

7070 News

District 7070

August, 2008

Exciting conference set for District Rotarians

With the event now less than two months away, District Rotarians are urged to register for the 2008 District Conference.

Scheduled for the Deerhurst Resort in Huntsville, the conference will combine not only lots of information about Rotary and various projects, but there will be as well lots of opportunity to enjoy the traditional Rotary fellowship.

The conference organizing committee has done an excellent job in lining up an excellent group of speakers, seminars and workshops, something in fact for all Rotarians.

The keynote speaker will be the current vice-president of Rotary International, PDG Monty Audenart, of the Rotary Club of Red Deer East.

A Rotarian since 1987, PDG Monty has served as district governor, task force and committee member, RI president's representative, and Council on Legislation representative. He has also served as district trainer, RI training leader, and

governors-elect training seminar co-chair in Zone 22 as well as his current appointment as vice-president.

There is a golf tournament for those who want to take to the links on Friday, followed by a casual cocktail reception with wine and beer sampling. On Saturday morning there will be breakout sessions and the afternoon is slated for some "hands on projects" in the community. After Saturday night's dinner/dance you will have the option of going to one of the Deerhurst entertainment spectaculars.

If you have not yet registered, for the Oct. 24-26 event, please go to www.rotary7070.org to download the registration form, complete it, and mail it, along with your deposit, to the address on the form.

You must make your own hotel arrangements directly. Do it today! Some room types are already selling out.

Reservations can be made directly by calling toll free 1-800-461-4393

7070 ends year with increase in membership

Rotary International has targeted membership development as a major initiative for the past few years, and while many districts around the world are showing a decline, District 7070 showed an increase of 35 members in the 2007-2008 Rotary year.

As Rotarians will note in DG Mike's column on page 3 of this newsletter, there is a call for a 10 per cent increase in membership during this Rotary year, a realistic target if all Rotarians become part of their club's membership development program, seeking out qualified individuals to invite to Rotary.

The latest figures show that District 7070 now has 2,167 members, and while it is not unusual for districts to show a slight decline at the end of the Rotary year – when dues become payable for the following year – District 7070 has been able to maintain its year-end figure – losing 20 member during July but gaining another 20 new members.

INSIDE THE NEWS

- *Literacy conference planned, pg. 2*
- *DG Mike's column, pg. 3*
- *Growing your membership, pg. 6*

**Volume 14
Number 2
DG Mike Phelan
Rotary Club of Toronto East**

Make Dreams Real

Multi-district literacy conference is planned

*By PDG Joan Hayward
District Literacy Chair*

I know that many of our district's clubs are involved in literacy activities, both in their local communities and in the developing world.

As District Literacy Chair, one of my responsibilities is to help clubs share those activities among clubs in the district. However, we have an opportunity to highlight our initiatives to a much larger audience.

Each month the North American Literacy Coordinator, PDG Roger Hayward, publishes a worldwide literacy newsletter. Here is the chance for someone in your club to submit an article, along with jpeg photographs, so

that the whole Rotary world has access to as many Rotary-sponsored literacy projects and programs as possible. Please send stories and photos to me at rhayward@sympatico.ca

Each month I send the worldwide literacy newsletters to our district's club presidents and to a group of Rotarians who, over the last few years, have shown an interest in literacy activities. These newsletters are also posted on the district website and the Zone 22 website. Thus they are readily available to all Rotarians in our district.

I suggest you take a look at the newsletters for some interesting information and an idea of the scope of the activities being carried out in our organization.

One of the goals of the Literacy Resource Group is to encourage districts to hold a literacy conference/seminar/workshop this year.

To this end I have organized our literacy conference for Saturday, Sept. 20th at the Holiday Inn in Oshawa.

You will find details of this conference on the district website and there was a brief presentation at the Presidents' Club meeting on August 13th.

My goal is to have all clubs represented at the conference. I have extended an invitation to District 7010 so this will be a multi-district conference with lots of information and time for sharing.

I hope to see all clubs represented and to have the event highlighted in an upcoming worldwide literacy newsletter.

New members are inducted

The following individuals were recently inducted into District 7070 clubs.

Cobourg

Wendy Curtis
Trish Reid
Bill Pyette

Picton

Bob Elliott

Uxbridge

Peter Winlove-Smith

Whitby Sunrise

Howard Humphrey
Diane Allen

Julia Reynolds-McNeill

• District clubs are reminded to forward a list of any new members inducted during the Rotary year to 7070 News so that they can be included in the monthly newsletter.

7070 News

7070 News is published for District 7070 and includes the District Governor's newsletter as well as stories and photographs about District clubs and their members.

Editorial submissions are welcome from all Rotarians as long as the story or photograph pertain to District 7070 Rotary clubs or Rotarians.

Deadline is the first of the publishing month.

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RI's 100th convention

It is about 10 months away, but already, the publicity is starting to roll out for Rotary International's 100th convention scheduled for June 21-24 in Birmingham, England.

PDG Roger Hayward, the publicity committee member for Zone 22 - which includes District 7070 - has prepared a newsletter to highlight this important event on the Rotary calendar, and two others will be prepared to give Rotarians an idea of what to expect for this great event.

Roger, who is a native of Birmingham, notes that this is not the first time the city has hosted a Rotary Convention, as the city organized the 1984 event.

Those seeking more information, or wanting to register, can go to www.rotary.org and follow the various links.

FROM THE DESK OF DG MIKE

Club visits are truly heart warming

As I write this article, Bev and I have had the pleasure of visiting 35 of our district clubs.

I know every governor says this, but the visits truly are a heart warming and inspiring experience. We have met hundreds of wonderful people and experienced the incomparable generosity of Rotarians and partners everywhere we've been.

Each of us knows of the great works and projects done by our individual clubs. Our actions change the face of the local community in a very positive way, with every endeavour that we undertake. Having the opportunity to hear the cumulative story of Rotary in District 7070 is an honour I wish each of you could share.

August is an important month in Rotary - Membership Development & Extension month. The goal this year is a 10 per cent net membership growth worldwide and an increase of two clubs in each district.

A challenge? Definitely.

Practical? Absolutely!

In fact, some of our clubs are well on their way.

Congratulations to Whitby (2), Whitby Sunrise (2), Picton (1), Toronto (3), Courtice (3), York (2), Belleville (2), Toronto Eglinton (4), Toronto Forest Hill (2), Trenton (3), Wellington (1) and Cobourg (I've lost count). These clubs are leading the way and showing that membership increases are possible.

Many other clubs have membership prospects in the pipeline and I look forward to reporting on your successes in upcoming newsletters.

Please invite me to the inductions if possible. Membership in



DG Mike and Bev

Rotary is a treasured gift that you may share with your friends, neighbours, family and acquaintances. Please give that gift to someone this month. They will be forever thankful.

Congratulations to our public relations team and special thanks to our webmaster Sum Cheung (Toronto Eglinton). Our new website looks great and will continue to improve over the year with your help. Please send your project photos and club stories for inclusion on the website. Each of your clubs has an interesting story to tell and we would all like to celebrate your successes.

September is another important month in the Rotary calendar - New Generations month. This is a time for us to focus on the many youth programs that Rotary has to offer, Rotaract, Interact, Youth Exchange, Group Study Exchange and our scholarship programs. Participation

by our clubs in these programs ensures that Rotary has a very bright future.

If your club is involved in New Generation programs, keep up the good work. If your club is not involved in youth programs, please consider having one of these young people attend your club and perhaps conduct a program. Trust me, you will find them engaging and inspiring.

All the contact information required can be found on the District website located at www.rotary7070.org.

Lastly, Bev and I are looking forward to greeting each of you at the District Conference in Deerhurst, October 24th - 26th. I promise the celebration of Rotary will be one to remember! Our conference committee is working hard to ensure you will have a great time at this family friendly resort. Thank you to the 150 plus who have registered to date and I encourage the rest of you send in your registration forms today.

RI Vice-president Monty Audenart will be joining us for the weekend along with other Rotary dignitaries.

I've even received a telephone call from Lieutenant Governor David Onley's office asking if we might find a spot for him to speak to the delegates and thank us for the great work we do around our part of Ontario. This will be a weekend long celebration with inspiring speakers and lots of opportunities for club and member networking. You won't want to miss it!

Until next we meet,
Make Dreams Real.

Mike

Short Takes

Instead of a guest speaker at a recent meeting, the **Rotary Club of Toronto** had club member Joe Amato with his sax and three other musicians entertain club members with three special jazz compositions...the **Rotary Club of Toronto** secured eight tickets for each of the Buffalo Bills games at the Rogers Centre, with the \$210 tickets being offered at a first come, first served basis...the **Rotary Club of Cobourg** donated \$1,000 towards the construction of the new Grafton Heritage Park...the **Rotary Club of Alliston** voted to cover the shipping costs of \$2,000 to send four skids of medical supplies and equipment to Thailand...the **Rotary Club of Northumberland Sunrise** heard that they raised \$1300 from their recent Night of a Thousand Dinners in support of landmine eradication...the members of the **Rotary Club of Trenton** brought along their best singing voices for the inter-club BBQ hosted by the **Rotary Club of Brighton**, winning the annual singing competition...the **Rotary Club of Port Hope** has a bit different type of project, voting recently to finance the building of a fireplace at the Ganaraska Forest Centre...it was a great day of fellowship, with a bit of fund-raising as well when the **Rotary Club of Parkdale-High Park** held a garage sale recently...the Cobourg Historical Society recently received a donation of \$3,200 from the **Rotary Club of Cobourg** towards the purchase of trays for the storage of historical documents...the **Rotary Club of Alliston** combined their change-over meeting with a fund-raiser for the Canadian Landmine eradication program...the members of the **Rotary Club of Scarborough** heard that their primary project for International this year is a Zambian water project involved with drilling five bore holes, a project shared with the **Rotary Club of Richmond Hill**...it was reported in the Rotary RIP that club member Joanne Ashley arranged for each member of the **Rotary Club of Whitby** to receive a free six-to-eight foot Autumn Blaze Maple tree as part of the club's 75th anniversary celebration...when the **Rotary Club of Oshawa** held their annual past presidents day, there were 21 past presidents in attendance, dating back to Ed Storie in 1954-55...after hearing historian Bruce Bell earlier in the year, a group of **Rotary Club of Toronto** members and guests accompanied him on a two-hour guided tour starting out at the old St. Lawrence Market...the **Rotary Club of Alliston** will be holding a BBQ and corn roast next month to celebrate the club's summer achievements...the **Rotary Club of Newmarket** is the latest district club to hold a RibFest fund-raiser...it was another great event when the **Rotary Club of Etobicoke** had a booth at the Government and Community Fair held at Cloverdale Mall

Cobourg club sets \$160,000 goal for Foundation Walk

The committee organizing this year's Rotary Foundation Walk has set a goal of raising \$160,000 from this one-day event, and hope to have 600 people participate to make that target a reality.

This year's event will be held in Cobourg's Victoria Park on Sunday, Sept. 7, with a great day being planned for all participants.

The foundation walk has been growing each year as clubs vie for the honor of hosting the following year's event.

The Rotary Club of Cobourg put on a determined effort when the event was held in Port Hope last year, winning the right to host this year's walk which will evolve around the Rotary theme of *Make Dreams Real*.

The organizing committee says the event will be held from 8 a.m. to noon with lunch - hot dogs, striploin steaks and chicken - to follow.

There will be lots of entertainment during the day, and it is hoped that many will make this a family day.

The emphasis this year will once again be on the EREY (Every Rotarian Every Year) program, which is a way in which each of the clubs can achieve its Foundation goal for this Rotary year.

You can leave a lasting legacy through the Paul Harris Society

As Rotarians, we have a true jewel in The Rotary Foundation. Our charity does good at home and around the world.

You can be a key to its success by becoming a member of the Paul Harris Society.

How you may ask? Well it is simple. You must commit to donate \$1,000 (US) or more a year to the Rotary Foundation Canada. Remember it is tax deductible and will earn Paul Harris Society recognition.

Rotarians should contact District 7070 Foundation chair Michael Cooksey by email at michael.cooksey@sympatico.ca or phone 416-266-3287 for more information.

What a way to leave a legacy!!!

District membership figures released

With August being Membership Month on the Rotary calendar, the following list shows the status of

each club as the District strives to meet this year's membership goal of a 10 per cent increase.

	June 30	July 31					
Agincourt	21	21	0	Port Perry	33	34	1
Ajax	36	36	0	Quinte Sunrise	21	21	0
Alliston	49	49	0	Richmond Hill	41	41	0
Aurora	15	15	0	Scarborough	54	48	-6
Beeton	0	0	0	Scarborough Bluffs	16	15	-1
Belleville	124	126	2	Stirling	25	25	0
Bowmanville	46	46	0	Stouffville	10	10	0
Bradford	15	15	0	Toronto	207	204	-3
Brighton	56	54	-2	Toronto Beach	15	15	0
Campbellford	40	40	0	Toronto East	27	22	-5
Cobourg	151	152	1	Toronto Eglinton	63	67	4
Colborne	18	18	0	Toronto Humber	20	20	0
Courtice	21	21	0	Toronto Leaside	22	22	0
East York	32	32	0	Toronto West	28	28	0
Etobicoke	72	71	-1	Toronto Don Mills	17	17	0
Kleinberg	9	8	-1	Toronto Don Valley	23	23	0
Markham Sunrise	33	32	-1	Toronto Earlscourt	24	24	0
Markham-Unionville	18	18	0	Toronto Forest Hill	30	32	2
Newmarket	29	29	0	Toronto Sunrise	12	13	1
North Scarborough	39	39	0	Trenton	56	58	2
North York	21	21	0	Uxbridge	51	51	0
Northumberland Sunrise	32	32	0	Wellington	35	36	1
Oshawa	92	92	0	Whitby	44	46	2
Oshawa Parkwood	41	41	0	Whitby Sunrise	56	56	0
Parkdale-High Park	20	22	2	Willowdale	52	52	0
Pickering	23	23	0	Woodbridge	10	10	0
Picton	54	54	0	York	28	30	2
Port Hope	40	40	0	Total D7070	2167	2167	0

Trek for Teens planner named school trustee

James Dempsey, a grade 11 student from Bishop Allen Academy in Etobicoke, has been selected Toronto Catholic District School Board's Student Trustee for 2008-2009.

The 16-year-old has undertaken a variety of leadership roles both inside and outside of school. Under the guidance of the Rotary Club of Etobicoke, he was part of the planning team for the Toronto Trek for Teens, a charity race with proceeds supporting Covenant

House Toronto, an organization that supports homeless youth.

At school, he is one of the two co-head delegates for the school's Model United Nations team, mentoring and leading the 40-member team to various successes at the municipal, provincial and national level.

"A huge part of being a student trustee is representing the 90,000 or so students who I have the privilege of representing," says Mr. Dempsey. "My primary focus is

to meet with as many students as possible so that I can truly represent their views and concerns."

"One of the biggest challenges of my term, at least at the outset, will be to ensure that the student voice is still heard at a time when the board itself is dealing with some major changes," he adds.

With a keen interest in economics and international studies, he plans to pursue business at Schulich School of Business, York University.

Microfinance offers opportunity for change

There are two key things that enable and, in most cases, empower us to change our lives. One is a constant stream of hope and positive optimism. The other, a little more complex, is having the opportunity for that change.

Providing the opportunity for change is where microfinance enters the picture, as a proven method that can break the cycle of poverty.

Rotary International was one of the first international organizations to identify the importance of microfinance.

In his keynote address at the 85th Rotary International Convention on June 12, 1994, in Taipei, Taiwan, Muhammad Yusuf remarked:

“If we are looking for the one single action which will enable the poor to overcome their poverty, I would go for credit. Money is power.”

District 7070 recently launched its own Microfinance Committee with a mission to promote the ideals of microfinance and to encourage practical support from among the Rotarians and Rotary clubs of the District.

Our objectives are to become a “Centre of Knowledge” on the topic of microfinance for the District, as well as to be a catalyst for involving Rotarians and Rotary clubs in the District in support for microfinance.

We are already helping coordinate four Rotary clubs in the District (Toronto East, East York, Belleville and Richmond Hill) to consider working with CRCID on a

microfinance project in Uganda with a total project budget of \$45,500 (including matching grants). Currently the committee is seeking proposals on projects or initiatives recommended by Rotarians.

In the upcoming months, members of the Microfinance Committee will be visiting all the 7070 clubs with the goal of inspiring the clubs to participate and be actively engaged in this endeavour. The committee also welcomes any new additions to the team.

If you are interested in getting involved in the Microfinance Committee, please contact Gord Crann, Chair of the District 7070 Microfinance Committee by e-mail at gordon.crann@on.aibn.com.

So let us, “end poverty together; one small loan at a time.”

What it's all about

The most widely used form of microfinance is microcredit, which addresses the need of bank services, making small loans, often repeat loans to successful borrowers, to people otherwise ‘unbankable’ - the unemployed, the poor/marginal entrepreneur, the illiterate, and those lacking collateral. Typically 97%, or more, of the borrowers are women whose stewardship has proven more likely to achieve the criteria by which microfinance institutions judge themselves.

Sustainable microcredit models: (a) charge interest rates comparable to favourable bank rates to finance the microcredit operation, to preserve the original capital for recycling in subsequent loans, and to condition the borrower to paying interest; and (b) involve some form of group-based co-operative.

The group encourages individual development and training in pre-loan work-shops, audits business plans/proposals developed by individual members of the group, possibly pre-approves member applications for loans, and monitors the success/growth of beneficiary businesses and adherence to loan repayment schedules by borrowers. The group may provide some measure of group collateral in the case of delinquent payment.

Rotary is increasingly involved in microfinance - and little wonder considering how closely so many of microfinance's criteria of success align with Rotary priorities. Rotary International has its own microfinancing branch, for more information contact the Rotary Action Group for Microcredit - www.rotarianmicrocredit.org.

One goal of this RAGM is to see microcredit adopted by Rotary International at a level comparable with other key Rotary goals - literacy, clean Water, etc.

Toronto West continues long-standing tradition

The Rotary Club of Toronto West has a fine tradition at their change-over meeting, one that has been repeated each year since 1975.

According to the club bulletin, the last item on the agenda was the handing over of the silver goblets that first started in 1975 when Rotarian Bill Lange first presented a set of silver goblets to the club, requesting that each year they be passed on to the incoming president as a token of Rotary's continuity.

After filled the six goblets, a toast to Rotary was called and past president Brian Hicks passed them on to president Nick Galletto to hold in his safe keeping for the coming year.

PDG talks about membership growth

With the push on to increase membership, the following story as re-printed from the Rotary Club of Picton bulletin offers some interesting insight into membership development.

Our guest speaker was Past District Governor Lars Henriksson (2005-2005) who made a presentation on membership development.

Both North America and our own District have grown in membership this year (which is different to previous years). Rotary International presidents are keen to have clubs recognized by receiving a Presidential Citation, an award which covers many of the avenues of service.

Goals include a net increase of one new member per club.

In Club Service, give a subscription to The Rotarian to a local library. In Community Service an increase of 10% for this year is being suggested. These activities will all increase awareness of Rotary and encourage people to become interested in membership.

There are three main areas to membership: 1) recruitment; 2) retention, and 3) start a new club through sponsorship.

A focussed approach should be used towards getting new members. A good club has balanced membership in age and gender, fun to be part of, very active both locally and internationally, and members are involved in District and International Rotary events.

Formal recognition should be given to any member who brings in more than one new member. It is important to ensure that the club president is able to attend Presidential Conferences.

An official classification list can be developed by referencing local yellow pages and a Chamber of Commerce list.

Always listen to new members. Even if an idea has been tried in the past, maybe it can be tried again with more success this time.

Follow up on anyone who has been away for several weeks. If someone leaves, conduct an exit interview to find out why. Contact clubs in larger areas (such as

Toronto) suggesting that people relocating to other area contact us.

A successful process which has worked in many clubs is outlined as follows: 1) Committee gets a list of names of people who should be approached; 2) the list is shared with club members; 3) if a person on the list is not suitable to anyone, delete them; 4) the president sends out a letter to everyone left on the list; 5) each individual is invited to attend a meeting with the purpose of promoting Rotary.

Even if a person doesn't join at this point, they may encourage someone else to join. Each week one member is committed to bringing a guest, and guests are tracked.

Port Hope hears about sweat equity

The following is from the Rotary Club of Port Hope bulletin, and talks about a sweat equity program, one of many such programs throughout the district.

Tom Sears, a member of the Rotary Club of Campbellford, attended the Port Hope club to speak on Rotary sweat equity, explaining that this part of Rotary allows members to donate their time and their sweat to help people in the poverty-stricken areas of the world to help themselves.

It is completely self-funded and Rotarians work side by side with residents in helping to improve their community.

As an example, Tom showed a slide presentation of a project in Kileman, Tanzania that he and other Rotarians have been working on for some time. They helped residents to improve school buildings, reconstructed a dining hall, laid a cement floor, painted and repaired doors, windows and verandas.

Residents work for \$4 to \$6 per day and the Rotarians donate their time to the project.

Tom explained there are many of these projects in the works and he and his team will soon be leaving the Kilema residents to go on to work in either Malawi or Cambodia.

The project is very rewarding as they experienced working along side local residents, they helped build latrines in schools that had no toilets, paid for broadband internet to connect doctors and teachers and set up a scholarship fund for students.

Toronto to visit the ROM

The fellowship and entertainment committee at the Rotary Club of Toronto has an interesting tour of the Royal Ontario Museum scheduled for Sept 20th, when members and guests will journey through several galleries focusing on various points of interest in Canada.

Spread your news with 7070 News

Some clubs never get mentioned in 7070 News, and as much as the editor would like to include all clubs in the District publication, it's just not possible...for one simple reason. We just never hear from some clubs.

All clubs in District 7070 are reminded that copies of all bulletins should be sent to 7070 News on a regular basis, since it is the bulletin which forms the basis for many of the articles in the newsletter.

The club bulletin is needed for such items as the new member column, the listing of Paul Harris Fellows, the ShortTakes column, bits and pieces, club policy and items about membership development.

Clubs are also reminded that they can send in stories and photographs about club activities to 7070 News.

If your club is not sending its bulletin, please add the publication to your list. It can be mailed to 7070 News, 2351 Sinclair Circle, Burlington, Ont. L7P 3C1 or e-mailed to northbooks@sympatico.ca.

Details offers concerning Council on Legislation

Michael Cooksey, District 7070's 2010 representative to the Council on Legislation, reminds all clubs that he is seeking input for the next Council on Legislation.

He notes that the RI Constitution, RI Bylaws, and Standard Rotary Club Constitution provide the foundation for RI's policies and procedures and can be changed only through a Council on Legislation.


Every club and district is entitled to propose amendments to constitutional documents by submitting legislation to the Council on Legislation.

Some of Rotary's most important work results from council actions. The constitutional documents can be found in the Manual of Procedure.

Club and District leaders can use the Manual of Procedures to better understand the policies and procedures relevant to their responsibilities. The RI Board of Directors also issues policy decisions that are compiled in the Rotary Code of Policies.

You can learn more at www.rotary.org.


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