



2006-2007

District Governor
Patricia Burch



District 6420 Newsletter



August Edition

Dear District 6420 Rotarians:

School has or will start very soon for elementary, high school, and college students. Learning is ongoing for Rotarians as well. Eight District 6420 Rotarians attended the Regional Foundation Seminar in Burr Ridge on August 12. Since Every Rotarian Every Year started in 2003-04 District 6420 per capita has grown from \$32.04 (2nd lowest in 11 districts in Zone 27) to \$76.19 (7th in giving in Zone 27). Nine Districts increased their Annual Fund giving level last year including 6420. Every year our District will benefit by the increased funds coming back to our District.

On Thursday, August 17, 94 Rotarians networked with 37 club representatives to learn about Foundation from Chris Reilly, R.I. Regional Foundation Coord.; Membership from Terri Mueller, R.I. Regional Membership Coord.; Literacy from Martha Rittmueller, Literacy Chairman, Jim Moran, (Solar Computers in Costa Rica), Andy Axum, (Dictionary Project), Tim Benedict, (Adult Literacy); Public Relations from Larry Johnston, Chairing for Brian Adams, PDG Bob Newlon (Websites, Newsletters, and Awards), Betty Clementz (R.I. PR package), and Elise Cadigan (Recruiting Youth Exchange Host Families). Each club should have received four packets of information. If you were not there, ask your A.G. or Betty Clementz, District Secretary. Some packets were being mailed.

ATT: YEO's, host families, and counselors Saturday, August 26 training will be held starting at 9 a.m. in Loves Park. Call Dave Smith or Rudy Sterkel for more details.

Labor Day Week representatives from District 6420 will be traveling to Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada for Zone Training to join with Zones 22, 27 and 28 to learn about Foundation, Polio Eradication, Nigeria Pilot Project and Leadership Skills.

August 12 District 6420 welcomed Alexander, our Inbound Ambassadorial Scholar from Rwanda, Africa. It is a great honor for our district to be able to host Alex. Please read the insert about Alex and encourage your club to participate in welcoming him to our district.

Family of Rotary Events happening in our district include: Oregon's Mark Twain Day, Area's IV's Sandwich Fair Food booth, and Kishwaukee Sunrise's NIU Tailgate and football game event on Saturday, September 23. Contact these clubs for more details and join them for some great networking and socializing.

WANTED: Candidates for District Governor 2009-2010, GSE team leader (Rotarian) and team members (non-Rotarian) to travel to Germany District 1930 Bavarian Alp area. Be watching for more details and if you are interested, please contact me.

Yours in Rotary Service,

District Governor Pat Burch

Self-improvement is one type of work that is worth it. The opportunity to take charge of our own happiness lies within ourselves.

FOUNDATION HIGHLIGHTS

*W*e're off to a great start with \$7028 recorded for Annual Giving. Two clubs have already reached or surpassed their goal. Wenona Rotary, once again, was the first club to achieve and surpass its goal. They contributed \$500 for 250% of goal. Granville Rotary sent \$1900 of contributions for 119% of its goal. Dixon Rotary's \$1165 puts them at 15% of goal. Quick starts by Galena Rotary of \$800 for 10% of goal and by Ottawa Rotary of \$1000 for 8% of goal show great initiative. Kishwaukee Sunrise Rotary achieved 60% of its goal with a \$300 total. Rock Island Rotary is off to a super start with \$1100 in Annual Giving and \$700 in Polio Plus Giving. Walnut Rotary's contribution of \$200 for Polio Plus puts us close to the \$1000 mark for that campaign.

Our Foundation training session at Deer Valley provided club Foundation Chairs with information and rationale for a successful year. Truly we continue to promote world peace and understanding through our programs.

PDG Don Clayberg and PDG Anita Papich

Co-Chairs of Foundation

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SHELTER BOX USA ADDRESS AND PRESENTATIONS AVAILABLE

District 6420 Clubs interested in supporting Shelter Box USA can get information directly, from a dedicated e-mail address dealing strictly with this Rotary-related international relief effort.

Shelter Box USA provides pre-packaged shelter and tools, for use in disaster areas around the world; these boxes are shipped to areas which have been hit by disasters, and the items are used for sheltering victims during the weeks and months following the disaster. Shelter Boxes have been sent to places ranging from southern Lebanon, to the Gulf Coast after Hurricane Katrina, to the areas affected by the 2004 tsunami.

If you have any questions relating to Shelter Box USA, you can contact District Representative Brian Adams at shelterbox6420@yahoo.com; or by calling him at (815) 895-0991. Information on the program, on where to make donations, or on making presentations to your club can be found there. You can also view the national organization's website at www.shelterboxusa.org.

Shelter Box, while not directly affiliated with Rotary International, was created and is operated by Rotary Clubs in several countries. Shelter Box USA is operated by the Rotary Club of Lakewood Ranch, Florida.

Article furnished by newly married Brian Adams

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What, another proposal?

Granville Rotarian Scott Shore proposed to his wife... AGAIN! This time, it was to become a member of the Granville Rotary Club, in which Adriane has been actively involved as a "Rotary Spouse" since Scott joined in 1978. Adriane accepted Scott's proposal ... AGAIN..., as did the Club, and Adriane was officially installed on July 13. The Shores and a growing number of "two-Rotarian households" LEAD THE WAY for other couples to share in the FAMILY OF ROTARY. Have you proposed ...AGAIN... to your spouse??

Paul Harris:

An unprecedented FIVE Paul Harris Awards were presented by Club President Larry Priest at the Club's August 17 meeting, to Cheri "CK" Cutright, Tom Simmons, and to the three children of Scott and Adriane Shore, Erin (posthumously), David (a grad student at Harvard Medical) and Daniel (an undergrad student at Bradley University). Daniel was on hand for presentation of the Awards. Scott and Adriane are already PH Fellows and Scott is also a Benefactor.

A letter of Thanks for making a difference.



Pecatonica Rotary Club Project to Build a Preschool/Community Center In the village of Ha Mohapi, province of Quthing, country of Lesotho

Charlotte Giuffre, Peace Corps Volunteer pictured above, will coordinate the project along with the Maseru, Lesotho Rotary Club. Lesotho is an independent country in Southern Africa. The country is very, very poor. The cost of the project is estimated to be between \$3,000 and \$4,000. Any additional money raised would be used for furnishings. The Pecatonica Rotary Club has forwarded \$4,000 to the Maseru Rotary Club. The project is a go, thanks to all of the generous gifts given to the project.

The chief of the village donated the land and asked Charlotte and her village co-worker Me Puleng (also pictured above) to help select the site. They chose the center of the village, announced the project, and joyously celebrated with the entire village. They can't wait to begin!

Contributors:

Pecatonica Rotary Club
Freeport Sunrise Rotary Club
Freeport Rotary Club
Madison South Rotary Club
Board of Education and Staff Pecatonica School District #321
John and Julie Norland
Jennifer and Tom Vos
Rita and Tony Giuffre
Bill Frieburger, Master Lawn
Marian Tobin
Bill and Connie Kosloske
Joann Tacl
John DeGrote
Richard Weigle
Nancy and Chuck Norland

*Charlotte is very appreciative of all the help given
and joins the Pecatonica Rotary Club in thanking you
for your support.*

**Thanks for your wonderful support.
We will keep you posted as the project progresses.
Chuck and Nancy Norland**

A letter about our inbound Ambassadorial Scholar

Greetings District Rotarians,

We are excited to have received our first Ambassadorial Scholar in 15 years and the first one from an underdeveloped country. His name is Alexandre Ngamije and he arrived August 9 from his home in Rwanda. He has not traveled out of Africa before and every experience is new for him. He is being hosted by the Downtown Rockford Rotary club and has been admitted to the MBA program at Rockford College. Alex has been taking ESL classes (9-2:30pm) daily since his second day here so that he will be more successful in his graduate studies. He will need to continue his ESL classes through the first semester. Regular classes start August 24th. He is fluent in French and took his undergraduate degree in Economics entirely in French at the University of Kigali. Alex is 31 years old, is married and has an 8 month old son. They live in the capital city of Kigali near his mother. He is one of nine children and was born in the Republic of the Congo. With his parents and sisters, the family fled to Rwanda in 1995. His father, who believed so strongly in his children receiving an education, died while Alex was a sophomore in college. He will share his story with you as he gives programs in the District. Alex arrived with two small suitcases, little cash and incredible determination to work hard, better himself and his family, and be a strong scholar and wonderful ambassador for his country. He asks for nothing. However, we have the chance to help him succeed through our friendship and our support. Several Downtown Rockford club families provided a home stay for a few nights while the college dorms were still closed. Then they contributed the many items necessary to get him settled in his dorm room. The District has purchased his bedding. However, there are personal items he will need as the year progresses that he will only have through the generosity of Rotarians in our District. He has never seen snow or been in cold weather, so the clothing he needs he is unable to imagine or afford. He will need a backpack, a cell phone that uses a calling card and calling cards so that we can keep in touch with him and he can communicate with other students and periodically with his family. Small monetary gifts are probably the best way for him to obtain the items he needs. His first host family in Rockford provided him with a calling card when he arrived so that he could call home and tell his family that he had arrived safely, after his two-day/night series of flights to get here. Think of the many items that we use to make our lives go more smoothly. Alex has none of these and has never used many of them.....he's learning how to use appliances needing electricity, as his country has little consistent access to electricity and so most things are done by hand.....like laundry. He'll learn quickly..... We too have much to learn from him! Yesterday, Alex, whose religion is Seventh Day Adventist, stated that he believes that God knew that many kind and very helpful people would be needed when he came to this country and that is why God put him in Rockford College, instead of going to such a large school as Louisiana State, where he was originally assigned. He was very sincere and I was very touched. Back home in Rwanda, he is very independent and self-sufficient, but the culture shock here and the lack of funds makes that not possible (yet). He so appreciates the caring that Rotarians are showing him, as it's making all things seem possible. He's getting less nervous every day. Don't miss getting to know Alex. You and he will be all the richer for it. If you are interested in having Alex come to your club, or in making a contribution, please contact George Bass, District Ambassadorial Scholarship Chair @ 1-815/397-5656 or at george.bass@countryfinancial.com
Elise Cadigan

A note about making a contribution

All money contributions should be made out to Rotary District 6420 - Ambassadorial Scholar. Nel will then forward the funds to George Bass. This will allow for a paper trail and club recognition to all district clubs or individuals who decide to help Alex.

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This is a picture from the dedication ceremony from Kishwaukee's 8 K race earlier.





A message from Brad Burger our Ambassadorial Scholar in Africa.

I am not sure what to say or how to say it, but for those of you who were not a Umhlanga Rotary induction dinner I was awarded a Paul Harris Award, I am still speechless.

Obviously, it came out of no where. I definitely was not expecting any sort of award from Rotary, let alone the highest honor.

I am thanking everyone for this grand honor. Thank you Rockford Rotary and District 6420 for sponsoring me and every other Ambassadorial Scholarship. Thank you Umhlanga Rotary and District 9270 for giving me the opportunity to live out my dream. And obviously Rotary International for 100 years of Leading the Way. None of this would have been possible without the existence and belief in Rotary.

I was kind of lost this morning. I felt like I should have brushed my teeth a little different or driven to Feedback in a different way, but I didn't. Last night I thought the same thing, "What am I going to do now?"

The future is going to be much of the same. I could tell you I am planning to do more and more over the course of the year or that I am going to do nothing and chill-out on the beach, but I plan to do neither! I am going to keep on doing the same things that I have been doing – giving it my all, keeping an open mind, challenging my personal and professional beliefs and treating each day like it is my last in the country. Bottom-line, I am going to be myself! After all, this is why I was awarded the scholarship and the same reason this year has gone like it has.

This entire experience has been dreamlike. And today I am pinching myself even harder. I cannot believe that I am an Ambassador of Goodwill Scholar representing my family, community of Rockford, State of Illinois, the United States of America and Rotary International. I cannot believe I was awarded Rotary's highest honor. This is not how I envisioned it, but I will take it.

Thank you so much and I will continue to give it my all. I am loving life at the moment.

My mother is on her way, so this will be nice treat for her. She will be at Rotary on the 18th.

Peacelove,

Brad

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Announcements

More changes in the directory

1. On page 17 Marian Shurts e-mail has changed to: rmsburts@mchsi.com
2. On page 25 Mary Perhay's phone is 815 895-4716
3. On page 25 Ruth Lee's e-mail is: ruthless@rjeellip.com
4. On page 34 Belvidere Rotary club has a new treasurer: Debra K. Cole, 213 South State street, Belvidere, IL. 61008. Ph: 815 547-5436 Fax: 815 547-5354 with an e-mail: DKC.Speckman@juno.com
5. On page 42 LaSalle Rotary club has a new treasurer: Chris Vaske, Ph: 815 220-7135, Fax: 815 220-7159, e-mail: cvaske@amcore.com
6. On page 43 Roger Anderson has a new address: 1711 Char-Lu Drive.
7. On page 45 Dr. Richard Vandermyde has a phone number: 815 772-3234
8. On page 49 Chester Grabowski has a new address: 323 Prairie Lane West, Princeton, IL. 61356



Attn: Club Presidents

District 6420 needs to have a complete record of Centennial Projects. I already have a notebook with plastic sleeves 8 1/2 x 11 so what I need from each of you is a picture and a description of your project. Please try to have that ready when I visit your club. It can be both front and back. Thanks for your help in compiling this historical record for District 6420.

This is where it is Happening!!!! Check out our continually expanding district website

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You can now make a Rotary meeting on the internet at www.rotaryclubone.org

GRANVILLE ROTARY FUNDRAISER: COW PIE BINGO !

Want to buy a square on the grid? If Elsie lands her "pie" on your square, YOU WIN \$1,000.... there will also be 10 drawings from the ticket stubs, each netting \$100. Tickets are \$10 each, only 400 will be sold, and ticket holders need not be present to win. The Cow Pie Bingo Event will be held at 1pm on Saturday, September 30, at Boggio's Country Orchard on Route 71 in conjunction with their Fall Pumpkin Festival. Please let your Club members in on this opportunity to reserve one or more squares by email to Granville Rotary President Larry Priest, lpriestpfs@mchsi.com (submitted for Larry Priest)

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Mt. Carroll Rotary club's Annual fundraiser raffle

The Mt. Carroll Rotary Club's annual fundraiser raffle will commence its ticket sales in September 2006. Tickets are \$25.00 each and limited to 300 tickets. Drawings will be held monthly for a \$250.00 cash prize. For tickets or further information please contact Barb Brierton, Secretary, Mt. Carroll Rotary Club, 108 N. Main St., Mt. Carroll, 61053 (E-mail: bbrierton@grics.net).

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GREAT TRUTHS THAT LITTLE CHILDREN HAVE LEARNED:

- 1) No matter how hard you try, you cannot baptize cats.
- 2) When your Mom is mad at your Dad, don't let her brush your hair.
- 3) If your sister hits you, don't hit her back. They always catch the second person.
- 4) Never ask your 3-year old brother to hold a tomato.
- 5) You can't trust dogs to watch your food.
- 6) Don't sneeze when someone is cutting your hair.
- 7) Never hold a Dust-Buster and a cat at the same time.
- 8) You can't hide a piece of broccoli in a glass of milk.
- 9) Don't wear polka-dot underwear under white shorts.
- 10) The best place to be when you're sad is Grandpa's lap.

Does your Rotary club have a fundraiser coming up?

Are you proud of something that your Rotary club has done in Literacy, Membership, Public Relations, or for the Rotary Foundation?

Send it to:
PDG Bob Newlon by the 20th of the month.
1108 E. 18th Street Newsletter will be out
Sterling, Illinois 61081 by the 25th
E-mail to: newlon@essex1.com

**The Oregon Rotary club's annual fundraiser
"Mark Twain Day"**

**Saturday, September 9th 5:30 – 9:30 pm
On the deck at the Riverside Restaurant, Oregon
Tickets are: \$30 per person**

Your ticket includes.....

- Barbecue Dinner
- Beverage – Lemonade, Tea, Coffee, Beer
- Riverboat rides on the Pride of Oregon.
- Live Dixieland Jazz Music and dancing

ThThTh That's all folks!