

Weather

Sunny Forecast for July 4
 Slidell Heritage Festival &
 Thunder on the Trace
 Motorcycle
 Run

**Two District Literacy Projects announced. Page 2****Table of Contents**

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**Word Puzzle**

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 Foundation
 Page 1

The District Dispatch

District 6840

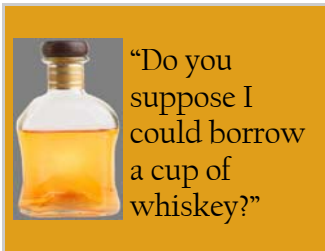
July 2005

Service Above Self

You Can Trust The Rotary Foundation

I always find it fascinating how apparently unrelated things can occur in your life which later turn out to be quite connected. This past Sunday I had just hung up the telephone after a frustrating conversation with my son about his cynicism when the doorbell rang. Standing on the porch was an elderly gentleman, (that means older than me) with a plastic cup in his hand.

When I opened the door he said somewhat softly, "Do you suppose I could borrow a cup of whiskey?" Now neighbors have knocked on the door for sugar, flour, and even vanilla, but I don't recall anyone ever asking to borrow some whiskey. To add to my puzzlement, I did not recognize this man as one of our neighbors.



Now, we're not "hard" drinkers, a glass of wine being our holiday beverage of choice. I can't recall the last time I bought a bottle of liquor. However, I knew there were a couple of gift bottles of something sitting in the cellar that were at least ten years old. "My wife's making cookies and we ran out of whiskey," he explained. I was still

digesting his request when he added, "We live around the corner three or four houses down the street."

My wife joined the conversation, "I think all we have is wine," she told him. He shrugged his shoulders, "Wine would probably be O.K.," he said. If I had been suspicious before, now I truly doubted this old man. I'm not a baker, but I can't imagine you can switch from whiskey to wine and not affect the recipe. Going down into the cellar, my wife surfaced with an unopened bottle of rum. His eyes lit up and he said, "That would be great." I took the bottle into the kitchen and poured half a glass into his plastic container.

Taking the glass, he smiled his thanks, and shuffled down the front sidewalk. I watched him walk down the street around the corner. As soon as he was out of sight I bounded up the stairs to the second floor side window, and continued to watch him slowly walk down the side street, the plastic glass held in front of him. He never took a sip, apparently taking his assignment to "find whiskey" quite seriously. He finally went out of sight and I had to admit that I was as much cynic as my son, whom I had chastised greatly for his holiday attitudes. I thought the old guy just wanted a free drink and was finding a new way to panhandle. I was wrong. This got to me thinking about the way I have looked at a lot of charitable requests with more than a little cynicism. (cont p. 2)

Calendar of Events

July-Literacy Month



- 1 Remit RI & District Dues
- 6 HOC meeting
- 1-31 DG Visits

August-Membership & Extension Month

- 3 HOC meeting
- 6 Fndatn & Mem Seminar-Slidell
- 27 Fndatn & Mem Seminar-Hattiesburg
- 1-31 DG Visits

September-New Generations Month

- 7 HOC meeting
- 1-30 DG Visits

October-Vocational Service Month

- 5 HOC meeting
- tba GSE Team Leader Interviews
- tba GSE Team Member Interviews
- 1-10 DG Visits

November-The Rotary Foundation Month



- Week of 11/5 is Interact Week
- 2 HOC meeting

December-Family Month



- Elect 2006-07 Officers & Directors
- 7 HOC meeting

January-Rotary Awareness Month

- 1 Pay RI semiannual dues
- 1 Rose Parade-look for RI float

I don't know whom I can trust anymore. This is why I'm so glad for the Rotary Foundation. I know where my money goes! I have seen slides of the Polio-Plus work in India and Pakistan. I have looked at the photos of the kids in Latin America receiving surgery for their Clef Palates. I know the money I just gave for a Wheelchair will buy a wheelchair.

Rotary is not about surprises or tricks or plastic glasses of whiskey. It's about truly making a difference... and you can trust me on this one.

Jack A. Hoy, Rotary Club of West-Reading-Wyomissing

District 7430 Newsletter, January 2003.

Contact Dr. Stu Guey at drgueyjr@bellsouth.net or Jim Hornby at jim@freedomtpc.com about contributions to The Rotary Foundation or to arrange for a speaker on the Foundation at a club meeting.

Be sure to mark your calendar for the Foundation Seminars on Aug 6 in Slidell and August 27 in Hattiesburg. Remember that attendance at one of the Foundation Seminars is a criteria for the District Club Achievement Award. See page 3 for more details.

Upcoming DG Visits

*** Remember that no other speaker should be scheduled on the date of the DG visit and your club business should be limited to afford the DG ample time to present his 20 minute program.

July			
6	Algiers	19	Hattiesburg
7	Kenner	20	McComb
8	Harahan	21	Tylertown
11	Lucedale	22	Slidell
12	Plaq. Par. So	25	Carrollton
13	Edgewater	26	Columbia
14	Franklinton	27	Hattiesburg Sunrise
15	Belle Chasse	27	Richton
18	Petal	28	Gulfport
18	Summit	29	Edgewater Sunrisers

2005-06 District Goals

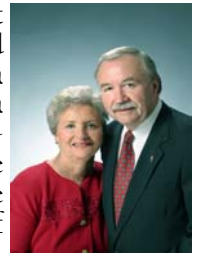
1. Maintain District Website with current info
2. Develop & implement *district* projects to further RI goals on water, literacy, health and hunger
3. Participate in a project to honor Veterans
4. 100% of clubs participate in RYLA or present a RYLA program
5. Meet with other service organizations concerning joint projects
6. 10% more members donate to The Rotary Foundation
7. Enroll at least one new Major Donor to TRF
8. Employment of a part-time general Secretary

2005-06 RI GOALS

1. Literacy and Education
2. Water Management, Health and Hunger
3. Public Image Resource Group
4. Expand Role of Women in Rotary
5. Rotary Youth Exchange Program
6. Net one new member per club

Message from the District Governor

Can you imagine how frightening it would be if you could not read road signs? To see the newspaper solely as a black ink on white paper? Close to a billion people lack the most basic literacy and numeracy skills. Millions more are functionally illiterate, lacking the skills necessary to meet the demands of everyday life.



Overcoming literacy is a long standing goal of RI. July is Literacy Month and I'm happy to report that we will have two District Literacy projects for club participation.

First is the "Bear with Book in a Bag". Each club will be given a Bear in a bag and asked to donate a book to incorporate into the reading lessons of a third grade class of their choice. More details will be forthcoming at my club visits and at the Foundation/Membership Seminars on August 6 and 27.

Second is a Dictionary Project. There are quite a few clubs in our District already distributing dictionaries to elementary students. I would like to continue this most worthwhile project and increase the participation to 100% of the clubs. In addition to donating dictionaries to the students, I would like to see a dictionary donated to the teacher for use in the classroom during the school day.

The cost of Dictionaries range from \$1.00-\$2.00. So as you can see this is an affordable project for all clubs. Please visit dictionaryproject.org for more information or contact Ron Mosel, District Vocational Chairman, at rmos@cox.net. The Dictionaries were on display at the District Assembly and will also be displayed at the Foundation and Membership seminars on August 6 and 27.

Neil



SERVICE Above Self

MEMBERSHIP WORD SEARCH PUZZLE

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

1. The key to membership retention is to keep **ACTIVE**. Bored members leave Rotary.
2. Rotary has a network of experienced and trained Rotarians to assist clubs and districts. These RI membership **COORDINATORS** are listed in the International Directory and on the RI web site.
3. Rotary clubs should represent the **DEMOGRAPHICS** of their community.
4. The retention of new and long serving members is related to the **EDUCATION** of club members about Rotary, Rotary programs and the opportunities for service.
5. One of the four key components of an **EFFECTIVE** club membership is growth.
6. Rotary **FAMILIES** are an integral part of the club. Social events and service projects need to include family members.
7. Rotary clubs must offer their members opportunities for **FELLOWSHIP** and friendship.
8. It is essential that new members are **INDUCTED** into the club with meaningful and appropriate induction ceremonies.
9. Expanding Rotary **MEMBERSHIP** allows Rotarians to share Rotary and the opportunities for services with other community leaders.
10. New members need **MENTORS** to assist them to understand the benefits and obligations of Rotary membership, to answer their questions and guide them in their early days of membership in Rotary.
11. There are many areas that need **NEW CLUBS** and there are opportunities for new types of Rotary clubs in many communities even if there is already a club in the community.
12. New members need **ORIENTATION** to understand the history, objective and goals of Rotary.
13. It is the obligation of every Rotarian to be involved in the **RECRUITMENT** of new members.
14. **RETENTION** is a key part of every clubs growth. There is an old adage that it is 7 times more work to recruit a new member than to keep the member we have.
15. **SERVICE** is the product Rotary gives to their communities.

Designed by Chris Offer/District 7430 Newsletter, June 2003

DISTRICT NEWS

Foundation and Membership Seminars

Date Aug 6, 8:30am-11:30am

Place Aldersgate Church, Slidell, LA

RSVP drgueyjr@bellsouth.net by 7/27

or

Date August 27, 8:30am-11:30am

Place Southern Oaks, Hattiesburg, MS

RSVP drgueyjr@bellsouth.net by 8/17

Attendance at one seminar is required for the District Club Achievement Award. For clubs with 30 or more members: attendance by (1) Club President, Club Foundation Chairman and Club Membership Chairman or (2) three club members is required. For clubs with less than 30 members: attendance by two club members is required.

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

PRESIDENTS' CORNER

See District News above for information on upcoming Foundation & Membership Seminars and the DG visit schedule on page 2.

President's Checklist:

- ◆ Pay RI and District dues
- ◆ Plan and convene a club assembly to discuss club goals for 2005-06
- ◆ Prepare 2005-06 Budget
- ◆ Plan and Convene Board meeting and orientation
- ◆ RSVP for Foundation and Membership seminars
- ◆ Plan an activity to celebrate July as Literacy month
- ◆ Send out quarterly billing
- ◆ Prepare for District Governor visit
- ◆ Determine if any club meetings fall on holidays
- ◆ Send monthly membership attendance report to District Secretary, Gill Miller at noler@bellsouth.net
- ◆ Send info on club activities to District Newsletter editor: Lydia J. Alford, 542 Old Spanish Trail, Slidell, LA 70458 or lydia@alfordlegal.com
- ◆ Plan membership campaign to be announced and launched in August-Membership Month
- ◆ Mail copy of club newsletter to Lydia J. Alford, 542 Old Spanish Tr., Slidell, LA 70458
- ◆ Monitor requirements for RI Presidential Citation Award and District Club Achievement Award

DISTRICT CONFERENCE

April 20-22, 2006 Gulfport Grand Oasis

Registration Information

There is no registration fee for Conference, but registration is still a must to attend.

Famous Friday Night Food Fest

April 20, 6:30pm til the food runs out! This is one of the premiere events at Conference. It's a showcase of culinary talents of our Rotary clubs. Bring your family and have loads of fun, but be careful not to let your eyes get bigger than your stomach!



Golf Tournament

April 20 at the spectacular, exclusive, can't be beat GRAND BEAR Golf Course. Limited to 72 Rotarian golfers. **Don't delay, mark your calendar now.**

Hotel Accommodations

Grand Oasis Hotel rates are \$115 per night for single and double rooms if reservations are made before March 20, 2006. Customary rates apply thereafter. Make your reservations directly with the Hotel. Reservation desk: 1.800.354.2450 and make sure you mention you are participating in the Rotary District 6840 Conference.



Conference Committee

Chairman	Mike Ratliff, Hattiesburg	mratliff@jhrlaw.net
Food Fest Chairman	Ron Roland, Gulfport	
Plenary Sessions	Lydia J. Alford, Slidell Northshore	lydia@alfordlegal.com
Registration	Vicky Guiterrez, Edgewater	vickyg@cableone.net
Sponsorships	Lydia J. Alford, Slidell Northshore	lydia@alfordlegal.com

CLUB NEWS

Motorcycle Rides, Giant Inflatables, Popular Bands, Food, Drinks and Crafts, oh my! Slidell Heritage Festival sponsored by the Rotary Clubs of Slidell and Slidell Northshore



Looking for something to do on July 4? Then visit Olde Towne Slidell for a family celebration of Slidell Heritage. For motorcycle riders, the festival begins with a scenic ride on the Tammany Trace from Abita Springs to Slidell. The children's area will include two Boy Scout towers, three giant inflatables including a Spiderman obstacle course, Noah's Ark and a sea creature, an inflatable space jump and a fire truck for rides. An open car and truck show will feature many interesting vehicles. The St. Tammany Folk Life Village is a popular venue for all.

There will also be food and craft booths. The musical line up at the mainstage includes Jude LeBlanc & Abigail Alfano, FOB (Funk on the Bayou), Christian Serpas & Ghost Town, Ty Herndon and Zebra. The music begins at 5:00 pm and ends at 11:00 pm. The entry fee for the bandstand area is \$5 per person. Choupique Cajun and French Band will play in the Bayou Café at 1:30 pm. Fireworks will light up the sky at 8:45 pm. There will also be more than 50 food, drink and craft booths. Contact Eleanor Cumbow at agents@bellsouth.net or visit the festival website at www.slidellheritagefest.org for more details and registration forms for the motorcycle ride. Registration forms for the open car and truck show can be obtained from the Slidell Police Department.

The Alligator Festival sponsored by the Rotary Club of St. Charles Parish will be held on September 22-25 in Luling, LA at the Westbank Bridge Park. The Festival will feature entertainment, rides, games, food and drinks. It will be fun for the whole family. There will also be a cheerleading competition and a motorcycle Poker Run.



Please announce these events at your upcoming club meetings. Submit your club news to Lydia J. Alford at lydia@alfordlegal.com by the 10th of each month. Submittal of club news is one of the criteria for the District Club Achievement Award.

<i>Program Ideas</i>	<i>2007 RI Convention In New Orleans</i>	<i>Donations to The Rotary Foundation</i>
<p>RI prepared presentations on Rotary history, Foundation, membership and more at rotary.org.</p>	<p>Wanted: Volunteers during the convention. Contact Bobby McDaniel at governor@telepak.net..</p>	<p>Wanted: \$100 Every Rotarian, Every Year</p>
<p>Club assembly. Start the Rotary year with a discussion and report of your club goals for 2005-06.</p>	<p>Wanted: Clubs to sponsor social events for Conventioneers. Contact New Orleans club at 504.525.6944.</p>	<p>Wanted: \$100 to purchase</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Textbooks for one elementary school in Zambia • A hearing aid for a child in Pakistan • Deworming tablets for 112 children in the Philippines • Cataract operations for three blind individuals in India • 230 blankets for elderly in winter months in Korea
<p>Hurricane Preparedness. Parish/City Gov't officials; Weather Station personnel. There are new contraflow rules that effect Louisiana and Mississippi.</p>	<p>Contact PDG Subhash Kulkarni at Rotarianone@aol.com for information on the 2007 Convention.</p>	<p>Wanted: \$500 to purchase</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety equipment for a boat providing public health services to isolated villages in Peru • Prosthetic limbs to 12 disabled people in Thailand/Cambodia • Five small sewing businesses to give poor mothers in Mexico a better ability to lead self-sufficient lives • Two scholarships for needy hearing impaired children to attend the Institute of Deaf Children in Cartagena
<p>RYLA student. RYLA was held in June. Invite the students your club sponsored to report on their experience. Your club members will be impressed by the energy and appreciation of the youth.</p>	<p>Wanted: Clubs to participate in the Food Fest on Saturday, June 23. Contact Stu Guey at drgueyjr@bellsouth.net.</p>	<p>““Help make life better for someone, somehow, someplace, now. Today, get on Life’s Tollway-\$.30 per day for someone you will never see or meet but will wake up tomorrow feeling better because you support The Rotary Foundation.” Rotary materials</p>
<p>July is Literacy Month. Contact your local literacy group to make a presentation.</p>	<p>Project Ideas</p>	
<p>Ambassadorial Scholars Contact Greg Lier at greglier@rathborne.com or Milton Wheeler at alumrela.wmcarey.edu to schedule an Ambassadorial Scholar as speaker for club meeting.</p>	<p>Dictionary Project. For materials and prices, see dictionaryproject.com.</p>	
<p>Paul LaViolette, author of <i>Sink or Be Sunk</i>, a historical account of a naval battle in the Ms Sound. Contact laviolet@datasync.com.</p>	<p>Swingset for handicap children. Contact Jack Rowley at jackrowley@bellsouth.net for copies of plans.</p>	
<p>Reporting interesting club speakers, club projects and club news to District Newsletter editor is a criteria for the District Club Achievement Award. Send to lydia@alfordlegal.com.</p>	<p>Don’t reinvent the wheel. Consult the District Resource Guide for new project ideas covering all four avenues of service. Contact Lydia at lydia@alfordlegal.com for a copy.</p>	

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Contact Lydia at lydia@alfordlegal.com for more details.

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2005-06 Membership Attendance Report

Club	July 1, 2004	May 2005	Change	% Attendance	Club	July 1, 2004	May 2005	Change	% Attendance
Algiers	18	nr			McComb	86	89	+3	80
Amite	27	nr			Metairie	84	72	-12	70
Bay St. Louis	68	66	-2	76	Metairie Sunrise	20	nr		
Belle Chasse	21	nr			Moss Point	28	nr		
Biloxi	73	nr			New Orleans	206	nr		
Bogalusa	33	nr			N.O. Int'l Airport	26	25	-1	70
Carrollton	38	35	-3	51	Northlake/Mandeville	73	73	0	71
Columbia	72	nr			Ocean Springs	80	80	0	68
Covington	39	nr			Pascagoula	88	88	0	45
East N.O.	20	nr			Pass Christian	25	23	-2	74
Edgewater	79	68	-11	74	Petal	50	nr		
Edgewater Sunrisers	18	17	-1	69	Picayune	30	nr		
Franklinton	24	23	-1	52	Plaquemines Parish So.	26	nr		
Gautier	50	nr			Ponchatoula	45	nr		
Greene County	36	36	0	61	Poplarville	40	40	0	53
Gulfport	186	183	-3	58	Richton	26	nr		
Gulfport-Orange Grove	50	nr			St. Benard	28	nr		
Hammond	50	nr			St. Charles Parish	56	63	+7	75
Harahan	20	20	0	4	Slidell	59	nr		
Hattiesburg	112	122	+10	74	Slidell Northshore	59	62	3	78
Hattiesburg Sunrise	36	nr			Stennis Space Center	23	26	+3	72
Kenner	25	nr			Summit	17	16	-1	70
Kentwood	28	22	-6	92	Tylertown	27	30	+3	74
LaPlace	53	nr			Westbank/Gretna	89	nr		
Long Beach	20	12	-8	75	Westwego	30	nr		
Lucedale	46	46	0	69	Wiggins	36	nr		
					Total				

Reminder! Report monthly club attendance to Gill Miller, District Club Secretary, at norler@bellsouth.net no later than the 5th of the month.

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