

**Weather**  
Sunny Forecast for  
PETS  
March 18



**Changes to District Conference Dates and Location:  
May 19-20 at Imperial Palace. See page 2 for more info.**

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**Rotary Video  
Magazine**

See page 2 for  
order info.



# The District Dispatch

District 6840

March 2006—International Convention Month

Service Above Self

## Because That's The Way We Are

**R**ecently my therapist told me that I talk too much. Well, actually she suggested that if we happen to be under-entitled in certain areas, we may be over-entitled in others, such as in my need to talk and my greater “demand” (her words) for others to listen to me. Needless to say, I left that session a bit miffed. When I told a friend about it, he said, “Well, that’s just the way you are.” That didn’t help any but it did get me to thinking, especially when my Doctor said the cause of my current foot problem comes from the way I “carry” my body when I walk. “That’s just the way you are,” he smiled at me.

So, I guess it must be true. “That’s the way I am!” So there. But I’ve been wondering if that’s so bad. Today I’m going to my local Rotary club meeting and I’m taking two checks with me. One for \$75 for a wheelchair (to impress the DG on her visit) and the other for \$100 toward our Grand Club fundraiser. According to my checkbook register, I take checks to Rotary alot. The other day I heard a member grumbling about all of these checks. “It seems like all they do is ask for money.” Today when I see that member, I hope he repeats his statement because I want to say to him, “You know, you’re right, Rotary is always asking for money because “that’s the way we are!” It’s what we do to help others. It’s how we make a difference. Some time ago I took one of those classes on goal setting and budgeting. The teacher had us start the class by writing a purpose statement for our organization. “It’s the why of existence,” he said explaining the assignment. From where I sit, Rotary is all about service – it’s our why of existence. Today, that’s my primary reason for belonging. That’s the way we are!

**I** have a fantasy that someday, somewhere, someone will come up to me and say “what does Rotary do?” When I tell them, they will say, “Why do you do that? It sounds like work.” And I’ll draw myself up to almost six feet, bald head, sore foot and all, and say with a smile, “Because that’s the way we are!”

Lamont Satterly, District 7430 Newsletter

## Calendar of Events

### March-Int'l Convention Month

- 18 Pres-Elect Training Seminar  
Gretna United Methodist Church  
Gretna, Louisiana

### April-Rotary Magazine Month

- 1 Deadline to submit RI Presidential Citation Award form
- 5 Deadline to submit District Club Achievement Award form
- 18 Deadline for hotel discount for Conference
- 19 Paul Harris' Birthday

### May

- 1 Deadline for early bird registration for Conference
- 19-20 District Conference
- Ambassadorial Scholar apps due
- University Teacher Grant apps due

### No Solicitations

RI discourages and, in some instances, prohibits the solicitation of funds from other Rotary clubs. See *Rotary Code of Policies, Art. 11.030* for more information and the front cover of the District Directory. The Code of Policies is available on the Resources page of the District website, [www.rotary6840.org](http://www.rotary6840.org).

It is not improper to accept unsolicited donations.

If you have any questions concerning this policy, please contact DG Neil Alford at 985.643.6440.

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## District Conference

Due to Katrina damages to the Grand Oasis in Gulfport, the dates and location for the District Conference were changed. The new dates are **May 19 and 20, 2006**. The new location is the **Imperial Palace** in Biloxi.



**Hotel Reservations:** Prior to April 18: \$159 per night, plus taxes, for Friday and Saturday nights; \$99 per night, plus taxes, for Sunday-Thursday nights. Prevailing rates apply for reservations after April 18. Tel No.: 888.946.2847. Photo Identification will be required at check-in. All guests will be required to post a credit card or cash to secure their individual room accounts. Each guest will be required to post a mandatory \$50 deposit at check-in.

**Meetings:** The Conference plenary sessions will be held only during the morning on Saturday, May 20 at Imperial Palace. There will be no plenary sessions on Friday. The Business meeting will be held immediately after lunch on Saturday.

**Cost:** The only cost is \$45 to cover the cost of breakfast and lunch on Saturday. The cost of the meals cannot be decreased to the cost of a single meal. The cost will increase to \$60 if not paid before May 1. Walk-up registration will be limited.



**Food Fest:** May 19, 2006 at the pavilion at the D'Iberville Community Civic Center in D'Iberville. The Food Fest sign up sheet will be available soon on the District website (rotary6840.org).

**Registration Procedure:** There will be no registration fee, but registration will be mandatory. Each club will collect payment from its club members. The club will remit one check with a registration roster. Individual club member registrations will be discouraged.

**Awards and Installation Banquet:** The Awards and Installation Banquet will be held as a separate event in the summer.

**Golf Tournament:** Preliminary plans are underway for a golf tournament on the morning of Friday, May 19. Stay tuned for updates.

**Sponsorships:** Various sponsorships are available, ranging from \$50 to \$250. See the conference page on the District website for details.



Updates will be published in *The Conference Chronicle*, the latest edition is on the Conference page on the District Website. All forms will be distributed at PETS and published on the District website (rotary6840.org) by March 18.

DG new business address:  
1290 Seventh St., Slidell, LA 70458

**RVM:** The Rotarian *Video Magazine* is a new series of DVDs featuring international, documentary-style stories of humanitarian aid told by Rotarians in the field. Use RVM during training meetings to demonstrate successful service projects and the internationality of Rotary, or incorporate it into new member orientation, helping new Rotarians understand the true meaning of Rotary.

Published quarterly. \$15 per copy or \$30 for annual subscription.

How to order:

www.rotary.org, click on shop and then click on browse catalog. RVM is a featured product.



### Message from the DG

Conference is just around the corner. Preliminary details are discussed above. Conference is a sign the current Rotary year is nearing an end, which leads to review of the year's accomplishments and award criteria.

At the beginning of the year, I set forth criteria for the District Club Achievement Award. Because Conference has been shortened, I will deliver the awards to recipients at club meetings, instead of at Conference. The deadline of April 5 still stands for submitting the award application.

Another award is the RI Presidential Citation Award. I must receive your award form by April 1 so I can timely forward it to RI for consideration and processing.

Forms for both awards are on the forms page of the district website: rotary6840.org.

See you at District Conference

*Neil*



**MEMBERSHIP**

NONPROFITSTO SERV  
 WEUTRWOCA RRT JSRN BZCOY  
 WNN EQTEOIESNELEISURE  
 STE SIFDETMOYUSOGUHKV  
 POMTNNKRAONZRTLWIGXJ  
 ARPZECYSCTOCANIONALC  
 PSIVIHIHOUSEDEEIKTLL  
 EFNEGLRNDUCASRLMSNRA  
 RRMFH EHAECTNPARTNERS  
 POU CB RIRMEOTOPNOUQAS  
 RTLMOUUEEIDAUTBPS CM  
 BAAIRTNLTIRESNJODREA  
 QHSESL EARTSBELEFW EYT  
 CSSV G UZTMVWWSPEHVEIE  
 TDEJTIEIHICSEWBUITKS  
 LNNMNSRVNZACBYCMXNWD  
 EEIAEFVELLIKSLAICUSG  
 HIGWIJT SRNPM OFAZBLCY  
 DRUEXFVGH TISJRKPOQM  
 OFBLNEWAQUTNEMNREVOG

*Find A New Member This Week!*

Following is a list of 21 categories of people who are potential Rotarians. Have you asked someone from any one of them to attend a Rotary meeting as your guest this week?

Thirteen of the categories consist of people you know. (1) People from **ORGANIZATIONS** supported by your Rotary Club. (2) **SPOUSES/ PARTNERS** of current members. (3) Former members of the Club. (4) Program **SPEAKERS**. (5) **GOVERNMENT** employees, city, state or federal. (6) **VOLUNTEERS** involved in other organizations, such as the United Way and other **NON-PROFITS**. (7) **CUSTOMERS** and **VENDORS** of current members. (8) People who are involved with you in **LEISURE** activities such as tennis or golf. (9) People you see in church, synagogue, mosque or temple. (10) People with whom you **WORK**. (11) Your **RELATIVES, FRIENDS, CLASSMATES** and **NEIGHBORS**. (12) Fraternity/sorority brothers and sisters. (13) Recent retirees.

The other categories of prospects may be people not known to you. (14) **CHAMBER** of Commerce membership list. (15) City or community directories, residential and business. (16) **PARENTS** of Youth Exchange Students. (17) Rotary Foundation **ALUMNI**, a list of all known alumni living in your community is available from RI. (18) Classifications not represented in your Club. (19) Promotions that have been announced in the **NEWSPAPER**. (20) People who work in town but live in other communities. (21) People **NEW** to the community.

Text from "21 Places to Find Potential New Members for Your Club," by Chris Offer, from Membership Matters, 5 November 2003.

**DISTRICT NEWS**

District 6840 GSE Team Selected:  
 Team Leader: Merlin Duke, Bogalusa  
 Team Members: Jenn Erdely of Luling, LA  
 Justin Reuther of New Orleans, Diasha Walker of Perkinston, MS and Nicole Williams of Marrero, LA

GSE Host Bid form now on GSE page on District website: [www.rotary6840.org](http://www.rotary6840.org). If you would like to host the GSE Team from France, please submit a completed bid sheet to Bobby McDaniel ASAP.

PETS: March 18, Gretna UMC. See Resources page on District Website for map. [www.rotary6840.org](http://www.rotary6840.org).

District Conference new dates and location: May 19: Food Fest at pavilion at D'Iberville Community Center. May 20: Plenary Sessions at Imperial Palace.

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

**PRESIDENTS' CORNER**

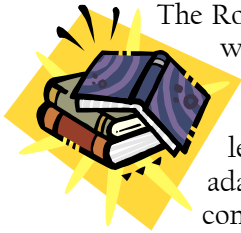
*President's Checklist:*

- ◆ Convene Board meeting
- ◆ Promote District Conference
- ◆ Announce each week that Ambassadorial Scholarship applications are available on district website. See page 5 for more information.
- ◆ Make sure PE knows about PETS on March 18, at Gretna UMC.
- ◆ Plan an activity to celebrate March as Int'l Convention month.
- ◆ Send out quarterly billing
- ◆ Send monthly membership attendance report to District Secretary, Gill Miller at [noler@cableone.net](mailto:noler@cableone.net)
- ◆ Send info on club activities to District Newsletter editor: Lydia J. Alford, 1290 Seventh St., Slidell, LA 70458 or [lydia@alfordlegal.com](mailto:lydia@alfordlegal.com)
- ◆ Mail copy of club newsletter to Lydia J. Alford, 1290 Seventh St., Slidell, LA 70458
- ◆ Monitor requirements for RI Presidential Citation Award and District Club Achievement Award

## Katrina Relief

### Projects in the District

#### All Booked Up



The Rotary Club of Hay River in the Northwest Territories in Canada delivered 11,000 books to the Rotary Club of New Orleans. The books were collected from *every* school child in Canada's Northwest Territories. Each book contained a simple message inside along with the name of the child donating the book and the school he/she attends. The Rotary Club of Hay River with the support of the government and many local businesses collected, sorted and packaged all the books.

The Rotary Club of Gulfport is storing 130,000 books donated by Rotary Club of Norfolk and District 7600.

#### Biloxi Club partners with local Presbyterian Church and Rotarians across the US.

The Rotary Club of Biloxi has partnered with the First Presbyterian Church of Biloxi to aid families in need of temporary and permanent housing. The Biloxi club has received funds from Rotary Clubs from every corner of the "lower 48" and many states in-between. The Club provides sheetrock and building materials used by Church volunteers to repair homes located outside the flood plain. The temporary housing project brings 50 donated, completely refurbished trailer homes from California. The Biloxi club assists the Church with delivery and set up expenses.

#### Women's Shelter

A New York Rotary Foundation has donated \$30,000 for repairs at the Slidell Battered Women's Shelter.

#### Youth Ranch

The Rotary Club in Gainesville has donated \$32,000 for repairs to a residential youth facility in Slidell that cares for physically and mentally abused children.

#### School Uniforms

With a \$19,000 Donor Advised Fund grant, the Rotary Club of Belle Chasse is facilitating a project to donate \$20 voucher(s) to displaced families toward the purchase of school uniforms. The Belle Chasse club contributed \$1000, the Rotary Club of Kingsville-Perry in Baltimore donated \$1300 and high school students in Baltimore contributed \$700. "Our club members are so proud to have been able to facilitate this effort. I have people stop me and ask that I thank Rotary for this project. We hope to be able to touch families of over 1000 students through the generosity of Rotary," states Dr. Stu Guey.

#### Storage Buildings



The Rotary Club of Gautier and Phi Theta Kappa are partnering to build storage units for non-Rotarian families who had major damage to or complete loss of their homes. A Rotary Club in Minnesota is donating a shipment of tools.

#### Community Food and Clothing Center

Plans are in the works to apply for a \$54,000 matching grant for a local community center in Slidell that provides housing, utility and food services to the poor. Rotary clubs in North Carolina and Orange County, CA are partnering to make the matching grant application.

#### Comfy Quarters



The Slidell Northshore Club built 10 bunk beds for volunteers with the United Methodist Commission on Relief.

## Club News



FORE!! The Rotary Club of Stennis Space Center will hold its Third Annual Golf Tournament on Friday, April 7, 2006 at Millbrook Country Club. The Shotgun Start begins at Noon and registration begins at 10:30 am. Registration fee is \$55 per golfer before April 1, 2006; \$65 thereafter. The registration fee includes golf w/cart, lunch and buffet following the tournament. It is a four person scramble.

For more information, contact Mike Jugan at 985.640.2921 or at [jugan@bellsouth.net](mailto:jugan@bellsouth.net).

<i>Program Ideas</i>	<i>District/Foundation 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>GSE Team Contact Bobby McDaniel if you are interested in hosting the incoming GSE Team from France. governor@telepak.net</p>	<p><b>Wanted: \$100 Every Rotarian, Every Year</b></p>
<p>Centennial Power Power Point: Ringing 100 Years of Service. www.rotary.org/centennial/spotlight.</p>	<p>Plan participation in Food Fest.</p>	<p><b>Why support the Foundation?</b> Because in today's world of 8 billion people... 4.4 billion live in developing countries Of those, 1.6 billion are without basic sanitation 1.3 billion don't have adequate housing 1.0 billion can't read or write 800 million children suffer from chronic malnutrition because they don't get enough to eat</p>
<p>Review the funding opportunities for Katrina Relief projects. There are substantial funds available at the RI level for 501(c)(3) entities. Club members may be aware or involved with organizations that could benefit from RI grants.</p>	<p>Submit a 2007-08 Ambassadorial Scholarship application. Deadline: end of May. Info included on district website: rotary6840.org and at rotary.org.</p>	<p><b>Why support the Foundation?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Too many children die of dysentery</li> <li>• Too many children are blinded or crippled for life by diseases we have forgotten exist</li> <li>• Too many children lose their sight because their diet lacks Vitamin A</li> </ul>
<p>Review with your club the Katrina Relief projects in the District. Club members will be amazed at and humbled by the national and international projects that are ongoing in our communities.</p>	<p>Submit a University Teacher Grant application. Deadline: end of May. Info included on district website: rotary6840.org and at rotary.org.</p>	<p><b>Why support the Foundation?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Because we are the wealthiest country in the world.</li> <li>• Because we can leverage our gifts with the time, contacts, money and talents of Rotarians around the world.</li> <li>• Because the Foundation is about Rotarians helping Rotarians to help people across the world.</li> </ul>
<p>Tax preparer on the special tax relief provisions available to Katrina victims.</p>	<p><b>Project Ideas</b></p>	
<p>Vocational program by club member.</p>	<p>Bear with a Book in a Bag.</p>	
<p>March is International Convention Month. Ask a club member who has attend an International Convention to give a report on the convention. Your club members will be impressed by the internationality of Rotary.</p>	<p>Turtle race. Contact Ron Loper, Pres. of the Rotary club of Tylertown, for details. rkloper@yahoo.com</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>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 or see the district website, resources page: www.rotary6840.org.</p>	

**2008-09 District Governor**

After interviewing all candidates on February 18, 2006, Greg Lier was selected by the Nominating Committee as the District Governor Designee, to serve as the 2008-09 District Governor. Greg is a member of the Rotary Club of St. Charles.

Any challenge to this selection must be received by District Governor Neil Alford by 1:00pm on March 10, 2006. Challenges must be in compliance with the District Policy Manual.

The Nominating Committee congratulates all candidates on a job well done.

“Back when Rotary became involved with polio, most people thought volunteer organizations were about tackling projects down the street or across town-not across the world. Rotary changed all that, and in the process, you reminded us that there is no human problem so daunting that it can't be overcome by people.”  
Bill Gates, Sr.



**William P. Smith, Jr., CSA**  
Financial Representative

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## Club Meeting Etiquette

- Turn off cell phones and pagers
- Don't take a nap during programs... even if it's a bad one.
- Be quiet... you've invited a speaker, give him/her your attention.
- Don't Skoot
- Give them time... start your meeting early if necessary but, by all means, give your speaker MORE time than you have promised.
- End on time... don't embarrass the speaker and club by forcing the meeting beyond normal closing time.

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