

Our District Messenger
www.rotary6250.org



District Governor Hal Keitel 2006 -07

May 2007

Governor's Message

The end of my District Governor year is at hand. I have truly enjoyed meeting all of you, being at your club meetings, learning from you and leading our district team. *This is a bit of what I have experienced this year.*

Rotarians use friendly persuasion to work as a group. They are supportive and participate in goal setting, group success and decision making. They inspire each other to lead the way. Rotarians are about showing the world a better way; by having a positive attitude, helping others feel good and by laughing a lot. Seeds of kindness grow deep roots and bring forth wonderful fruit. There is no greater joy, nor greater reward than to make a fundamental difference in someone's life. Every moment is the chance of a lifetime. Leading others requires sharing yourself. We may not be able to change the world, but we can change one thing at a time. Success is not a destination- it is a journey. Albert Schweitzer wrote "Sometimes our light goes out but is blown into flame by another human being. Each of us owes deepest thanks to those who have rekindled this light."

Hal Keitel

District Conference

The District Conference's primary function is *education*. District Governor Hal spoke of his Rotary passions this year - clean water, literacy and eradication of blindness. These themes were discussed during this year's conference. About 10% of the District Rotarians attended the District Conference in WI Dells, May 4-6. We heard from District Rotarians who visited Nigeria last fall, investigating possible projects, and making connections. We heard from District Rotarians who visited Haiti last winter, who worked on homes and water projects. We heard about the Combat Blindness Foundation - who work to restore sight to people in India who cannot afford a simple operation to remove their cataracts. We heard how we can help children grow up to emotionally mature, by stimulating their brain growth at an early age. And of course we enjoyed the Youth Exchange kids, both the Inbounds and those going out this summer. Check out our District Website for pictures from the conference.

Women in Rotary

It was a historic occasion when, on May 4, 1987, the U.S. Supreme Court decided that women could not be excluded from Rotary membership on the basis of gender. In 1995, eight years after the Supreme Court decision, eight women broke through the glass ceiling to become District Governors. Sharon Imes of LaCrosse was the first woman to serve District 6250 as District Governor (1997-98). Today, women account for 14% of the membership of Rotary International. Carolyn E. Jones, of the Rotary Club of Anchorage AK, was the first woman elected to serve on the Board of the Foundation of Rotary International in 2006 and Catherine Noyer-Riveau, of the Rotary Club of Paris, will, at the International Conference in Salt Lake City, take her place as the first woman elected to the Board of Rotary International.. Our district has been served by two other women DGs since then- Mary Beth Growney-Selene and Deb Severson. What would your club be like without its female members?

Membership Development

To promote membership growth, RI President-elect Wilfrid J. Wilkinson invites you to join him in one of seven presidential conferences about sharing the magic of Rotary. The conferences will be held in Canada and the United States in July and August, and each one opens with an evening reception followed by a one-day meeting.

The conferences are intended *for all Rotarians who are committed to strengthening Rotary membership*, but especially club and district membership development committee members, club presidents and officers, and district-level officers including governors.

The meetings are designed to empower Rotary clubs to take up their own membership initiatives that will help Rotary stay vital and growing in the years to come. Participants will learn about and discuss practical ways to identify and recruit new members, retain existing members, and extend Rotary through new clubs. Participants will also discuss how clubs and districts can effectively manage change.

July 27 – 28 South Bend, Indiana USA PRID Louis Piconi

For more info go to - <http://zones27-28.org/PresConf07/PresConf.html>

Upcoming District Meetings

Sunday June 23 – Governor’s Welcoming Party, Columbus. It’s ‘Changing of the Guard’ time at the District level! DGE Mary Kessens will be welcomed as the 2007-08 District Governor at an ‘all-Africa party. Look for information on our district website, or contact the Rotary Club of Columbus.

Upcoming Club Events

Sunday June 3 – **Fly In/Drive In Breakfast**, Rotary Club of Reedsburg-Western Sauk

Saturday July 7 – **Golf Tournament**, Rotary Club of Neillsville

Saturday July 21 - Second Annual **Rotary Junior Champ State Track and Field Meet** , Madison South Rotary, to be held at Mansfield Stadium on the Westside of Madison Last year we had about 130 boys and girls between the ages of 8 and 18 participate. They came from 30 different communities in Wisconsin. We ran 17 different running and field events. We hope to get more kids this summer for the event, as our basic costs are the same no matter whether we have 130 or 500 kids. Contact Peter Williams, President, Madison South Rotary

Clubs – send your information to Julie or Hal, and it will be included in the next issue of our District Newsletter.

Group Study Exchange

Inbound Team from France/Monaco May 12- June 6. They will be visiting Madison, Wisconsin Rapids, Marshfield, Eau Claire and LaCrosse.

Outbound Team to Nigeria

Outbound Team to France/Monaco

Our District website has a home page for Group Study Exchange, which includes blogs and messages from the Outbound teams. www.rotary6250.org

March Membership Report – Congratulations to the winners of the District Attendance contest!

Small Clubs - Granton – 100%

Large Clubs – Madison Downtown – 83%

Both clubs received an award of \$1000 at the District Conference, to be used for scholarships in their communities.

One of the District Goals this year is have all clubs regularly report their attendance by the 15th of every month. There is no formal report to submit. A simple report of meeting dates and attendance # at each meeting is all that is requested. Email the report to District Secretary Alan Selene at alanselene@ryansigns.net, or snail mail to Alan at One Ondossagon, Madison, WI 53719.

The most recent report is posted on our District Web Site (www.rotary6250.org)

The District Messenger editor is Julie Keitel. Send info to jkeitel@new.rr.com, or 9 W. 18th Ave, Oshkosh, WI 54902. The monthly deadline for articles is the 7th of the month, and the newsletter will be published by the 15th. The newsletter is emailed to club presidents and secretaries, assistant governors, and district committee chairs. Please copy and distribute to your club members, or post on your club website. More detailed information is available on the district website.

[[Click here to View District Conference Pictures](#)]

May 4- 6, 2007

Rotary District 6250 Conference Pictures



