



# THE FUTURE OF ROTARY IS IN YOUR HANDS



WWW.ROTARYDISTRICT6980.ORG

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2010

## MARCH IS LITERACY MONTH

### Why is Literacy an official area of emphasis for Rotary International every year?

In recent years, every Rotary International President-elect makes *Literacy* a primary emphasis when he rolls out his goals and objectives for the upcoming Rotary year.

Literacy is unique as it has not only its own Rotary Month, but it also has its own Day, International Literacy Day, on September 8!

What is *Literacy*? Traditionally, Literacy is defined as a person's ability to read and write. It can also include functional abilities, like using a computer, understanding how to prevent certain diseases, or reading signs in a market.

Literacy is important because it empowers people and is essential for community development. Literate people are more likely to develop economically, live healthier lives and be more peaceful.

Rotarians support Literacy by donating dictionaries, help build and stock school libraries, and act as tutors and mentors to students here locally and around the world.

Rotarians are active in efforts to reduce illiteracy all over the world.

What can our Rotary clubs in Central Florida do?

Many clubs in our district have "adopted" schools, whose students are typically at-risk and from low income, single parent households. These students tend to be the most handicapped when it comes to literacy rates.

But *Literacy* programs don't limit themselves to only helping those who can't read to read. Computer literacy in today's world is just as important as being able to read a book.

School libraries with old, outdated books which need an infusion of new reading materials are equally as important as a Literacy project.



At our District Conference on April 29 and in the May Newsletter, we will feature many of the clubs' outstanding service projects, especially those which deal with children and Literacy projects.

This is a wonderful opportunity to share your club's outstanding and unique projects with your fellow Rotarians, while learning from theirs, which is what makes our collective experiences so special.

*Randy Raviszer*  
District Governor 2009-10  
Rotary International District 6980

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

- March 4-6

**All Florida PETS**  
Doubletree Resort, Orlando

- March 24

**Rotarian 2 Rotarian Business Expo**  
Crowne Plaza, Orlando

- April 24

**Rotary Leadership Institute**  
Hagerty High School, Oviedo

## A LETTER TO ALL ROTARIANS IN D-6980

Dear Rotary Friends and Guests attending the District 6980 Conference:

Martha and I look forward to visiting with you in Orlando. In the past 12 years we have had the privilege of representing our Rotary International Presidents in different areas of the world.

We find that Rotarians everywhere are compassionate, caring

individuals who desire to help the less fortunate people of the world; working every day in more than 200 countries promoting 'Rotary' for a better world.

It's a privilege for us to represent RI President John and his wife June at your conference.

We know that Governor Randy and his committee have spent many hours to make your conference

the best ever. Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to be a part of your "One By Land, Two By Sea" experience. We will see you on April 29 in Orlando.

Yours in Rotary,

Martha and Carl Rosenbaum  
P.R.I.D.

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**See District Website for Haiti Earthquake Relief Fund info**

## THE ROTARY FOUNDATION - UPDATE

The Annual Programs Fund (APF) of The Rotary Foundation is the key indicator of how much District Designated Funds (DDF) each club in our District will have control over three Rotary years from now.

It is this DDF which each club is given control over to designate which Rotary Foundation program it wishes to support.

Some clubs use their DDF to fund District Simplified Grants (DSG), others use it to meet their Polio Plus pledge towards the \$200M Gates' Foundation Challenge Grant.

Many of our clubs this year chose to use their DDF to help fund either

their club's own or another club's Humanitarian Grant project.

**In 2009-10, the Clubs of District 6980 have participated in Humanitarian Matching Grants with funding in excess of \$500,000!**

This is a remarkable amount of grant funding, but the real success is the involvement by so many clubs and Rotarians who participated, hands-on, with this projects.

The common denominator in all of these grants is DDF. In 2009-10 we had a record amount of DDF available to us because in 2006-07, we had a record year of giving to

the Annual Programs Fund.

Without Annual Giving, our DDF in three years will not be there and the projects the clubs have come to expect to do will not have the necessary funding.

Currently we are far behind our giving numbers of 2006-07. Each club needs to assess their charitable giving to consider giving to The Rotary Foundation's Annual Programs Fund by 30 June to ensure their DDF will be there in 2012-13.

Individual Rotarians should also participate in the Foundation's EREY (Every Rotarian Every Year) program.

## ROTARIAN 2 ROTARIAN BUSINESS EXPO

On Wednesday, March 24, all Rotarians are invited to attend the District's first ever Rotarian 2 Rotarian Business Expo at the Crowne Plaza Hotel at Interstate 4 & Colonial Drive on the north end of Downtown Orlando.

More than 40 Rotarian vendors from a wide variety of classifications will have their businesses on display for all attendees to come by and visit with them. All vendor tables are sold out.

This is an opportunity for Rotarians to vocationally network with other

Rotarians at a private event. This is a closed event for Rotarians and their guests. There is no charge for Rotarians but there will be a \$10 cash charge for guests, who must be accompanied by a Rotarian to enter.

There will be refreshments and door prizes. The third edition of the Rotarian 2 Rotarian Business Directory will be given out to all the attendees as well.

It is asked that all those planning to attend the expo to register online via the District Calendar on the District's website. If you would like to

attend and can't log in to the member access section of the website, ask your club secretary or president for assistance. Please register by 15 April.

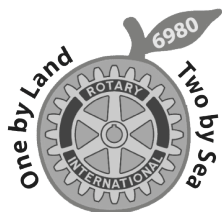
This event is also a great way to introduce a potential Rotarian to Rotary!

For more information on the R2R Business Expo, please contact event chair iPDG Carlos Giraldo at: [Carlos@crshotels.com](mailto:Carlos@crshotels.com) or Taren Schwarz at: [Taren6980@aol.com](mailto:Taren6980@aol.com)

See you at the Expo on March 24!

**APRIL 29  
CONFERENCE  
REGISTRATION  
QUESTIONS?  
CONTACT  
DISTRICT  
CONFERENCE  
COMMITTEE CHAIR  
LARRY RICE**

**LARRY.ROTARY@  
GMAIL.COM**



**District Conference  
2010**

**REGISTER ONLINE FOR  
APRIL 29  
CONFERENCE SESSIONS,  
LUNCHEON AND  
GOVERNOR'S BANQUET**

**Registration for the April 29 District Conference sessions, Luncheon and Governor's Banquet at the Sonesta-Orlando Hotel (formerly known as the Sheraton Orlando Downtown) is NOW OPEN and ONLINE!**

This year, our conference will feature a full day of Rotary programs and events on land at the *Sonesta Hotel Orlando*.

Since 2003 when our District went to a "cruise conference" format with some meal events on land, many

Rotarians who do not cruise have not had the opportunity to experience a traditional Rotary District Conference.

All Districts in the world are required to hold an Annual Conference for the clubs of their District. The purpose of the District Conference is similar to that of the International Convention, enabling Rotarians to interact with other Rotarians in other clubs and to become more aware of the outstanding programs of Rotary International and The

Rotary Foundation.

This year, we will use online registration for the conference events via the District website/calendar. The District will invoice the clubs for each member who registers for the Luncheon and/or Banquet. There will be NO registration fee to attend the Conference. Only the District Luncheon and Governor's Banquet will have a cost to attend. Registration is NOW OPEN!

**Registration Deadline is 1 April**

## COUNTDOWN TO DISTRICT CONFERENCE 2010

We are now less than two months away from the start of our annual District Conference.

Plans are coming together for what we expect to be the most comprehensive, educational, entertaining, motivating and very best District Conference we've ever had.

It was very important that we offer something of value to every Rotarian who attends the Conference, even if they only attend one event or plenary session.

We will have the traditional pageantry of an opening session, plenary sessions with "Rotary only" pro-

grams, presentations and displaying of all the clubs' featured service projects. A luncheon honoring all Rotarians who have been Rotarians since 1975 or before (as well as all Past District Governors), a session for our Interact Clubs, interaction with 11 foreign Rotary Youth Exchange Students, our District sponsored Rotary World Peace Scholar and two Group Study Exchange Teams, followed by a very special Governor's Banquet with rarely given Rotary International Awards and presentations by the personal representative of Rotary International President John Kenny.

And this is all on the first day of the conference!

We continue the next day with our Conference Cruise on Royal Caribbean's Monarch of the Seas for a three night cruise where we will have both GSE Teams (inbound and outbound), all eleven Youth Exchange Students and our World Peace Scholar with us on board to interact with us and share their experiences with us.

There is just one catch to experience this year's District Conference.... YOU MUST REGISTER ONLINE BY APRIL 1 VIA THE CALENDAR ON THE DISTRICT DATABASE! Visit the District website today and click on the Conference Icon to visit the special Conference website.



**You must register for the District Conference events online!**

## NEW GENERATIONS UPDATE

### Important Interact News!

At January's RI Board of Directors Meeting, the Board voted to amend the **age requirements for Interact Clubs from 14-18 to 12-18.**

This immediate change now allows for Rotary clubs to sponsor official Interact clubs in Middle Schools!  
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Please let District Interact Chair Sally Kamrada (skamrada@aol.com) know if your **Interact club will be represented, and how many, at the District Conference.**

**125 RYLA delegates, sponsored by the clubs of District 6980,** participated in this year's Rotary Youth Leadership Awards weekend, Feb. 25-28 at the Altamonte Hilton, an all-time record!

Congratulations to all the clubs in District 6980 for supporting this dynamic Rotary youth program and to the RYLA committee (chaired by Barbara Coggins) of dedicated Rotarians from all over the District, who each year give up so much of their time to make this such a special weekend for everyone.

### Rotary Youth Exchange

District 6980 will be receiving eight (8) inbound Rotary Youth Exchange students from around the world this August for academic year 2010-11. Now is the time for the clubs to decide if they will commit to being a host club for one of these students.

Also, the RYE Short-Term Summer Exchange program is now being organized. This is a one-in one-out direct exchange for a Rotarian family. For more information, contact Rotary Youth Exchange Chair, John Siegel (rye6980@aol.com).

ORANGE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION WILL CONDUCT A SEMINAR ON CIVICS FOR OUR INTERACTORS AT THE DISTRICT CONFERENCE

## CLUB EXTENSION UPDATE:

**The Rotaract Club of Metro Orlando** has submitted its Charter Application to Rotary International.

The Rotaract Club of Metro Orlando is sponsored by The Rotary Club of Dr. Phillips and will operate as a Community based club of working professionals between 21-30 years of age.

The Club will begin with almost 40 members and will meet twice a month, beginning in March, once for a formal meeting and the other

will be a more social meeting. The club will have rotating meeting venues throughout Central Florida. Visiting Rotarians will have to consult the official calendar on the District's website or contact the club directly to learn of where the club will meet each month.

**The Rotaract Club of Metro Orlando will hold its Charter Celebration** on Thursday, March 25, from 6:00-8:00 PM at the Mall at Millennia's community room. All Clubs in District 6980 are encour-

aged to send one representative to this celebration to help welcome our newest club to the District.

**A new Rotary Club in Baldwin Park** is now in the provisional stage and already has more than 20 potential charter members attending. They hope to charter by April 1.

The club officially meets on Wednesday evenings at 6:00 PM at LAGO Restaurant, 4979 New Broad Street. Visiting Rotarians and potential members are welcome!



**Support our Newest Clubs: Lake Nona, Baldwin Park and Metro Orlando (Rotaract)**



## ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 6980

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## AT YOUR SERVICE

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND COMPLETE  
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[WWW.ROTARYDISTRICT6980.ORG](http://WWW.ROTARYDISTRICT6980.ORG)

District Secretary  
District Treasurer  
District Coordinator  
**Rotary Foundation Chair**  
\*Annual Giving  
\*Permanent Fund  
\*Polio Plus  
\*Group Study Exchange  
\*Grants  
\*Ambassadorial Scholarships  
\*World Peace Fellowships  
\*Alumni  
**Service Projects Chair**  
\*Vocational Service  
\*International Service  
\*Community Service  
**Club Administration Chair**  
\*Club Service  
\*Club Bulletins  
\*Club Meeting Programs  
\*Family of Rotary  
**Membership Chair**  
\*Extension  
\*Development  
**Public Relations Chair**  
**New Generations Chair**  
\* RYLA  
\*Interact/Rotaract  
\*Rotary Youth Exchange  
Rotary Leadership Institute  
Insurance/Risk Management  
District Conference Chair  
Standard Operating Procedures  
DDF Administrator

Anna Litton  
Jennifer Gravlin  
Bill Litton  
Rick Baines DGND  
Charlie Rogers PDG  
George Huffman PDG  
Jim Greene  
Chris Stubbs  
Bob Shydo  
Clark Gwinn  
Marty Kramer  
Don Miers  
Art Brown DGN  
Tom Johnson  
Bernardo Ramirez  
Paul & Ann Smith  
Chuck Pratt PDG  
Paul Osborne  
Carole Arthurs  
Barry Gainer  
Mary Beth Salisbury  
Taren Schwarz  
Carlos Giraldo PDG  
Pam Bozkurt  
Jim Salisbury  
John Siegel  
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Sally Kamrada  
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Marty Kramer  
Sarah Hamby  
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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Rotary Leadership Institute Saturday, April 24, Hagerty High School, Oviedo

The Rotary Leadership Institute returns to Oviedo for the final RLI of 2009-10. Parts 1, 2 and 3 will be offered. As usual, registration must be done in advance, online at [www.rlirotary.org](http://www.rlirotary.org), two weeks in advance.

Next Rotary year, only two RLI events will be held in D-6980. August 28 at the Buffalo Charter School in The Villages and on March 12 at Hagerty High School in Oviedo.

A Rotarian may attend any RLI event in any district throughout the RLI Sunshine Division. All course schedules in the division are listed on the RLI website.

All new Rotarians should be encouraged to enroll in RLI

### Rotarian Sponsor Society (for multiple sponsors) Recognition Luncheon, Friday, May 21 at the Citrus Club, downtown Orlando

This will be an invitation only event to recognize all Rotarians who sponsored two or more new members in 2009-10.

### Deadline for Rotary International Convention fast approaching!

March 31 is the deadline to register for the Rotary International Convention in Montreal, June 20-23

### Silent Auction with all proceeds going to The Rotary Foundation

At this year's District Conference on April 29, there will be a silent auction Rotary Foundation fundraiser, with 50% of the purchase

price donated to The Rotary Foundation directly in the name of the donor of the auction item. The other 50% will be donated by the District. For more information and to donate an auction item, contact Taren Schwarz at: [taren6980@aol.com](mailto:taren6980@aol.com)

### Membership Update:

Many clubs in District 6980 are having very strong years in the area of membership. Half of the clubs are showing net gains or are at the same number they were at 1 July.

In fact, more than half of the clubs in District 6980 are in very good position to meet the mandatory net plus one new member by 1 April to qualify for the 2009-10 Rotary International Presidential Citation.

This is the final membership push for the year. Every member needs to help their club to the finish line.



**The D-6980 Website is updated regularly with most of the information Rotarians need to conduct the business of Rotary. Visit it often and take advantage of its wonderful resources**