



District Governor 2009-2010

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JULY IS LITERACY MONTH



Rotary International District 5020 News



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District Governor Alexander Begins Year of Service

Welcome to a new ROTARY year! As Marnee and I begin our journey to visit all 87 clubs in our District, there is excitement within us! I know we will be amazed at the amount of work you have done on your projects to better your communities!

We have an outstanding leader in John Kenny as our Rotary International President (See article on page 2)! His theme this year is "The Future of Rotary is in Your Hands!" I hope his theme will encourage your clubs to think outside the box to make Rotary stronger this year than it was last year! I hope you find new projects to help those in need both near and far. I hope you will consider joining with others to work on new projects. I hope you HAVE FUN at each and every meeting and Rotary get together!

We have a very aggressive goal for the Foundation this year: \$1,000,000.00! This is not including the Polio Challenge Grant. Statistics show that worldwide only about 26% of the Rotarians support The Rotary Foundation. Just think what good we could do in the world if the other 74% contributed!

July is Literacy Month! If your club is not already involved in literacy project you can help your club get started on one! When a person learns to read it opens a whole new world to them. Our District Literacy Chair, Jacqueline Russell, can be reached at jacqrussell@shaw.ca. Jacqueline is doing a wonderful job at the District level and will assist your club in any way she can.

Best wishes as we begin this Rotary year and we look forward to seeing you soon!
HAVE FUN!

Alex

RI Welcomes First President from Scotland

Rotary International welcomes its first president from Scotland, John Kenney. The 2009-10 RI theme, *The Future of Rotary Is in Your Hands*, emphasizes the individual clubs that make up the heart and soul of the organization.

President's Travelogue -- July 2009

I'm honored to be representing you for the next 12 months. You are the future of Rotary and a hope for a better world. Truly, as my theme says, *The Future of Rotary Is in Your Hands*. I'm looking forward to seeing many projects and meeting many Rotarians as I make my visits during my presidential year.

Rotary was founded on a clear idea that if people of good character, intelligence, and morals joined together, they could achieve a great deal more than they could alone. I have seen this every time I visit a Rotary club or an amazing project.

Even as president-elect, Rotarians welcomed me into their clubs and shared with me the work they were doing to make the world a better place. As an example, I was moved when I was in Pune, India, when a girl who is visually impaired read me her Interact club's charter in Braille -- the first, I believe, ever presented to an Interact club. Also in India, I admired the work of Rotarians in helping to eradicate polio during a National Immunization Day.

And, as did thousands of Rotarians, I especially enjoyed going to the RI Convention in June in Birmingham, England. I met so many enthusiastic and dedicated Rotarians, Rotaractors, Rotary World Peace Fellows, and other members from the family of Rotary. I was impressed by the range of projects in the House of Friendship as well as the wide variety of breakout sessions, which covered topics from fundraising ideas to membership retention. And with speakers such as Mia Farrow and Jane Goodall, the plenary sessions were not to be missed. If you were not able to attend the 2009 convention, see the coverage of it at www.rotary.org. Also, consider registering for the next convention in Montréal, Québec, Canada, when we will celebrate 100 years of Rotary in that country.

At a Rotary convention, you experience Rotary's strength. By meeting people from clubs around the world, you'll see how our clubs work together. Yes, they work through their own districts, in cooperation with other clubs and districts, and with the support of our Rotary Foundation, but at the end of the day, everything that we accomplish is done through the strength of our clubs.

- - - RI President John Kenney



John Kenney
RI President 09-10

"It is our daily actions, and our daily decisions, that determine the course of Rotary for us all. The Future of Rotary Is in Your Hands."



OUR ROTARY WORLD

As members of Rotary develop a thorough understanding of our Rotary world, they become committed Rotarians and enjoy the true meaning of service.

After reading the July 2009 issue of The Rotarian ...

Have you got to know the President of Rotary International for 2009-2010?

Who is our RI President and where is his Rotary club?

Before he became a Rotarian, where did he learn about the importance of service?
What's the theme for this Rotary year? Why has the RI President chosen this theme?

Do you know that on July 1 "New directors take office" on the RI Board of Directors?

Who sits on our RI Board of Directors? How many members are on the Board?
Do you know the new director who represents the zone in which our district resides?

Do you know that by browsing the RI web you can "Get off to a great start" in 2009-10?

Where can club committee members find a wealth of good information?
How can you follow our new RI President and sign his guest book?

- - - PDG Norm Watts
District Trainer

Cumberland Rotarians Help BCAA Provide Child Passenger Safety Restraints

In British Columbia, there are 360,000 children under 9 years of age who will require proper child passenger safety restraints. More than 20% of these children live in families that cannot afford these restraints. Each year in BC, more than 1,300 children under 9 are injured or killed in motor vehicle collisions. To help provide funds for needy families to purchase proper restraints for their children, the BCAA Traffic Safety Foundation has set aside \$100,000 to match donations dollar-for-dollar. Cumberland Rotary President Linda Oprica presented a cheque for \$1,000 to Linda Farrell, Sales Centre Manager of the Courtenay BCAA office. Farrell thanked the club for its participation in this important program and emphasized that the funds would be spent to help provide equipment for children in their community .

Photo Caption: Cumberland Rotary President Linda Oprica, presents a check for \$1,000 to Linda Farrell, Sales Centre Manager of the Courtenay BCAA office to help provide proper child passenger safety restraints to families in need. The BCAA Foundation will match each dollar donated by the Cumberland Rotary Club.





Club President Patrick Williams; DG Brian Beagle; Special Representative Gary Glein;

GIG HARBOR NORTH CLUB CHARTERED

Eighty Rotarians and guests attended the Gig Harbor North chartering dinner and ceremonies at Canterwood Golf Club on June 30. The club, co-sponsored by Gig Harbor and Gig Harbor Midday, held its formation meeting on January 6 and was officially chartered by RI on May 21 with 34 charter members. One new member joined in June.

Gig Harbor North Club President Patrick Williams gave special recognition to Carol Peet, head of St. Anthony's Hospital for providing meeting space and other club support. Carol is an Honorary club member. Patrick also recognized Ken Roberts as a "founding father" for his tireless work at putting the club together. Ken is serving as the club's Foundation chair. Five Rotarians were recognized as new or multiple Paul Harris Fellows. Many area clubs provided support for the new club in the form of cash donations or goods (the bell, flag, name tags, etc.) The club also raised more than \$1000 for PolioPlus with a dessert cake auction.

Gig Harbor North complements the two other area clubs which hold morning and noontime meetings. It meet Tuesdays at 5pm at St. Anthony's Hospital on Canterwood Drive in Gig Harbor. No meals are served, but there is a cafeteria on the premises.

PILOT PROGRAM ASKS: HOW OFTEN SHOULD CLUBS MEET?

Are weekly club meetings necessary?

Rotary's Council on Legislation, which meets every three years to review the operation of Rotary International and the club constitution, is regularly asked to deal with proposals for change which address the need to attend Rotary each week. In an effort to learn more about the need to meet regularly, RI began a pilot project to study "the frequency of meeting" question by selecting 200 Rotary clubs throughout the world willing to try other patterns for meeting during the 2007-2008 Rotary year.

The Qualicum Beach, BC Rotary club was selected to be part of this pilot. Club members agreed to hold two regular Rotary meetings each month and to observe members' reaction to the change. Within a very few weeks, members could endorse the schedule of two regular Rotary meetings. However, they were insistent that there should be other times for club members to gather. So, remaining true to the pilot, the club holds two regular meetings of Rotary each month where all members are expected to attend, with social events at other times. The 35 members has met twice each month for regular Rotary meetings — once when the board and committees gather to deal with club business, and once for a social where all members of our Rotary family gather for good fellowship. While attendance is only required at the regular meetings, most members attend the other gatherings as well.

Survey data will be collected by RI to assess pilot project club members' reaction to any change in meeting frequency. Whatever conclusions emerge from this study, Qualicum Rotary club members have learned a good deal by simply participating in the pilot. Membership flourishes, service activities are strong, commitment to the Foundation remains, fundraising is very successful, and club members are contributing to the ideals of Rotary.

- - - Marion Watts, Past President
Rotary Club of Qualicum Beach, BC

Editor's Note: Visiting the White River Rotary Club in South Africa last year that sponsored the Group Study Exchange Team visit to District 5020 in 2006, we discovered that they follow the model of two monthly business meetings and two social meetings — with great success and engagement of members and their spouses.



Information Resources for 2009-10 Club Presidents and Secretaries

Rotary International Club and District Support (CDS) staff serve as primary contact at RI? Staff can answer any question as well as provide advice on club elections, constitutional matters, club traditions and customs, club operations, and RI Board policy. Below are some important web resources to assist in leading and supporting club activities:

- Learn the names and contact information of your CDS team members by using this web link: www.rotary.org/ClubDistrictReps
- Review a list of resources for club presidents and secretaries: www.rotary.org/pressecreources
- Make changes to your club's membership records at RI, reference various Rotary Foundation reports, print your club's SAR, pay your club's dues, and report next year's club officers using Member Access. Full instructions, helpful suggestions and frequently asked questions (FAQ) are found at: www.Rotary.org/ElearningCenter
- Find helpful club publications, audiovisuals, forms and supplies: www.Rotary.org/ShopClubPublications
- Use the Club Presidents' Checklist, a monthly calendar for both presidents and presidents-elect, with reminders of club and district functions, as well as RI and Rotary Foundation deadlines: www.rotary.org/clubpreschecklist
- Consider adopting the Club Leadership Plan - a strategic planning tool based on the best practices of actual Rotary clubs: www.Rotary.org/ClubLeaderPlan

