



Rotary District 6690 "Service Above Self"

Monthly Newsletter – April 2011

District 6690

This month's Newsletter, April 2011, is dedicated to our New Generation. Our District is fortunate to have great leadership in Rotaract, Interact, Youth Leadership, and RYLA. This newsletter is focused on the energy, passion, and leadership that our chair people bring to these important avenues of service. Their commitment and focus delivers tangible results at what Rotarians do best "Service above Self". And yes I know it's May and I am just now delivering my April newsletter, but please enjoy what these people have to contribute and say about our youth.

Sincerely,

Calvin Gebhart
District Governor
2010-2011



ENDPOLIONOW

Service Above Self.

**Calvin T. Gebhart, District Governor
& Circleville Sunrise Club Welcome**

**6690 District Conference
May 12-15 • 2011 Circleville, OH**



The Fifth Avenue of Service: New Generations

The addition of New Generations as the Fifth Avenue of Service is a call to Rotarians to focus more attention upon youth and young adults, our most precious and valuable resource. Until this year Rotary's programs for youth were placed inconsistently under Community Service, International Service and Vocational service. The new Avenue of Service will improve coordination and supervision of youth programs at the club, district and international levels.

Interact, Rotaract, Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA), and Rotary Youth Exchange, which includes the new Vocational Internship program, are truly exceptional programs in District 6690! As with all successful Rotary programs, this is the result of dedicated passionate leadership of District Chairs Lee Smith, Tom Carlisi, Roe Morro, Larry Jenkins, and Judy Root; and many other Rotarians who serve our youth at the district and club levels.

As you read about our New Generations programs, I invite you to be a member on one of the District committees serving our youth and young adults. It will be a rewarding investment of your time and talents.

ROTARACT IS ON A ROLL...
IN ROTARY DISTRICT 6690
submitted by Tom Carlisi, Rotaract District 6690 Chair

From helping to make and distribute over 13,000 meals to needy families in Westerville, Ohio... to assisting residents devastated by earthquakes in Pisco, Peru... Rotaractors in district 6690 are making a difference in helping others in need.

These young adults carry the Rotary spirit in their own communities and beyond, while inspiring others with their leadership and service.

We invite you to review the progress of Rotaract in Rotary District 6690 and invite you to become involved in various avenues of service.

NEW GENERATIONS

Rotary International has empathized a 5th avenue of service called "New Generations". The youth and young adults, who demonstrate a desire to contribute through service, are the future of Rotary.

Rotary clubs sponsor *Interact* high school youth service clubs, and **Rotaract** college or young professional clubs, as two examples of New Generations programs.

ROTARACT GROWS FROM 5 TO 10 CLUBS IN 2 YEARS... AND STILL GROWING !!

Rotary District 6690 had five Rotaract clubs in 2009, namely:

1. Rotaract Club of Otterbein University... sponsored by Westerville (Noon) Rotary Club
2. Rotaract Club of OSU... sponsored by Columbus Rotary Club
3. Rotaract Club of Ohio University – Athens... sponsored by Athens and Athens AM Rotary Clubs
4. Rotaract Club of OUE-BTC... sponsored by St. Clairsville Sunrise Rotary Club
5. Columbus Rotaract (Young Professionals) Club... sponsored by Columbus Rotary Club

New Rotaract Clubs are:

6. Rotaract Club of OSU Newark/COTC... sponsored by Newark, Heath, Granville, and Pataskala Rotary Clubs
7. Rotaract Club of Marietta University... sponsored by Marietta Rotary Club
8. Rotaract Club of Hocking College... sponsored by Logan Rotary Club
9. Rotaract Club of Fortis College... sponsored by Westerville Sunrise Club
10. Rotaract Club of Columbus State Community College... sponsored by Columbus Rotary Club

New Rotaract Clubs in current development are:

11. Rotaract Club of Shawnee State University... sponsored by Portsmouth Rotary Club
12. Rotaract Club of Ohio Christian University... sponsored by Circleville and Circleville Sunrise Rotary Clubs
13. Rotaract Club of OU-Lancaster... sponsored by Lancaster Sherman Rotary Club
14. Rotaract Club of Chamberlain College of Nursing at DeVry University... sponsored by (pending)

If you are interested in sponsoring a Rotaract Club in your area, please contact:

Tom Carlisi

Rotaract District 6690 Chair

tcarlisi@sbcglobal.net

FEATURED LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL ROTARACT PROJECTS

Rotaractors have performed numerous local projects in their communities, often with their sponsoring Rotary Club. We celebrate all their achievements and contributions. For this article, we are featuring local and international projects from three college/university Rotaract Clubs of Otterbein University, OSU, and OUE/BTC, and the Columbus Rotaract (Young Professionals) Club.

Rotaract Club of Otterbein University collaborated with Westerville (Noon) Rotary Club and

- WARM (Westerville Area Resource Ministries) to help make and distribute meals for needy families in Westerville, Ohio. These Rotaractors helped contribute:
6,5 tons of food, 13, 320 meals, to 740 people, representing 185 family meals for 1 whole week !!
- ROSEMONT CENTER to help assemble and distribute over 200 bicycles to “special needs” youth at Rosemont Center.

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Congratulations Rotaract Club of Otterbein University and Westerville Afternoon Club for making a difference in you local community and in the lives of some many in need.

Rotaract Club of OSU collaborated with the Columbus Rotary Club and

- Homeless Families Foundation to present the 3rd annual Olympic Fitness Challenge and A-Mazing Health Day for 50 youth and families at the Dowd Center. The Rotaractors facilitated groups to help the participating youth in cardio, flexibility, and strength exercises, “Fast Food Facts” nutrition activity, and a pedometer walk. The event culminated in an Olympic style celebration in the gym where all youth received certificates and got their picture taken in their new exercise outfits.
- Rotaract Club of Andes Del Peru. Over Spring Break this-March, six members of the Rotaract Club of OSU meet with Rotaractors from Peru and embarked on a service trip to Pisco, Peru. The Rotaractors volunteered for five days at *Pisco Sin Fronteras*, an organization that focuses on rebuilding the city of Pisco, which was devastated by a large earthquake in 2007. The six Rotaractors worked alongside volunteers from all parts of the world to build furniture, install appliances, perform electrical work, and lots more. Their combined effort represents nearly 250 hours of service. .
- In addition, the Rotaractors, in collaboration with the Columbus Rotary, donated \$600 which is the cost of building one modular home with a cement floor for a family in Pisco, Peru.
- This is the third trip to Peru made by the Rotaract Club of OSU.. In their first year, they raised \$5,000 to donate 28 water filters to provide clean water to citizens of Peru. Last year, they raised \$5,000 to donate a playground with grass and equipment, including painted murals, for a special needs school last year.

Congratulations and Muchos Gracias Rotaractors !!, as you build Good Will around the world.

Rotaract Club of OUE/BTC collaborated with St. Clairsville Sunrise Club and

- The local solid waste authority to collect over 200 used cell phones. The Rotaractors also participated again in a multi-campus recycling competition with great results.
- Free Wheelchair Mission is an international organization that makes wheelchairs from reused plastic chairs and bicycle parts. The Rotaractors at OUE-BTC have raised funds to donate wheelchairs to this worthy cause. They even one of the wheelchairs on display at the OUE-BTC campus !!

Congratulations Rotaractors as you steward GREEN projects and support reuse programs globally.

PROFESSIONAL AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Two other objectives of Rotary is to promote Professional and Leadership Development opportunities for Rotaract club that they sponsor. This emphasis helps Rotaractors enhance skills that “pay forward” in the lives of the Rotaract leaders and their ability to contribute to the quality of life for those they serve.

- Columbus Rotaract (Young Professionals) Club has hosted over 20 monthly Professional Development luncheons for their club members and guests over the past several years.
- They also collaborate with the Columbus Rotary and Junior Achievement to host the annual Barons of Business luncheon for young professionals and others to learn business and career tips from distinguished local business leaders.
- Columbus Rotaractors are collaborating with Columbus Rotary, the Columbus Chamber of Commerce, and the Franklin County Metro Parks, to host a Leadership Through Service event this April 30, 2011. The event features a leadership keynote speaker, breakout sessions, and a volunteer clean up and development of the Scioto Audubon Metro Park (the old city car impound lot).
- All Rotaract Club members in Rotary District 6690 are welcome to attend this event on April 30. (Please see attached flyer for details).
- *Leadership and Fundraising:* the Columbus Rotaract (YP) Club has raised \$10,000 over the past two years for the local Alzheimer’s Association through a golf event. This year they are collaborating to help with the Alzheimer Foundation’s Casino Night in June.

Rotaractors are making a difference offering creativity, service & collaboration with local leaders.

CONNECTING INTERACT TO ROTARACT TO ROTARY

The Rotaract Committee of Rotary District 6690 desires to help create a seamless path from Interact to Rotaract to Rotary clubs. On the Rotaract District 6690 website, you can find links to various forms:

- Invitation for all Interact high school seniors to apply for membership in a Rotaract club at the university/college that you will be attending upon high school graduation
- Invitation for all Rotaract alumni to apply for membership in a Rotary club, perhaps the Rotary club that sponsors your Rotaract club.
- A new connecting initiative is planned for Interact members of Fischer Catholic High School to become leaders in the developing Rotaract Club of OU – Lancaster. Several of the Rotaractors can then join the Rotaract Club of OU – Athens, as they transfer to the main OU campus in Athens, Ohio.
- We encourage Rotaract club secretaries to download the RI Rotaract Alumnus form and help all Rotaract club members complete the form, with the Rotaract Club Secretary and Rotary Club President signatures.
- At least 3 Rotaract Club of Otterbein University alumni have transitioned to become current members of the Westerville Afternoon Rotary Club. Congratulations new Rotarians !!

ROTARACT LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP AT ROTARY DISTRICT 6690 CONFERENCE

Rotaract District 6690 Committee will be hosting a one day workshop for Rotaract club leaders in Rotary District 6690 on Saturday, May 14, 2011 from 9:00 am – 2:00 pm at Ohio Christian University. Please join us if you are interested in learning more about Rotaract and to meet some of the dynamic Rotaract leaders in action. (Please see flyer attachment for details.)

****Submitted by Interact Chair C. Lee Smith****

Interact Clubs

One of the most rewarding ways your club can benefit your community is by starting and sponsoring an Interact club.

Interact is Rotary International's service club for young people ages 12 to 18. There are currently 29 Interact clubs in District 6690. Our newest clubs are at Fisher Catholic (**Lancaster**) and Thomas Worthington (**Worthington AM**) with two more currently in development.

Along with Youth Exchange, RYLA and Rotaract, it is one of the most important vehicles for sparking the interest that creates future Rotarians.

Interact club membership can vary greatly. They can draw from the student body of a single school (school-based) or from two or more schools in the same community (a community-based club).

With Rotary's recent changes in age requirements, Interact is no longer "Rotary for high school." Middle schools can now have Interact clubs – and don't overlook vocational schools like the Career Center Interact Club in **Marietta**.

A good example of a community-based club is the South-Western Interact Club, sponsored by the **Grove City** Rotary at a time with failed school levies required cuts in extracurricular activities throughout the school district. This club has recently challenged other Interact clubs in District 6690 to a big food/money drive benefitting the Mid-Ohio Foodbank from March through June.

INTERACT DEVELOPS FUTURE LEADERS WHILE BENEFITTING YOUR COMMUNITY

High school and middle school students WANT to make a difference locally and internationally, but they don't always know how. That's where the guidance of your Rotary club comes in.

Interact takes their energy, passion and brainpower to combine it with all the other Interact club members so that, just like Rotary, one Interactor CAN make a difference. It also gives them valuable volunteer experience and community service credentials often needed for college admission.

Each year, Interact clubs complete at least two community service projects, one of which furthers international understanding and goodwill. In fact, Interact is short for "international action." And that's what separates Interact clubs from traditional school service clubs. In fact, Brazil, India, the Philippines and the United States have the highest number of Interact clubs worldwide.▯

The second type of projects is usually local – like the **Athens** High School Interact Club did this year when severe weather last Fall significantly damaged their school. Either type of project can be done in conjunction with your Rotary club or independently. It's their choice as a self-governing club – and this teaches leadership, organization, and teamwork.

The schools themselves also benefit from Rotary's support, as many clubs offer a small stipend to the Interact clubs faculty advisor, provide club supplies and lend a helping hand at meetings and projects.

Given the current planned budget plans for Ohio schools, this is can be more important than you might think.

HOW DISTRICT 6690 SUPPORTS YOUR INTERACT CLUB

District 6690 is here to help you in a variety of ways. Among them is the creation of a central information and idea sharing resource for you, the faculty advisors and the students who are members of Interact. Visit the Interact page at the District 6690 website:

<http://www.district6690.org/index.php?id=13158>

There you'll find helpful information, videos, all of the forms your Interact club needs along with a month-by-month planning calendar to keep them on track.

District 6690 also provides two (2) \$1,000 college scholarships to graduating high school seniors. The Roe Mauro Scholarships, named to honor the Interact chair who worked tirelessly to get Interact started for the first six years, are announced at the District Conference.

We also provide avenues for recognition, including the RI President's Citation for Interact club excellence and the District Governor's Citation for the top three service projects in District 6690. Last year, clubs sponsored by **Dublin AM** and **Gahanna** won District Governor's Citations at the District Conference.

IF YOUR ROTARY CLUB ALREADY SPONSORS AN INTERACT CLUB...

- Post a link to the Interact District 6690 page (above) on your club's website, and make sure you also have working links to your Interact club(s).
- Ask your Interact club to post a link to your club's site on their website or Facebook page.
- Consider starting another Interact club. **Dublin AM, Hilliard, Westerville Sunrise, Whitehall-Bexley** and **Bridgeport** Rotary clubs already sponsor more than one Interact club.

IF YOUR ROTARY CLUB DOES NOT YET SPONSOR AN INTERACT CLUB...

What's stopping you? Your club doesn't need a lot of time, money or resources to be a sponsor. For example, the recently-formed Olentangy Orange Interact Club had more than 200 active members last year, even though their sponsor - the **Lewis Center/Polaris** Rotary Club - has fewer than 30 members. And with the approval of the District Governor, TWO Rotary clubs can also co-sponsor an Interact club.

Ask yourself these questions to determine if starting an Interact club would be a good project for your club in the 2011-2012 Rotary year:

- Does your high school already have a service club sponsored by a service club (like a Key Club or a Leo Club)? If not, there's opportunity. Even if they have an existing service club that's not sponsored by Lions or Kiwanis, they may welcome your help. If they do, however, consider a middle school or career center rather than competing with another service club.

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- Can the school attract and maintain at least 15 student members who can carry out at least 2 service projects per school year?
 - Does your Rotary club have a member who is passionate about working with youth and developing them into better citizens and future leaders? This person would make a great liaison to an Interact club.

The future of Rotary is our fifth avenue of service – New Generations – and it starts with Interact.

LEADERSHIP THROUGH SERVICE

Saturday, April 30, 2011

9 am - 5 pm

Audubon Center

505 West Whittier St., Columbus 43215

\$20/person

\$200 per Young Professionals Club Table

This service project provides the opportunity to become a part of the strategic planning process for the Whittier Peninsula cleanup and expansion. Metro Parks is expanding the 84-acre park hugging the Scioto River just south of Downtown by an additional 40 acres. Parks officials are considering building a climbing wall, a skate park, a disc golf course, a dog park and other attractions.



SAVE
THE
DATE



Leadership Through Service Event Agenda

8:30 - Registration

9:00 - Leadership Keynote - Alex Garcia, Ph.D.

10:00 - 10:40 - Breakout Sessions

10:40 - 11:20 - John O'Meara, Franklin County Metro Parks

11:30 - Catered Lunch (City Barbeque)

12:30 - Service (Cleanup/Planting)

3:00 - 5:00 - Social Activities (Volleyball, Corn Hole)

Join us in a day of leadership
through service!

To Register Call Michaela Taylor at 614-247-5915 or taylor@edcouncil.org



Columbus Rotary
Service Above Self

Columbus Chamber





Columbus Rotary
Service Above Self

Sponsoring



Leadership through Service

* Leadership * Service * Civic Engagement *

Event Keynote Speaker



ALEX E. GARCIA, Ph.D., is a globally experienced leader, international speaker, performance improvement consultant and trainer. He has worked with a diverse client base developed over 20 years including: The Department of Defense, Sara Lee Foods, Social Security Administration and the U.S. Military, to name a few. Dr. Garcia is also the Founder and CEO of Leadership Dynamics, a Management Consulting firm specializing in Management and Leadership skills, based in Columbus, Ohio. With a Ph.D. in Organizational / Behavioral Psychology, Dr. Garcia has applied his education, expertise and experience to working with clients in the U.S., Canada, Europe, and Asia. Dr. Garcia has consulted, spoken with and trained numerous audiences and has taught leadership, people skills, effective communication and management skills to leaders of business, government, and education. Dr. Garcia has built a strong reputation for providing passionate, energized and enthusiastic speaking and training sessions for professionals everywhere!

Develop Leadership. Through service activities one can significantly enhance their leadership skills. Service projects allow one to develop a true understanding of the importance of leadership in groups and teams achieving their objectives. Service projects also offer the opportunity to become involved within the community and to develop skills for leadership in these situations.

Develop Professional Networks. Service is a valuable way to enhance one's professional network. Service activities allow one to gain access to leaders, managers, and key individuals in organizations who are responsible for goals achievement and leadership. Service allows individuals to gain firsthand experience and insight from these professionals and to add them to their own network of professional references.

Community Involvement and Social Responsibility. Community involvement and social responsibility are now critical areas for the development of leaders of organizations and society in the future. Service projects allow students to begin to understand the importance of these ideas at an early stage of their careers. (Carnegie Mellon Tepper School of Business)

Project Partners: Columbus Rotary, Columbus Rotaract, Young Professionals Clubs, Metro Parks, Audubon Society

Multi-Year Service Project

Year 1:

Spring 2011 - Leadership through Service Event
Saturday April 30 at the Audubon Center
Leadership Keynote/Breakout Sessions
Cleanup of Impound Car Lot
Social Activities (i.e. volleyball, music)

Summer/Fall/Winter - Strategic Planning
Whittier Peninsula
Vision of Space (i.e. obstacle course)

Year 2:

Leadership through Service Events
Implementation of Strategic Planning

This service project provides the opportunity for members to become a part of the strategic planning process for the Whittier Peninsula cleanup and expansion. Metro Parks is expanding the 84-acre park tugging the Scioto River just south of Downtown by an additional 40 acres. Parks officials are considering building a climbing wall, a skate park, a disc golf course, a dog park and other attractions.

Project Partners



ColumbusChamber

Submitted by Roe Mauro & Larry Jenkins:

Youth to benefit from Rotary Leadership program

For the first time this year Rotary District 6690, will conduct the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards program. Officially adopted by Rotary International in 1971, RYLA is one of the most significant and fastest-growing programs of Rotary service. Each year, thousands of young people take part in the program worldwide.

RYLA is an intensive training program for young community leaders. Those chosen for their leadership potential attend an all expense-paid seminar to discuss leadership skills and to learn those skills through practice. Over 65 students from throughout Central and South Eastern Ohio will attend this years conference.

Topics covered include: the growth and development of self esteem - personal development - self-management – personal motivation – communication, time management and goal setting – leadership styles – problem solving and conflict management.

RYLA aims to:

- Demonstrate Rotary's respect and concern for youth
- Provide and effective training experience for selected youth and potential leaders
- Encourage leadership of youth by youth
- Recognize publicly young people who are rendering service to their community

The conference will be held on the campus of Ohio University, in Athens, OH, in July. The participants chosen will find themselves involved in an intensive virtually non-stop program of activities led by an outstanding group of business and community leaders.

Area students nominated and sponsored by the Rotary Club of **insert RC Name** to attend RYLA this year include: **insert students name and high school before sending to your local paper**

District 6690
ROTARY YOUTH LEADERSHIP AWARDS
Thursday, July 14 – July 16, 2011
Ohio University, Athens, OH

After 2 years of preparation and planning by your District RYLA committee, we are within less than 90 days to our 1st annual **Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA)** Conference. To date we have 65 students sponsored by Rotary Clubs from all over our District. These High School Juniors have been selected by their sponsoring Rotary Club to represent their community at this year's event. We would like to take a quick moment to thank all the participating Clubs who have invested money and time into this worthwhile Rotary youth experience.

Although we have been working on this program for over 2 years now, we still get many questions about, **What is RYLA?** RYLA is a Rotary International endorsed program that represents the final leg of the New Generations Avenue of Service for our District. The purpose of the program is to identify young people who have demonstrated leadership skills or show the potential to be leaders, and give them an opportunity to explore and develop those skills with others with similar capabilities. This conference is also our opportunity to expose these young leaders to the ideals of Rotary, like Service Above Self and the 4-Way test, whether they have a history with Rotary through other youth programs or if this is the first time they have heard about Rotary.

During the conference, participants will:

- explore their own style and strengths;
- learn skills that will enable them to be aware of and able to address community needs;
- interact with adult role models who are active in their professions and community;
- develop and learn leadership skills
- develop an appreciation for community service.

For two and a half days students will be participating in group learning activities, discussions, speakers, interaction with peers and social activities. **RYLA** is a chance for students to meet other outstanding students from central and southeastern Ohio while spending two and a half days learning about themselves, learning from others and having fun.

How Can you Help? - Obviously with an event of this size and scope we need a big group of volunteers to help with all aspects of the RYLA conference. These opportunities range from facilitators that will work directly with the students to operations, registration and night time supervision. Please read the RYLA Countdown flyer for volunteer opportunity descriptions and let us know if you would be willing and able to serve. Please don't hesitate to contact us by email at ryla@district6690.org or at our personally by phone if you have any questions.

If in doubt, WE DO NEED YOU!

Thank you for your support!

Your District RYLA Coordinators

Roe Mauro & Larry Jenkins
(614) 766-5625 (614) 975-2540



to the 1st Annual RYLA

July 14-16, 2011 - OU Athens
District members needed
for support of the 2011 District 6690
RYLA Conference:



To District 6690

VOLUNTEERS

- **Facilitators** – Group facilitators are needed to lead the student sessions through the established curriculum. Facilitators should enjoy working with young adults and have experience with group learning and facilitating group discussion. In order to maintain the group learning dynamic a Facilitator must be able to be present for the entire RYLA event. Thursday morning through Saturday noon. Facilitators need not be Rotarians. Complimentary meals and overnight accommodations will be provided to facilitators staying throughout the conference.

- **Operation Support/Runner** – Runners are needed to support the operational needs of the event by helping to setup the classroom for the day's events, providing support for needs of group facilitators and maintaining communication with each classroom. If possible we ask that a Runner commit to full day blocks of time so that consistent support of the facilitators may be maintained.

- **Over Night Supervision** – Evening/Night time Supervisors are needed to assist with supervision of students during evening free-time and overnight hours. Students must remain in designated areas while at the RYLA conference and Supervisors will be responsible for monitoring these areas as well as monitoring dormitory activities, lights out, room checks and overnight hallway activities. We are looking for a Coordinator for these duties for the entire RYLA event. General Supervision volunteer schedules can be flexible.

- **Photographer** – Daytime photographer(s) needed to take photos during the conference. This position may be shared amongst two persons so long as they are able to share files and duties. If possible a slide show of will be displayed at the Saturday morning closing session. A disk of photos taken can be made available for purchase at a nominal fee to students and their families. This volunteers schedule can be flexible

We need your help to Support this year's event.

***If you are interested in volunteering for any of the needed positions,
please contact the RYLA Committee to discuss opportunities.***

PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS

We are looking for small items that can be placed in the students RYLA bag which they receive upon arrival. These items can have the logo of your company or Rotary Club on them and can be anything appropriate for young adults. Although we have approximately 65 participants this year we will accept donations in any quantity. Some suggested items include pens, note pads, sticky notes, small flash lights, hand sanitizer, squeeze balls, etc. This is just a sample list of some possible items; feel free to use your imagination. We are willing to accept most any promotional items your company might have and is willing to donate that would help make up a special gift bag for our student participants. If you have items you or your company is willing to donate, please contact the RYLA Committee to arrange delivery or pick-up.

Email us at: ryla@district6690.org

Co-Chair, Roe Mauro: 614- 766-5625 | **Co-Chair, Larry Jenkins:** 614- 975-2540

Volunteer Coordinator, Michele Duffill: 614-579-4078

Submitted by Youth Exchange Chair Judy Root:

Rotary Youth Exchange is alive and well in District 6690!

District 6690 has hosted exchange students for many, many years. We have students coming into and going out from our district every year, giving us the awesome opportunity to touch the lives of hundreds of people all over the world!

Right now the district is hosting 12 students from South America, Asia and Europe. These students have lived in homes all over the district and going to 12 different high schools in southeastern Ohio. The beautiful thing about this exchange is that many people have the chance to get to know someone from a far-off country and build relationships with those young people. At the same time, there are 12 central Ohio students who are currently living abroad in 11 different countries, touching the lives of countless other people throughout the world, including Russia! What a wonderful way to build communities and bridge continents!

Meanwhile, every spring we have students who are preparing to begin a year abroad, either coming or going. District 6690 does a great job preparing students for the experience that will change their lives forever. A student who wants to be an exchange student must begin to attend the Youth Exchange weekends provided by the District 6690 YEP committee almost a year prior to their exchange year. These weekends bring both the current inbound students and the potential outbound students together for fun, fellowship and service projects to build relationships and learn the ideals of Rotary.

By mid November students who are serious about doing an exchange have their applications ready for the district committee to review, so that the committee may make the choices of who may become a Rotary Youth Exchange student. A student must be 15 ½ before they begin their exchange, but may not be older than 18 ½. Not every student is qualified, but the committee works with all the hopefuls to give them the best possible chance to succeed as the exchange student. The student may decide between a short-term exchange or a long-term exchange. The short-term exchange is a family-to-family exchange for two months in the summer. The American student spends one month in the foreign country and the host brother or sister from the other country spends the following month with the American in their home in the U.S. (or vice versa). The long-term exchange is for an entire school year.

The district gives Rotary clubs the opportunity to host a student, sponsor an outbound student or host a YEP weekend in their community. Hosting a weekend involves providing a place for 45-50 students and committee members to spend the night in your town over a Saturday night, usually at a rec center, school or a YMCA. Also, the club provides one or two meals and snacks and drinks for the evening. This past year we began to ask the hosting club to plan a service project for the students on Saturday afternoon. The projects have ranged from delivering meals on wheels to working at the Chili Open to community projects. It has taught the students the joy and satisfaction of helping others and has given them a chance to get to know the Rotarians in the clubs that have been their hosts.

The weekends are also the time that the committee members use to train the outbound students how to be great representatives of their clubs and their country when they begin their stay in a foreign country. They learn how to create interesting and entertaining presentations and they learn about their countries and Rotary. Once a student is chosen to be an exchange student we assign them papers to write to help them be prepared for their exchange. They write research papers about Rotary, their home city and state, their chosen host country and the city they will live in for the next year. Each student is encouraged to make a difference in the community they live in and to leave a lasting positive legacy.

Hosting an inbound student is a rewarding and exciting project for a Rotary club. The club enrolls the student in the local high school and provides them with two to three host families. They also assign a counselor to the student who is the student's confidant and their liaison for the entire school year. The student should be given the opportunity to attend the Rotary club's regular meetings each week, so all the Rotarians in the club get to know them well. Clubs are also encouraged to include the student in special events and service projects. The cost to the club is generally the monthly stipend of at least \$75.00 to help the student with incidental expenses.

Sponsoring an outbound student is easy for a club, because the student pays their own expenses, unless the club cares to help provide funds. Other than that, the club helps to see that the student gets to the Rotary weekends and gives them opportunities to be involved in the club activities to teach them about Rotary.

Whatever a club does to get involved in the Rotary Youth Exchange Program, the end result is that the club and its members get an amazing experience. Besides that, it will help your club earn a presidential citation or a governor's award.

This year Rotary International began a new program for young adults known as the intern exchange. It is for young people 18-25 years old and allows them to go to another country to work for up to three months. The participant does not get paid, but they are hosted by a volunteer host family and receive the benefit of an intern work experience in a foreign land.

The District 6690 Youth Exchange Program recently received a Silver Certificate Award at the North American Youth Exchange Network conference in Sacramento, California. The award is a national award that recognized the district for outstanding achievements in Rotary Youth Exchange.

The district committee is made up of dedicated volunteers that help many students realize their dream of spending a year in another country. In 2010-11 the committee members are Sandy Pyle, Walter Lundstrom, Judy Root, Kathy Gatterdam, Bill McMurray, Jackie Favret, Sema and Josh Thimmes. Last year John Koetz passed the responsibility for short-term exchanges to Kathy Gatterdam. John had served as the short-term chair for eight years and helped to build the program into the fantastic program that it is today. This past year many other Rotarians have put in many hours to make the weekends a great experience for the students. Thanks to all who make Rotary Youth Exchange the best that it can be!!!



RI President Ray Klinginsmith and Calvin Gebhart DG 6690 2010-2011

Fellow Rotarians,

I just returned from Circleville where RI President Ray Klinginsmith was the guest of the Sunrise club. President Ray shared his vision for Rotary and discussed some topics I thought might be of interest.


Rotary's focus, says the President, is on building bigger, better, bolder clubs. I think this is a goal we can all get behind. We're doing great things in Lancaster and Fairfield County, but we can do more. You told us that when we conducted the long range planning session in January. There are many needs in our community. To meet the challenges of the future, we'll need members to provide time and money. One way to help spread the work load, and the financial obligation, is to bring new members into our club. I encourage you to invite potential new members to visit us in the next few weeks so we can share the good work Rotary is doing.

President Ray focused a good bit of his presentation on the Polio Plus program. I'm very proud of the work we've done in this area this year. You have donated more than \$10,000 to Polio Plus. Through you, we are helping to put an end to Polio. In 1980, there were, according to President Ray, more than 500,000 cases of Polio reported across the globe. Last year, that number was down to 1200. Since Rotary started the Polio Plus campaign, Rotarians have given more than \$1 billion to eradicate the disease. We're so close. I'm confident we will achieve the goal.

Our success in this area leads folks to ask what RI's next world wide focus will be. President Ray says no future focus has yet been selected, but criteria for selection is being developed. There are 2 main reasons that nothing is set yet. First and foremost, Polio hasn't been eradicated yet. The focus now is on India and Nigeria. Second, RI wants to help clubs do what they want so any future focus shouldn't compete with plans set by local clubs. The Council on Legislation will ultimately help determine any future focus.

In answer to a question, President Ray said that the Group Study Exchange program will be phased out over the next few years. The reason for that is that travel is so common across the globe. Instead, RI and the Rotary Foundation plan to focus on vocational training teams; groups of professions who will travel to teach others (i.e. the kind of work Dr. Norberto does in the Dominican Republic).

The need in Japan is very much on the minds of Rotarians right now. In answer to another question, President Ray addressed plans. As you're aware, funds are being collected for humanitarian need in Japan and the best use of those funds is being determined. As President Ray put it, "we aren't first responders; we're rebuilders".



Rotary will be in Japan as long as needed. I was reminded of a comment I heard recently from someone who had visited Haiti. The first responders were gone...Rotary was still there helping people recover and rebuild. That's what we do.

President Ray adheres to something he calls "Cowboy logic". A Michael Martin Murphy song sums up the makings of that logic. Part of it is "if you have work to do, do it; put your back into it". As Rotarians, we're doing that every day. I'm proud to be part of this organization and proud to work with you to build communities and bridge continents.

Cathy Bitler
President
Rotary Club of Lancaster
2010-2011

District Conference Agenda

(Agenda subject to change)

Thursday

The District 6690 Rotary Club Golf Scramble

Details:

- Entry Fee: \$95 per player
- Enter your team by April 1 and be entered into a drawing for a free foursome at **Cooks Creek** at a time convenient for your foursome.
- **Each participant receives a gift**
- **Lunch and Dinner are included in the Entry Fee**
- Gift Certificates and /or prizes for the TOP 3 finishing teams.
- Enjoy a day of golf, food and fellowship at the premier golf course in Pickaway County. Soft spikes are required and can be changed at the course for a small fee.

Schedule of Events

Registration	11:00-12:30
Practice Tee	11:30
Lunch	11:30-12:45
Shotgun Start	1:15
Dinner /Legacy Dinner	6:30

Legacy Reception and Dinner

- For Past District Governors, Assistant District Governors, Donors and other guests
- Reception at 5:30 pm at Cooks Creek Golf Course
- Dinner at 6:30

(If you have already registered for golf, no further registration is needed.)

FRIDAY

7:00 am	Registration
7:00 – 9:30 am	Continental Breakfast
10:00 am	Opening Remarks Calvin Gebhart District 6690 Governor 2010-2011
	Greg Yank Rotary International Representative/District Governor 6510 2010-2011

SATURDAY

7:00 am	Registration
7:00 – 9:30 am	Continental Breakfast
9:00 am	Opening Remarks Calvin Gebhart District 6690 Governor 2010-2011
9:15 am	GSE Team Presentation

10:15 am *One Woman's Dream to Change Communities*
Deepa Willingham

11:15 am *Bridging International*
Steve Abels
Rotary International Peace Scholar

Noon Lunch

12:30 pm *Building Teams for Community Good*
Greg Fry
OSU Quarterback and Coach

1:30 pm Break

2:00 pm *Rotarians Never Say No: Japan Disaster*
Terry Hofecker & Kris Wilson

3:00 pm *Rotary International Update*
Greg Yank

3:15 pm *Polio Plus Moments:*
Michele Layman & Jerry Billman
Testimonies from Survivors, Care Givers & Family Members:
Gary Saltus, Margaret Solle, & Gordon Young

4:30 pm Adjourn to evening activities

5:00 pm **Park Tour**
Mary Virginia Crites Hannah Park – A Local Rotary Project

5:30 pm Dinner at the Park

6:00 pm Wine and Food Tasting at Tuscan Table

10:00 am *Rotary Youth Exchange*
Student Speakers & Walter Lundstrom

10:30 am *RYLA Presentation*
Roe Mauro & Larry Jenkins

11:00 am *Building Communities in 6690*
CariBeth Legats
Miracle League Baseball Program
Randy Beach
Leo Moats Scholarship Program

Noon Lunch

1:30 pm Break

1:45 pm *When the World Came to Gander: Flight 15 Fund*
Shirley Brook-Jones

2:45 pm *Working through Bumps in the Road....Keeping Engaged with Projects*

Terry Davis, Rafiki Project
Erika Casto & Amy Snow, Montana De Luz
Susan Robenalt & Debbie Sheppard, Surgery Withou Scars

3:45 pm *District 6690 Business Meeting*

Financial Meeting
Election of District Officers
Other Business

3:45 pm **Social Gathering**

6:00 pm **Governors Banquet**
Ohio Supreme Court Justice Judith Ann Lanzinger
Quilt Auction
Paul Harris Fellow Recognition Paul

SUNDAY

8:30 am **Breakfast**

9:15 am **Memorial Service**
*All Rotarians are invited to Memorial Services



We are a group of forty-five District 6690 Rotary Youth Exchange students from over 17 different high schools who are putting on a benefit concert called **"Jam for Japan,"** www.jam4japan.com, **May 6th from 7-11 at the Bluestone.** As exchange students, we feel we need to do something for our struggling sisters and brothers in Japan affected by the recent earthquake and tsunami. The proceeds from the concert will benefit ShelterBox: a disaster relief charity connected to Rotary that delivers emergency shelter to people affected by disasters worldwide. These boxes contain a tent big enough to house ten people, a portable stove, cooking supplies, blankets, and other tools that aid victims of natural disasters. For more information check out <http://www.shelterbox.org/>.

The Phantods, Angel Rocket, and Drunk on Horseback will be playing at our concert and we are hoping for an attendance of at least three hundred people.

We would love it if your Rotary Club would consider making a donation to Jam for Japan—100% your donation will go to ShelterBox. A donation in any amount is appreciated. You can donate online www.tinyurl.com/donate2jam4japan or make a check to Rotary 6690 YEP Jam for Japan.

If possible, we would love to speak at one of your meetings explaining our project. All of us have experienced the great projects Rotary supports-- please make this another one of those projects!

