



District Governor's Newsletter

District 5970

Gerald Retzlaff

Governor 2009-2010

418 Pine Street

Monticello, IA 52310

319-465-5025

319-480-0014 - Cell

ggretzlaff@hotmail.com



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District 5970 Will Send GSE Team To District 2230

Rotary District 5970 will send a team of four young non-Rotarian professionals aged 25-40 for a four-week tour of Rotary District 2230 which includes parts of Poland, Belarus and Ukraine in May 2010.

Rotarians interested in leading the team are requested to fill out an application (located on line) by September 15 with selection interviews on September 25. Send applications to Jim Coloff, 721 Shirley St Cedar Falls, IA 50613. Call Jim at 319-231-5003 OR Jill Olson 319-551-0399.

Clubs are encouraged to recruit good applicants for team members for this chance-of-a-lifetime opportunity. Team applications are due on October 10 with interviews on October 23.

first seven months of 2009 compared to last year. And most encouragingly, they are down by 32 percent in Nigeria, which in recent years has been the polio "hot spot."

Public health officials at WHO say that of the three strands of polio, type one, type two and type three, type two cases are almost eradicated and type three cases nearly so. So they have been able to modify and strengthen the Sabin oral polio vaccine (OPV) to focus on type one (WPV1) cases.

Polio is still endemic in four countries, India, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Nigeria. But there have been 184 cases reported in India so far in 2009, almost half the number a year ago, and they hope to reduce that to nearly zero by the end of the year.

Several countries continue to report a small number of wild poliomyelitis, such as Benin, which has seen 20 victims this year. They believe those can be traced to neighboring Nigeria.

The improved numbers can also be traced to rapid infusion of funding from the Gates Foundation and the Rotary Foundation which gives public health officials to better track and respond to new cases.

Those officials continue to confront claims by some religious leaders in Nigeria and northern India that the vaccine is, in fact, an American plot to sterilize young girls.

You can follow the fight on WHO's web site at

<http://www.who.int/csr/don/archive/disease/poliomyelitis/en/index.html>.

Polio Cases On Decline Again



The World Health Organization reports that the number of new polio cases has dropped by 19 percent in the

You can also track the number of new cases world wide at <http://www.polioeradication.org/casecount.asp>.

STUDENTS VISIT ROTARY



Kelly Larkin New Hampton Whitewater participant and New Hampton Rotary President Shane Pitkin

On August 6, Kelly Larkin presented to the New Hampton Rotary Club a program on the World Affairs Seminar he attended this summer in Wisconsin. The New Hampton Rotary has sponsored at least one student for many years in an effort to serve youth and promote understanding of current affairs. This year's theme focused on World Hunger.

The World Affairs Seminar (WAS) is a unique educational program for high school students that provides a forum for future leaders to be introduced to some of the most perplexing global issues and problems. It enables hundreds of the best and brightest students from all over the world to come together to study and discuss these issues in a safe and non-threatening environment. *(Story submitted by Pat Ipsen ADG New Hampton Rotary)*

Club Attendance calculation

As I travel around the district and talk about our 70% + district's attendance goal I've encounter a couple questions about who do we count and who don't we count. There is a little known article in the

constitution that can shed some light on it. It was designed so those who have many years of membership, and choose not to attend regularly, will not negatively impact the attendance percentage calculation. It doesn't affect how the dues are calculated just affects how the secretary figures attendance percentages. Below is the section of the constitution addressing this matter.

The Club By-Laws is a customized document tailored to conform to each individual Rotary Club and can be changed and altered from time to time as long as it does not contradict the RI Club Constitution. The Club Constitution is a document from Rotary International that imparts the rules set forth for Rotary clubs by the Council on Legislation of Rotary International which meets every three years. The constitution cannot be changed or altered.

Please note article 9 section 3 of the club constitution with regards to excused absences. This originally was called a Senior Active Excused type of member. The Senior Active type of membership was eliminated but the rule to be excused from attendance was not. Here is that section:

Section 3 Excused Absences. A member's absence shall be excused if

- (a) the absence complies with the conditions and under circumstances approved by the board. The board may excuse a member's absence for reasons which it considers to be good and sufficient.
- (b) the aggregate of the member's years of age and years of membership in one or more clubs is 85 years or more and the member has notified the club secretary in writing of the member's desire to be excused from attendance and the board has approved.

Club Anniversaries

Congratulations to the following clubs celebrating charter anniversaries in July and August

Waterloo July 1, 1915 (94)
Mason City Noon July 1, 1916 (93)
Independence Aug 1, 1919 (90)
Mt Vernon-Lisbon Aug 7, 1924 (85)

Vocational Committee Project Idea

Most Rotary clubs are doing scholarships and/or recognition dinners for outstanding students in the schools. These are all wonderful projects and need to continue. Some clubs have a concern about students identified as "at risk" students and have added a program in conjunction with the school called **STRIVE** Students Taking Renewed Interest in the Value of Education.

This is a mentoring program for high school juniors and/or seniors that has a great impact on many students. It strikes me as an excellent program that your club may want to at least investigate as an expansion of service to your communities youth. If you'd like more information about the program send me an e-mail or call Gerald Retzlaff.

This would be a great time to meet with school officials to put the program in place.

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR FOUNDATION, MEMBERSHIP AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

District 5970 Leadership is excited about 2 upcoming seminars (club presidents and secretaries received a "save the dates" email a few weeks ago) - We have a strong commitment to provide educational opportunities about foundation, membership and public relations, Saturday, Sept. 19 in Humboldt and Saturday, Sept. 26 in Manchester. We encourage clubs to send several club members to these seminars. They are located to allow all clubs easy access to the opportunity. Each seminar will begin with registration at 8AM and will be finished by 1:00PM to allow the travel time needed to get home to

spend time with your families. Remember that travel time with club members also provides great opportunities for brainstorming.

Emails will be sent the week of August 24 to club presidents and secretaries - please promote this within your clubs. That information will include the locations in each community. There is no charge to attend these seminars. The District Leadership has made this a top priority. We would appreciate reservations to assist with planning for seating and food.

Great opportunity for updates on these very important topics. Let's strive for 100% participation from the clubs in District 5970.

Vicki Mallory, PDG/DRFC

Ambassadorial Scholar Selected



Jessica Abels from Kanawha, Iowa has been nominated to receive a Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholarship in 2010-2011. Her selection was made after candidate interviews August 15 in Cedar

Falls and will become official when confirmed by officials at Rotary headquarters.

She is a senior at Northwestern University a few blocks north of Rotary offices in Evanston, Illinois where she is majoring in international journalism. A graduate of West Hancock Community Schools in Britt, she spent three months studying European cultural studies at University College London.

Her award of up to \$24,000 will be used to spend nine months studying in another country. Her preferred universities are City University, London;

Cardiff University, Wales; and the University of Ulster in Northern Ireland. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dan Abels. Kanawha is a community of 700 people in north Iowa. For more information, contact:

Leigh C Martin
 Instructor, Office of Student Field Experiences
 University of Northern Iowa
 (319) 273-3393
leigh.martin@uni.edu

Club Visits

Here are some projects clubs are doing:

- **Fort Dodge** - Planning a water project in Thailand and continuing and continuing their after program learning program called "Blast."
- **Humboldt** - Planning a restoration project at a community park.
- **Parkersburg** - Working with community on playground equipment construction.
- **Ely**- Members serve as lunch buddies at alternative High School.
- **Hampton** - Planning to make improvements of a park shelter.
- **Mt Vernon** - Involved in a literacy project in Lebanon.
- **Ackley** - Preparing a dozen shoeboxes for Nicaragua.

Rotary District 5970 Monthly Attendance July '09					
	Last Report	Meetings	Members	Attendance %	Notes
ACKLEY	Jul	5	21	62.00	
ALGONA	Jul	4	62	75.00	
ANAMOSA	Jul	4	28	77.00	
BANCROFT	Jul	4	25	51.00	
BELLE PLAINE	Jun	5	22	70.00	No Report
BELLEVUE	Jul	5	25	68.00	
CEDAR FALLS	Jul	4	119	54.00	
CEDAR RAPIDS	Jul	3	299	60.00	
CEDAR RAPIDS DAYBREAK	Jul	4	123	64.00	
CEDAR RAPIDS HIAWATHA METRO	Jul	5	61	49.00	
CEDAR RAPIDS SUNRISE	Jul	5	38	78.76	
CEDAR RAPIDS WEST	Jul	5	105	70.00	
CHARLES CITY	Jul	4	46	73.00	
CLARION	Jul	4	23	71.00	
CLEAR LAKE	Jul	5	20	63.00	
DECORAH	Jul	4	81	78.00	
DUBUQUE	Jul	4	199	41.54	
EAGLE GROVE	Jul	4	31	69.00	
ELDORA	Jul	4	47	74.06	
ELY GATEWAY	Jul	4	20	79.00	
EMMETSBURG	Jul	4	38	72.00	
ESTHERVILLE	Jul	4	59	45.00	
FOREST CITY	Jul	4	47	64.00	
FORT DODGE	Jul	4	105	50.00	
FORT DODGE DAYBREAK	Jul	4	27	64.00	
GARNER	May	4	44	74.70	No Report
GUTTENBERG	Jul	5	19	55.00	
HAMPTON	Jul	5	42	52.00	
HUMBOLDT	Jul	4	26	64.00	
INDEPENDENCE	May	4	42	60.00	No Report
IOWA FALLS	Jul	4	39	58.00	
IOWA GREAT LAKES	Jul	5	86	58.00	
MANCHESTER	Jul	5	30	51.00	
MAQUOKETA	Jul	5	34	72.50	
MARION EAST CEDAR RAPIDS	Jul	4	35	76.00	
MASON CITY	Jul	4	100	72.20	
MASON CITY RIVER CITY SUNRISE	Jul	5	23	79.00	
MONTECELLO	Jul	4	35	76.00	
MT. VERNON-LISBON	Jul	5	28	54.00	
NEW HAMPTON	Jul	5	43	55.00	
ODEBOLT	Jul	4	21	71.00	
OELWEIN	Jul	4	34	67.00	
OSAGE	Jul	4	30	79.00	
PARKERSBURG	Jul	5	14	81.00	
POCAHONTAS	Jul	4	16	60.00	
ROCKWELL CITY	Jul	5	36	57.00	
SPENCER	Jun	5	47	55.00	No Report
STORM LAKE	Jul	5	45	46.00	
SUMNER	Jul	5	24	81.00	
WATERLOO	Jul	4	185	48.00	
WATERLOO CROSSROADS	Jul	5	28	57.00	
WAVERLY	Jul	5	70	52.00	
WEBSTER CITY	Jul	4	60	74.00	
WEST UNION	Jun	5	29	68.00	No Report
District 5970 Total			2936		
Average Monthly Attendance %				64.37	

Address Changes

Club presidents and secretaries. If you have changed any of your addresses or phone numbers will you please notify District Secretary John Last. This will assist us as we try to communicate with each other. THANK YOU.

Rotary District 5970
Gerald Retzlaff,
District Governor
418 Pine Street
Monticello, Iowa 52310

To: