



Jim O'Meara
DISTRICT GOVERNOR
2007 - 2008

Rotary District 5340



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Governor's Message

We begin another exciting Rotary Year with our new annual theme, Rotary Shares. We will be talking about how Rotary Shares throughout the year with the focus on you, the Rotarians, and the Clubs throughout our Rotary District 5340.

The District Leadership has planned all our activities with you in mind. Each club president has spent many hours in meetings, President Elects Training in LA, and they have set goals to strengthen their clubs, and to provide leadership to follow the Club Leadership Plan.

Membership Seminar

As we begin the 2007-2008 Rotary Year opportunities in developing membership, and retention, will be discussed this coming Saturday morning at the Braille Institute, 4555 Executive Drive, La Jolla 92121.

Time: 8:00-11:30 am. Registration is available on the District Website, *and there is no charge to attend*. We will serve a light breakfast with refreshments. (If you run out time you can still register, just show up, and register when you enter--there's lots of room, and all Rotarians are welcome to attend. Mary Griffin is our instructor, and she is in her third successful year as Membership Chair. She has a great program prepared for you.

Public Relations Seminar

Next month we will be right back and Sharing with you by presenting a great Public Relations Seminar. Nancy Russian also brings her experience to this presentation. She will be discussing the How-To approaches in getting your club the attention it wants in a variety of approaches working with the media. The Seminar will be conducted at the Marriott Hotel in La Jolla. The same great Hotel as District Councils. Registration is available on the District Website, *and there is no charge to attend*. Or you may register when you enter--all Rotarians are welcome to attend. We will be serving refreshments.

Foundation Seminar

Bill Staumbaugh Chairs our Foundation Seminar this Rotary Year. He will bring exciting programs to us based on his personal experiences with the Foundation and as recently returned Rotary International Volunteer. Once again we return to the Salk Institute where the Polio Vaccine was first developed. This Seminar is a perfect opportunity to see video productions, and hear first hand accounts from the Rotary Foundation in action. Many of the presenters have first hand knowledge, and will Share exciting personal experiences with us. (Please see the District Website for more information, and to register for this special event. *Let's get our red badgers there!*)

News & Announcements from Around The District & The Rotary World

Rotary International Convention

The Board of Directors has announced the change in the tentative site of the 2009 RI Convention from Seoul, Korea to Birmingham, England. It was previously scheduled in Seoul for June 21-24, 2009.

IV Ecuador Project Fair

Rotary District 4400 Governor Juan Prinz announced the IV Project Fair to be held in Quito, Ecuador on October 19-20. We plan to attend and will be taking a small group of Rotarians. Prior to the weekend conference in Quito.

We also plan to visit Guayaquil to observe two matching grants (Village Bank and Mechanical Cow). We will also stop in the Colonial City of Cuenca. Optional tours to Galapagos Islands and Amazon Region are available after the Project Fair. RT airfare from San Diego with Continental Airlines is about \$800. Since we have strong ties with D4400--matching grants, GSE Teams, Ambassadorial Scholars, GUTS. We are considering a Sister-District relationship like we have with D4100 in Mexico. If anyone would be interested in joining the team please contact David Ballesteros at: david.ballesteros@sdsu.edu

Council on Legislation--(One Important Highlight)

2007 Council on Legislation sends strong message for TRF Alumni--A significant highlight at the 2007 Council on Legislation sent an unmistakable signal to the Rotary world. The simple messages were to continue to support our TRF Alum and to encourage them to stay connected by being a full member of our Rotary family. The clubs of the world through their representatives at the 2007 COL realized the value of having alumni as members; and, if necessary, not to let classification be a reason to deny a valuable person the opportunity to serve. Rotary has invested significant dollars, time and resources, and has put candidates through an exhaustive interviewing

process, before they are qualified to participate in one of The Rotary Foundation programs. No potential Rotarian seeking membership in a club has to undergo such a thorough interview to examine his or her standing as a solid citizen with the potential to put something back into their community as does the candidate for Ambassadorial Scholar, Group Study Exchange, Peace Scholar or one of the other programs of TRF. Above all others, TRF Alumni are eminently qualified to be Rotarians.

Christopher Moore, Rotary International Peace Scholar

FIRST REPORT--2007--University of Queensland School of Political Science & International Studies Brisbane, Qld 4072 -- AUSTRALIA
Email: christopherjmoore@gmail.com

This Rotary World Peace Fellow, First Report--is an account of my initial experiences, thus far, as a participant at the Rotary Center for International Studies in peace and conflict resolution at the University of Queensland in Brisbane, Australia. The report covers academic activities and progress, involvement with host area Rotarians, impressions of the program, successes and challenges as a Rotary World Peace Fellow; it comprises an assessment of these activities since I arrived in Brisbane from late February until now, the beginning of May--a little over two months.

ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES AND PROGRESS

The courses I am enrolled in this first semester are: Ethics and Human Rights, Advanced International Studies, and Contemporary Peacekeeping.

The classes are attended by students from around the world. The Ethics and Human Rights class for example has students from at least thirty countries. It was a nice surprise to encounter such a diversity of fellow students who have been involved in many activities and work

Chris Moore Continued

related to peace studies and conflict resolution prior to the pursuit of their Masters degrees.

To add to the variety my current professors are from Germany, Switzerland and the United Kingdom; their experience, moreover, ranges from field work with the United Nations and diplomacy involving the Korean DMZ to research and teaching in the classrooms of Harvard and Oxford. The instructors are familiar with all the latest research and activities in their disciplines, top rated in their fields, and published worldwide.

The various individual perspectives and invaluable firsthand experience of our fellow students contribute significant input in the classes and serves to foster worthwhile conversations outside the classroom; the diversity is a welcome resource that augments the program's depth and enhances the transference of knowledge relating to world understanding, tolerance, goodwill and peace--it gives rise to an atmosphere that is seasoned with serendipitous pleasant discovery. The camaraderie and networks forming amongst the other peace fellows and students serves as a doorway into fresh ways of thinking and nurtures the seeds that will grow into lifelong professional relations.

About the first month and a half I experienced what I'll call "a matter of adaptation." With few tangible assignments and enormous potential reading lists, which range from required, recommended and supplementary reading, it took some getting used to the difference in the educational style in Australia, i.e. figuring out where to effectively focus my priorities. Once I understood the academic system at the University of Queensland--the learning is driven by personal interest where one can choose where to focus--I was able to advance with a purposeful direction and confidently attack the subjects with an effective systematized approach.

The course work is an intellectual journey. The class readings and activities are creating a shift in my outlook as theories are synthesized. We are learning ways to systematically think about and conceptualize topics of concern that can be utilized in practical application as a means for analysis, to guide actions, and toward peaceful solutions to pressing global problems. Acquiring these intellectual tools is stimulating and is already allowing me to uncover latent lessons from past international work and experience. I can see the practical application much of this study will add to impact my effectiveness in the field in the future.

(Chris will continue with additional reports.

Sarah Scott, our Ambassadorial Scholar will also contribute.)

Youth Protection Policy

The District Youth Protection Policy became effective on July 1, 2007. The need, the process, period of comment, and the vote established the policy, and placed the Policy in Force. All Rotary Clubs who wish to follow Rotary International's Policy, and receive the protection provided under the plan need to be certified under the plan. Currently there are thirteen Rotary Clubs in our district who are not certified. It is important not just for the children that we work with, but also for the Rotarians in their role working with the children. We encourage the clubs who have yet not participated in the training, please call the District office: 619-299-5341 and speak to our District Youth Protection Officer, Dale Bailey.

Membership Month -- All Rotarians in the District are invited to attend RI President Wilf Wilkinson Presidential Membership Conferences in North America on August 17-18. A Conference Flyer, Program Summary, and Speaker Bios have been added to the Conference webpage at www.rotaryzone2324.org/event070817.html. The Conference is intended for all Rotarians who are committed to strengthening Rotary membership.

You may register on-line at www.rotaryzone2324.org