



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 9320
 DISTRICT GOVERNOR LIONEL HEATH
 2007 - 08



Governor's Monthly Newsletter
From the Lion's Den

January 2008

ROTARY AWARENESS MONTH

Happy New Year to all Members of the Rotary Family in District 9320

Maureen and I wish you everything of the best for 2008 and hope each one of you will be able to say at the end of the year that, by sharing Rotary, you have made a difference in the life of somebody.

At the same time, the new year is an indication that we have passed the half-way mark in the Rotary year but are also three quarters of the way through the time given to us to achieve our Rotary goals, especially our membership goals. Citation certificates need to reach the Assistant Governors by 31 March.

CLUBS ARE REMINDED THAT AT POETS ALL PRESIDENTS AGREED THAT EVERY CLUB SHOULD BE ABLE TO OBTAIN A PRESIDENTIAL CITATION. IS YOUR CLUB ON TRACK?

ROTARY AWARENESS

This month the Public Relations chair and committee in each club have a chance to Share Rotary in the widest sense. Every effort should be made this month to ensure that news about Rotary reaches as wide a market as possible in as many ways as possible to ensure more people, including club members, know more about Rotary.

In addition, each PR committee should be planning a club celebration of Rotary's "birthday" anniversary for 23 February. We should celebrate this important occasion each year.

This month and the anniversary are ideal opportunities to invite potential members to meetings as there is enough time to induct potentially good Rotarians before 31 March.

WORKING WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS

A key feature of The Rotary Foundation's Future Vision Plan involves forming strategic cooperative relationships with organizations that can help the Foundation accomplish its mission and the goals of each area of focus. Areas of focus are defined as a priority world need, identified by Rotarians. The relationship is expected to promote a holistic approach in providing sustainable outcomes in the projects and activities of Rotarians worldwide.

"Like our partnership in the Global Polio

Eradication Initiative, strategic cooperative relationships will enable The Rotary Foundation to address larger needs," said Trustee Chair Bob Scott. "We expect to partner with organizations that are recognized worldwide for their work in our areas of focus and who can contribute financial, technical, or advocacy resources."

During our trips through District 9320 we have found that many clubs have already realised the importance of working together with other organisations for the good of the community. Sharing expertise and resources helps clubs, especially in smaller towns, to achieve far more.

The picture below shows the children of workers on a game farm in the Eastern Cape. This is an example of a club working with a foundation to improve the lives of the workers by providing computers for the adults and books and a suitable learning environment for the children.



Literacy is fun when Rotary has provided a lot of books to read and a beautiful place for reading.

DISTRICT POSITIONS

DISTRICT GOVERNOR NOMINEE NOMINEE

The above line is not a typographical error. As we have a DG Nominee in place for the rest of the Rotary year, her successor is called the DG Nominee Nominee until June when our DGN becomes a District Governor Elect and her successor drops the second "nominee".

Nominations for the post need to reach PDG Ethne Papenfus, Chairman of the District Nominating Committee before 15 February 2008.

Rotarians who wish to serve the District at a higher level should consider applying for the post. Clubs are urged to encourage suitable members to apply for the post. The successful candidate will be DG in 2010 to 2011.

MEMBER OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE TO APPOINT THE RI DIRECTOR FOR ZONE 10.

In response to the appeal in the November edition of *From the Lion's Den* for nominations, there has only been one nomination. PDG Bev Radue is congratulated on being selected for this post.

DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE COUNCIL ON LEGISLATION - 2010

IPDG Ethne Papenfus has informed me that she has received a few nominations for this post. The process for the appointment of our delegate will be completed in the near future.

CHAIRMEN FOR DISTRICT COMMITTEES

DGE Jaap Steyn has expressed disappointment at the poor response he has had to his appeal for those interested in leading District Committees to send their names to him. Please send your names to him immediately if you are still interested in a position.

(See last section on Training Changes)



Learning skills and earning money, thanks to Rotary

NEW REGIONAL APPOINTMENT

Recently I announced the appointment of PDG Rodney Mazinter from Cape Town to an international Rotary Foundation Alumni post.

I am pleased to announce that PDG Trevor Long has been appointed Rotary Foundation Alumni Co-ordinator in place of PDG Rodney.

We congratulate Trevor on his appointment.

DISTRICT TRAINING CHANGES

DGE Jaap Steyn, DGN Anne Botha and DG Lionel Heath met with the District Trainers in December to plan for training in District 9320 for the next two years. Some important changes will be taking place, starting this year.

CLUB OFFICER TRAINING

POETS will change to something closer to the training requirements proposed by RI - a **PETS** for Presidents only and at the same time a **District Assembly** at which all club officials are trained - the treasurer, secretary and committee chairmen as recommended for the Club Leadership Plan.

PETS is compulsory for all incoming club presidents and other club officials are encouraged to attend the District Assembly to ensure that all club committees are being run in similar ways. The opportunity to share Rotary and enjoy Rotary fellowship over the weekend of 18 to 20 April in Colesberg is enormous.

Unfortunately there will probably no longer be a session for newcomers to Rotary unless they wish to join the training appropriate for the chair of the committee to which they have been allocated.

DISTRICT OFFICER TRAINING

Another change, to be in keeping with RI policy, is that chairs of District Committees will have special training for their positions so that they can be more effective than they have in the past.

The District Leadership Team (the District Committee Chairs and the Assistant Governors) will be trained at River Destiny Lodge near Colesberg on 7, 8 and 9 March.

Details will be available once DGE Jaap Steyn returns from his DG training in San Diego.



Probus is a project where Rotary Clubs sponsor clubs for retired or semi-retired PROfessional and BUSiness people and others who were in some position of leadership. Probus clubs provide members with the opportunity to enjoy the fellowship of their peers and to extend friendships. They meet regularly without the obligations of service or rigid attendance requirements.

Probus Clubs must be sponsored by a Rotary Club and it is an ideal project because the sponsoring club does not have an ongoing commitment to the Probus club but maintains contact with the club and can arrange fellowship and other activities together.

It fits in perfectly with the Family of Rotary concept as it caters for our senior citizens who have time on their hands. Some Rotarians are members of Probus clubs which keeps the contact with Rotary.

Worldwide Probus membership is approximately 25% of Rotary membership! Our District has 17 clubs with 700 members – over 50% of our Rotary membership.

Starting a new club is a good vocational project. The Probus manual for Rotary Clubs is available from the District website www.rotary9320.org.za or from our district coordinators (see District Directory). An Afrikaans version is also available.

Is any Rotarian or Foundation Alumnus from District 9320 attending the LA convention?

If so, please let me know so that we can arrange a district and/or South African get together in Los Angeles.

There is a special event for Foundation Alumni in LA on 13 and 14 June. If you are interested in attending, please contact me. The District may be able to assist with the registration costs for the alumnus event.

APPEAL FROM KENYA

We have had an appeal from Rotarians in Kenya to assist with the provision of water, blankets and mealie meal for those displaced by the election violence.

Kenya is part of our zone and our DGE recently attended training there. Rotarians in our district have had a fair amount of contact with colleagues in Kenya and Kenyan Rotarians are part of our Rotary Family in Africa and, as fellow Africans, we can identify with their situation.

The District will arrange a donation for the Kenyan Rotarians as it will be easier for them to purchase what they need than for us to send goods.

Clubs wishing to make a donation should pay it into the district account stating only the club's name and the word Kenya as a reference for our treasurer, Ken Quinn.

PEACE SCHOLARSHIPS

Application forms for the 2009-11 Rotary World Peace Fellowship are now available on the RI web page. The Rotary Centres provide Rotary World Peace Fellows with the opportunity to pursue a master's degree in conflict resolution, peace studies, international relations, etc.

We need to make an effort to obtain candidates as our country needs qualified peace workers. Our first successful candidate left recently to start her studies and we will sponsor a candidate, Morgandas Pillay, who will attend the International Christian University later this year. He was the second choice in District 9250 and, as we did not have an application, we submitted his name.

Clubs will be receiving details from the Scholarship Chair, Geoff Antrobus, but please contact him if your club does not receive these.



Thanks to a minibus sponsored by Rotary, this nurse and her colleagues are able to visit the sick resident of this shack.

IN MEMORIAM

We share the sadness of the members of the Rotary Club of Bonza Bay and the family of Enzo Vagara who passed away in November. May he rest in peace.

PERSONAL

DGN Anne Botha has been in touch with Hedley and Merle Rowles (DG in 1987-8). They now live in Durban and he is a member of the Durban Bay club. He turned 90 last June and, although he is

fit and plays bowls regularly, his memory has faded. Merle and Hedley send their regards to all those who remember them.

WHEELCHAIRS

Clubs are reminded that there are two distribution points – Welkom and East London. Clubs north of the Orange River should work through Ken Stonestreet in Welkom and others through Henk Kayser at ROMEX.

Please keep lists of potential recipients up to date. We have no arrival dates as yet.

SPOUSE'S SPOT

Greetings to all Anns, Members of Inner wheel, and friends of Rotary.

Thank you so much for the good wishes which Lionel and I received from many clubs for Christmas and 2008. I hope you are feeling rested after a good break over the festive season. Perhaps the start of the year is a good time to begin a new project – there are fewer than six months left in this Rotary year. I do hope that your Clubs will continue with the same enthusiasm, care for each other and the community, and attitude of Service above Self that we have seen so far in the clubs in the District.

If you are looking for a new and very rewarding project, contact your nearest police station where a look at the facilities available may be just what is needed to get your enthusiasm re-motivated. In several clubs the Anns are very aware of a definite need in our society – that of facilities for abused women and children. Several police stations have made a room or an unused part of their building available as a temporary place of safety for counselling and medical examinations, but it is usually in need of a lot of attention. The Anns, often with the Rotarians' help, have painted, re-decorated, provided bathrooms and provided small comfort bags, clean, used clothing, toys for playing and for therapy etc. A project such as this gives the opportunity for each club to spend just as much time, effort and funds as it has available. It is also one that can be on-going by providing comfort packages on a regular basis. I am sure that you will find out how much your efforts are appreciated.

Whatever projects you are busy with for the remainder of this Rotary year, do remember to take photographs before and after the work is done and to have a plaque/poster visible to the general public showing your involvement. Please send in photos to Rotary Africa – the Anns in our District have done and are still doing an amazing amount of work for the underprivileged and we need to share these ideas and to show the rest of Africa what we are doing.

If you have not yet chosen your President and Committee for the 2008 – 2009 year, it would be good to do so fairly soon as you will shortly be asked by your Rotary Clubs to submit the names of the President, Secretary and Treasurer for inclusion in the next District Directory.

I extend good wishes to the members of Inner Wheel in our District as they celebrate International Inner Wheel Day on 10 January.

My very best wishes to you all for the remainder of this Rotary Year.

Maureen.