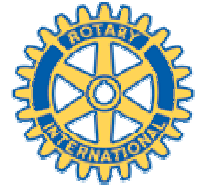


Nancy & Don Brackhahn

# Rotary District 6080 Newsletter

## District Governor Don Brackhahn



**SERVICE Above Self**

**May, 2006**

**Vol. 5 No. 11**

This next month is known as Rotary Fellowship Month! This is where Rotarians with common interests, both Recreational and Service, join together to share their common interests.

One of the first of these interest groups that I became aware of was the International Fellowship of Rotarian Musicians. This Fellowship is one of the oldest Recreational Fellowships and currently has over 500 members in 37 countries. Their mission is to promote Rotary Fellowship by encouraging clubs to sing, to organize musical activities for performance at all levels of Rotary functions, and to support community musical organizations and school music programs. Any Rotarian interested in becoming a member of this Fellowship need only write a check for \$10.00 to IFRM and mail to IFRM, c/o Bonnie Foster Secretary, 7567 Maywood Dr., Pleasanton, CA 94588 USA or call her at 925-462-3644 for further information. For this contribution, you receive two newsletters a year in August and February. The Newsletter includes the sharing of Rotary musical events, pictures of performing members, original music, musical activities at Rotary functions, etc. One of the most influential Rotarians in this fellowship in our district has been PDG Bill Reinhardt (Centralia) as he has promoted music both in our district and at the House of Friendship at Rotary International Conventions.

Some of the other Recreational Fellowships include Rotarians on the Internet; Traveling and Hosting; Flying Rotarians; Chess; Antique, Classic and Historical Automobile Collectors; Yachting; Wine Appreciation; Football World; Bird Watching; Bridge Playing; Golfing; Tennis; Stamp Collecting; Coin Collecting; Convention Goers and many others. In fact, if you are interested in a specific subject and can not find a current fellowship, start a new one yourself. I was talking recently to Rotarian Dave Flinn from Lansing, NY who informed me the he was a member of the Computer Users Fellowship and let me know that he was in communication with a PDG from our district- Bob Collins through this fellowship. This becoming a part of one of these fellowships seems another way of getting to know and appreciate our fellow Rotarians from other parts of the world.

Other forms of the Fellowships are the Service and/or Professional Fellowships. These include Multiple Sclerosis Awareness, Rotarian Physicians, Humanitarian Service, Mercy Ships, Fighting Aids, Eye Care, Improvement of Maternal Health, Mine Action, Eliminating Malaria, and many others. There are new fellowships beginning daily. I received a memo from a physician in Poland wanting to form a fellowship for Cardiac Physicians and I feel certain that he will get it done. If you are interested in communicating with others in your profession or working with others to solve some of our world wide problems, join one of the current fellowships or start a new one.

You should also remember that you can learn more about our Rotary by attending your District, Zone, or International Conventions. So remember to join other Rotarians at one of these meetings, whether it be in Sedalia, Mo (District Conference), Columbus, Ohio (Zone meeting), or Salt Lake City (Rotary International Convention in 2007). You can definitely learn more about Rotary and the programs that Rotary sponsors- including Rotary Fellowships. You may want to start planning on attending one or more of these during the next Rotary year 2006-2007.

## In this Issue

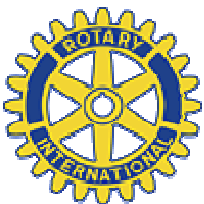
- ▶ **DG Don's Comments**
- ▶ **District Conference/Rolla**
- ▶ **The 4-Way Test**
- ▶ **Ambassadorial Scholar**

*District Governor—Don Brackhahn*

## District Conference



District Conference in Rolla was a huge success! There are lots of pictures posted on the District 6080 Web Site at [www.rotary6080.org](http://www.rotary6080.org). Pictured above are L to R Nancy Brackhahn, Doris Backes-Delp—Conference Coordinator and DG Don



### The 4-Way Test

Is it the TRUTH?

Is it FAIR to all concerned?

Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?

Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?"

## Ambassadorial Scholar thankful for Rotary's ticket to the world

By Abby Breitstein  
Rotary International News  
Photo courtesy of Ruby Powers



Ruby Powers laughingly calls herself a "Rotary lifer," even though she has yet to join a Rotary club.

"I got started with Interact in high school, and then I spent two summers doing RYLA," says Powers, who is from San Antonio, Texas, USA. In her senior year, she attended a presentation by returned Youth Exchange participants and was struck by one similarity. "Every single one of them said, 'It was the best year of my life.'" Soon, Powers was in her own pre-departure orientation for her year in Verviers, Belgium.

After attending the University of Texas at Austin, where she became president of her Rotaract club, Powers was ready for her next Rotary adventure. In the summer of 2004, she left for Barcelona, Spain, as an Ambassadorial Scholar. She had no plans for a service project, but right after she arrived, one found her.

"I got an e-mail about a woman whose son had a rare metabolic disease that could only be successfully treated by a doctor in Barcelona," she says. The family needed a place to stay, and Powers knew just whom to ask: the Rotary Club of Barcelona Millennium, who hosted her. Soon, she was the contact person for families from around the world, each with a very sick child.

As she learned more about the disease and the Manuela Martinez Foundation, which supports work to treat it, Powers began talking to clubs and, last June, organized a fundraising dinner. She now says the foundation has become a personal project.

Back in the United States and in her first year of law school, Powers is grateful to Rotary for her Ambassadorial Scholarship. "[The message isn't] get a 4.0 and hole up in your room studying. It's go out there, build bridges, learn, and connect the world. I love that."

---