



# Team 2003-2004 Newsletter



Lend a Hand

Chuck Johnson, District Governor 2003-2004

MARCH 2004

Reina S. Diamond, Editor

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## District 6450 is growing stronger



**Rotary is strong, strong enough to be a peace maker** – strong enough to stop civil wars and vaccinate children, strong enough to have 49 Rotarians help draft the UN Charter, **one and a quarter million strong and growing**. Rotary is not a secret society, but it is a secret that needs to be told. The media needs to tell our story, the members need to tell our story, and the recipients of our benevolence need to tell our story. We need to walk out of that tunnel of secrecy into the light. We need to let people know about Rotary, we need to get our friends

and communities involved; we need to grow Rotary so that everyone can feel the way we do. We need your enthusiasm and excitement.

Almost all the clubs I talk to are going to have a net gain in this year's membership. I am very proud of those clubs that are going to have their first new gain in this century – clubs that have barely replaced their losses each year are growing Rotary. Small clubs in small communities are already two, three, five, eight ahead for the year. They are sharing their excitement and commitment to Rotary. New members means new ideas, new hands on committees, and new enthusiasm. Listen to your new members. Get them involved in your club's fellowship and activities.

Remember, Paul Harris started Rotary 99 years ago for friendship. Friendship, good programs, and good food are the three legs that support the club and all its activities. Get the new members involved in a project immediately. A good project for a new member is to make a weekly report on our District website and a web page at the R.I. Website. It will help to spread the knowledge and excitement of Rotary. Club bulletins and e-mails sent to me are showing increasing enthusiasm each month in our clubs. My second and third visits to meetings and events encourage me to keep focused. The numbers that are signing up to go to the District Conference indicate a huge turnout.

This year's conference will celebrate the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Lewis and Clark Expedition honoring that historical event. We will have a Blackfoot Indian singing songs and telling us Plains Indian Lore. The committee has conceived a program of entertainment and learning which starts late Thursday afternoon through late Sunday morning. There is something to do almost every minute you aren't sleeping. **Come and enjoy Rotary!**

*D.G. Chuck*  
Chuck Johnson, District Governor

## It Could Have Been Me

There is a popular country song, "It Could Have Been Me" about a guy who didn't take enough initiative with a woman and someone else ended up marrying her, while he stood on the side full of regret. (I just love how long stories can be told in a three minute song!)

When the District PR Award is given this spring and the Rotary International Public Relations Award is given at the October District Conference, I don't want any club PR chairs humming that song because they had worthy material and didn't submit it.

In case you don't know the rules and opportunities, let me take a minute to explain them.

A promotional effort that comes from one club to an outside audience (Non -Rotarian) about a single club project, event or campaign that relates to one topic, such as a literacy promotion activity, a fund raising effort for a worthy cause. Non-Rotarian means the media, government officials, business community, or others affected by this initiative.

It should demonstrate enhanced visibility for the club and Rotary.

Clubs have until 1 April to turn in their nominations. At the District level there are a 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place award. One only will be submitted by the District to Rotary International (and it might not necessarily be one of those.).

We need hard copies of your submissions no later than 1 April so they can be judged. I am accepting all nominations via my home address: 20732 Locust, Frankfort, IL 60423. Think about the worthwhile activities within your club this year and how you got the word out to the public. Share that with us and let us share it with the rest of Rotary!

**Melanie Jones, District Publicity Chair**  
([griffisjones@aol.com](mailto:griffisjones@aol.com))

## ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO HUMANITY



### For Club Officers:

Please share the news of your club with the district: *new members, community service activities, participation in Rotary Foundation programs, fund raising events, etc.* Your commitment, enthusiasm and inspiration should not be our best kept secret! E-mail your stories to [RMLDIAMOND@AOL.COM](mailto:RMLDIAMOND@AOL.COM).

### **Provisional Rotary Club of Channahon/Minooka**

Sponsor: Rotary Club of Joliet  
Officer in charge: PDG Art Muhlhausen

Welcome this group of prospective Rotarians!  
The April issue will provide detailed information on this provisional club.

### **Congratulations to the Rotary Club of Oak Lawn**

Every car is going to drive around the city with the Rotary Centennial Sticker on it. The actual sticker appears in our printed version. What a great idea!

### **Polio Race to the Finish**

The fourth annual Race to the Finish is Sunday 13 June at 8:00 am in Evanston, Illinois. This event is a joint effort of Rotary Districts 6450 and 6440. Our goal is to have every club in these two districts participate. This event has raised over \$ 100,000 in its first three years.

The 8K run and 5K walk starts at Rotary International World Headquarters and winds through the streets of Evanston to the lakefront and then north along the picturesque campus of Northwestern University. The Race finishes at Raymond Park. This is a CARA registered race.

We are looking for sponsors, runners, walkers and helpers. Sponsorship money from clubs will be credited to those clubs and will count toward their PolioPlus pledge. We are also looking for individuals to get pledges. All profits are used for the polio eradication effort.

If you are interested, please contact Gus Samios at 773-728-8853, [cybersol@rcn.com](mailto:cybersol@rcn.com), or Mike Ericksen at 847-605-1590, [maericksen@aol.com](mailto:maericksen@aol.com).

## Meet the Partners

**This column will be back in April.**

### **CHRISTUS COUSHATTA HEALTH CARE CENTER**

Coushatta, Louisiana is a small village of approximately 3900 population in northwest Louisiana midway between Shreveport and Alexandria. The entire area is disadvantaged and lacks medical care facilities. Twenty seven percent of the population lives at or below the Federal household poverty level, and eighty percent of the children in the schools need dental care. The village has just introduced fluoridation into their water system, but the damage has already been done to their teeth. There is no practicing dentist in a two county area. Sixty percent of the population relies on Medicare for healthcare insurance, and another twenty percent rely on Medicaid.

The International Dental Committee was approached for assistance in establishing a health care center that could provide the needed dental care. The connection was made through Rotary District Governor Chuck Johnson from Illinois and Marguarite Constantine from Louisiana meeting at the International Assembly in Anaheim, CA.

Dave Mulcahy, President of the Rotary Club of Alexandria – Metro in Alexandria, Louisiana, is also Director of Business Development for Christus Coushatta Health Care Center, a nonprofit organization. Dave has committed himself to establishing a health care center in Coushatta, and the International Dental Committee has provided much needed equipment to assist his endeavor.

The project took form in several parts. The International Dental Committee determined it could provide the equipment, but needed \$1500 to transport the equipment to Coushatta. Transportation Funding was arranged by a \$1000 grant from The Rotary Club of Naperville, Naperville, Illinois, and a \$500 grant in the form of a District 6450 Simplified Grant.

Friday and Saturday, 30-31 January 2004, volunteer Rotarians organized a truck load of equipment to be delivered to Coushatta. A major part of the equipment came from Dr. Lowthe, DDS, who donated this office equipment to Rotary at his retirement January 31. Dental Committee members dismantled his equipment and loaded it on the truck Saturday 31 January. Additional dental equipment was supplied from the Dental warehouse in Bensenville, Illinois. As a bonus, we were given two podiatry chairs for the clinic by Jeff Eder, President of Franklin Park Rotary Club, Franklin Park, Illinois.

Dave Mulcahy and Doug Efferson from Christus Health Care Center flew to Chicago Saturday to drive the truck back to Coushatta, Louisiana. Considering that the temperature was seven degrees below zero Saturday morning, Dave and Doug beat a hasty retreat back to the more hospitable Louisiana climate by driving all night to arrive home Sunday afternoon. Before their departure, Terry Bartolini, DDS, member of the Rotary Club of Oak Lawn and of the International Dental Committee, gave them a tour of Access Agrawal Dental Clinic in Chicago Heights, Illinois. This clinic, which Terry helped create, is similar to the one being developed in Coushatta.

Carl Schumann, Chairman - Terry Bartolini, Secretary - PRID Ted Gifford, Treasurer

***Club News*** – **Rotary Club of Blue Island Crestwood** now meets at Crestwood Elks, 4428 W Midlothian Turnpike, Crestwood.

**Rotary Club of Aurora Noon** now meets at Long Island Sound, 1920 E. New York Street, Aurora.

**Rotary Club of Bensenville** now meets at Bella Vista Banquets, 205 W. Main Street, Bensenville.

Meeting day and time remain the same for the three clubs.

## Interact Corner – Interactors Lending a Hand to AIDS Orphans in Kenya

On 22 November 2003 the **Rotary Club of Chicago Rogers Park** saw the conclusion of one of its largest service activities to date, launched the previous year by the **Interact Club of Rogers Park at St. Scholastica Academy**. Rotarians and Interactors, with the help of volunteers from St. Margaret Mary's Church and the local Boy Scout troop, loaded a 40 foot container with donated humanitarian aid items collected over the last six months to be sent to **Upendo Village in Kenya, to help orphan children victims of HIV/AIDS**. By Sunday the container was only three quarters full and more items were needed. Despite the cold rainy weather, volunteers arrived with boxes of donated goods and the Rogers Park and West Ridge Historical Society donated furniture and supplies to help fill the container for its long voyage to Africa.

This project is really a miracle when you think about all the pieces that had to come together to make it a success. It demonstrates what can happen when Rotarians and members of the community contribute something and Lend a Hand. The Interactors went out into the community seeking donations of clothing, toys, educational materials and medical supplies; St. Margaret Mary's Church provided a space to store these items for six months, members of the Rogers Park community donated items needed; Boy Scouts, Interactors, and Rotarians committed time and labor to packing and loading the container, The Rotary Foundation and District 6450 provided the funds needed to pay for the shipping costs (over \$6000). In addition, the **Rotary Club of Naperville** learned about the project and graciously offered assistance in purchasing sun ovens and HIV test strips. In the end, over 400 AIDS orphans and their caretakers in Nairobi, Kenya, many of whom we will never meet, will benefit from our efforts. It is in such moments we can actually see the power of Rotary at work in Rogers Park and the world.

This project could not have been successful without the persistence and vision of Sister Florence Muia, president of Upendo Village, and Patrick Linden who spent countless hours overseeing the collection and packing of these goods. Patrick's involvement and commitment to the project resulted in his decision to join our club and serve the community as a Rotarian.

The container left Chicago by rail on Tuesday 25 November 2003 bound for New York. From there it was placed on a boat to be shipped to Europe and then on to Nairobi, Kenya. With the help of our partner, the **Rotary Club of Muthaiga**, the shipment will clear customs in January 2004 and the goods will be transported to Naivasha and distributed to the needy in Upendo Village. In all, it will be a two-month voyage. Sister Florence arrived in Kenya in mid-December to receive the goods.

We look forward to seeing pictures of the smiling faces of the children and hope that they will enjoy all the treasures tucked into the container. We appreciate the fellowship that we have shared with our friends in Rogers Park and Nairobi who have made this dream a reality and have provided us with this opportunity to serve - to **Lend a Hand**.

### From the Desk of Chris Reilly, District Governor-Elect

To this American-born Irishman, the month of March is one highlighted by the wearing of the green. Georgia and I have been throwing St. Patrick's Day Parties on 17 March since we began dating. We have lots of experience (and experiences). Party preparations had to start much earlier this year because of the hectic Rotary activity before 17 March.

The Governors' training in mid-February at the International Assembly in Anaheim provided an outstanding opportunity to work with over 500 Centennial Governors! Upon our return, we had the District Training Seminar for the District's Leaders. We met to communicate the year's purpose and developed a shared vision. The Presidents-Elect Training Seminar (PETS) takes place on 12 March. Georgia and I have already enjoyed Pre-PETS meetings with most of the District's Presidents-Elect and spouses. We have been genuinely impressed with the qualities and spirit of these Centennial Presidents. They are sure to lay a strong foundation for the next century of service in District 6450.



The District's Presidents-Elect will spend a day working together honoring their Rotary leadership skills. The next day all club officers are welcomed at the District Assembly (Club Officer Training Seminar) for more training and information exchange. Both PETS and the Assembly will be held with our Rotarian neighbors to the North, District 6440, holding the promise of sharing many new ideas. I expect the PETS and District Assembly go as well as the District Training Seminar. If they do, this 17 March will be a special time for celebration. We can honor the Irish and, at the same time, toast the promise of future Rotary successes. The well-trained District and Club Leaders should insure a "Green Light" for District and Club projects.

**This is not  
your Father's Assembly!**

Each spring the incoming presidents gather with their officers for a day of learning about the intricacies of service above self. This year DGE Chris Reilly and his committee have created a District Assembly chock full of information for every Rotarian.

DGE Chris and DGE Don Redmon of District 6440 have combined their talents and district-wide resources to create an assembly that will be useful to any incoming officer as well as members-at-large who are interested in learning more about Rotary. As anyone acquainted with Chris will attest, there should be no shortage of fun either!

Past District Governors will lead seminars focused on the four avenues of service. What better source of information can there be than those who have represented the organization at the highest levels of government as well as abroad. There will be a special update on the International convention to be held in our city in 2005.

The district has not forgotten those who will be president in 2005 - 2006. DGN Rick Thiernau has agreed to spend part of Saturday morning meeting with the Club Leaders he will serve with and lead as Rotary begins its second millennium.

There will be a special seminar for Rotarians to learn more about writing Rotary Grant Requests from a person who reads the applications. So if your club has been missing out on Rotary Grants, this seminar is a must for a representative to attend.

The meetings will take place at the Hickory Ridge Marriott Conference Hotel at 1195 Summerhill Dr in Lisle. Set aside Saturday 13 March from 8:00 am to noon to learn more about the world-changing organization to which you proudly belong – Rotary.

For more information on the assembly, call Chuck Gray at 630-983-1751.

**New Generations Seminar**

“Rotary has changed my life.” As often as we have heard that phrase, it is five words that most of us will never tire of hearing. The phrase even rings louder and clearer when it relates to a young person. This is the time for all Rotarians to focus on the programs that promote the development of youth and young adults. Rotary supports “New Generation” programs like, RYLA, Interact, Youth Exchange, Rotaract, and the newest Earlyact to provide opportunities to young people.

These “New Generation” programs have been developed to “Lend a Hand” to the development of character, ethics, world peace and understanding within the younger generation. It is amazing, as Rotarians work with young people they also seem to get the benefit of the energy, fresh ideas and new perspectives that the young people bring to the table. The Rotarians who work with these programs each year will tell you how rewarding the experience has been for them and their club.

On 27 March, from 8:30 am until 12:30 pm, District 6450 will be holding a “New Generations” Seminar to help prepare all clubs, club officers and Rotarians to “Lend a Hand” in these wonderful programs for young people. The seminar will be held at the Burr Ridge Ramada Inn, located on the I-55 frontage road just west of the County Line Road interchange. The seminar is designed for all District Leaders, Presidents, Presidents-elect, Club Directors and Youth Coordinators.

Small group presentations will be provided along with supportive materials on Youth Exchange (Long Term and Short Term), RYLA, Interact, Rotaract, Earlyact, and The Four Way Test Contest. It will be a hands-on seminar, focusing on how to become involved and manage each of these programs. Importantly, resources will be available and through networking support will be provided for club's involvement in these programs. In the words of RI President Jonathan Majiyagbe, “let us Lend a Hand to the new generations and secure the future for our clubs, our communities, and our world.”

Within the next two weeks, registration materials will be coming to the Presidents of each Rotary Club. Now is the time to mark your calendar and set aside the time for a group of members from each club to attend. It is important that at least one member of each club attend.

Any questions, please contact Guy Groot, District 6450 Youth Programs Coordinator, phone 630-466-1091 or email: [g.groot@mchsi.com](mailto:g.groot@mchsi.com).

[www.rotary6450.org](http://www.rotary6450.org)

## LEND A HAND

By Rick Thiernau, District Governor-Nominee

During this Rotary year, Rotarians around the world have been asked to "Lend A Hand."



Are you lending a hand? In our District, each club is lending a hand to their local community and hopefully in an

international community as well. Are we missing someone else? What about our fellow Rotarian? Are we lending a hand to our club members?

Each club has someone that may not be fully involved in Rotary. They attend most of the meetings but have not been overly involved with any club projects. They may have never made up a Rotary meeting or attended a district function. Why not lend a hand to your fellow Rotarian. I can assure you, when someone becomes more involved in their club, the better the Rotarian they become.

At your next club meeting, look around and see if there is someone who needs to get more involved. Take the initiative to ask them to participate in the club: a short-term project; finding a speaker for a future meeting; buying a card for an ailing member and getting it signed by all the club... There are many small gestures of involvement that make us feel part of the group. One of the main reasons someone drops out of Rotary is lack of involvement. If you notice a club member with low attendance due to time conflicts, let them know when neighboring clubs meet and invite yourself to go along with them for the make up. Please lend your hand to your fellow Rotarian and get involved getting them involved.

**By the way, have you signed up for district conference yet? Why don't you and why don't you invite your fellow Rotarian and their family to join you. It is a great way to get fired up about Rotary.**

[dgrick@thiernaufinancial.com](mailto:dgrick@thiernaufinancial.com)

## RI Conventions – Historical Note

In 1910 the National Association of Rotary Clubs of America, with a total of 16 clubs and 1,800 members, saw Rotary rapidly expanding throughout the United States. The "National Association of Rotary Clubs of America" held its first convention in Chicago, where it elected Paul P. Harris president. But this association did not remain "national" for long; in November of that year, the Rotary Club of Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, was established and within two years became the first Rotary club officially chartered outside of the U.S., transforming Rotary into an international organization of clubs.

## Towards Chicago 2005



This week of 15-22 February, the 2004/2005 Governors representing every Rotary district in the world met for their International Institute training in Anaheim, California. The Host Organization Committee (HOC) for the 2005 Centennial Convention set up a booth to sell Chicago, and sell we did! The response to our invitation to celebrate Rotary's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary was fantastic. They will be coming to Chicago in planes, trains, automobiles and buses. The numbers they have confidently pledged are staggering. We will have an update soon on how many will attend this once-in-a-lifetime Rotary experience.

The HOC is preparing a Commemorative Centennial Directory that will list the names of every Rotarian who registers for the convention. We hope all of the Rotarians in our district will want to be part of this historic publication. The registration forms will be available soon on the 2005 Centennial website.

You are a significant key to the success of our centennial celebration. If you haven't completed the Volunteer Form, go to the District website, download the form and send it in. This is an important and special responsibility for the Rotarians in the Chicagoland area – be sure you are part of the action. It will be a rewarding and unforgettable experience.

The opportunity for home hosting will also be a part of the convention. Many Rotarians from host convention cities open their homes and invite visiting Rotarians to stay with them. This is a special way to experience the internationality of Rotary and at the same time establish friendships that will last a lifetime. You will make a new friend whom you can call when you travel to their region of the world. Stay tuned; there will be more on this opportunity later.

Any person or company wanting to become a sponsor of the Chicago Centennial International Convention, or who knows someone that should be, contact Sue Smallwood ([Rotarysue@suesmallwood.com](mailto:Rotarysue@suesmallwood.com)), or Art Davis ([ArtDavis@kwom.com](mailto:ArtDavis@kwom.com)). They are building the sponsorship and advertising program now. This will be a very special opportunity to reach some very special people -- your fellow Rotarians.

Brian Andersen, 2005 HOC Vice Chair  
and District 6450 Centennial Chair

## A Rotaract Dream

Rotaract, Rotary International's service club program for young adults ages 18-30, was launched in 1968 with the first club chartered on 13 March at the University of North Carolina. The seeds of the program, however, were planted in the early 1920s. The first Twenty-Thirty club was sponsored by a Rotary Club in Sacramento, California in 1922. Rotary Clubs around the world sponsored similar clubs throughout the 1920s and 1930s. We don't know whether the idea spread spontaneously or by word of mouth, but such clubs sprang up on every continent. Many of them were active until the birth of Rotaract and simply migrated to the Rotaract when it was inaugurated.

The decision to adopt the Rotaract program came for two reasons. The Interact program, started in 1962, was an unqualified success and Interactors were seeking an outlet for Rotary enthusiasm beyond high school. At the same time, the widespread student protests of the 1960s prodded Rotary into seeking a positive channel for student idealism, a program that would prove beneficial to the students' communities.

Rotaract was immediately successful and blossomed throughout the 1980s and 1990s and its rapid growth continues unabated. There are now more than 7,500 Rotaract clubs in more than 155 countries, with a membership of more than 173,000! The projects undertaken by Rotaractors around the world have been wide-ranging in both scope and imagination, with many of them being truly breathtaking.

Unfortunately, our district has but one Rotaract Club, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Chicago ROTARY/One. This is in spite of the fact that we are home to a large number of colleges and universities, some of them world-class.

With the conclusion of Black History month, the words of a great American, Dr. Martin Luther King, linger in our consciousness as we recall his stirring "I Have a Dream" address. As we enter the month in which Rotarians celebrate World Rotaract Week, during the week of March 13, we may well wonder what dream another great American, Paul Harris, may have had for this path of service here in the Birthplace of Rotary.

As we allow our imaginations to float we might picture the founder of Rotary saying:

So I say to you, my fellow Rotarians, that even though we must face the difficulties of today and tomorrow, I still have a dream. It is a dream deeply rooted in the Rotary ideal of service.

**I have a dream** that, in every college and university in the Birthplace of Rotary, students will find a channel of service in a Rotaract Club.

**I have a dream** that, in each campus in this district, the students will find Rotarians to nurture their adventure in service.

**I have a dream** that, every Rotaractor on every campus, will have Rotary Clubs to mentor them in the Avenues of Service.

**I have a dream** that Rotaractors in this district will be the wellspring for the resurgence of the Birthplace of Rotary as they develop into dedicated Rotarians.

Let Rotaract shine from the Midway at the University of Chicago!

Let Rotaract shine from the Circle Campus of the University of Illinois!

Let Rotaract shine from Aurora University!

Let Rotaract shine from St. Francis University in Joliet!

Let Rotaract shine from Olivet Nazarene University in Bradley Bourbonnais!

Let Rotaract shine from every university and college in every corner of the Birthplace of Rotary!

Let Rotaract shine!

**Anonymous Rotarian**

## LET'S CELEBRATE WORLD ROTARACT WEEK!

This newsletter has been printed by James Gettings, AlphaGraphics, 2950 Ogden Avenue, Lisle, IL 60532. Tel: 630-369-4200 – Fax: 630-369-0982 – E-mail: [us221@alphagraphics.com](mailto:us221@alphagraphics.com).

Please send any address changes to Jerry Palm, District Secretary, at [jpalmlect@aol.com](mailto:jpalmlect@aol.com). DO NOT SEND articles or photos. Articles and photos should be sent to the Editor at the address listed on page 12.

## *On the Lighter Side* – Left brain, right brain, NO BRAIN

This is strange, but true... It's going to drive you crazy!

While sitting at your desk, lift your right foot off the floor and make clockwise circles. Now, while doing this, draw the number "6" in the air with your right hand. Your foot will change direction and there's nothing you can do about it!!!

### *From the Editor's Desk*

April is Magazine Month in Rotary. *The Rotarian*, the official magazine of Rotary International, inspires every month with its wonderful field reports, interviews, Rotary world press, member notes, life trends, etc. Send us your comments about *The Rotarian*, how you use it, how you distribute it.

Thank you so much to all the Rotarians who made this issue possible, particularly **Lou Volodka**.

**Reina S. Diamond**

### **Centennial Theme**

Rotary International President-Elect Glenn Estess announced the centennial theme at the International Assembly in Anaheim, CA, a few weeks ago:

**Celebrate Rotary**  
**Celebremos Rotary**  
**Celebriamo il Rotary**  
**Célébrez le Rotary**  
**A Celebrar Rotary**  
**Rotary Jubilarar**  
**Wir feiern Rotary**

In the address, President-elect Estess outlined the 2004-05 presidential emphases: water management, health concerns, literacy, and the family of Rotary. The emphases address major social or development issues facing billions of people on earth.

He also announced three major goals for the coming year: moving forward on PolioPlus; significantly increasing membership; and reaching US\$100 or more per Rotarian in giving — Every Rotarian, Every Year — to the Annual Programs Fund of The Rotary Foundation.

"Our first hundred years will stand as an inspiring record of men and women of all races, religions, nationalities and political creeds who have made significant contributions to creating a more peaceful world," he said. "It will be your privilege to lead Rotarians into our next century — a century in which we will *Lend a Hand* and *Celebrate Rotary* with even greater fellowship and countless acts of service."

## **DISTRICT 6450 CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

### **TAKE NOTE AND MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

March 9 and 12 March	<b>World Rotaract Week</b> <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Vocational Tour – Eli's Cheesecake Facility</b>
12 March	<b>2004-2005 PETS for Districts 6450 and 6440, Marriott Hickory Ridge Conf. Center</b>
13 March	<b>2004-2005 District Assembly, Marriott Hickory Ridge CC</b>
27 March	<b>New Generations Seminar</b>
April 29 April-2 May	<b>Magazine Month</b> <b>RI District 6450 Conference – The Abbey, Fontana, WI</b>
23-26 May	<b>95<sup>th</sup> RI Convention</b> Osaka, Japan
13 June	<b>Polio Race to the Finish,</b> Evanston, Illinois
13-18 June	<b>RI Council on Legislation,</b> Chicago, Illinois
27 June	<b>Installation of Chris Reilly as District Governor</b>
19 July	<b>Honoring Rotary's Founder</b> <b>Paul P Harris, Rosewood West Banquet Hall, Crestwood</b>
22-24 October	<b>RI District 6450 Conference – Wyndham, Lisle, Illinois</b>
Date to be announced	<b>Volo Antique Car and Collectibles Museum</b>

[www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)

## *Focus on Area 4*

### **Rotary Club of Chicago Northwest**

Their main project for this year is the Dictionary project. This is their 4th year giving free dictionaries to the children in the 3rd grade in the public schools of Chicago. They followed the example of a lady in North Carolina. She saw a need for dictionaries in the schools and decided to donate some. Their club decided that this would be a very worthwhile project in our area of the city. Every year they give out about 1,500 dictionaries, and next year they would like to increase the number to 2,000.

On the international level they have a computer project. Last year, they donated some computers to European countries. This year, they hope to donate 10 computers to a school in the rural part of Cuahutla Morelos Mexico.

### **Rotary Club of Chicago Southeast**

This year, members of The Rotary Club of Chicago Southeast continue to collaborate with Jackson Park Hospital and the American Diabetes Association to implement a diabetes public information and education initiative. The effort, which will last up to several months after kick-off, will involve selected churches whose parishioners and others will gain valuable information about the high incidence of diabetes in the African American community, and how to prevent and treat the disease, among other issues. The club will continue to present a quarterly "Meet & Greet Information Session" for potential Rotarians who will be exposed to the Rotary world and its benefits. The sessions started in summer 2003. Various guest speakers, including attorneys, media executives, entrepreneurs, plastic surgeons, franchisees and government officials have been scheduled to address the club on their industry and area of expertise. Members are planning fundraisers to support various community service projects to be implemented in the club's wide service area on the South Side of Chicago. The club also has aggressive plans to network with area organizations to identify prospective members to build on the five new members that have been inducted since fall 2003.

### **Rotary Club of Chicago/ROTARY One**

The club proudly announces some of its most recent events as well as those coming up in the near future:

- Cocktail party and dinner for Rotary International President Jonathan Majiyagbe and his Board of Directors on 26 February.
- Annual Oscar party on 29 February.
- 2003 Annual Children's Party at the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago. Food, entertainment and gifts were provided to all of the children and their families in attendance. Member Wayne Shulman chaired this annual event.
- 2003 Annual Holiday Party which included a small silent auction of two Radio flyer wagons filled with toys. The

proceeds of this silent auction went to Giant Steps, a therapeutic day school for children with autism.

- In 2003-2004 the "International Club" of ROTARY/One met each month to discuss how to do business overseas and how to communicate with overseas customers, suppliers and employees. Member Larry Korwin chairs this avenue of service.

- The Rotaract club meets every 2nd and 4th Thursdays. They are currently doing a ZIMPRO project to send supplies to Zimbabwe. The recently established Interact Club at Lincoln Park High School is in full swing. Both Rotaract and Interact are led by Member Lisa Russ.

- The Youth Services Division, under the leadership of member John Spitzkovsky, sent one student to RYLA this year and, in addition, the club gave several thousand dollars in scholarship money to area college students.

- Member Evan Freund reported that a matching grant has been approved by RI; a solar oven will be provided to the Bungoma Family Helper Project in Kenya.

- ROTARY/One members have arranged a private tour for Tuesday 30 March of RI Headquarters, a briefing with 2004-2005 RI President Glenn Estess with a reception to follow. Reservations are required and all are welcomed to attend. Contact ROTARY/One at 312-372-3900.

- The club will hold its Annual Charity Ball on Saturday 17 April. The honoree this year will be former Chicago Bear Chris Zorich, and the event is being chaired by 2005-2006 club President, Evy Alsaker. Reservations are required and all are welcomed to attend. Contact ROTARY/One at 312-372-3900.

### **Rotary Club of Chicago-Rogers Park**

The club has been gearing up for its major fundraising activity of the year - the 3rd Annual Taste of Rotary Rogers Park. This event will be on Saturday 6 March 2004. This year's Taste will feature fine international cuisine from our favorite Rogers Park area restaurants; keynote speaker Sharon Kristjanson, President of Connecting Cultures through Understanding, cultural performances by the Spindulys Dancers of Lithuania under the direction of Rasa Poskocimas; a silent auction and more. Proceeds will benefit the club's community and international service projects.

The club is also continuing to work on their Centennial Project, which will provide equipment, volunteer hours and funding needed to support the Rogers Park/West Ridge Historical Society with a project to create an electronic archive of photographs documenting the history of the community. The project will allow thousands of photographs currently stored in boxes and albums to be scanned with captions and stored electronically. This effort will provide greater access to a pictorial history of community as well as educational materials for area schools.

**Continues on next page.**

From page 9

### Rotary Club of Chicago-Financial District

An outstanding article on this club was published in our February issue. Please refer to page 2 of that issue.

### Rotary Club of Chicago Midwest

The article will be published upon receipt.

Thank you to ADG Dusan Djordjevic and incoming ADG Gus Samios for coordinating this effort.

### From a New Rotarian

When Sunrise Rotary held its annual coat drive this winter, I had no idea that behind this seemingly modest project was something much larger. I had heard of Sharing Connections, a non-profit organization that links “caring people and people who need care.” When SC’s executive director, Leeanne McGrath, spoke before a Sunrise assembly, I asked her to give me a tour of her 4,700 square foot warehouse. She had told us that “Sharing Connections gratefully receives from any family, club, church or school that has something that they would like to share, entrusted to our care and our promise to hold it until we can find a recipient to help people feel like they have a home.” During my tour, I learned that the 2003 coat drive, which brought in over 5,000 coats, was the tip of a substantial iceberg.

In the holding area behind modest offices, neatly stacked on tiers of shelving not unlike what you see in a Costco or Sam’s Club, are thousands of donated items waiting to be funneled to needy people through various agencies...everything from appliances to underwear, all new or “gently” used. Beds, blankets, sheets, towels, hot pads, glassware, lamps, cleaning products, dental care products, baby cribs, cooking utensils, Cheez-Its (two pallets donated

by Keebler) and much more. Leeanne says “We try to keep up our inventory so that when a family has experienced a fire, flood, job loss or other temporary setback...or are moving from assisted housing to their very first apartment...we can be effective.” SC’s services extend far and wide: One of the long shelves held items – books, fabric, sewing and knitting supplies, office material and work clothing - earmarked for medical missions around the world.

Leeanne, whose vocabulary is sprinkled with theological terminology, says her 17-year-old organization began as a need in her life, after she learned that poverty in the area was more severe than people realized. “The news was very distressing to me, and I took it from my life to prayer. What could I do? There were people in distress, people in crisis...even in our own community.” For the first 14 years, Leeanne and her husband, Tom, operated S.C. out of their own home; the garage, basement and eventually the children’s vacated rooms were all used for storage.

During 2003, Sharing Connections served clients of 90 agencies in DuPage, Cook, Will and Kane Counties. Over 1,000 trucks were filled with goods for 61,000 households. Volunteer hours for the most recent three months totaled 2,277. There’s a network of food pantries, and the Lisle Rotary Club led a drive to fill buckets with house cleaning products and deliver them to a thousand families whose food stamps would go only so far.

Raising money is a constant effort for the McGraths and their volunteers. Considerable time is spent just raising their monthly rent of \$3,000. Help for that comes from an annual events, such as a golf outing and pig roast, and other activities. Sharing Connections currently needs mattresses, box springs, bed frames (especially twin beds) and baby cribs, all clean, unbroken and sturdy. You can reach them at 630.971.0565.

**Bruce Dixon**

**EREY!**

There’s a new slogan in Rotary and it means, “Every Rotarian Every Year”. When you joined a Rotary Club you were given an opportunity to expand your horizons in many ways. Meet new friends, enjoy social activities, contribute to your community, build business relationships, contribute to world peace and understanding and secure a future for less fortunate people in other lands.

It’s amazing what your individual membership in your club means to your community and the world. Your contribution of time, talent and financial resources make a difference every week and every year to thousands of people that you will never see. The best way to assure that you are making an impact on humanity is by making an annual contribution of \$100 to the Rotary Foundation. Your membership is a privilege and giving to others through the foundation is a privilege you give back.

When you step forward to support those in need in 2004 you’ll be doing your part as a member of the finest service organization in the world. “Service Above Self” is our motto. Make that statement come true for you this year. Write a check to the Rotary Foundation today and help make the birthplace of Rotary, District 6450, 100% annual givers. We’re moving into our Centennial Year and we need to set the example for all of Rotary. I’m counting on you.

**Sue Smallwood, Annual Giving  
Chair**

[Rotarysue@suesmallwood.com](mailto:Rotarysue@suesmallwood.com)

**2003-2004  
ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION  
Osaka, Japan**

**23-26 May 2004**



For information, contact Bob Keagan of Morris Rotary at 630-891-7634 or 815-941-1196.

**VOCATIONAL TOUR  
TO ELI'S CHEESECAKE WORLD**

6701 W. Forest Preserve Drive, Chicago  
9 and 12 March 2004 - 3:00 pm-5:00pm (Arrive by 2:45pm)

Eli's Cheesecake World is the only place where you can see Chicago's favorite dessert actually being made. It's fun and educational to watch Eli's bakers busy at work. Visit the 62,000 square foot state-of-the-art bakery and enjoy a slice of Eli's rich, creamy cheesecake! Then shop in the café, or visit the cheesecake bar where over 30 different flavors are available by the slice each day. Come and taste why Bill and Hillary Clinton, Jay Leno, Donny Osmond, Susan Lucci, Larry King and Chicago Mayor Richard Daley are just a few of Eli's many fans!

**FOR YOUR SAFETY, ELI'S REQUIRES THE FOLLOWING  
FOR TOURS:**



- Rubber-soled, low-heeled, close-toed shoes must be worn by each guest. No sandals are allowed. If proper shoes are not worn, a modified tour will take place. No exceptions.
- Infants under one year of age will not be allowed in the operating bakery department of the tour. Also, children may not be carried in certain areas of the bakery.
- All tour guests will be required to walk approximately 400 feet. A modified tour may be necessary for certain guests.
- No cameras/camcorders/video cameras allowed in the bakery.
- Cost is \$8 per person to cover the District's expenses and should be paid at start of tour. Limited to 50 people per day. Reservations must be made by 5 March. To register, please contact Ken Daemicke at [Daemicke@mpscpa.com](mailto:Daemicke@mpscpa.com).

**ROTARY DISTRICT 6450 CONFERENCE**

**29 April – 2 May 2004**

Our 2004 Rotary District 6450 Conference will be chock-full of **fabulous entertainment, education, recreation, and fun**. The Committee has been working very hard to bring you the very best, a memorable weekend with fellow Rotarians, family and friends. To help us celebrate the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Jack Gladstone, a grandson of Blackfoot Indian chief Red Crow, will guide us through myths, animal legends and character portraits into a better understanding of our Native American heritage. As a singer, songwriter and masterful storyteller, Jack touches the hearts of his audiences with his enlightening narrative and thought-provoking songs about the adventures, triumphs and tragedies of Native America.

For the Dancers! Start packing your favorite dancing shoes because, **TOM KEITH & SIDNEY MUSIC & COMEDY ACT** promises to be an event to remember! On Friday night, the John Hunt Trio will bridge the art of Gershwin, Porter, jazz, rock, and the contemporary music of today. Come listen and/or dance to the John Hunt Trio in the Abbey's Waterfront Bar. Back by popular demand a Rotary favorite: "Hospitality Rooms" sponsored by Clubs. Of course, our **ICE CREAM SOCIAL**.

**Remember:** The district Conference is a time to meet other Rotarians, share accomplishments, network ideas, learn more about Rotary, feel an incredible amount of pride, and enjoy a really fun time. People that attend this Conference will come away from the experience having had an enjoyable weekend, inspired by the speakers and topics covered, and realizing they are part of a SUPER ROTARY DISTRICT! For your convenience we are once again enclosing both registration forms: **The Weekender: Friday – Sunday and The Commuter: One day only.**

It is our hope that many of you will be able to attend the Thursday evening activities as you did last year. **Don't wait any longer to reserve your place at this year's district conference!**

Marilyn Turner, Promotions Chair,  
[mturner106@aol.com](mailto:mturner106@aol.com)

**District 6450  
Business Source**

**Steve Weihmuller**  
 Vice-President  
 Business Banking

1301 E Ogden Ave. Tel 630-983-2006  
 Naperville, IL 60563 Fax 630-983-2037  
 Steven.weihmuller@abnamro.com Mobile 630-334-9751

*LaSalle Bank N.A.*

**Your ad HERE!**

\$ 100.00 per business card per month.  
 \$ 250.00 per quarter page per month.  
 \$ 2,000.00 per quarter page per year.

Support District 6450 – Send your ad to [RMLDIAMOND@AOL.COM](mailto:RMLDIAMOND@AOL.COM), and your checks to **District Treasurer Charles Cruz**, 45 Astoria Way, Park Ridge, IL 60068, including a hard copy of the ad.

**THANK YOU!**

PLEASE SUBMIT ALL NEWSLETTER ARTICLES TO BE PUBLISHED IN A GIVEN MONTH BY THE 15th DAY OF THE PREVIOUS MONTH TO: REINA S. DIAMOND, 9300 Forestview, Evanston, IL 60203, BUS: 847-425-3786, FAX: 847-679-3862, E-MAIL: [RMLDIAMOND@AOL.COM](mailto:RMLDIAMOND@AOL.COM).

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**WASHINGTON MUTUAL  
 HOME LOANS**

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 Park Ridge, IL 60068 [ottolaw@ix.netcom.com](mailto:ottolaw@ix.netcom.com)

**OTTO & ASSOCIATES**

**Your AD Here!**

**District 6450  
Attendance and Membership Report  
January 2004**

attendance club rank	attendance % for month	meetings held	members 7/1/2003
12 Addison	70	4	28
19 Aurora	65	3	62
7 Aurora Naperville	77	4	19
6 Aurora Sunrise	78	4	16
26 Bensenville	62	4	16
63 Berwyn		4	13
35 Blue Island Crestwood	52	3	17
29 Bolingbrook	59	4	29
22 Bradley Bourbonnais	64	4	43
63 Broadview		4	13
24 Brookfield Riverside	63	4	20
5 Burr Ridge Willowbrook	80	4	14
29 Chicago Financial District	59	4	25
31 Chicago Heights	55	4	47
63 Chicago Midwest		4	16
63 Chicago Near South		4	27
63 Chicago Northwest		4	17
63 Chicago O'Hare		4	27
63 Chicago One		4	200
36 Chicago Rogers Park	46	4	23
63 Chicago Southeast		4	15
63 Cicero		4	24
63 Countryside		4	14
14 Darien	68	4	30
63 Downers Grove		4	52
63 Dwight		3	22
27 Elmhurst	61	4	55
34 Elmhurst Morning	53	4	16
19 Evergreen Park	65	3	22
63 Franklin Park		4	13
14 Hinsdale	69	4	53
63 Hinsdale Oak Brook Gateway		4	28
14 Homewood	68	3	66
10 Joliet	72	4	163
31 Kankakee	55	4	33
12 LaGrange	70	4	41
1 Lansing	100	4	22
63 Lisle		4	24
28 Lockport	60	4	53
14 Manteno	69	4	32
8 Matteson	75	4	25
8 Maywood	75	4	18

63 Melrose Park		4	10
3 Moraine Valley	90	4	8
63 Morris		5	35
63 Naperville		4	142
18 Naperville Sunrise	66	4	90
63 New Lenox		3	21
63 Norridge Harwood Heights		3	13
63 Oak Brook		4	16
19 Oak Forest	65	4	23
63 Oak Lawn		4	26
10 Oak Park River Forest	72	4	101
63 Orland Park		3	63
22 Oswego	64	4	38
3 Park Forest	90	4	32
24 Plainfield	63	3	29
63 Romeoville		4	19
63 Tinley Park Frankfort		4	14
2 Western Springs	93	4	15
63 Westmont		5	37
63 Wilmington		4	18
31 Woodridge	55	4	20