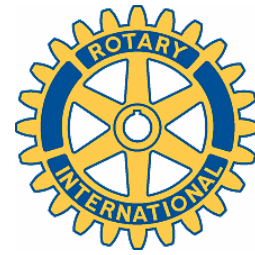




# District 6420 NEWS!

**Rotary International**  
Eldon T. Leemhuis, Governor



## July 2007

Wilfrid J. Wilkinson, R-I President, 2007-2008

Rotary is not an organization of heroes. It is composed of men and women who choose to serve for the privilege of doing so rather than for personal accolades. .... A Century of Service



Monthly Attendance Report: [www.rotary6420.org](http://www.rotary6420.org)  
District 6420 forms & info: [www.rotary6420.org](http://www.rotary6420.org)  
R-I forms & info: [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)  
LA Convention Info: [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)  
DG Eldon : [dg6420for2007\\_2008@yahoo.com](mailto:dg6420for2007_2008@yahoo.com)

### UPCOMING DISTRICT EVENTS & DATES

Keep current at: [www.rotary6420.org](http://www.rotary6420.org)  
or [www.rotary6420.net](http://www.rotary6420.net)

- July 1 Your Rotary International Dues are **DUE**
- July 1 Your District 6420 Dues of \$27/member are **DUE**. Send them to PDG Nel Pitelka, 15669 Crystal Acres Drive, Sandwich, IL 60548-4030
- July 7 Ambassadorial Scholar Candidate applications are **DUE**. They should be sent to George Bass, 129 South Phelps Ave. Suite 411, Rockford, IL 61108.
- July 10 Youth Exchange data for 2008-2009 is **DUE**
- July 13-15 All clubs involved with the Youth Exchange Program should have this date embossed in your mind. The sign-up date is already past, but the event is quickly coming.
- July 28 Interviews for the 2008-2009 school year Ambassadorial Scholars will take place in Dixon. Candidates will receive their interview schedule from District Chair George Bass. If your club has submitted a candidate, PLEASE make sure that your club had completed an extensive interview with that candidate.
- Aug 4 Group Study Exchange Team Leader applications **DUE**
- Aug 11 Group Study Exchange Team Member app's **DUE**
- Aug 18 Group Study Exchange Team Leader interviews
- Aug 23 Deer Valley Workshop on Foundation/Literacy/Membership/Public Relations.
- Aug 25 Group Study Exchange Team Member interviews

### Governor's Club Visit Schedule

- Henry.....July 23
- Mendota.....July 24
- Lacon.....July 25
- Illinois Valley Sunrise.....July 26
- Freeport.....July 30
- Quad Cities.....July 30
- Geneseo.....July 31
- Streator.....August 1
- Toluca.....August 2
- DeKalb..... August 6
- Rockford East/Cherry Valley.....August 7
- Loves Park.....August 7
- Peru.....August 10



The training is over and the task of **SHARING ROTARY** has begun, and Rotary has much to share.

**SHARE** with your club,  
**SHARE** with your community,  
**Share** with your World.



Nancy & Eldon Leemhuis with Wilf & Joan Wilkinson

### From our 2007-2008 President Wilf Wilkinson

President Wilf has placed his emphasis on six areas. In each of those areas he has selected a Resource Group to help districts and clubs in addressing his emphases for the year. Those groups are:

- Family of Rotary Resource Group
- Health & Hunger Resource Group
- Literacy Resource Group
- Public Image Resource Group
- Water Resource Group
- Youth Services Resource Group

With July being Rotary International Literacy Month, Pres. Wilf has outlined the following schedule for all Rotarians.

- \* Raise awareness of literacy issues by encouraging:
  - . Every district to carry out a literacy seminar.
  - . Every district conference and institute to include a literacy component.
  - . Every district governor to present a district literacy award.
- \* Request every Rotary club to participate in International Literacy Day on 8 September 2007 and Rotary Literacy Month in March 2008.
- \* Ask every Rotary club to undertake a literacy project either at home or abroad.
- \* Seek opportunities for alliances with other organizations and educational institutions.

**Key Literacy Projects:**

- > Concentrated Language Encounters – [www.cleliteracy.org](http://www.cleliteracy.org)
- > The Dictionary Project – [www.dictionaryproject.org](http://www.dictionaryproject.org)
- > Reading by Nine – [www.latimes.com/extras/readingby9](http://www.latimes.com/extras/readingby9)



**June 30, 2007 Induction of Area VI Presidents**

Our District 6420 Rotarians, Area VI Club Members and my fellow Ottawa Sunrise Rotarians lived up to the 2007-2008 Theme of Rotary Shares Saturday evening with wonderful induction program. The excellent support of 125+ Rotarians and family members from around the district is a great reminder that Rotary and the programs provided by our 2300+ members, are going strong to help those around the world who are in need of humanitarian services. THANKS TO ALL.

**The District Website is Your Friend**

If you haven't been there yet, type in [www.rotary6420.org](http://www.rotary6420.org) or [www.rotary6420.net](http://www.rotary6420.net) Once there, you have many screens to choose from for information. The first one to look at is the **Calendar**. From the calendar, you can see what is happening in our district. There are two quick links on this page. One is for the many **Downloads** that can be done and the other is for your **Monthly Attendance Reporting**. So quick and so easy. Check out your own club page by selecting Rotary Clubs. Just remember, this is the first of a new year and our webmaster is busy making all the changes for 2007-2008. PLEASE --- give him a little time to get everything updated. Check out some

of the web pages of other clubs. Would you like a new and different look to your web page? Would someone in your club like to come up with your own version of a new and interesting club web page? Simply click on the **Webmaster** button and find out what to do. He can tell you.

**2008 GSE Team Headed for England/Wales**



District 6420 will be exchanging a Group Study Exchange team with District 1100 of England/Wales. Communities included within their district are Bristol and Gloucester, England and Chepstow and Monmouth, Wales. Team members must be between the age of 25 & 40 and be committed to their occupation. Complete details are available at [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org) followed by The Rotary Foundation / Educational Programs / Group Study Exchange. A copy of the team member application is attached to this newsletter as GSE Team Member Application 161-EN. Rotarian Team Leaders must have their application in to District Chair Dennis Bokemeier, on August 4<sup>th</sup> with interviews on August 18<sup>th</sup>. Team member applications are due on August 11<sup>th</sup> with interviews on August 25<sup>th</sup>. Our team will leave for England on Thursday, February 7, 2008 and return on Thursday, March 6, 2008.

A team member news release was included in your PETS manual behind the July tab and is ready for your local news media. More details are included on pages 41 & 42 of the District Directory.

**Deer Valley Summer Workshop**

(Same location as PETS I)

**Thursday evening, August 23<sup>rd</sup>**

- Who:** Club Presidents  
 Club Foundation Chairs  
 Club Literacy Chairs  
 Club Membership Chairs  
 Club Public Relations Chairs

Please make sure that all club Rotarians assigned to these committees have this date on the calendar. The registration form will be coming to each of you about July 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**SHARE ROTARY with a Friend.  
 Invite them to your next meeting.**

## New Club Presidents !!!!!

Do you remember the requests for pages 123-129 that were to be filled out and returned to your Assistant Governor by July 1<sup>st</sup>? Well, that date has come and gone and there are some club presidents who have not yet returned that **Planning Guide for Effective Rotary Clubs**. You will find those pages in the Club President's Manual, which was in the back of the PETS binder passed out to you in March.

---

To succeed, you will soon learn, as I did, the importance of a solid foundation in the basics of education – literacy, both verbal and numerical, and communication skills.

...Alan Greenspan

\*\*\*\*\*

**LITERACY** is the Rotary International theme for July. While our District 6420 Literacy Committee has their district wide events scheduled for November, now is the time for your club literacy committee to formulate the plans. What will your project be? Who will you, as Rotarians, help this year? Take a look in your President's PETS Manual under the February tab and see what district wide awards are available to you and your club, for your efforts. Is there a summer program that you can assist or even start? Are there students or parents who can use some assistance over the summer months in preparation of fall classes? Every neighborhood is different. Find out how you can **SHARE ROTARY** this summer so that students of all ages will be better off this fall.

---

**Family of Rotary** -- is a great focus point in the summer months. Rotary International encourages Rotarians around the world to plan and participate in family events; those involving parents and grandparents along with the children and your neighborhood. If there is no time, make time. The family is the most important thing you have.

Our District Family of Rotary Chairs, Linley & Rebecca White would like to know what events your club conducts. This information will be used to assist other clubs looking for ideas. Have you tried a club-at-the-ballgame? Give us some feedback so that we may assist other. Linley & Rebecca can be contacted at [whitel@svcc.edu](mailto:whitel@svcc.edu) or [whiter@svcc.edu](mailto:whiter@svcc.edu).

---

### Recognition of Smaller Club Membership Growth

In February of this year, the Rotary International Board of Directors approved the implementation of a new recognition program for smaller clubs. This recognition program provides clubs with fewer than twenty members an opportunity to receive a certificate of recognition for demonstrating an increase in membership during the year. The recognition will be awarded within three categories:

Clubs with less than ten members will need to reach ten.  
Clubs with less than fourteen will need to reach fifteen.  
Clubs with less than 19 members will need to reach twenty.

The time frame for the annual *Recognition of Smaller Club Member Growth* program is July 1 – May 15. As it stands today, 25% of our clubs fall into this category. As a member of one of these "Smaller Clubs", let's all see what we can do with our membership this year. As of April, Rotary International listed OUR small clubs as:

Belvidere Bright (15)	Erie (13)
Freeport Sunrise (15)	Marseilles (16)
Mendota (13)	N. Winnebago Co. (17)
Ottawa Sunrise (19)	Pecatonica (12)
Plano (18)	Quad Cities (19)
Sandwich (18)	Wenona (18)

**Arrange for a "classification" you do not have in your club, to come and present a program. Once in the door -----!**

---

### MEMBERSHIP ATTENDANCE REPORTS



Club Secretaries: simply go to [www.rotary6420.org](http://www.rotary6420.org) and click on CALENDAR. From there, you will find the attendance button to click on and simply enter your monthly club information. Go there now just to see how easy it is.

---

### YOUTH EXCHANGE, LONG TERM

On May 25<sup>th</sup>, all Club Youth Exchange Officers were sent the formal information from District Chair David Smith, for the 2008-2009 Rotary Youth Exchange year. This information is required **in David's hands by July 10<sup>th</sup>**. If your club is interested in joining those who participate in the youth exchange program, contact David at 815-654-1965 or [dsmith6420@aol.com](mailto:dsmith6420@aol.com)

We **WILL** see all of our youth in **Grand Rapids July 12-15**

---

### Prepare your "What is Rotary" Elevator Speech

We must always be prepared. How many times have you been asked "What is Rotary"? Take time now to place in your memory bank a 15 second response. One that can be told between the time you get into an elevator and when it makes its first stop. Just make sure you end it by saying, "Can I take you as my guest to our meeting this week?"



**District  
Shelter Box  
Committee  
Forming**

An organizational meeting for a District Shelter Box USA Committee will be held on Saturday, July 21st at 12:00 P.M., at CGH Medical Center in Sterling.

This meeting is open to any Rotarian in District 6420 interested in helping to promote Shelter Box USA to Rotary Clubs and other organizations around our area. The purpose would be to brief participants on Shelter Box-related activities, including presentations to various clubs; bring them up to date on what the organization does; and consider plans for the coming year.

This committee, while endorsed by the officers of District 6420, will act independently from the District itself; this initial meeting is meant to be informal, and Rotarians who are willing to take an active role in promoting Shelter Box are encouraged to attend.

If you are interested in attending this meeting, or have any further questions, please contact Brian Adams at (815) 895-0991, or at [shelterbox6420@yahoo.com](mailto:shelterbox6420@yahoo.com).

---

**Newsletter Articles**

Do you have an article that you would like to see in this district newsletter? Submit it to DG Eldon Leemhuis at [dg6420for2007\\_2008@yahoo.com](mailto:dg6420for2007_2008@yahoo.com). All efforts will be made to include it in an upcoming newsletter. Space may require some condensing of the article, but we will do our best.

---

***District Committee Chairs***

**Don't forget to:** Schedule  
Arrangements  
Minutes

with District Secretary Betty (**SAM**) Clementz at:  
[tclementz@accessus.net](mailto:tclementz@accessus.net)

---

**AMBASSADORIAL SCHOLAR**

The applications are due in to District Chair George Bass on July 7<sup>th</sup>. The interview process will be held on Saturday, July 28<sup>th</sup>. Each applicant will be contacted directly by Chairman Bass with information on the location and the interview times.

**District Directory Additions & Corrections**

We all knew they were coming:

Page:	Name:	Should be:
69	Michael Atkins	1613 Elmshore Drive Port Byron, IL 61275 Ph: 309-721-3700
71	Peter Flynn	Ph: 815-232-0309 Fx: 815-232-0327
71	David Fonda	<a href="mailto:dfonda@heathearth.com">dfonda@heathearth.com</a>
105	Connie Castro	is now Connie Gendreau 10103 Airport Rd. Savanna
112	John Lauf	V.P. for 2007-2008 116 W. First South Street Wenona, IL 61377 Ph: 815-853-4145

**New Rotarians in our District**

E-mail me the names of your new club members so they can be welcomed to Rotary in our District Newsletter.

**District Committee Positions Available**

Rotary and Rotarians around the world have only one focus. That is humanitarian projects. In our district, we have over 30 committees who are dedicated to seeing that District 6420 remains focused on as many areas as possible for these Rotary efforts. Is your interest on literacy, youth or peace? If so, we have eight different committees who are committed to those areas of service. Do you prefer the "hands on" experience, whether home or abroad?

Each Club President and Secretary has a copy of the 2007-2008 District 6420 Directory which contains a complete listing of the district committees detailing the committee chairs and members, as well as a brief outline of their duties and responsibilities. We are always looking for additional committee members.

Some were selected because of their vocation or background. Other committees are seeking members based somewhat on their different geographical locations around our district.

---

Enjoy Rotary by *Sharing* Rotary