912 Victorian home and my menagerie of a cat, dog and parrot. If I am not working, doing Rotary stuff, then I am at home in either my garden or the house doing something.

Group Study Exchange

The Group Study Exchange (GSE) program of The Rotary Foundation is a unique cultural and vocational exchange opportunity for young business and professional men and women between the ages of 25 and 40 and in the early years of their professional lives. The program provides travel grants for teams to exchange visits between paired areas in different countries. For four to six weeks, team members experience the host country's institutions and ways of life, observe their own vocations as practiced abroad, develop personal and professional relationships, and exchange ideas.

For each team member, The Rotary Foundation provides the most economical round-trip air ticket between the home and host countries. Local Rotarians in the host area provide for meals, lodging, and group travel within their district. This year District 5020 has planned two GSE exchanges with District 4130 in Mexico and with District 2260 in Norway. Each GSE team is usually composed of

four non-Rotarians and a Rotarian who is the team leader. The GSE team must travel as a group and no family members may accompany the team on the exchange.

Your Rotary club must begin work now to publicize this most interesting Rotary opportunity for young men and women in your community. Identify prospective members and then help them with the application process. A district committee will select all members of the team for each exchange, including the Rotarian team leader. So there are opportunities for Rotarians in our district to lead a team.

See the RI website for more on GSE:
<http://www.rotary.org/foundation/educational/gse/member/index.html> In order to publicize the GSE program you will find the GSE news kit on the RI website very helpful. It can be found at:
<http://www.rotary.org/newsroom/downloadcenter/pdf/s251en.pdf>

District Foundation Grants continued from front page....

establish an information center in the community (\$35,500).

The Strathcona Sunrise Club's grant to pay tuition for gifted Kenyan high school students (\$12,000) is pending, as is the Nanaimo North's application to furnish a preschool in Sri Lanka (\$18805). The Rotary Club of Saanich's grant to purchase an emergency generator for a Ugandan hospital was recently approved (\$28,205).

Rotary clubs are encouraged to apply for a District Simplified Grant to fund humanitarian projects in their own community,

although DSG's can also be employed in foreign countries under some circumstances. A variety of projects were funded this past year with DSGs including the purchase of thermal imaging units for municipalities, a defibrillator for a fire department, dictionaries for inner city schools, and water purification equipment for Uganda.

For matching grant projects the funding multiplication factor is roughly 3.5:1. For District Simplified grants the funding multiplication factor is 2:1.

Background information on matching

grants and district simplified grants can be found on the district website. The district simplified grant application form is there for downloading. After reviewing the information on the website, Rotarians are invited to call or email the District Grants Coordinator, Rand Hillier, with questions and/or draft applications to review. Grant applications are processed on a first come first served basis and our policy is to spend all the money that we are allotted each year for humanitarian purposes.