



Founded on the rock
Bonded by the sea.
Guided by the light.

The Lighthouse

Newsletter of Rotary District 7820, Zone 22

46 Clubs strong covering Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Iles de la Madeleine, Québec and Saint-Pierre et Miquelon, France.

District Governor 2006/07 - Dennis Knight



Creating reality
from dreams.

Issue No. 05-07 Editor - Peter Stuempel May, 2007

Message from the Governor



Rotary, Business and Maypoles

hhh May, named after the Greek Goddess *Maia*, a month of warm breezes, and new growth, and flowers! and... well, not quite. Early May tends to be a time of unpredictability and surprise in this Avalon Corner of the universe, thanks to the North Atlantic and the Labrador Current that bathes our shores with cold water and ice. But it is always a month of reawakening and renewal.

And, oh yes, I knew I was forgetting something; May is District Convention month. By this time many of you will be preparing to come to our ***Common People; UNcommon Purpose*** convention in St. John's. It's going to be a grand gathering.

Rotary & Business

With plans for the 2007/08 Rotary year in the works, many of you are thinking about how you want to run your clubs. A couple of years ago, our Lighthouse Editor Peter Stuempel developed a power point presentation entitled "How do you run your business?" It is excellent, stressing the value of employing business and professional skills in running Rotary Clubs.

I think Peter is correct. In our business and professional lives, for example, we work in a continuum of expectations, accountability and rewards. In the volunteer world, we work with a different set of drivers, but I would argue that the need for professional management and inter-personal skills is equally great. In fact, you could easily argue that the skill set required to achieve success is even greater.

Positioning a club to attract and retain members for example, requires strategies of evaluation, survival and growth such as are needed in the business world. Taking the pulse of your club requires analysis on how well it is being run and how it is meeting the expectations of individual members in terms of challenge, achievement and reward, not to mention the needs of the community. We are also well aware of the need for smart marketing skills in the Rotary world.

On another vein, while professional management is good and necessary, we also need more of the small business, entrepreneurial spirit, "running with your gut", etc, injected into Rotary.

Maypoles and Hobby Horses

Now on May 1st, I trust there will be Rotarians breaking the hobby horse out of the garage, raising the maypole in the local park and circle dancing around it. Maypole dancing apparently had rather racy origins in ancient Babylon, dealing with something called fertility, but I will quit while I'm ahead as anything further might be just too much information for such a tender audience. See you at the convention.

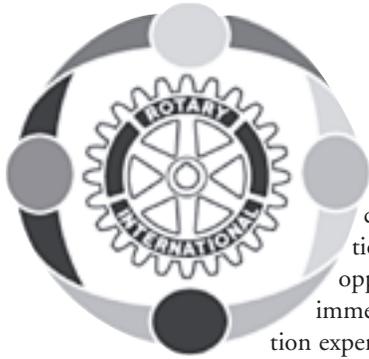
DG Dennis

"Common People... UNCommon Purpose"

Home Exchange Fellowship

RotaryHomeExchange.com

“FREE” VACATIONS ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD



Are you ready for an unforgettable yet inexpensive vacation? Would you like to spend your next holiday for free at a beach house, a mountain getaway, an apartment in Paris or London, a country home in Ireland, a ranch in Texas or a home in Australia or New Zealand from which to explore the country. As we build our membership in the Rotary Home Exchange Fellowship we know that vacation opportunities like these, and many more will be available. Home Exchange provides a wonderful opportunity for Rotarians to experience a vacation like no other, in the comfort of a wonderful home, immersed in the culture of the location they are visiting, all the while saving thousands of dollars in vacation expenses. And it is a great way to visit other Rotarians involved in Fellowship activities.

Home Exchange is the unique vacation experience where you visit another country or state and live in the home of a fellow Rotarian while they stay in yours. This wonderful arrangement not only saves each party thousands of dollars in vacation expenses (no hotel bills, reduced food costs and often no rental car fees), but it provides opportunities which would not otherwise be available to a regular tourist such as meeting their friends and neighbours (getting first-hand information on the area's tourist attractions), shopping in the local markets, participating in the life of the community, getting immersed in the local culture, and the list goes on. And home exchange is one of the best ways to travel with children. They often get to meet kids of their age (when does that happen on a regular vacation?), and the home often is equipped with books and toys because your exchange partner probably has children also. During your stay use their home as a base to explore a great deal of the local area.

I have been and am presently a participant in the RI Home Exchange Fellowship... Portugal and the UK. As a concept, Home Exchange is becoming increasingly popular and now there are many very successful commercial programs in different parts of the world, perhaps to some extent due to the release in 2006 of the entertaining movie *The Holiday*. The RI Home Exchange Fellowship has been in operation for almost thirty years during which time we have had over five thousand Rotarians who have participated.

Most Rotarians are quite unfamiliar with this particular Rotary Fellowship. This exclusive benefit to all Rotary members is available online at our website www.RotaryHomeExchange.com. Since 1977, over 5,000 Rotarians have arranged wonderful vacations using the Rotary Home Exchange Fellowship, getting all the benefits of home exchange plus the added comfort and security of knowing their home will be well cared for by a fellow Rotarian.

We are offering a SPECIAL PRICE OFFER as we build our base of listings. If you join before December 31, 2007, a one year listing will cost only US\$25! And if you don't get an exchange in your first year for any reason, your second year is free. JOIN NOW! Subsequent regular price will be US\$50/year for a one year listing. You may make unlimited exchanges at no additional cost or daily charges. Many members even exchange cars, saving you even more money. Here are a few typical comments of Rotarians who have taken part in this Fellowship:

Holiday home exchanging is a wonderful way of truly getting the "feel" of a country and of meeting the "locals" which, as a two week tourist, one could never achieve. The best things about Home Exchange:- immersing ourselves in the culture of the country; marketing; keeping house and mixing with people on a totally different level; making wonderful new friends; sharing local experiences; exciting social adventures; new points of view.

Our Rotary Exchange in Cannes was one of the most enjoyable vacations we have ever had and our "opposite number" had an equally memorable time in Florida.

It will be very hard to equal the marvelous time we had in Australia. Our glorious holiday lasted three weeks. We ate scones with clotted cream in Cornwall, visited castles in Wales, toured stately homes in Devon and walked around Stonehenge in Wiltshire. The Citroen registered 1,800 mls. when we dropped it off at Heathrow. We had a smashing vacation and surprisingly, the cost was just \$1,819 for each of us.

If you are attending the RI Convention in Salt Lake City in June do come and see us in The House of Friendship where we have a booth promoting the Home Exchange Fellowship. If you would like to volunteer a couple of hours to work at our booth I would indeed be very grateful.

Should there be any additional information you would like to have, please feel free to contact me directly.

*Joe Donachie
International Chairman
Rotary Home Exchange Fellowship
joseph.donachie@ns.sympatico.ca*

“Common People... UNCommon Purpose”

Rotary Friendship Exchange

A Friendship Exchange team of 2 couples and 4 individuals, from our district visited District 4480, Brazil, in March 2007.

The team gathered in Sao Paulo, with 6 members arriving on March 8th and the remaining 2 joining the team on the 9th and the 11th.

Sao Paulo is a City of skyscrapers, and is the 3rd largest city in the world with 17 – 18 million people. The team took a tour of the city and our guide told us that he had attended the Rotary school “RioBranco”. He took us to visit the school, which all the clubs in Sao Paulo use for their weekly meetings. The school also has a Rotary museum. It started as a dream of Rotarians in 1946 and has been operating for over half a century.

On Saturday 10th March the team flew to Sao Jose do Rio Preto, (about 500 kms. to the north-west) where we were met by a very enthusiastic group of Rotarians from District 4480. They had banners and flags displayed to welcome the team.



During the 2 week exchange the team stayed at 4 cities in the district; Fernandopolis, (60,000 population), Voltupranga, (60,000), Jose Bonifacio, (20,000) and Sao Jose do Rio Preto, (400,000) all with a goodly number of skyscrapers. Our Rotarian hosts were the community leaders at all the places visited and their homes reflected their leading positions in the community. They were exceptionally generous refusing our offers to pay for anything. Security in the cities was high and all homes were walled and gated. In some cases entire subdivisions were walled with a single secure entrance. We were impressed with the family involvement in Rotary and how willing youngsters attended functions with their parents. Interact and Rotaract clubs were also

very active in the district.

In the 4 cities there are 19 Rotary clubs and the team met members from about 12 of them. The local Rotarians arranged a varied program of events for the team. These included visits to industrial enterprises, Rotary club meetings, projects being sponsored by local Rotary clubs, recreational activities and shopping excursions. Through family members of our hosts we were able to visit English teaching classes, speaking with the students and answering their questions.

District 4480 has a number of rivers with hydro electric generating stations and is highly developed as an agricultural region growing a large variety of crops such as sugar cane, coffee, rubber, corn and many different fruits.

The industrial plants visited included; an ethanol production facility using sugar cane as its natural, renewable resource; (all gas stations in Sao Paulo State offer a choice of gasoline or ethanol); a hydro generating station; a rubber plantation and rubber production factory; a clothing manufacturing factory; a University TV/radio/journalism centre, where the team was filmed and shown on local TV and a manufacturing plant where all equipment such as valves, artificial lungs and hearts used in cardiac surgery are produced. This plant was started in 1977 by a Brazilian heart surgeon and is now a world leader in this field.

Projects sponsored by local Rotarians visited were; an orphanage started 10 years ago with a Canadian Rotary club partner; a special day care centre for poor children who spend half a day at the centre and half a day at school, at noon groups exchange locations so that the facility can help 2 groups per day; a community college where many different occupations are offered to students; a small library started by 2 Rotarians for an extremely poor neighbourhood; a seniors centre offering very basic space, a single bed with a bed side table, communal eating and other common space, with a local Rotary club supplying the centre with bread and milk each day; a community centre in a very poor area badly in need of kitchen facilities to offer food to the children so that they can stay all day; a school for underprivileged poor youngsters, staffed by volunteers who donate 1 day a week of their time to teach the children; a school to teach teens to be care givers or hotel maids, and so be able to earn a living; a seniors home that has residents and also offers day classes to the local poor seniors in various crafts and a musical program.

The team was also entertained by a variety of recreational activities which included; several private clubs with swimming facilities and restaurants; a day's boat outing on a vessel owned by a Rotarian; a local weekly dance; an open air concert by a swing orchestra in a community square; an all day cruise on a public 3 deck vessel that served lunch and went back and forth through a lock at a hydro dam with a 32 meter water drop in the lock; a diner and dance at a night club in Rio Preto.

The team also fitted in several shopping visits to linen, craft and candy stores in different cities.

The team left Sao Jose do Rio Preto on 24th March to a rousing send off by many of the hosts during our 2 week stay.

The final destination for the team was Rio de Janeiro, famous for its beaches and mountains in and around the city of 8 million people. The team stayed in Rio 4 days and were able to visit the main tourist attractions such as Copacabana Beach, the Sugar Loaf mountain, the 38 meter high statue of Christ on a 710 meter high mountain, the old city and markets before returning to NS and PEI at the end of March.

The report would not be complete without a comment on the weather. On the day of departure from NS the wind chill factor was -30C, on arrival in Sao Paulo it was +32C. In the 3 1/2 weeks in Brazil there were only a couple of showers. It was dry

and sunny the rest of the time. The temperature ranged from the mid 30's C in the day down to the high 20's C at night, with no humidity. At no time was a sweater or coat required. On our return the temperature was still in the negative range in NS.

In closing we note that there is no better way to see a country and meet the local residents than on a Rotary Friendship Exchange visit. It is highly recommended by each team member who went to District 4480 in Brazil.

The RFE from Brazil will be in our District from 30th May until 15th June. Be sure to make them welcome if they visit your part of our District.

Jim Axell, Team Leader

Friendship Exchange to Iceland

I have had preliminary talks with a Rotarian in Iceland who thinks a Friendship Exchange is a great idea. Anyone who would be interested please contact PDG Gord Hankin at gord@bankin.ns.ca.

The Permanent Fund of the Rotary Foundation



Our last few articles explained the many ways of giving to the Rotary Foundation. Here are specific clauses to insert into your will for such a bequest:

"I hereby give and bequeath the sum of \$ _____ To the Rotary Foundation (Canada) to be used as the directors of the Foundation may from time to time determine."

Et pour mes amis francais:

"Je legue, a titre particulier, a The Rotary Foundation (Canada), le sum de \$ _____ Pour etre utilise pour le benefice de ladite fondation selon des membres de son conseil d'administration."

If you are feeling particularly generous and wish to give the residue of your estate to the foundation simply insert the words "the residue of my estate" (French - "le reliquat de ma succession") in the space for the specific amount.

This is suggested wording only. You should consult your own lawyer and financial adviser before making a gift to the Rotary Foundation

Remember, to qualify as a Benefactor of the Rotary Foundation, the gift must be at least US\$1,000.

*David Muise
Permanent Fund Chair*

Annual Programs Funds Donations in D7820 - Down from Last year



Most of the Rotary clubs in district 7820 regularly contribute to The Rotary Foundation as a part of their club's annual goals. Clubs that consistently give to The Rotary Foundation have two things in common: 1) their members are more aware and involved in the good works of The Rotary Foundation and 2) their club leaders have a clear and defined strategy to conduct fundraisers and/or solicit funds from every club member.

By this time last year clubs in our district were well on the way to setting a new high in giving to the annual program fund. Which meant that The Rotary Foundation in three years we would have \$100,000 US available for humanitarian programs and that our district will have direct access to \$50,000 of that money for projects.

At this point with just under three month left in the Rotary year we are sitting at only US \$57,000 significantly less than our goal. My congratulations to clubs like Halifax NW, Grand Falls and Avalon NE which are leading the way in per capita donations and to Halifax NW, Charlottetown Royalty and to The Rotary Club of Amherst which Lead the Way in overall giving to the Annual Programs Fund.

Each day, Rotary clubs on every continent are working to improve the living conditions and health of their fellow local and global citizens. We share in the pride of the success of our own projects, but we also take pride in the work that is done around the world under the Rotary banner. Whether it's a massive project like polio, or something smaller, like providing clean water to a high school in Nigeria like we did last year, we take pride in knowing that our fellow Rotarians are doing everything possible to extend peace throughout the world.

Our contributions to the Annual Programs Fund deliver hope throughout the world. The impact of Rotarians' generosity is everywhere. When you talk with a Group Study Exchange team member, an Ambassadorial Scholar or visit the site of a Matching Grant, you realize that *our* Rotary Foundation is truly creating peace and hope in our world.

History shows us that donations to the APF are higher in the last three months of the Rotary year, so let us hope that we are saving the best for the last and that your club will reach its goal and surpass its last year's contributions.

"Common People... UNCommon Purpose"

The following are specific strategies to raise additional funds for the Foundation. They're fun, easy to implement and have proven success among many Rotary clubs and districts.

Divide and Conquer!

Divide the club into groups of five or ten members. Each member agrees to give US \$100.00 or \$200.00 to The Rotary Foundation for a total of \$1,000.00. The group puts each member's name in a hat and the one name pulled from the hat receives the credit for the Paul Harris Fellow. By doing this once a year or more you can combine fellowship and fundraising.

Give Change to create Change:

Each week a member of the club is asked to make a two minute presentation to the club on how The Rotary Foundation is making a change in the lives of those less fortunate in our world. Placed on each table is a TRF contribution canister with the words "Change for Change" boldly displayed.

As the speaker shares the virtues of TRF, club members place loose coins and paper money in the canisters as "applause" for the speaker and as a show of support for the Foundation's great humanitarian works. The funds collected can be used as the club contribution to The Rotary Foundation or as matching funds for newer members.

Challenge Others with a Challenge Gift:

Identify one or two generous Rotarians with the capacity to make a major gift to the Annual Programs Fund. With their permission, use their accumulated Foundation Recognition Points to match contributions from other Rotarians. The first contribution is commonly the most difficult one to get. This incentive can help to create a habit, or 'culture of giving' among ALL Rotarians!

Give "*Every Rotarian, Every Year*" the opportunity to support *our* Rotary Foundation. Lead the Way for District 7820 to make a difference in the world by supporting the annual programs fund.

*Duncan Conrad
PDG 2005-2006
Annual Programs Chair 2006-2007*

Other News

Something to think about...

submitted by Joe Donachie, Rotary Club of Amherst

A British newspaper salutes Canada... this is a good read. It's funny how it took someone in England to put it into words...

Sunday Telegraph Article From today's UK wires:

Salute to a brave and modest nation - Kevin Myers, The Sunday Telegraph LONDON

Until the deaths of Canadian soldiers killed in Afghanistan, probably almost no one outside their home country had been aware that Canadian troops are deployed in the region. And as always, Canada will bury its dead, just as the rest of the world, as always will forget its sacrifice, just as it always forgets nearly everything Canada ever does.

It seems that Canada 's historic mission is to come to the selfless aid both of its friends and of complete strangers, and then, once the crisis is over, to be well and truly ignored.

Canada is the perpetual wallflower that stands on the edge of the hall, waiting for someone to come and ask her for a dance. A fire breaks out, she risks life and limb to rescue her fellow dance-goers, and suffers serious injuries. But when the hall is repaired and the dancing resumes, there is Canada, the wallflower still, while those she once helped Glamorously cavort across the floor, blithely neglecting her yet again.

That is the price Canada pays for sharing the North American continent with the United States, and for being a selfless friend of Britain in two global conflicts. For much of the 20th century, Canada was torn in two different directions: It seemed to be a part of the old world, yet had an address in the new one, and that divided identity ensured that it never fully got the gratitude it deserved. Yet its purely voluntary contribution to the cause of freedom in two world wars was perhaps the greatest of any democracy.

Almost 10% of Canada 's entire population of seven million people served in the armed forces during the First World War, and nearly 60,000 died. The great Allied victories of 1918 were spearheaded by Canadian troops, perhaps the most capable soldiers in the entire British order of battle.

Canada was repaid for its enormous sacrifice by downright neglect, it's unique contribution to victory being absorbed into the popular Memory as somehow or other the work of the "British."

The Second World War provided a re-run. The Canadian navy began the war with a half dozen vessels, and ended up policing nearly half of the Atlantic against U-boat attack. More than 120 Canadian warships participated in the Normandy landings, during which 15,000 Canadian soldiers went ashore on D-Day alone. Canada finished the war with the third-largest navy and the fourth-largest air force in the world.

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The world thanked Canada with the same sublime indifference as it had the previous time. Canadian participation in the war was acknowledged in film only if it was necessary to give an American actor a part in a campaign in which the United States had clearly not participated - a touching scrupulousness which, of course, Hollywood has since abandoned, as it has any notion of a separate Canadian identity.

So it is a general rule that actors and filmmakers arriving in Hollywood keep their nationality - unless, that is, they are Canadian. Thus Mary Pickford, Walter Huston, Donald Sutherland, Michael J. Fox, William Shatner, Norman Jewison, David Cronenberg, Alex Trebek, Art Linkletter and Dan Aykroyd have in the popular perception become American, and Christopher Plummer, British.

It is as if, in the very act of becoming famous, a Canadian ceases to be Canadian, unless she is Margaret Atwood, who is as unshakably Canadian as a moose, or Celine Dion, for whom Canada has proved quite unable to find any takers.

Moreover, Canada is every bit as querulously alert to the achievements of its sons and daughters as the rest of the world is completely unaware of them. The Canadians proudly say of themselves - and are unheard by anyone else - that 1% of the world's population has provided 10% of the world's peacekeeping forces. Canadian soldiers in the past half century have been the greatest peacekeepers on Earth - in 39 missions on UN mandates, and six on non- UN peacekeeping duties, from Vietnam to East Timor, from Sinai to Bosnia.

Yet the only foreign engagement that has entered the popular on-Canadian imagination was the sorry affair in Somalia, in which out-of-control paratroopers murdered two Somali infiltrators. Their regiment was then disbanded in disgrace - a uniquely Canadian act of self-abasement for which, naturally, the Canadians received no international credit.

So who today in the United States knows about the stoic and selfless friendship its northern neighbour has given it in Afghanistan? Rather like Cyrano de Bergerac, Canada repeatedly does honourable things for honourable motives, but instead of being thanked for it, it remains something of a figure of fun.

It is the Canadian way, for which Canadians should be proud, yet such honour comes at a high cost. This past year more grieving Canadian families knew that cost all too tragically well.

An Evening With Craig Kielburger *Sponsored by the Rotary Clubs of PEI*



Craig Kielburger is an accomplished child rights advocate and leadership specialist, an awardwinning author and a popular speaker. He is the founder of Free The Children, the world's largest network of children helping children through education, and the co-founder of Leaders Today, the world's top youth leadership training organization.

Free The Children has an established track-record of success, with three nominations for the Nobel Peace Prize and partnerships with the United Nations and Oprah's Angel Network. It is focused on projects that provide educational opportunities to children around the world, thus freeing them to pursue their dreams and bring about positive social change.

Unlike any other children's charity in the world, Free the Children is both funded and driven by children and youth. Their mission is to free young people from the idea that they are powerless to bring about positive social change, and encourage them to act now to

improve the lives of young people everywhere.

Come hear this energetic, dynamic young man speak on how you can make a difference— an event you won't want to miss. Discover how Free the Children grew from a small group of 12- year-olds to become an international organization more than a million members strong. Find out what awards and accomplishments have been achieved in the last ten years.

This evening with Craig is sponsored by Rotary Clubs of PEI so please come join us on the 28th of May at 7:00 pm at the Delta. Tickets for the dinner are \$25.00 and can be obtained from any Island Rotary Club. Bring your partner, bring a friend.

To learn more about Craig and this organization click on the Free The Children website...

<http://www.freethechildren.com/aboutus/craigmarc/craigkielburger.htm>

PDG Duncan Conrad
Event Organizer
Rotary Club Charlottetown Royalty

E-Club Make-ups

Every now and then we are in a situation where making up at a local or distant club is just not that easy. Now you can do it online. Go to <http://www.rotary9790.org.au/info/2007/eclubs.html> for a list of e-Clubs and say hello to Rotarians in some other part of the world and get a makeup at the same time.

"Common People... UNCommon Purpose"

“He really went to work when he retired”



The man on the left in the picture is the supposedly "retired" Peter Smith of Port Hawkesbury, Nova Scotia. Next to him is Urbain Awono, Minister of Health, Cameroon and Jean Lavoie, Canadian High Commissioner to Cameroon. Peter had just delivered his eighth 40-foot container of donated used hospital equipment, sewing machines, clothing, books and other humanitarian goods for the people of that country.

Peter is a remarkable person - a self-made, very successful businessman with a fascinating life story that I will skim over quickly to get to the "containers" part, the part he enjoys talking about the most.

After spending five years in the RCAF, Peter began working on offshore oil drilling rigs, eventually becoming captain and rig manager looking after Petro-Canada's east coast drilling and international work. He lived and worked in 16 different countries worldwide, 17 if you include Canada. Tired of being nomads, Peter and wife Sandy purchased Robinson Oil Company, a small heating oil distributor in Nova Scotia. Together they built it into the largest

independent oil company in Nova Scotia, owning and operating 17 retail gas outlets and several home heat centres. Peter and Sandy went up against giants like Irving Oil and others and won.

In 1996, at age 55, Peter heard the welcoming call of "Freedom 55" and decided to sell and retire. But unlike the TV ads showing retirees lying on a sunny, sandy beach enjoying the fruits of their labour, Peter took off his jacket, rolled up his sleeves and really went to work. This time it was volunteer work collecting any humanitarian supplies that he and the members of his Rotary club could beg, steal or borrow to send to the impoverished peoples of Africa. Three million dollars is his conservative estimate of the value of goods sent as of this writing. And to quote him: "Dick, we have only just begun."

Peter Smith: he retired at 55 and went to work for good. He's another Canadian Achiever.

*from "Canadian Achievers"
by Dick Drew*

ShelterBox responds to Solomon Islands emergency

Emergency accommodation for 2,000 people is being sent to The Solomon Islands by the disaster relief agency ShelterBox.

The charity is responding to the tsunami that hit the islands in early April, creating 10-metre high waves that destroyed hun-



dreds of homes along the coastline of the remote island chain. An initial consignment of 200 ShelterBoxes, each containing a 10-person tent and other survival equipment, was prepared and left for the Pacific island chain. ShelterBox publicity officer Huw Thomas said: "The Solomons are a very remote part of the world and we've first got to fly the boxes

from the UK to Brisbane in Australia, then get them to the Honiara, which is the capital of the islands. "From there, it's about another 200 miles by sea to the island of Gizo, which is where the worst damage occurred. The reports we're getting are that at least 22 people were killed in the disaster and around 5,000 people left homeless."



The tsunami followed an undersea quake that registered 8.0 on the Richter scale. The epicentre of the quake was just 25 miles from Gizo and the prime minister of the Solomons has said that the town of Gizo will need to be completely rebuilt. Mr Thomas said the deployment to the Solomons is stretching the resources of the charity, which is supported by Rotary clubs worldwide. He said: "We've only just sent 600 boxes out to flooding victims in Bolivia and one of our response teams is still at work there. We do get tremendous support from the people of the South West but unfortunately when disasters like this happen we do need to ask for more funds."

ShelterBox is a disaster relief charity, whose mission is: "To provide humanitarian aid worldwide in the form of shelter, warmth and comfort for people displaced by natural and other disasters." This aid is provided in the form of 'ShelterBoxes', each one of which generally contains a 10-person tent, blankets, water purification and cooking equipment, basic tools and a multi-fuel stove. Every box is

"Common People... UNCommon Purpose"

individually numbered and can be tracked by donors.

To date, ShelterBox has provided shelter for approaching 500,000-plus people in response to around 50 disasters worldwide, including helping nearly 230,000 people following the 2004 Boxing Day tsunami, 138,000 people in Pakistan (Kashmir earthquake) and 50,000 people in Africa. Recent & current deployments include Kenya and Bolivia.

Each box costs £490 – including the cost of all materials, packing, storage, transport

worldwide and distribution to the needy. Best value is achieved by working closely with leading UK suppliers, all items being obtained at below trade price. Assuming six month's use, this equates to shelter and warmth for less than 30 pence per person per day.

The ShelterBox Trust is a UK registered charity organised and administered by the Rotary Club of Helston-Lizard. By working through local Rotary clubs in the countries where disasters have occurred, ShelterBox is often able to get aid where it is needed faster than any other organisation.

Approximately 50% of funding comes as direct public donations. The remaining money is raised by Rotary Clubs worldwide. At present, around 80% of total income is from the UK, 9% from the USA, 10% from Australia and 1% from Canada.

Anyone wanting to help the charity can donate by calling 01326 569782 or by visiting <http://www.shelterbox.org>.

submitted by PDG Gord Hankin



Plea for help from Zimbabwe

To: gord@hankin.ns.ca
Subject: request for help.

Dear Gord,

I was a student at the Coady Institute of St. Francis Xavier University in Antigonish, NS. in 2005 and you came to the school to address us. I am working with the poorest of the poor here in Zimbabwe. My organization is called "Hope orphan support services" and our mission statement states "HOSS exists to promote and assist in a sustainable way, integrated human development of people affected and infected by HIV and AIDS, who are powerless to meet their day to day requirements and empower them to help themselves."

We need financial assistance and material in order to meet the following challenges of our target group who are widows and children orphaned by AIDS.

- To meet educational expenses and procure school uniforms for underprivileged children especially orphans.*
- To meet nutritional needs of young school going children (grade 0 and 1).*

I hope you will be able to share this request with some of your friends and clubs.

Waiting to hear more from you.

Cheers

Chawira Shepherd

If you're club is looking for a project for next year? Drop a line to Chawira Shepherd... hossbeatrice@zol.co.zw.

*Gord Hankin
District Foundation Chair*

The Hunger Site

About 24,000 people die every day from hunger or hunger-related causes. The Board of Directors of Rotary International has given high priority to the worldwide alleviation of hunger — with special emphasis on projects assisting the aged and mothers with children. Rotary clubs worldwide have responded with projects ranging from assisting food banks to providing training in nutrition, installing water wells, and improving farming methods.

Here is one more way Rotarians can assist, this time with only a click. At the hunger site <http://www.thehungersite.com> you click on a button to make a free donation of food to hungry people around the world. The sponsors of the site pay for your donation which you can make once a day. The funds are given to the World Food Program. Save the web address, make it your home page and visit it every day, as every visit provides a food donation.



Just think of the difference we can make.

You can find information about other hunger programs on the web site <http://nonprofit.about.com/library/weekly/aa072199.htm>.

"Common People... UNCommon Purpose"

*Last chance to register for the
Annual Assembly and Convention
in St. John's, Newfoundland*



Click here to register for the Annual Assembly and Convention and find more information

Don't miss out on the presentations from **Dr. Bruce Aylward**, Polio-Plus Champion from the World Health Organization, **Mark Cook**, Founder of Hope and Homes for Children in war-torn regions of the globe; **Andrée Cazabon**, an award-winning Canadian film maker who was a "street kid" at 13 years old and **Susan Knight**, educator and innovator, who develops young leaders and ambassadors through artistic excellence. Her internationally acclaimed choir **Shalloway** will also perform at the convention. And, of course, the "**Rally in the Alley**" will be one of the highlights. You also don't want to miss the entertainment by our **Rotary Exchange students**.

Spread the word!



Invite someone to become a
Rotarian
today.

*Rotary - Service
Above Self*

District Attendance

Be sure to get your clubs attendance to the District Secretary by the 10th. of the month (Kathryn Atkin: kathryn.atkin@easternhealth.ca). It is a requirement of Rotary International that **all** clubs report their attendance to the District secretary monthly. The District Secretary is then required to forward this information to RI.

Only 25 clubs provided an attendance report for the month of March (54% of 46 clubs). The average attendance of those clubs reporting in March was 72%.

Congratulations to the **Rotary Club of Hillsborough** for having **100%** attendance for the month of **March**. 14 clubs were above 70%.

How did your club fare? Check out the attached *District Attendance Report*.

Rotary Dates to Remember

10th. of the month - Attendance reports to Kathryn Atkin.

15th. of the month - Club News to *The Lighthouse* editor.

May 10-13, 2007 - District Convention - St. John's, NF

Please contact us with your questions, suggestions and articles...

Dennis Knight, DG - dknight@dwknightassociates.com
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Check out our District Web Site at
<http://www.rotary7820.com>