

Weather
Sunny Forecast for
GSE Team
Interviews



The Rotary Foundation meets Dr. Seuss. page 2
Checkout the E-Subscriptions on page 2.

Table of Contents

| | |
|-----------------|----------|
| Calendar | 1 |
| Message from DG | 2 |
| Program Ideas | 5 |
| Membership | 3 |
| Foundation | 1, 2 & 5 |

Club, District & RI News

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| Club News | 4 |
| District News | 3 |
| RI Rose Parade Float | 4 |

Call to Action

Have you submitted a request for monetary Katrina relief for someone in need?
See DG Message on page 2.

The District Dispatch

District 6840

November 2005— Foundation Month

Service Above Self

We Can't Forget Those Facing Daily Struggles

With all of the turmoil and uncertainty we have faced since Hurricane Katrina we may tend to lose sight of our commitment to The Rotary Foundation. In my own world things have changed for both my family and business. In fact my world will never be the same. Yet those changes are miniscule compared to those people in the world who are hungry, without shelter, without sight, cannot walk, are without clean water, cannot read or write or cannot receive adequate medical care. For these individuals this is their daily life. My needs do not come close to their needs. I am fortunate and I am blessed for I do not face their problems on a daily basis.



We have the ability of meeting the needs of those less fortunate. We can contribute to The Rotary Foundation and be assured that our contributions will be used to help others. By doing so we personally promote world understanding and peace through our Foundation's humanitarian, educational and cultural programs.

In this time of need many of us in District 6840 have relied on our Rotary Foundation for financial assistance and are starting to understand it's beauty. Fortunate for us our needs will be resolved and we will eventually get back to normal. For others their tomorrow is bleak. Although the faces of those who benefit from our contributions will change there will always be others who are in need. So many depend on Rotary. We cannot let them down.

Throughout the year we must make a concerted effort to educate Rotarians and their spouses about our Rotary Foundation. This month have someone speak at one of your weekly meetings who can touch your membership by giving a program on an aspect of our Foundation. If our work through our Foundation is to continue it is up to us as Rotarians to make sure the message continues to be told.

I am so proud to be Rotarian! God Bless Us All.

Stuart Grey, District Foundation Chairman

Calendar of Events

November-The Rotary Foundation Month



- 14 Deadline for GSE Team Leader applications
- 18 Deadline for GSE Team Member applications
- 19 GSE Team Leader Interviews

December-Family Month



- Elect 2006-07 Officers & Directors
- 3 GSE Team Member Interviews

January, 2006-Rotary Awareness Month



- 1 Remit RI Dues
- 2 Rose Parade-Look for RI Float
- 21 Midyear Checkup-Slidell
- 21 DAC Meeting-Slidell
- 31 Report 06-07 Pres & Secy to RI, DGE Jerry Fortino & Dist Secy

February-World Understanding Month

- 23 101st RI Anniversary

March

- 12 President Elect Training Seminar-mandatory per RI rules

April-Rotary Magazine Month

- 1 RYLA applications due

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The Rotary Foundation Meets Dr. Seuss

Every Rotarian Down in Rotaryville Liked the Foundation a lot.....
But Knowl Knothing Lived on Mount Money and most certainly must
not.

The Knothing failed on giving the whole Rotary season
Now please don't ask me why, no one knows the reason.

Said an old Rotarian from the east side of town
Something happened to Knowl, you can tell by his frown
Another said Knowl's heart is smaller than most,
Or he eats no breakfast, maybe a small piece of toast!

The muckety-muck Rotarian who leads us each day,
Claimed Knowl was just miserly and simply hated to pay.
Dew Little, the Rotary Club Foundation chair
Knew Knowl was nothing but mean as a bear

Close T Nothing, the President of the Rotary Club
Was too close to Knowl --that was the rub!
But tiny Cindy Something, who hadn't been a member long,
Asked Knowl Knothing to lunch and gently sang him a song.

The song was soft and told of needs
Of children in Haiti who ate nothing by weeds.
Of many young children now crippled for life,
Of other such kids who lived with much strife.

Cindy sang of the ways that Knowl could help
She cooed and she praised him, giving a yelp.
Knowl reached out and tugged quickly at Cindy's left arm
He said "please stop your singing, it's causing my ears harm,"

Yet he reached in his pocket and took out his pen
Is six figures enough? He said to her then.
In shock she thanked him but asked him why now?
He looked at her puzzled and said with a bow

I am a kind and generous Rotarian, from Mount Money
But no one ever asked. Isn't that funny?

Author unknown. District 5970 Newsletter, March 2004

**Challenge by the District Governor: Read this fun poem to your Club.
It'll be a hoot!!!**

Message from the DG

Hurricane Katrina has forever changed our lives. Yet we are not alone in our recovery. Neighbors, Rotarians and kind strangers have joined forces to rebuild our communities. For this we are very thankful.



Rotarians worldwide have donated substantial funds to aid our recovery. Many donors were adamant that funds be distributed to Rotarians. Non-Rotarians are also eligible.

Hundreds of Rotarians felt the ravages of the storm, yet few Rotarians have requested grants. Perhaps, many are not aware of the resources available; so, please repeatedly announce the availability of the funds at your meetings and pass the word during fellowship time. Others may be reluctant to ask. So, if you know such a Rotarian, please make the request on his/her behalf.

Typical grants vary from \$500-\$1000. Visit www.rotary6820.org for the request form and guidelines.

We all feel strong desires to help the less fortunate in our communities, yet let us not neglect our fellow Rotarians in need.

A relief committee has been formed to develop long range plans for recovery assistance. Notices will be issued as plans are finalized.

Neil

Email Newsletters available from RI

12 e-mail newsletters that report developments in RI and Foundation programs are now available. Club officers are encouraged to share newsletters with members and provide subscription information. Below is a list of the e-mail newsletters available from RI, listed by distribution schedule, newsletter name or topic and the section of the RI website where Rotarians can sign up to receive them.

Biweekly

- PR Tips (Club-District Support)

Quarterly

- Navigating the Global Network (Newsroom)

Monthly

- Community Service (RI Programs)
- Every Rotarian, Every Year (The Rotary Foundation)
- Interact (RI Programs)
- Membership Minute (Membership)

- Rotaract (RI Programs)
- Vocational Service (RI Programs)
- World Community Service/Int'l Service Update (RI Programs)

MEMBERSHIP WORD SEARCH PUZZLE

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | M | M | F | O | L | L | O | W | U | P | A | Z | D | I |
| I | P | L | V | W | O | C | E | C | O | T | J | S | R | N |
| C | N | P | W | Q | T | I | E | I | F | C | A | R | D | V |
| E | T | V | R | I | L | R | Y | H | G | O | Y | U | E | O |
| B | O | T | V | E | G | K | L | P | T | N | Z | R | N | L |
| R | R | E | M | F | C | Y | I | A | I | N | V | D | T | V |
| E | S | A | I | A | H | I | M | R | Q | E | D | S | A | E |
| A | F | K | R | T | Z | I | A | G | W | C | A | B | T | M |
| K | R | T | F | B | D | H | F | T | L | T | N | U | I | E |
| E | O | E | C | R | U | I | T | M | E | E | T | L | O | N |
| R | T | G | O | U | D | U | E | E | W | D | O | C | U | T |
| B | A | O | I | L | O | N | G | T | I | M | E | W | N | J |
| Q | T | I | E | S | Y | E | V | R | U | S | B | U | L | C |
| S | E | R | V | I | C | W | B | M | V | W | W | N | Y | E |
| T | U | R | N | O | V | E | R | E | M | Z | E | B | W | B |

Retention Strategy: Member Appreciation

One of the most pressing membership issues facing Rotary today is a high member **TURNOVER** rate. Continued **INVOLVEMENT** in club activities and projects is essential to retaining both **NEW** and **LONGTIME** members. One strategy to keep members involved is to make sure they feel **APPRECIATED** by their fellow club members and **CONNECTED** to the club activities. Here are some tips to help show your members how much they are valued.

- If a member misses a meeting, **FOLLOW-UP** with a phone call to make sure everything is OK and to say that he or she was missed.
- Send a greeting **CARD** of concern when someone is ill or a card of congratulation when someone experiences good fortune.
- Regularly **ROTATE** the responsibility of organizing club speakers, weekly programs and social events so that everyone has a chance to plan and share with the club a topic or activity is important to them.
- Invite less involved members to serve on a committee or some other leadership position.
- Use **CLUB SURVEYS** to identify what is important to members and give everyone a voice in the club. Consider using the Membership Satisfaction Questionnaire from the Membership Development Resource Guide or the Demographic Template tool (requires Microsoft Access) found on the RI Website.
- Include **FAMILY** members in club events and projects.
- Keep **TRACK** of which members have not been participating in recent projects and approach them directly about participating in your club's next project.
- Plan informal getting to know you activities, such as **ICEBREAKER** games or a regular Question of the Day that invite members to share information about themselves that others may not know. For example, the Question of the Day might be "What is the strangest thing that ever happened to you while on vacation?"

Text from RI *The Membership Minute*, Vol. 1, Ed. 3/Designed by Lydia J. Alford

DISTRICT NEWS

Group Study Exchange



The Group Study Exchange (GSE) with District 1720 will proceed as planned. See the Calendar on the front page and info on page 5 for application deadlines and interview dates.

Partner Clubs for Hurricane Relief

Many Rotary clubs are interested in partnering with clubs in District 6840 on Katrina Relief projects. They have offered services, materials and money. This opportunity is open to all clubs and will be an excellent opportunity for clubs not severely affected by Hurricane Katrina to lend a hand in adversely affected areas.

For example, the Mandeville club is partnering with a club in Arkansas to repair houses in Lacombe, La. The joint effort has been awarded a grant of \$50,000 from Foundation Donor Advised Funds.

Donor clubs may want to know how you will spend the donations. So it may be helpful if you have a project sheet ready for their review. A sample can be found at slidellnorthshorerotary.org.

If your club is interested in partnering, please contact DG Neil at neil@alfordlegal.com.

Wanted: District 6840 Executive Secy. Part-time position. Contact DG Neil Alford at neil@alfordlegal.com for copy of job description and hourly pay.

PRESIDENTS' CORNER

President's Checklist:

- ◆ Survey membership for Katrina Relief needs
- ◆ Plan an activity to celebrate November as Foundation month
- ◆ Prepare to elect club officers and directors in December
- ◆ Send monthly membership attendance report to District Secretary, Gill Miller at noler@bellsouth.net
- ◆ Send info on club activities and copy of club newsletter to District Newsletter editor: Lydia J. Alford, 1290 7th St., Slidell, LA 70458 or lydia@alfordlegal.com
- ◆ Monitor requirements for RI Presidential Citation Award and District Club Achievement Award

CLUB NEWS



Old Man River Road Race

Sponsored by the Rotary Club of New Orleans International Airport.

Sunday, November 20, 2005 at Destrahan Park near the levee and the Hale Boggs Bridge.

5 K and Half Marathon

\$22 before 11/15; \$25 after 11/15

Call Kevin Knudsen at 504.376.2407 or 504.471.5982



Christmas Concert

Sponsored by Rotary Club of Gulfport Orange-Grove

November 12 at 6:00 pm at the Orange-Grove Community Center

No admission charge; toy and monetary donations appreciated.

To fund Christmas shopping spree for all children on the Gulf Coast

For more info, contact Regina Lawrence at regina_lawrence@hancockbank.com

Submit club news to Lydia no later than the 10th of the preceding month to be published. One of the criteria for the District Club Achievement Award is to submit club news for publication in the District Newsletter.

RI NEWS



Rose Parade Float

This year's RI float is entitled "The Magic of Caring". With its "Teddy Bear" appeal to children and adults alike, this whimsical float acknowledges Rotary's commitment to eradicating polio. Seen by millions of people around the world, Rotary's entry into the Rose Parade is a wonderful venue to share with the world Rotary's commitment to "Service Above Self". Last year, more than 1300 Rotarians and their families, Rotaract club members and Interact club members volunteered their time and effort to help decorate the float. These volunteers worked countless hours putting flowers, seeds dried petals and greenery on every square inch of the float. The float is funded by contributions, not be RI. Visit www.rotaryfloat.org for more info.

"Each time Rotary clubs in far corners of the world join together to drill a well or feed a child or teach a young man to farm, these Rotarians are shouting to the world "We Care!"


Elizabeth Demaray, past district governor, addressing the 2005 International Assembly.

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| <i>Program Ideas</i> | <i>District Foundation Programs/Projects</i> | <i>Donations to The Rotary Foundation</i> |
|---|---|---|
| <p>RI has many prepared presentations on RI history, The Foundation, membership and other topics. See rotary.org for copies to download.</p> | <p>Wanted: <i>Team Members</i> for Group Study Exchange with District 1720, just south of Paris. Applications available on RI website and due by November 19, 2005. Mail to Elvie Guthrie-Lewis, P.O. Box 1313, Long Beach, MS 39560-1313. By express mail: 106 McGuire Dr., Long Beach, MS 39560 Fax: 228.831.5383</p> | <p>Wanted: \$100 Every Rotarian Every Year</p> |
| <p>RI Power Point topic: "The Rotary Foundation-Milestones in Building Better Lives" at www.rotary.org/About Rotary/Rotary Centennial/Centennial Spotlights.</p> | <p>Ambassadorial Scholarship applications will be available in January 2006. It's not too early to start announcing this program at club meetings.</p> | <p>The Rotary Foundation is working towards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Elimination of Poverty • Environmental Conservation • Food Security, Health Care and Education • Mediation and Conflict Resolution • World Peace & Understanding |
| <p>Rotaract students will be on holiday break next month. Book one now to speak to your club during the holidays. Ditto for Interact students.</p> | <p><i>Project Ideas</i></p> | <p>\$1000 to The Rotary Foundation provides kitchen equipment for an orphanage in Peru.</p>  |
| <p>Programs provide weekly incentive. Interesting and informative weekly club programs promote membership retention. Members will feel their time has been well spent if the meetings are well run, organized and highlighted with a good speaker. Program development is a responsibility of every member. Each member is encouraged to assist with scheduling speakers. At the very least, each member can offer program suggestions. Articles in the local newspapers are an excellent source for program ideas. Programs can also be tailored to the Rotary Calendar. If you do a makeup and that club has a good speaker, tell your club program chairman.</p> | <p>Display the Four Way Test in your community. Contact the St. Charles club about putting up a center field Four Way Test sign.</p> | <p>"We can do a lot with a little money. We can change the world with a little more." John Germ, former RI Director <i>The Rotarian</i>, Jan. 2005.</p> |
| <p>Reminder: Reporting interesting club speakers to District Newsletter editor is a criteria of the District Club Achievement Award. lydia@alfordlegal.com.</p> | <p>Bear with a Book in a Bag</p> | |
| | <p>Don't reinvent the wheel. Consult the District Resource Guide for new project ideas. Contact Lydia J. Alford at lydia@alfordlegal.com for a copy.</p> | |

History of The Rotary Foundation

In 1917, Arch C. Klumpf, Rotary's sixth president, proposed to the Rotary International Convention the creation of an "endowment fund for Rotary...for the purpose of doing good in the world in charitable, educational, and other avenues of community service." A few months later, the endowment received its first contribution of \$26.50 from the Rotary Club of Kansas City, Missouri.

The Foundation made its first grant in 1930. It was for \$5000 to the International Society of Crippled Children, which was created by Rotarian Edgar F. "Daddy" Allen and later grew into the Easter Seals organization.

The Great Depression and World War II both impeded significant growth for the Foundation, but the need for promoting a lasting world peace generated great post-war interest in developing the Foundation. After founder Paul P. Harris died in 1947, contributions began pouring into RI, and the Paul Harris Memorial Fund was created for the purpose of building the Foundation.

Throughout this time, support of the Foundation grew tremendously. Since that first \$26.50 donation in 1917, the Foundation has received contributions totaling more than \$1 billion. To date over 914,000 individuals have been recognized as Paul Harris Fellows. Such strong support and involvement by Rotarians worldwide ensures a secure future for The Rotary Foundation as it continues its vital work for international understanding and world peace.

Membership Attendance Report

| Club | July 1, 2005 | Sept 30 2005 | Change | % Attendance |
|---------------------|--------------|--------------|--------|--------------|
| Algiers | 10 | | | |
| Amite | 29 | | | |
| Bay St. Louis | 69 | | | |
| Belle Chasse | 20 | | | |
| Biloxi | 73 | | | |
| Bogalusa | 29 | | | |
| Carrollton | 35 | | | |
| Columbia | 67 | | | |
| Covington | 40 | | | |
| East N.O. | 17 | | | |
| Edgewater | 70 | | | |
| Edgewater Sunrisers | 18 | | | |
| Franklinton | 21 | | | |
| Gautier | 52 | | | |
| Greene County | 32 | | | |
| Gulfport | 180 | | | |
| Gulfpt-Orange Grove | 40 | | | |
| Hammond | 50 | | | |
| Harahan | 14 | | | |
| Hattiesburg | 117 | | | |
| Hattiesburg Sunrise | 36 | | | |
| Kenner | 24 | | | |
| Kentwood | 22 | | | |
| LaPlace | 47 | | | |
| Long Beach | 14 | | | |
| Lucedale | 46 | | | |

| Club | July 1, 2005 | Sept 31 2005 | Change | % Attendance |
|------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------|--------------|
| McComb | 87 | | | |
| Metairie | 73 | | | |
| Metairie Sunrise | 20 | | | |
| Moss Point | 27 | | | |
| New Orleans | 196 | | | |
| N.O. Int'l Airport | 24 | | | |
| Northlake/Mandeville | 72 | | | |
| Ocean Springs | 80 | | | |
| Pascagoula | 88 | | | |
| Pass Christian | 22 | | | |
| Petal | 56 | | | |
| Picayune | 27 | | | |
| Plaquemines Parish So. | 29 | | | |
| Ponchatoula | 47 | | | |
| Poplarville | 40 | | | |
| Richton | 26 | | | |
| St. Bernard | 24 | | | |
| St. Charles Parish | 60 | | | |
| Slidell | 63 | | | |
| Slidell Northshore | 59 | | | |
| Stennis Space Center | 26 | | | |
| Summit | 16 | | | |
| Tylertown | 30 | | | |
| Westbank/Gretna | 86 | | | |
| Westwego | 30 | | | |
| Wiggins | 37 | | | |
| Total | | | | |

Does your club show a "No Report" (NR)? Please make sure your monthly attendance report is submitted to Gill Miller, District Secy, at norler@bellsouth.net no later than the 5th of the month. Thanks.

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