



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 9320
DISTRICT GOVERNOR LIONEL HEATH
2007 - 08



Governor's Monthly Newsletter
From the Lion's Den

September 2007

NEW GENERATIONS MONTH

NEW GENERATIONS MONTH

Our New Generations chair, PDG Denham Nel, has provided the following article.

"The Stepping Stones of Service" is how I look on Rotary now that "New Generations" have been born.

This wonderful organisation of ours has now laid the final brick in building the bridge of service that takes us, from an early age, and teaches us to "care" and to put "service above self" for the duration of our lives.

Starting from "Earlyact" moving on to "Interact" and "Rotaract" and finally to "Rotary" and "Probus", all sectors of our communities are catered for.



Membership in Rotary has always been a major problem, globally. I feel that if we can start with the children and teach them to become "service minded" they should progress through the various phases of our organisation and eventually become fully fledged Rotarians.

Discipline amongst the youth of today is sadly lacking, children are becoming selfish and self centred, morals, due to T.V. and the movies are non existent. Earlyact is the ideal vehicle with which we can instil a child with those attributes that we would like to see amongst the youth of today, namely, respect, love and care.



Interact clubs are blossoming in our District and our District boasts more Interact clubs than Rotary clubs. Let us endeavour to do the same with Earlyact clubs. Let us get to the Primary schools and preach the philosophy of "service". Children at this early age are learning to find their feet and are seeking direction in their lives. Let us be pro-active and assist them in finding the "joy" of giving of their time and efforts.

I believe that we can make an enormous difference in our communities by promoting the "New Generations" in our schools.
 Do something, starting today!

MEMBERSHIP

Did your club enrol new members last month, Membership Month, or have you laid the foundation to enable you to enrol one or more this month?

Congratulations to President Judy Flanagan of Stutterheim to whom I presented the first of the sponsor badges sent by RI Pres. Wilf Wilkinson for presidents who introduce new members during this Rotary year. I understand that other presidents have also introduced new members and I look forward to emptying the container of sponsor badges before the end of the Rotary year.



FOUNDATION DONATIONS

Congratulations to the clubs which, according to records received from the fiscal agent, donated \$100 or more per Rotarian to the Annual Fund of the Rotary Foundation for the 2006-7 Rotary year:

Algoa Bay, Bonza Bay, Colesberg, Parys, Potch Mooi, Uitenhage South and Welkom.
 Those just falling short were Grahamstown Sunset, PE Sunrise and Vryburg who all donated over \$90 per Rotarian.

A further 10 clubs provided over \$75 per member. In all, 34 clubs in the district (exactly two thirds) gave \$50 or more per Rotarian – a very fine effort by those involved.

WATER MANAGEMENT PROJECTS

One of the presidential emphases and one of our district goals for the 2007/08 Rotary year is for each club to attempt a water management project. We are often at a loss about what to do. Some project suggestions from our Water Management co-ordinator are given below.:

a) Communal water supply

A typical example is the installation of a borehole in a rural area. This will require drilling, electricity supply, pump and motor, electric cable, valves, pipework and a storage tank.

In semi-rural or peri-urban areas the installation of a pipeline to the nearest water reticulation or the installation of communal standpipes.



b) Rainwater harvesting

The installation of storage tanks connected to the downpipes of roofs (normally 2 or 5 kl capacity).

c) Sanitation

The erection of VIP toilets, construction of septic tanks and soakaways or conservancy tanks.

d) Water treatment

Basic treatment such as the use of swimming pool filters and disinfection of water through the addition of a chlorine solution.

e) Awareness campaigns

To educate consumers and youth on aspects such as hygiene, water conservation and correct use of services.

f) Water audits at schools

To manage water-use optimally and to determine where water is used in the school.

g) Water conservation projects

Typical examples are the restoration of wetlands, combating of soil erosion, installation of stormwater drains to combat ponding (health hazard) and the removal of invasive alien vegetation which threatens a water source.

Every area has its own needs and circumstances. A large part of our district is in sparse areas with low rainfall. There are many possibilities and I am prepared to assist any club. The nearest office of the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry, the water supply authority (municipality or water board) will also provide assistance.

Our district co-ordinator is David Raymer of the Rotary Club of Port Elizabeth Sunrise. Contact him for help.

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GSE TEAMS FROM USA ARRIVE



From the left District 7770 (South Carolina) Team leader Elizabeth Smith, Will Moody, Andrea D'Arienzo, Loretta Davis, DG Lionel, GSE Incoming Chair Gay Best and Annie Geddings on their arrival (without baggage) at the PE Airport on 1 September.

Two GSE teams from the United States have arrived in the district. The team from District 7770 (South Carolina) arrived in Port Elizabeth on Spring Day. They will travel north up the western side of the district and depart from Kimberley.

The team from District 5450 (Denver, Colorado) arrived in Potchefstroom a few days later and will travel south down the eastern side of the district and depart from East London.

Both teams will be at conference. Meet them there!

IDENTIFY - INVITE – INVOLVE

The immediate past chairman of The Rotary Foundation, Bhichai Rattakul, has called Rotary Alumni (like the new alumni in the picture above) "our lost assets". Many alumni never join Rotary despite having been involved in life changing experiences with Foundation GSE and scholarships programmes.

All Rotarians are encouraged to reunite with alumni by applying the three (I's) - Identify - Invite – Involve.

Our Alumni co-ordinators, PDG Trevor and Denise Long have identified alumni from this district so only two I's remain. Those clubs that have not yet received their lists of alumni from their area will receive them at conference.

Now is the time to initiate ACTION by inviting alumni to a Rotary event that will involve them in Rotary again.

It is the responsibility now of all clubs to put the remaining two I's into operation - INVITE AND INVOLVE!

COLESBERG PAUL HARRIS RECIPIENT



Hanlie Rodrigues, well known to all who have attended POETS in the recent past, is flanked by DG Lionel and President Dave Duffy after she became the club's most recent Paul Harris recipient and the district's first to be presented with one by DG Lionel during his year.

THE MOUNTAIN KINGDOM CONFERENCE



**MANTHABISENG
CONVENTION
CENTRE,
MASERU.**

INFORMATION FOR CONFERENCE GOERS

- **Take Passport** (valid)
- Check car licence has not expired
- Cultural dress for cultural evening
- Black tie or dark suit or equivalent for banquet.
- Exchange rate R1.00 = M1.00. Notes and coins of both currencies are accepted.

Getting there:

Those north of Maseru should know how to get there.

For the southerners:

From PE, etc.: Head for Aliwal North via Cradock, Hofmeyr, Steynsburg, Burgersdorp (do not miss the Aliwal turn off on the Steynsburg/Molteno road).

From EL, etc.: Head for Aliwal but expect fairly long delays on the Jamestown/Aliwal Road.

All from South : From Aliwal go to Rouxville, turn right at the end of the town and go via Zastron to Wepener. Immediately after Wepener there are roadworks that can be confusing, especially in the dark. You turn left onto a rough road, right and right again. Follow HOBHOUSE signs as no Ladybrand or Maseru signs are evident at this stage.

Everybody:

At the SA side of the border, park as soon as you can after you have gone under the green roofed entrance tunnel. (On Friday late afternoon many Lesotho citizens working in SA go home so delays may occur.)

Go to the door nearest the river in the long immigration/customs building. South African passport holders have a special queue at the far end which is quite quick, so ask for the SA citizen's queue.

Once your passport has been stamped, cross the river. Find parking **before** you pass the booth where you have to pay a R5.00 parking fee. Normally you would go into the door of the immigration building nearest SA, but the Rotarians in Maseru are trying to arrange a special entrance for conference goers so please look out for Rotary signs. If you have no entry stamp, you may have difficulty getting out of the country.

Once out of the immigration area keep straight along Kingsway along Mpilo (Kingsway turns to the left but Mpilo seems an obvious continuation of Kingsway). After about five kilometres you will be on the edge of a hill and will see the steeple of the Catholic Cathedral on your left. At the next traffic lights about 6 km from the gate) turn left and you will see the conference centre on your left hand side.

The route should be well signposted.

Registration will be in the main foyer.

IN MEMORIAM AT CONFERENCE

FOR ALL CLUB, ANN, INNERWHEEL PRESIDENTS

Please let me have the names of all members of the Rotary family who have passed away since the last conference. These names will be read out at conference.

In addition to past and present Rotarians, we should like the names of spouses and children of Rotarians.

Please do not think we will remember some names – rather let us receive the same name a number of times than not at all.

IN MEMORIAM

The **Kingwilliamstown** club has reported on the tragic and brutal murder of PP and PHF Robbie Jones in his home during the first weekend of September. I am sure all Rotarians in the district are shocked at this senseless and tragic killing of a fellow Rotarian and friend to many Rotarians.

We have also heard of the passing of one of the longest standing members of Rotary Club of **Raadzaal**, Costa Trisos. His health had deteriorated recently and he passed away after complications following a relatively minor operation. He will be greatly missed by all that knew him.

Joyce, wife of Pem Rodgers, member of the Rotary Club of **Kimberley South** for many years, passed away recently, after a short illness. Pem has been the Attendance Officer for the club for several years; Joyce was always a very active Ann.

Maureen and I join the district in sharing the grief of their families and fellow club members.

MEVLANA ANNIVERSARY

Rotarians in Turkey together with UNESCO are preparing to celebrate the 800th birthday of Mevlana later this month. He is very highly regarded in Turkey as one of the greatest philosophers and humanists of the world.

Turkish Rotarians have contacted all districts with regard to the event. They want to underline that their aim is to convey to the world Mevlana's philosophy of unlimited tolerance, positive reasoning, goodness and charity towards all humanity. This philosophy dating back eight centuries is based on the love of and concern for others and is very much in keeping with the ideals of Rotary. His philosophy comes out very clearly in the quotation that appears in the building which houses his tomb in Konya in south- western Turkey.

***"Come, come again, whoever you are, come!
Heathen, fire worshipper or idolatrous, come!
Come even if you broke your penitence a hundred times,
Ours is the portal of hope, come as you are."***



Mevlana's Tomb
A typical hat of the time
is placed at the head

Before our governor elect zone training in Istanbul, we were fortunate to be able to take a tour of southern Turkey and visited the tomb of Mevlana in Konya. In the same venue are magnificent illuminated manuscripts of the Quran dating from his time as well as various relics such as hair from Mohammed's beard.

NEED AN INEXPENSIVE BREAK

This newsletter does not usually include advertisements but even DG's sometimes have something to advertise.

Some time ago we booked a three bedroom time share unit at Hole in the Wall on the Wild Coast. Rotary and other commitments now prevent us from using this.

Three Rotary couples (or non Rotarians) could enjoy a relaxing week of fellowship in a delightful spot. In return I should like my levy for the week covered. This is R2100 or R700 per couple for the week.

SPOUSE'S SPOT

Greetings to all of you as we towards getting together at conference

Thank you to all the Rotarians and/or their Spouses who donated blankets to the Rotary Club of Colesberg at POETS. The Rotary Club of Colesberg was involved with the equipping of a very new Hospice in the town and the blankets were just what was needed by the Hospice. They were very thrilled with the donation - thank you.

I am looking forward to meeting many of you at Conference this year in Maseru - just a short time away now. The spouses (both female and male) will be welcome to attend our special "Anns' Day" - even if you are not a member of an Anns' Club.

The programme will include a talk on the symbolism and manufacture of the traditional Basuto blankets; a short report on literacy in Lesotho and an interesting project on the care of AIDS orphans in the Queenstown district.

Things to remember are

- The book donation - a new child's book (as well as good condition used books) to help with the Literacy drive in Lesotho;
- A display, photos etc for your club entry to the Val Saunders Competition;
- Your passport and valid drivers' and car licence;
- Spending money - you can use South African currency there.

Dress Code for Conference:

On Saturday night we shall be having a cultural evening and we encourage those attending to wear ethnic clothes or the costumes of their country or country of origin. On Sunday night for the banquet we shall have a chance to dress up smartly.

The month of September has as its focus the younger generation and in our District there are many opportunities to make a difference in the lives of young children in need. I have seen a lot of different projects already where the emphasis is on support in practical, financial or emotional ways for children in need. Well done to those of you who are helping in this way.

With best wishes

Maureen

Their majesties King Letsie III and his queen have informed the organisers that they are unfortunately not able to open conference on Saturday morning or attend the Anns' meeting. They will, however, still be able to join us at the banquet on Sunday evening.