



"The 'Can-Do' District"

Rotary District 6080 Newsletter District Governor Don Brandes



Bonnie & DG Don Brandes

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OUR YEAR

With my "official visits" completed, I can tell all of you that we are off to a good start there is a lot of enthusiasm in the clubs and among the Assistant District Governors and we can look forward to breaking some membership and Foundation contributions records. Last year our District led the 24 Districts in both Zones 29 and 30 so we know that we CAN-DO better. While our Foundation contributions to the Annual Program Funds were a little less than hoped for last year, we CAN DO better if every member will contribute something. The goal of EVERY ROTARIAN EVERY YEAR means it is hoped that every Rotarian will contribute \$100. to the Annual Program Fund each year. There are a number of ways that it can easily be done. One year I wanted to see how much I could accumulate in one year by taking all of the change from my pocket each night and putting it in a sack. At the end of the year, I had saved \$83. which meant I had to write a check for only an additional \$17. There are other ways to save \$100. if one finds it difficult to write the check each year. It is only 30 cents a day!!

YOUNGER MEMBERS

Most of us are aware that we have an aging membership and that we have a need for younger members to add new ideas and energy to our clubs. As you know, Rotaract is an organization of young people from 18 to 30, who may or may not "migrate" to Rotary when they are no longer Rotaractors. Perhaps we have not been too diligent in recruiting from that valuable organization. It was formed to allow younger individuals the opportunity to learn about Rotary while belonging to an organization that would not be as costly for them since many of them are just starting their careers and are raising families. Our Associate District Governor for Administration, Tim Donovan, has pointed out a section in the Rotary Code of Policies that addresses that problem. I am quoting that applicable section in its entirety.

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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?"

TOP TEN for September

District: For the month +19
 For the year +33

Clubs:

Columbia Metro +8
 Branson-Hollister and
 West Plains +6
 Columbia Northwest, Lake
 Ozark Daybreak, Warrensburg
 Early Bird +3
 + 2 clubs were Bolivar, Centralia, Fayette, Lake Ozark, Laurie Sunrise, Marshall, Mountain View, Nixa & Pulaski County

Rotary Code of Policies

5.040.2 Membership of Younger Persons

Clubs should seek out past Rotaractors and other younger persons who are qualified for membership. Clubs should find methods of increasing the appeal of membership to the growing number of young men and women who are occupying positions of responsibilities in business and professions. Clubs may waive club dues and admission fees for members under the age of 35. In addition, clubs may provide payment of district dues for new members in this age group, and/or, by action at an assembly or conference, districts may reduce the per capita district dues for new members in this age group. (November 2004 Mtg., Bd. Dec. 59)"

This policy does not speak to the question of meals so it is presumed that the younger member pay the cost of meals. There are also other things to consider if a club decides to adopt this policy.

1. Do you make this retroactive for those current members that are under the age of 35?
2. When the member reaches the ages of 35 will he/she then be asked to pay the full amount of dues at the beginning of the next Rotary year after reaching 35?
3. Might the younger member decide to leave Rotary if required to pay the full amount of dues?
4. The monitoring of the ages would have to be done by the club Secretary since that individual has the individual member information.

The District at this time does not have a policy of reduced district dues for those younger members, nor does RI. Adopting this policy would be done on a club-by-club basis. It would be an investment in the new member and would impact the finances of the club to the extent of not receiving the dues income, and still requires the payment of the District and RI dues for that member. This policy is worth giving some serious consideration.

DG NOMINATIONS

This is another reminder that Applications and Nominations are being accepted for the office of District Governor for the term 2009-2010. I have met a number of Rotarians throughout the District during my visits that I think would make good DG's. The Rotarian must be a Past President. A sitting President this year is not eligible, but must first complete this year, and will be eligible next year. There is no restriction on current Assistant District Governors. A District Governor is an officer of Rotary International. It is a prestigious position particularly considering that there are only 530 in a total Rotary membership of over 1, 219,000.

FOUNDATION CONTRIBUTIONS – 2005-2006

Our three top clubs in per capita contributions were: Lake Ozark Daybreak - \$202.07, Columbia South - \$165.54, Mountain View - \$163.96. A number of other clubs were over the \$100. per capita. They were: Bolivar-\$136.90, Warrensburg EarlyBird-\$134.38, Jefferson City Evening - \$131.67, Willow Springs-\$131.56, Laurie/Sunrise Beach-\$125.52, Harrisonville - \$122.95, Belton-\$122.73, Springfield North-\$111.28, Thayer/Mammoth Springs-\$110.92, Columbia Northwest-\$105.61.

The goal last year for the Annual Program Fund (APF) was \$245,401., we contributed \$215,997.20. It is from this fund that we will receive 50% in three years, \$107,998.60. In addition to the APF contributions our District members contributed \$22,165.96 to Restricted Giving, and \$28,053.51 to the Permanent Fund. Only the contributions to the APF are counted towards the per capita amount.

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In these current Rotary years several clubs are off to a good start. Harrisonville has contributed 34% of its commitment, Lake Ozark Daybreak 27%, Nixa and Sedalia both 25%, Springfield Southeast 23% and Rolla Breakfast 22%. Congratulations to all of these clubs and to all clubs that have made contributions to the Foundation. It is hoped that more clubs will increase their contributions so that they will also reach the desired \$100. per capita.

POLIOPLUS

The fight against polio has not abated. During the first-half of 2006 immunization activities intensified in the polio-endemic countries and countries experiencing imported cases of polio. The virus that struck countries like Bangladesh that had been free from polio since 2000 were imported from India. The almost 4000 Rotarians in Bangladesh have declared that they are ready to once again to fight the virus in their country so that I will remain free of polio. Somalia and Yemen, non-Rotary countries, have had the immunization effort once again because of imported polio. Contributions are still needed to the PolioPlus program to continue this fight until all four remaining countries can be declared free of that dreaded virus.

VIETNAM

At the February meeting of the Board of Directors, RI agreed to open Vietnam to the extension of Rotary clubs pending an agreement with the Vietnamese government. To prepare the way for the formation of clubs, the Board encourages Rotarians, clubs and districts of the world to initiate and develop service programs in Vietnam and to inform the General Secretary of Rotary of their progress. All clubs in Vietnam will be in District 3350.

MEMBERSHIP

Let's keep in mind our membership goals for this year. A source of possible members are Rotary alumni. Those are individuals that have traveled as team members with a GSE team, former Ambassadorial Scholars, and former Rotaractors. There may also be Rotarians that have moved into your areas, or former Rotarians from you own clubs that would like to re-join.

WE CAN REACH THE GOALS THAT HAVE BEEN SET – WE ARE THE CAN-DO DISTRICT.

RI ADDRESS CHANGES

Send contributions to
The Rotary Foundation:
The Rotary Foundation
14280 Collections Center Drive
Chicago, IL 60693

Membership and Dues payments to
Rotary International:
Rotary International
14255 Collections Center Drive
Chicago, IL 60693

I realize that this is a repetition but often, I will do this to be sure the information is seen by all those that need it. These are changes in mailing addresses that are important to all clubs. Secretaries and Foundation Chairs should be particularly aware of these changes. Effective October 1, 2006, lockbox addresses are changing for Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation to the following:

LET'S CONTINUE TO REMEMBER THAT WE ALL HAVE THAT WONDERFUL POWER OF 1 THAT IS AVAILABLE IN OUR PURSUIT OF SERVICE ABOVE SELF to help those who need the help we are capable of giving. Whether it is one person, several people, many people or a community we CAN-DO things that will make a difference in the lives of others.

Until next month –
DG DON BRANDES