



The District Express



Rotary District 5020 - Vancouver Island & Western Washington State

August/September

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This newsletter is printed bimonthly, and is also available on the District 5020 website:
www.rotary5020.org

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New Generations in Rotary

September is not only the month in which the school year begins, but it is also the month which Rotary International designates as "New Generations Month". This is the time when Rotary members are asked to focus on youth programs and efforts to bring young people closer to Rotary, and by extension Rotarians learn more about the youth of our communities.

Many clubs in our district have made a commitment to serve youth in the community. A variety of programs are undertaken to improve youth recreation facilities and provide opportunities for young people which are meaningful educational experiences. The Rotary Club of Parksville on Vancouver Island is one club, among others in the district, whose members have stated "a focus upon youth" and with this goal youth program planning is a major part of club activity.

Interact is alive and flourishing in our District 5020. Last year was a very successful Rotary year in the further development of Interact in Western Washington and on Vancouver Island. We have reached a stage where we have thirty-one very active Interact Clubs in this district. There are 13 clubs on the island with the latest at Sidney By The Sea. There are 18 Interact clubs within our district in Washington State, the latest at South Puget Sound-Olympia. This is a significant increase over the past two years.

Rotaract, a program for young men and women 18 to 30 years, has a relatively small but energetic group of members who are dedicated to keeping Rotaract alive and very well in this district. The student District Rotaract representative is Marc Allen Brackett of the Rotaract Club of Victoria, replacing with thanks Holly Seales, as the student contact for Rotaract clubs. Rotary club sponsors will work with Paul Doherty, a Rotarian in the Victoria Harbourside Rotary Club. Each is working hard to build the basis for a strong organization throughout District 5020.

As part of our district efforts to work with youth this year, Rotarians will want to learn more about RYLA, or Rotary Youth Leadership Awards.

Each year in our district young people between the ages of 14 and 18 take part in the RYLA program which is usually scheduled at Pacific Lutheran University in Washington. The program is scheduled during a four-day period in March, and since this has been a regular program of our district hundreds of our youth have enjoyed the RYLA program which is designed to prepare future young leaders. For more information visit the RYLA District 5020/5030 web www.RYLANw.org

District Governor Norm has issued a challenge to all Rotarians in our district. It is create opportunities for youth to visit each Rotary club. Where there are Rotaract and Interact clubs nearby be sure to invite their members regularly so that the young people feel part of this Rotary family. As Rotarian Jack Jeffrey of the Rotary Club of Victoria Harbourside has done for years, every Rotarian is encouraged to bring a young person to Rotary as a guest and take time to describe how they contribute to community.

Inbound and Outbound Youth Exchange Students Begin Their Rotary Year



Holly Larsen, an outbound exchange student from the Rotary Club of Olympia and DG Norm



Norm Watts District Governor 2007-2008

A Challenge to Rotarians

During this Rotary year I challenge all Rotarians in District 5020 to make this a year when you learn so much more about Rotary. To fully experience the joy of Rotary, I encourage each of you to visit other Rotary clubs in your own area, in some other part of our district, and where possible, in other countries many miles away perhaps through personal travel or by way of the Rotary Friendship Exchange program.

District training and information activities provide unique opportunities to learn about the work of Rotary at home and away. The District Assembly (DLTA), February 22-23 2008, and the District Conference, May 29 – June 1 2008, offer the chance to learn how well Rotarians are able to serve and make a difference in communities around the world. Each Rotary year the district leadership team also offers seminars on Foundation fund raising and grant writing, and membership seminars dedicated to helpful strategies on membership recruitment and retention. This year the District Service Committee has scheduled workshops to help Rotarians plan world community service activities. All of these seminars and workshops are held in different regions of our district so that every Rotarian can take advantage of these worthwhile experiences.

To motivate Rotarians to go the extra mile to learn more about Rotary, the “Governor Norm’s Challenge” is now underway in District 5020. Pick up a challenge form on the district website or by asking your club president for a copy. By taking part in Club, District, and Foundation activities you can meet the challenge and earn the coveted “**Rotary District 5020 Express**” pin.

Membership development remains an important focus for this Rotary year. Although the month of August is labeled the “Membership and Extension Month” (extension refers to the chartering of new clubs), in every month of the Rotary year efforts should be made to keep membership a priority. I challenge every Rotarian to find a person who will make a qualified member of Rotary and invite that person to share Rotary with you.

We are blessed to have **Maureen Fritz-Roberts** (chair) and a dedicated membership committee working to bring new ideas and interesting approaches to membership development. Read more about membership development on the district and RI websites, and call upon our experienced district committee to assist with your club’s approach to finding new members and keeping interest high among all Rotarians.

The Clubs in Our District

The early part of DG Norm’s visit scheduled was scheduled to meet the Rotary clubs in Areas 9B and 10 in our district. This tour of official visits has been an opportunity to learn how Rotary is practiced in southern Washington State, which is also the home to a great deal of Rotary history. It was this region of the district which enjoyed a very early beginning to Rotary on the west coast. The Rotary clubs of Centralia and Olympia were chartered in 1920, and the Rotary Club of Chehalis was chartered in 1921. The Rotary clubs of Kelso and Longview began their service work in 1923 and 1926 respectively. These were years of rapid growth in Rotary as it began to spread in North America after Rotary became international with the chartering of the Rotary Club of Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada in 1912.

Safe and plentiful water has been a focus of international service projects for clubs in these

areas of our district, and at least one new water project in Honduras is moving forward as a cooperative effort involving four clubs in Area 10. By working together these Rotary Clubs, with the help of District, Designated Funds and the Rotary Foundation, are able to fund a project in excess of \$120,000. Club members in this part of the district have already responded very positively to our district goal of purchasing 100 ShelterBoxes. Rotarians regard this program as a means of responding immediately when disaster strikes somewhere in the world. The Rotary Club of Woodland practices an interesting idea by inviting each student who has a successful year with the club to return for a visit sometime during the five years which follow their stay. The club makes a financial commitment and members describe the student’s return as one which is so rewarding for both Rotarians and exchange students.



[Pictures: top - DG Norm, Melodie Nelson, Pres. Centralia, Marion Watts & AG Bob Shaw, Area 10
Bottom: Leon, Pres Twin Cities, & Rose Bowman with DG Norm]

Having fun in Rotary



Greg Stevens and **Joseph Beaulieu** of the Rotary Club of Hawkes Prairie belt out a song at every club meeting. It's a singing club with lots of fellowship and great times. As well, this rather new club makes service in community and overseas a big part of Rotary.

Pictures below: Top: **Bent Harder**, RC of Comox, and **Lorie Carpenter**, President of RC of Courtenay; bottom: **Don and Diane Luke**, RC of Parksville AM, enjoy the Ethiopian Benefit Dinner at the home of Dale and Maureen Fritz Roberts.

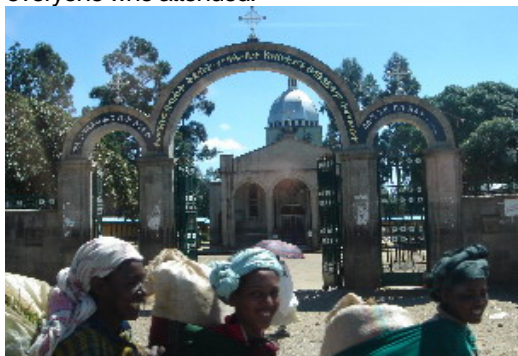
An Ethiopian Fund Raiser

Maureen and Dale Fritz-Roberts hosted a wonderful benefit dinner for a group of Rotarians and friends that gathered to raise money for good Rotary works in Ethiopia. Esra and Yogi Teshome supervised the cooking of the meal and everyone present had an opportunity to sample the true taste and atmosphere of an Ethiopian dinner.

Maureen led an auction of Ethiopian crafts and the money raised will be taken to Africa by Maureen and Dale who will travel to the country in October. A major effort is underway to provide assistance for the Awari School in Addis Ababba and to provide medical supplies for the Hospital in that city.

The event raised over \$17,000 for Ethiopia.

Congratulations to Maureen and Dale as well as everyone who attended.



Ethiopia Dinner story continues on page 4

District Dates

Every year our District 5020 schedules special seminars and workshops which provide excellent training for all Rotarians. Put the following dates on your calendar and learn so much more about Rotary.

September Dates:

Membership Seminars in Olympia (Sept 15) and in Nanaimo (Sept 22). You can register for one or both by sending an email to Maureen Fritz-Roberts mofritzroberts@shaw.ca.

Foundation Seminars in Olympia (Sept 22) and in Silverdale (Sept 29). You can register for one or both by sending an email to Joan jfirkins@shaw.ca.

October Date:

A Foundation Seminar will also be held in Duncan, BC on October 20. Register by email to jfirkins@shaw.ca

World Community Service workshops are also planned for Nanaimo BC (Oct 27) and Tacoma, WA (Nov 17).

Advance Notice:

The District Leadership Assembly is planned for Victoria February 23 & 24 in Victoria. This DLTA is a must for all incoming district officers.

The annual Presidents-Elect Training Seminar (PETS) is scheduled for March 6 to 9 and all incoming presidents must attend.

The Annual Rotary District Conference will be held in Parksville-Qualicum Beach, BC - May 29 to June 1, 2008

Assistant Governor Bashir El-Khalafawi- Area 2A: Parksville, Qualicum Beach, Pt. Alberni



Bashir & Judie El-Khalafawi

I was born in Palestine and after the war in 1948 my family lived in the Gaza Strip. From 1959 to 1964, I lived in the States to complete high school and study Drafting Design Technology, with part-time jobs in hotels. Returning to Gaza, I worked with the United Nations until the 1967

Bulletin Editor, and Area Foundation Representative.

Currently, as well as serving as Assistant Governor of Area 2A, I am District Annual Programs Fund Chair and Zone 22 Institute Registration and Promotion Chair.

Judie and I enjoy living in Columbia Beach with our "son's dog", Kieta. Our son, Ali, enjoys the laid back lifestyle of Tofino, employed at the Wickininnish Inn and our "city girl" daughter, Nadima, lives in Prague and teaches grade 5 in a British International school. In my spare time, you'll find me engaged in photography, birding, oil and acrylic painting and my lifetime hobby of collecting stamps.

war. Fed up with wars in the Middle East I immigrated to Canada in 1968 and settled in Vancouver.

My hotel jobs in school led the way to a career in the Hospitality Industry beginning upon my arrival in Canada. While on a "temporary assignment" in North Carolina for Quality Inns I met my wife, Judie, and we were married in 1971. I was transferred to Tampa, FL and after two years returned to Vancouver for eight years. I moved to Vancouver Island in 1982 to manage Inn of the Sea Resort and joined the Ladysmith Rotary Club in 1984. We moved to Parksville in 1988 to manage the Bayside Inn. In 1994 I started my own hotel management school. Now semi-retired, we provide only correspondence courses in hotel management and have students in 45 countries around the world.

I am very much involved in Rotary at both the Club and the District levels. I served as president of the Rotary Club of Parksville, and then in 1994 I started the Rotary Club of Parksville AM and was charter president. I have also served as a director; youth exchange officer, bulletin editor, webmaster and foundation chair of both clubs. I've been found working bingos, tending bar at sandcastle dances, selling ice cream on the beach, frying onions for burgers and hot dogs on Canada Day, and participating in many work parties at Springwood Park, and the Rotary Peace Park.

On the District level, I have been Club Extension Chair and helped start three new clubs on the island. As World Community Service Representative we did two WCS projects in the Gaza Strip for much needed hospital equipment and involved 5 clubs from the mid island as well as clubs in Israel. I have been District Web Master, Electronic

RI FOUNDATION

Do you know what the Rotary Foundation Goals are for this year? You and everyone in your club should be aware of the overall Foundation goals as follows:

Polio eradication is realistic.

Every Rotarian, Every Year - A promise to be fulfilled.

Rotary Centers for International Studies in Peace and conflict resolution - Peace is possible.

Reconnecting with Rotary Foundation alumni - our forgotten assets.

Annual Programs Fund Goal is \$120US million.

Ethiopian Dinner Huge Success.

Terry (returning GSE from India) used it as his time and place to invite Tanya (returning GSE) to be his bride. The over \$2000 he spent on tickets to have his family and friends at the event replaced the 'engagement' ring.

The Aware School will be receiving \$3,295 Canadian to help with their building fund. In total (inclusive of the Auction for Aware) we raised \$17,815.

MENU:

- "Kenya" inspired appetizers - Samosas
- Refreshing Summer Gazpacho Soup
- Spinach Salad with Fresh Picked Raspberries and Candied Pecans
- Ethiopian meets Canadian Buffet
- Hot Chocolates African Inspired Cake with Hand Dipped Chocolate Truffle

Yobi & Ezra cooked the Ethiopian Course
Liz & Azim prepared the appetizers
John & Lisa were responsible for soup and Canadian main Course
Maureen did the salad
Hot Chocolates (Sherry & Deanna) prepared the wonderful dessert

People from all over chipped in to help JET FM broadcast their morning show from our deck on Friday and featured Ezra and Emma.

Paul Harris Fellows were given to Emma for her efforts to raised funds for Ethiopian children. Emma is only 10. Marty Fortier received one as well for his desire to see Emma succeed at her quest

District 5020 Word Search: for the first Rotarian in District 5020 that faxes the correct and completed word search found below to **1-866-692-7640** they will be awarded a prize that will be delivered by their AG in due course. Enjoy.

Bill McKinney, District 5020 Newsletter Editor

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 s y i i i o h e t p i i a e s
 p n r s h d l l e n o h h o m e
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attendance	community	convention
district	exchange	expectations
fellowships	foundation	great
leadership	membership	networking
peace	polio	public
relations	retention	rotaract
rotary	rotoplast	service
shelterbox	watts	world
youth		

THE GAUNTLET HAS BEEN DROPPED!
Maureen Fritz-Roberts, Membership Chair

At the Presidential Membership Conference in Vancouver I had the opportunity to talk one-on-one with RI President Wilf Wilkinson. He confided to me that District 5020 is being challenged by District 6110.

DG Potter of 6110 has set a goal to be the #1 District in North America by reaching a membership of 5300. He wants to usurp 5020's unique standing as the largest district (in number of members) in North America.

We can't sit back and let that happen. So let's get our **'ASK in GEAR'** and bring in new Rotarians. Let's work on finding out what our current club members love about their club so that we continue to do the things that keeps the Rotarians we already have.

With 86 clubs we only have to grow by a net of 10 members per club to far surpass what DG Potter has in mind for District 6110. Now a net of 10 members may be a far larger number that you anticipated growing by this year but why not make 2007-2008 the year you exceeded your Membership Goals. The year that Rotary International goes *"WOW - look at what they did in District 5020"*.

Let's be the District that makes the Rotary world stand up and take notice: The District with the largest membership growth in Rotary's world.

ASK ... ASK ... ASK. To make sure that happens get a team together from your club and attend one of the two Membership Workshops.

SEPTEMBER 15th - Olympia, WA

SEPTEMBER 22nd - Nanaimo, BC

Contact me at mofritzroberts@shaw.ca to register. The cost is only \$20 per person. 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.



Begin "mining for qualified members" by attending the District membership Seminar in your Area ...

SEPTEMBER 15th - Olympia, WA

SEPTEMBER 22nd - Nanaimo, BC

Contact: mofritzroberts@shaw.ca to register.

The cost is only \$20 per person.