



## Governor Roger's Comments

*DG Roger and Spouse Barb*

"Building Communities and Bridging Continents" is the 2010-11 theme of the world's largest service club and you are its most important assets as the members of your local Rotary clubs. PDG Gerald's year theme of "The Future of Rotary is in Your Hands," continues to be an important focus of our organization. Barb & I are humbled and honored to have been selected to serve in the DG leadership role for 5970. We will do our best in partnership with you to make our District 5970 better and bolder and consequently bigger. You will find your citizens will want to be a part of the success you implement in



your community. Continue to invite your community members to join you in ROTARY; more hands will result in even greater community, district and international efforts. Rotary's number one goal still is the eradication of Polio from this earth. We are so close and this is the year we in District 5970 will complete our commitment to raise the expected funds to help Rotary International match the Gates challenge. Our district has collected over \$220,000 already toward our \$320,000 District goal. We will together celebrate this achievement on April 29, 2011 at our District Convention. Let us keep Rotary simple and remember we are known for our Service, Integrity, Diversity, Fellowship and Leadership. Keep these five key core values in front of you as individuals and as clubs all year and we will together be Bigger, Better and Bolder, and have FUN in the process.

## Club secretaries vital to club, district success

*John F. Last, District 5970 Executive Secretary*

Welcome to all District 5970 club secretaries. This club leadership position is of great importance to the overall positive function of your Rotary Club.

Some of you have served in this position for several years, while others are beginning their first year in the job. In either case, my role as district executive secretary is designed to help in any way possible. While it not true, as a grateful Rotarian once suggested, that I can "walk on water," I may at least know where the rocks are located.

Please use my services in any way you deem necessary. I am in the District Office Monday through Friday, primarily in the morning. I have voice mail on my phone,



and of course use e-mail extensively. I pride myself in returning calls and e-mails within 24 hours, sooner in many cases.

One of your first responsibilities will be paying both Rotary International Semi-Annual Dues (SAR), and Annual District Dues. Billings for these required payments will reach the club secretary in late June-early July. Payments are due upon receipt. Rotary International provides for online roster updates and payment. The District does not yet offer online payments, although we are considering adding this feature to our District website at a later date.

Thanks for saying "Yes" when asked to serve your club.

## IMPORTANT DATES

**July 17** The Rotary Regional Seminars are on Saturday is July 17 in Des Moines. These all day seminars open to any Rotarian and are on the Foundation, Membership, Future Vision, and Public relations. The District is picking up the \$30 registration fee. If you are interested, contact John Last or me, Roger.

**July 23** Rotary's Ambassadorial Scholarships Applications are due to the local club by July 23. Clubs be sure to get them to Harrison Cass, 191 Pershing Road, Waterloo, IA 50701 Note that Harrison has a telephone number changed to 319-234-1440. Questions regarding this Rotary program can also be addressed to me - 319-266-6291. Further information on this program can be found at:

<http://www.rotary.org/en/StudentsAndYouth/EducationalPrograms/AmbassadorialScholarships/Pages/Howtoapply.aspx>

## New PETS format allows more interaction among districts

*Dave Buck*

More than 150 presidents-elect gathered Feb. 26-27 at the Airport Hilton near the Mall of America in Bloomington, Minn., for the first-ever North Central Multi-District President-Elect Training Seminar (PETS).

The new format included Rotarians from District 5970, 5960 (southern Minnesota) and 5950 (Wisconsin). Larger training sessions allowed greater interaction with more presidents; more breakout sessions; exhibits of Rotary projects, including the "Shoe Box" project represented by PDG Steve Thorpe and his wife, Liz; and even an opportunity to shop for Rotary merchandise from the many vendors present at the conference.

District 5970 presenters included DG Gerald Retzlaff, DGN Jim Patton, and PDGs Dave Buck, Richard Moeller, and Mike Hamilton. Incoming District Governor Roger Kueter concluded the information portion of the seminar with a three-hour, district-specific session for 5970.

Multi-District events enable PETS planners to draw on Rotary International's top leadership. Rotary International President-Elect Ray Klingingsmith delivered the Friday night keynote address and stayed around to personally visit with club leadership.

Rotary International Vice-President and Director Tom Thorfinnson, Rotary Coordinator Mary Beth Growney-Selene and Past District Governor and national television host Jennifer Jones of Windsor, Canada, were among the plenary session presenters. Iowa's own Thom Winninger, an International consultant and motivational speaker formerly from Waterloo, was the seminar's master of ceremonies and concluding presenter.

## District rotarians attest to value of new PETS format

*Linda Moeller*

Rotarians from District 5970 provided positive reviews of their experience at the North Central Multi-District President-Elect Training Seminar (PETS) held in the Twin Cities.

"I didn't talk to a person who didn't have a great experience at PETS," said 2009-10 District Governor Gerald Retzlaff. "Speakers were great and the break-out sessions were well received and well attended. It was a tremendous first effort."

"All of the speakers and presenters did a wonderful job of conveying the Rotary story," said Tammy Orte of Clear Lake. "I 'get it' now. I have now had my first Rotary 'Ah ha' moment and plan to continue with many more."

"Thank you for the very educational weekend," said Brian Schaaf of Algona. "It was great ... and has got me excited for July 1 to arrive. I am looking forward to a great year."



## Representatives from 46 District 5970 clubs attend Multi-District PETS

Linda Moeller

More than 86 District 5970 Rotarians, including 46 of the district's 54 club presidents or their designated club member, attended this year's North Central Multi-District President-Elect Training Seminar (PETS). Clubs not represented at PETS have received individual training from their Assistant Governors to fulfill the required training. The district did not offer a make-up session this year.



### Plan now for next year's PETS in Dubuque

DGN Jim Patton of Fort Dodge will provide leadership for next year's Multi-District President-Elect Training Seminar (PETS), chaired by District 5970 PDG Dave Buck of Waterloo. Incoming 2011-12 presidents from four districts will gather in Dubuque March 4-5, 2011. District 6000, comprised of clubs in the southern half of Iowa, will join Districts 5950, 5960 and 5970 for this event.

## Montreal Convention speaker affirms that polio is on the run

Rotary's promise to eradicate polio worldwide took center stage during the 2010 RI Convention in Montréal, Québec, Canada, as Rotarians were urged to finish the task the organization began 25 years ago.

At the third plenary session on June 22, Bruce Aylward, director of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative at the World Health Organization, encouraged attendees to share the "terrific news" that polio is on the run, and that Rotary's vision of a polio-free world is within sight.

Aylward praised Rotarians for all they have accomplished in fighting polio, but noted that it is critical to finish the job. Aylward said the recent outbreak in Tajikistan is a stark reminder of the consequences of global fatigue in this battle. Emergency funds from PolioPlus -- a total of \$500,000 -- were released within 48 hours of the Tajikistan outbreak, which Aylward said is now showing signs of stopping. He also shared the encouraging news of a new bivalent vaccine, effective against both remaining types of the poliovirus, and noted the absence of new cases in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, India, in the past six months.

"Rotarians have done the extraordinary in the pursuit of polio eradication," Aylward said. "You have truly put Service Above Self. And you have truly put Rotary on the world's stage."

"Although the news is quite positive, funding is still needed in several countries for immunization, surveillance and mop up," said PDG Dave Buck of Waterloo. "Immunization campaigns continue in many African



Historic Bonsecours Market in Old Montréal is illuminated June 21 with En finir avec la polio (End Polio Now), Rotary's promise to save the world's children from the crippling disease. The lighting occurred during the Rotary International Convention.

and sub-Asian countries, but in Pakistan and Afghanistan the campaigns must deal with war and violence, making eradication more difficult."

"Please continue to honor your commitments to the Rotary Foundation's End Polio Now campaign," Buck added. "We've never been this close to totally eradicating this cruel disease, which mainly affects young children."

Rotarians can follow the reporting of new cases and efforts to immunize children at:

<http://www.polioeradication.org/casecount.asp>

## Gerald & LaDonna Retzlaff

DG Roger Kueter

PDG Gerald and LaDonna Retzlaff enjoying a relaxing moment as Gerald's successful year as District Governor ends. Long-time Rotarian Gerald entered the role of District Governor well prepared, organized and with an extensive understanding of Rotary International and its operations. Dedication to "Service Above Self" was evident all year as he and LaDonna worked hard to make 5970 better at the end of June 2010. Gerald's many successes were reported at the District



## Rosie Hussey PDG



The last several years of my life have centered around change - change of profession, change of homes, change of climate, and change of culture and family changes. It is a good thing I love change.

Over three years ago as CEO of the Girl Scouts of north

Iowa, I was part of the merger of the seven GS Council's in Iowa to two Councils. I was fortunate to be able to take the retirement package that was offered. Just prior to that we sold our family home in Mason City, the home we had built for our young family and enjoyed for thirty-one years. We had planned to scale down as we moved to Clear Lake. However, that did not happen. In the summer we enjoy our home on south shore drive and have room for all our family and friends. Several years ago, as we talked of retirement, my husband Dan and I bought a home in Green Valley, AZ. He wanted to be located on a golf course and I wanted a pool in our yard. We were fortunate to find our dream location. Why Green Valley, AZ?

It is a golf retirement community located twenty minutes from one of our daughters, her husband and four grandchildren. So we spend winters in AZ and summers in IA. We believe it is the perfect combination. Green Valley is unincorporated and is run by volunteers, perfect for me. Of course I am a member of Green Valley Rotary Club when I am here. We are discovering the

## Newsletter and Communications Efforts

The Public Relations Committee, chaired by Linda Moeller (Waverly), will be soliciting monthly from you contributions for the newsletter. Please honor her requests. Our goal is to keep you informed as best we can. We will print a limited number of the newsletters and distribute to your Club President to distribute at your meetings. Please read and share. Some club Presidents may elect to make copies for the club members. I would encourage all of you to access the newsletter on the District Web page. The web edition will be in color. As the need requires, I will email important messages and reminders of our Rotary responsibilities. I will use the

Conference and in his newsletter. DG Gerald was an outstanding Rotary partner, especially for those of us in the "chain" of leadership. He was a mentor and included and kept us informed. Gerald served as a model of what we all in leadership roles need to do. Gerald & LaDonna, Thank You for your year and service as DG 2009-2010. We all look forward to your continued participation in District roles. For those of you who thought "no more messages from Gerald" - Wrong. I have asked Gerald to co-chair the Membership Committee and in Gerald's style, he said YES. Therefore, keep looking for Gerald's encouraging messages promoting Rotary. On behalf of the entire District Rotarians we extend our thanks again.

sites here and savoring the culture. I am social chair of our homeowners association and I host the Iowa Club once a year. I belong to the GV birding group and the GV Hiking association. There are limitless opportunities here to grow and try all the things we put off while working.

Our family has grown to eleven grand children; our youngest, twin girls are one year old. We spend much of our time with our grandchildren, traveling with them and sharing experiences.

I am in my second term on the Iowa State Board of Education and first term as Board Chair. This keeps me involved in politics and education in Iowa. Not to mention, it keeps my mind active. These are challenging times for us, our children are our future. I have seven grand children in Iowa, so I have a vested interest in seeing they get the best education possible.

I look back on my year as District Governor for 5970 as one of the best experiences of my life. Preparation both locally and internationally is thorough. I enjoyed traveling north Iowa and visiting each Club. From the largest Club to the smallest, they all make a wonderful contribution and a difference in their communities and the world. I was able to attend three international conventions and realized how Rotarians are global and we need to solve global problems together.

I am Housing Chair for Ragbrai, coming through Clear Lake this summer. Hope to see many of you there.

DG Roger Kueter

"subject" line to identify the content of the message. Likewise, I have segmented my contact list and will send messages accordingly, except for the district leadership (Presidents, Secretaries, AGs and Board). You will be copied on most everything. District Executive Secretary John Last will have a regular column in the newsletter as will other committee chairs. Also expect messages from them. An organization that communicates with each other is an accomplished, vibrant, energetic, and productive organization that has "Service Above Self" and having FUN doing it.