



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL District 6960

S.W. Florida, USA

Governor's Newsletter, July 2008

Margaret (Margie) Cypher - District Governor



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Visions of the past are dreams for the future

By District Governor Margie Cypher



Some people have visions, but Rotarians have dreams. Paul Harris had visions/dreams for Rotary to harness the great power of friendship to be instrumental in helping to do the world's work.

We are beginning 2008-2009 by "Daring to Dream," to make the world a better place where all mankind can have hope for a better way of life, peace for all nations and continued world understanding through education, friendship and the fulfillment of human needs. With the Rotarian's visions of the past, let us go forth into the new year as we strive to "Make Dreams Real".

D.K. Lee reported the mortality rate of

children throughout the world is over 30,000 per day and we as Rotarians can have a positive effect to overcome this world problem. The 2008-2009 logo is an adult nurturing a child. We as Rotarians are that adult holding the children of the world in our arms to protect them and overcome the perils of the world that destroys.

Each of us wears the Rotary pin, but that is not enough – we must keep the Rotary wheel in motions by taking an active part and sharing in the challenges before us as we "Dare to Dream" and "Make Dreams Real."

Do you remember the RI theme for the year you were initiated into Rotary? All of the past RI themes reflect the Rotary Dream of overcoming the needs of the people of the world by serving mankind. The themes are listed in the District Directory on pages 70-74.

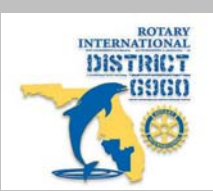
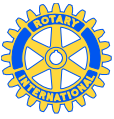
On the upbeat side, let us enjoy Rotary – build friendships within our clubs, our areas, our district, throughout the world while we serve in our club, the community, the world..

Naples 4th of July parade spotlights new theme



The 4th of July parade in Naples featured a float by the Barron Collier HS Interact Club sponsored by the Rotary Club of Naples - Pelican Bay. Andrew Smart, Barron Collier Interact President and members of the club, pose before the parade begins.

Also present are District 6960 Interact Governor, Cally Parks and her father, District 6960 Interact Chair, Harry Parks; Pelican Bay Interact Advisor, Chalmers Brothers and Pelican Bay Rotary Parade Chair, Thomas Beaver.



Assistant Governors

- Area 1
Linda Keutmann
- Area 2
Debbie Stewart
- Area 3
Gerry Myers
- Area 4
John Bellino
- Area 5
Olin Hill, III
- Area 6
Dick Rice
- Area 7
Becky Ferro
- Area 8
Ken Lund
- Area 9
Gail Maynard
- Area 10
Ronald Myers
- Area 11
Steve Schlueter

The Assistant Governor acts as a liaison between the District Governor and the club's they represent. Please take advantage of their knowledge and experience; they are here to help your club.

Changing of the guard on the *Enchantment of the Seas*



During an inspirational ceremony conducted by PDG Howard Crowell and assisted by RI President Representative Robert Brickman and RI Director Zone 33-34 Barry Rassin, District Governor 2007-2008 Gary Israel passed leadership of District 6960 for 2008-2009 to Margie Cypher, who was pinned by her daughter Cathie Skoog, pictured below.



V i n c e Cautero was pinned District Governor Elect (DGE) and Don Thomas District Governor Nominee (DGN) by Governor Margie. She thanked the members of the district for giving her the opportunity to serve and challenged members to "Dare to Dream" and "Make Dreams Real" in the upcoming year.

Congratulations for another great year in District 6960

The year "Rotary Shares" was a great success in District 6960. A big thank you goes out to Gary Israel, DG 2007-2008 and to the District and Club Officers for a year of outstanding achievement. Your leadership and visions enabled members to Share Rotary with people in our communities and throughout the world through the many programs and projects you sponsored.

In the picture below, Anne Marie presents Gary with a special gift, which was a framed picture of the image that welcomed Rotarians to our Web site last year. Congratulation to both of you for your efforts this past year!

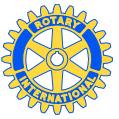


GSE Team needed for exchange to India

Group Study Exchange chair Don Thomas is looking for a team leader and alternate, plus team members, for a exchange that will take place on January 7 to February 6, 2009 to India. The cutoff date to submit applications is August 22, 2008.

Applications can be downloaded from the District Web site by clicking on "Blogs—Alumni-GSE," then selecting "GSE Committee Aids" from the next page, then "GSE." The "Team Handbook" should also be read.

Applications should be faxed to Don at 239-772-9980 or mailed to him at: 1842 S.E. 2nd Street, Cape Coral, FL 33990. Don will contact prospective team members for interviews.



Happy New Year to Rotarians

Another year is starting for the Rotarians of the world: July 1st to June 30th. It is usually customary to make “New Year Resolutions” as we embark on a new year. As Rotarians, have you made a list for the Rotarian New Year? Here are some suggestions:

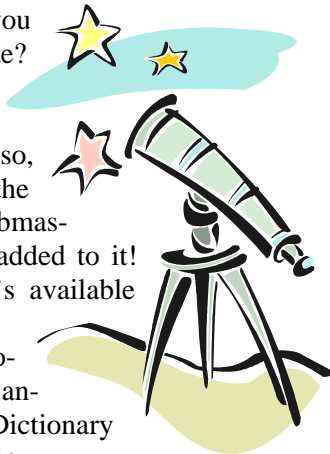
1. Wear your Rotary pin with pride.
2. Make an effort to have 100% attendance. When unable to attend your own club meeting, visit with other Rotarians at their meeting – it is a great way to enlarge your circle of friends.
3. Volunteer to serve on a committee or to be a club officer.
4. Make a contribution to The Rotary Foundation
5. Invite a potential new member to you club.
6. Assist with club Fund Raisers
7. Remember the Rotary 4-Way Test, as the things we think, say and do.

Have fun – enjoy Rotary!

Discover our Web site

When was the last time you visited our District Web site? Remember, the 4-Way Test applies...has it been several weeks or more? If so, you have missed some of the recent changes that our Webmaster, PDG Gary Wilson has added to it! Here’s a brief list of what’s available from the home page:

- View Humanity in Motion public service announcements and a Dictionary Project video on YouTube.
- A Rotary Video Magazine presentation on RI President D.K. Lee’s theme, “Make Dreams Real.”
- A new District 6960 logo, plus a map showing our district and the state of Florida. Both can be downloaded for your club’s publications.
- Links to the RI download library, including forms and graphics. This is a real time saver!
- Information on the District Conference in May, 2009
- Links to the RI Membership page.
- Link to the Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) Sunshine Division Home page.
- And far too much to list here—visit our Web site at www.rotary6960.org today!



PDG Hal Atzingen Receives RI Service Above Self Award



PDG Hal Atzingen of the Rotary Club of Naples poses with his wife Renee and their daughter Jenna after receiving the “Service Above Self” award from Rotary International at the District Conference. As Rotary’s highest honor for individual Rotarians, this award recognizes up to 150 Rotarians annually who have demonstrated exemplary humanitarian service, with an emphasis on personal volunteer efforts and active involvement in helping others through Rotary. Congratulations, Hal!

District Calendar

July is Literacy Month

August 23

- The Rotary Foundation and Membership Seminar at the Cultural Center of Charlotte County, Port Charlotte; register on the District Web site now!

October 11

- Rotary Leadership Institute in Clewiston at the First United Methodist Church - LEC building

October 16-19

- Rotary Institute for Zones 33 and 34 in Nassau, Bahamas



Ponce



Celebrating July as Rotary Literacy Month, Ponce sits down to enjoy the first copy of Governor Margie's District 6960 On Line Newsletter.

All about Ponce

Ponce may be the ultimate Rotarian, even though he has never been a club president nor held a district position. At over 500 years of age, he is in remarkable condition, so he must have discovered a secret fountain of youth many years ago. He claims to have known and inspired Paul Harris and his world revolves around Rotary and promoting Rotary's good works to the public.

In reality, Ponce is the inspiration of Bob Clendenin, who created him back in 1995. Bob, who will be chairing the District Conference this year in Naples, has created a Ponce cartoon for the Rotary Club of Charlotte Harbor every week for the past 13 years (that's about 650 or so), and I thought I might share some of his exploits with the district this year.

Bob has his own Web site; visit it to learn more about Ponce and see some great pictures from a variety of Rotary events he has attended. His home page is www.bobclendenin.com.

Do you have information you would like included in the Governor's Newsletter? E-mail it to Chris Gover at: cjgover@earthlink.net

The August issue will be out by mid-August, so any information should be received by August 10.

Thoughts from your editor

By Chris Gover



I felt very honored when I was asked to be the editor of this publication by DG Margie. Since I had done this job under PDG Dick Dodderidge in 1999-2000 and PDG Gary Wilson in 2000-2001, my initial thought was to just repeat the formula, so to speak.

I quickly realized that many things had changed in Rotary during the years. Today, virtually every Rotarian in the district has Internet access, enhancing the entire distribution picture. Back in 1999, we used to print the newsletter and mail it to selected members in the district; printing and postage costs necessitated this. Today, offering it online is not only more convenient, but makes it available to everyone and saves reams of paper, trees, ink and postage.

The type of news to include has also changed, primarily due to the enhancements to our District Web site. I'll still include some upcoming events on our calendar, but registration can now be done on-line. Attendance reporting? New members? Information on what other club's are planning? Rotary Leadership Institute seminars? It's all here and more! The same is true regarding the RI Web site, which got a makeover last year.

One thing I would like to do is feature what the clubs in our district have accomplished, particularly if it is something that is related to public awareness of our organization. Clubs and Area Governors can help with this; if an event promotes Rotary in your area, chances are that it will work in others as well. Despite our best efforts to date, the good work done by Rotary remains one of the best kept secrets from the general public.

Several years ago, I was wearing a Rotary T-shirt on a cruise ship and struck up a conversation with a couple on deck. They indicated that they were familiar with Rotary, so I was expecting them to comment about Polio-Plus, an Ambassadorial Scholar, or perhaps local scholarships awarded by a club. It was none of these; it was the Dictionary Project, and how their granddaughter was so excited to receive one at her school in North Carolina from a local Rotary club. Still, they knew something about Rotary, so it is a start.

Dictionaries are usually distributed in October; we've got plenty of time to get with the local media and arrange coverage for this event. Let's see if we can't promote some of the other great projects our organization of 1.2 million members accomplishes, both locally and throughout the world.