



Rotary District 5300

The Highlighter

SERVICE Above Self

**DISTRICT GOVERNOR STEW ANDERSON'S MONTHLY MESSAGE**

Dear Fellow Rotarians,

February is World Understanding Month in our Rotary world. This month Rotarians can look back at what they have accomplished and look toward their future international projects. During my visits throughout our District I have had the

opportunity on many occasions to hear the results of a club's involvement with an International project.

I was particularly touched when I was told about five clubs going to Africa to help establish five water well systems for villages in Zambia. This one International Service project will have

a major impact on the lives of these people. Just think, the children and women who will not have to walk six miles to collect dirty water and carry it back to the village for their daily needs. Because of the time saved from walking twelve miles daily, children may be able to attend school while

February is World Understanding Month

the women may be able to work and add to their family's meager income. What a huge impact a small group of dedicated Rotarians had on so many people and so far away.

There are many individual club projects that are involved in International projects and they are making a difference one person at a time.

The RI web site lists many project opportunities in which clubs can get involved. One particular project that offers our clubs a golden opportunity to make a difference is Polio Plus Partners. Polio Plus Partners was established in 1995 to help support the Polio Plus program by providing the necessary tools and equipment to help

eradicate polio. This would include but not be limited to garments such as T shirts, aprons, vaccine cooler boxes, bill boards and posters announcing vaccinations. For additional information please read the article, pages 41-45, in the February 2006 issue of the Rotarian Magazine. This just might be the project you have been

District Governor's Monthly Message	1
Message from DGE Chris Montan	2
House Building International Project	3
West Covina Club "Hands Across the Border"	4
Thanks from Biloxi Boulder City Cruise	5
Pomona Rotary Visits Africa	6
Snow in Montebello	7
"Each One, Bring One"	8
Diane Anderson's Book Corner	8
Uganda 3H Grant	9
Virtual Enterprise	10

looking for.

I have said it before and I will say it again. I am so impressed what our clubs are doing for our communities, locally, and internationally. We are making a difference in the lives of people we may never meet but we will have the satisfaction that we are making a difference one person at a time.

We are looking forward to seeing many of you at the February 11, 2006 Foundation dinner in Industry Hills. The featured speaker, Frank Devlyn Past Rotary International President, and the fellowship will be outstanding.

Thank you for what you are doing for Rotary.

You are "Making a Difference".

District Governor Stew

All Hands on Deck! All Hands on Deck! All Hands on Deck!

**TO: DISTRICT 5300 CLUB PRESIDENTS &
DISTRICT 5300 PRESIDENTS-ELECT
And other assorted able seamen/women
THIS IS A MESSAGE FROM: YOUR CAPTAIN**

The "U.S.S. District 5300" is charting its course for a magnificent 2006-2007 cruise, under the able direction of Admiral (er, District Governor) Christine Montan.

"NAVIGATORS" training, required for leadership personnel facing the challenge of sailing the 2006-2007 seas with Admiral Christine, is scheduled for SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 2006 at Etiwanda Gardens in Rancho Cucamonga (full details to follow).

Now is the time for Presidents-Elect to enlist the participation of their club leaders, and new recruits, in setting the correct course for the new service year. Now is the time to mark those calendars. Now is the time to make the commitment.

Senior Officers will lay out the course, provide you'all with the tools for success, and provide you with the key launch information for a successful cruise. (And, L(a)unch will be served!)

A sociable mixing of officers and enlisted personnel (all members of the crew) is planned for the evening of April 21 (full details to follow).

Get on board!!!

“Ready Made” International Project for 2007?

How would your club like a “Ready made” International project for 2007?

Governor-Elect, Chris Montan will be asking all the clubs in D5300 to focus on “hands-on” projects in 2006-2007 Rotary year. Consistent with that theme, Chris has asked Ken Rowland, Claremont Sunrise Rotary, to put together a hands-on project to build houses in Mexico. Ken is no stranger to building houses in Mexico as his club has partnered with the Alhambra club (home club of Chris Montan) and, more recently, with Laughlin, NV to build a house each year in the past 6 years.

These houses, 12' x 20' are quite spartan by U.S. standards. They are built in ONE day! They contain no electricity, no plumbing and the materials are cut and assembled on site. The Rotarians involved would be working with another service organization called Corazon – Spanish for “Heart”. Corazon plays an important role in that they organize the build site, arrange for materials at the site, have the concrete slab poured in advance and provide a site supervisor Lead Builder to assure a safe and efficient build. The Rotarian Volunteers need not have any construction experience.

The cost of a house? Each house costs \$5800 and additional \$1000 is imbedded in the cost to provide a scholarship for two of the families' children for 4 years of high school. Corazon's mission is to improve communities in a broad sense, a part of which is educating the younger generation as well as building libraries, teaching trades, helping to build day care centers, and building houses for deserving families. The payback is seeing a family beam when the keys to their new house are handed over AND the positive joy that your members will experience, when they return from a build. Who says “Rotarians just throw checks at problems”?

The project is being dubbed “Super Build 2007” as it involves building 4 – that's right 4 – houses on ONE Saturday. The projected date is a Saturday in late May 2007. Ken will be presenting the details of how your club can get “involved” at the PETS Seminar March 9-12. You can reach Ken at KRowland.CSR@Verizon.net or call him at (909) 626-6417 for more details.



Thank you to Ziad Abughazaleh and the Rotary Club of Alhambra for providing the photos at right.



WEST COVINA AND AGUA CALIENTE CLUB ROTARIANS LEND A HAND TOGETHER

In early December the club carried out its annual International Service project. Our "Hands Across the Border" event was done, as usual, as a joint activity with the Rotarians of our sister club...the Agua Caliente Rotario Club of Tijuana, Baja, Mexico. Twenty-one West Covina Rotarians and family drove down early on Saturday morning, and met our fellow Rotarians at the border. They then drove into the hills east of Tijuana to a large, poor community. It contains some 250,000 people, composed mainly of Central Americans who have come there looking for a better life. Although most of the adults are able to get jobs in the local factories, they are paid only \$6-7 a day and are in need of charita-

ble support from the church and organizations such as Rotary.

Upon arrival at a local church in one of the shantytowns, the entire group pitched right in to help distribute food, clothing, toys and blankets to the poor families in the area. Everything went very smoothly. It had been excellently organized by the Agua Caliente Club. Over 400 of the most needy families had lined up just outside the church grounds...many waiting for quite

a while. The mood was festive...it was a happy crowd of parents and kids who had no problems waiting their turns and looking forward to a more joyous Christmas.



15+ Years for "Hands Across the Border"

After everyone had been served, we packed up and drove to the home of one of our sister club Rotarians, located on top of one of the highest hills overlooking the Tijuana area. There we enjoyed the hospitality and camaraderie of our good friends and their families...and an excellent Mexican BBQ. Sincere words were spoken by our President, Dave Alfaro, and the Agua Caliente President, Gerardo Bautista, reflecting the depth and sincerity of the friendship between our two groups of Rotarians.

This annual project has been going on for more than 15 years. Each year it has grown and become more effective. And, each Spring the Agua Caliente Rotarians have come

North and enjoyed the hospitality of West Covina Rotarians, planned the next event and celebrated our camaraderie at an outdoor fellowship event.



NW LAS VEGAS ROTARY CLUB RECEIVES THANKS FROM THE KATRINA ZONE

The NW Las Vegas Rotary Club has received two e-mailed expressions of gratitude from the Rotary Club of Biloxi, Mississippi:

My name is Ellie Vasilopoulos and I am the Disaster Relief Chair for the Rotary Club of Biloxi. As I was in the process of going through all the donations received, I came across your letter with your request that we acknowledge receipt of your club's most generous donation. I am not sure anyone did so. If not, please accept my apology. Please forgive us for being so late. We are absolutely thrilled with your club's most generous donation of \$7,770. The money is desperately needed and will go to purchase building materials as we attempt to rebuild our Gulf Coast. We are making some progress but it will take years to complete such an effort. Please convey our heartfelt thanks to the members of the Las Vegas Northwest Rotary Club for their generosity. Very shortly we hope to have our web page operational so you will all be able to keep up with our progress. Again, Many thanks on behalf of our club president, Paul Mallery and the members of our club and the residents whose lives we will touch.

Yours in Rotary, Ellie

I'd like to add my personal thanks to what Ellie has said and add more detail to where the money is going. Since over half of our club members have lost their home or experienced major damage, we have partnered with faith based organizations who are acting as our "hands" to help needy families clean out storm debris and replace wet sheetrock as well as electrical and plumbing service to their homes. All are displaced in tents, or worse until the repairs can be made so the need for this is great and, with winter upon us, urgent as well as greatly appreciated. The recipients of this service have no other means of relief.

Funds from clubs such as yours are used to purchase the materials for this work which is 100% directed to needy families and the elderly. My thanks to you and your club again. We have been knocked on our backs but help such as yours is getting our community back on its feet and it will never be forgotten.

Yours in Rotary,

Paul Mallery President, Rotary Club of Biloxi, MS District 6840

CRUISE THE MEDITERRANEAN WITH THE ROTARY CLUB OF BOULDER CITY GOLDEN PRINCESS 16 DAY CRUISE

Itinerary

New York, NY
Barcelona, Spain
Florence, Italy
Naples, Italy
Lisbon, Portugal
Cannes, France
Rome, Italy
Venice, Italy



Reservations & Information
Arn McLean 702.293.5147
John Kubiak 702.294.2935
Bill Smith 702.294.2240

Price

\$3,499 Suites
\$2,999 Balcony
\$2,699 Outside
\$2,499 Inside

Inclusive of Air Fare

Pomona Rotary Club Visits Zambia, Africa

By Clive Houston-Brown, President-Elect

Photography by Darren Krohn

Over the last decade, Luanshya, a copper mining town in the north of Zambia, Africa has faced a serious economic decline due to the closure of local copper mines. Many of its citizens have suffered as their only hope of employment disappeared. Zambia has a life expectancy of 35 years and was recently ranked as one of the poorest nations on earth. Compounding the poverty for a large percentage of the population is the lack of access to clean drinking water. A majority of the citizens, especially in the outlying and rural areas, must walk many miles a day round-trip to fetch water from unsanitary water sources, such as those shown here.



Having been born and raised in Africa, I have seen first-hand the effects of not having access to clean drinking water. In my capacity as Chair of Pomona Rotary Club's International Service Committee in 2004/2005, I searched The Rotary Foundation's world database of projects and found the Luanshya Rotary Club's request for assistance in sinking boreholes in five villages and townships in and around the city of Luanshya. The Rotary Club of Pomona, California decided to partner with the Rotary Club of Luanshya, Zambia and the two clubs joined together to raise the money necessary to install the boreholes through a mix of personal giving and matching grants. The project was dubbed "Water for Life".



With the Rotary International Centennial focus on "twinning" with sister clubs internationally, Pomona and Luanshya formally signed a two-year Twinning relationship. Twinning called for the partnering clubs to work on projects together and promote cultural exchanges. In October 2005, as the culminating activity of the Water for Life project, five Pomona Rotarians visited their sister club in Luanshya. Rotarians from three other clubs (Azusa, Upland, and Chino) accompanied us, as did some spouses and family members. The visit began with an exciting four-day visit to a fishing and game-viewing lodge on the Zambezi River, where we experienced the wildlife of Africa close up, as can be seen in this picture of one of many local visitors to the camp.

We then flew to Ndola, where we were picked up at the airport by a convoy of Luanshya Rotarians and transported to Luanshya. Luanshya Rotarians introduced themselves and assigned us to host homes. The Luanshya Rotary Club, only 16-17 members strong, opened their homes and hearts to us, taking us in and providing for us as if we were long-lost family members. Over the next few days we visited a number of sites where boreholes had been drilled and actually witnessed a pump installation being completed in a rural village. The local villagers waited and watched excitedly for an hour as the hand pump was installed on a borehole sunk the previous week. They pointed to a hill-side on the horizon when asked where they currently walked to fetch their water. Looks of incredulity and cheers announced the pumping of the first water, which came out pure and clean from 150' below the surface. What joy! What elation we felt! What a feeling to have been responsible for that!

There were many wet eyes amongst the U.S. Rotarians as we realized what a dramatic impact this borehole would have. Not only would the women and children of the nearby villages not



have to walk many miles a day carrying 5-gallon jugs of dirty water, but they would be freed from the constant threat of death and disease from the parasite-infested, bacteria-filled water of old. Each year this borehole is in operation approximately four deaths and 500 cases of water-borne diseases such as dysentery, cholera, and typhoid will be avoided, not to mention the preventable blindness that occurs when people don't have clean water to wash their faces with. All in all, the 2004/2005 Water for Life project between these two clubs has affected the lives of almost 25,000 villagers in Luanshya.

As Chair of the District 5300 *Water resource – International Clean Water Initiative* this year, I have been sharing the clean-water initiative story and needs with other local District 5300 Clubs. The response has been incredible! In true Rotary style, clubs have embraced the initiative without exception and the 2005/2006 Water for Life project now has 9 clubs who have pledged funds (Pomona, Upland, Claremont, Claremont Sunrise, Rancho Cucamonga, Rancho Cucamonga Sunrise, Walnut, San Dimas, and Azusa) and each is in the process of being matched with its own clean water project somewhere in the world. Other clubs, like Alhambra, are already scheduled for Water for Life presentations in the near future. From a well in Egypt that will serve 2,000 lepers and their families to water aquafilter systems at high schools in the Ukraine, to wells and latrines in villages in India, District 5300 is reaching out to sister Rotary clubs around the world to fulfill their need for clean water.

The best is yet to come!! In 2006/2007 the *Water resource – International Clean Water Initiative* committee members will team up with a growing number of enthusiastic and active Rotarians to spread the message further and take District 5300 to new heights. With support from incoming Governor Christine Montan, we intend to set a lofty, yet achievable, goal of getting EVERY District 5300 Rotary Club involved in partnering with an International club on a clean water initiative this next year. Imagine! There are projects ranging from a few hundred dollars to tens of thousands of dollars, so you can take on whatever your pocketbooks allow and hearts dictate. This project comes with a solid gold guarantee...you will not find a project with a better return-on-investment than a clean-water project in a third-world country. During 2006/2007 each club will be contacted and asked to host a clean-water initiative program (to be put on by members of next year's *Water resource – International Clean Water Initiative* committee) showing the impact of these projects. We sincerely look forward to meeting each of you as we do this, knowing from this year's experience what the outcome will be. In Rotary, Service above self...God bless!

MONTEBELLO ROTARY CO-SPONSORS SNOW IN MONTEBELLO

by Anne Donofrio-Holter

Along with the Montebello Gang Diversion Task Force, and other community organizations and businesses, the Montebello Rotary Club helped bring snow to Montebello City Park on December 17.



Over 400 children, as well as adults, were able to frolic in freshly blown snow as well as slide down a specially constructed snow slide on inverted rubber trash can lids. A special Christmas train provided rides around the park and there were free holiday snacks for all who attended. In addition, a raffle of beautifully decorated Christmas trees was held.

"The Montebello Rotary Club is proud to partner with the Montebello Gang Diversion Task Force and others in bringing this wonderful event to our community," said Kathy Kohn,

Rotary Club president.

This is the second year the Montebello Rotary Club has been a co-sponsor of this event. Club members in attendance included Kathy Kohn, Chris Robles, George Pacheco, Helio Altamirano, Fernando Cuevas, Luis Trujillo, Anne Donofrio-Holter, and Larry Holter (Honorary).



EACH ONE BRING ONE

by Jacque Foreman, Editor "Sparks", Newsletter for Altadena Rotary

An article similar to this appeared in the 06 January 5 issue of Sparks for Rotary Awareness Month, but it is equally relevant each and every Rotary month.

The Rotarian reminds us that January is Rotary Awareness Month. How many of our family, friends, clients and/or acquaintances are UNaware of our affiliation with Rotary? Why are we keeping this a secret? Are we ashamed of Rotary or just our level of activity within Rotary? Why else would we keep our affiliation a secret? Yes, I am being politically *incorrect* by even asking the question.

Think of those others in our lives: our family, our friends, our clients and our acquaintances. Who and how many among them would we be willing to introduce to our fellow Rotarians?

When our clubs review their current club projects and future plans, it should be obvious that each club could use more hands to accomplish all that is being done in the four avenues of service.

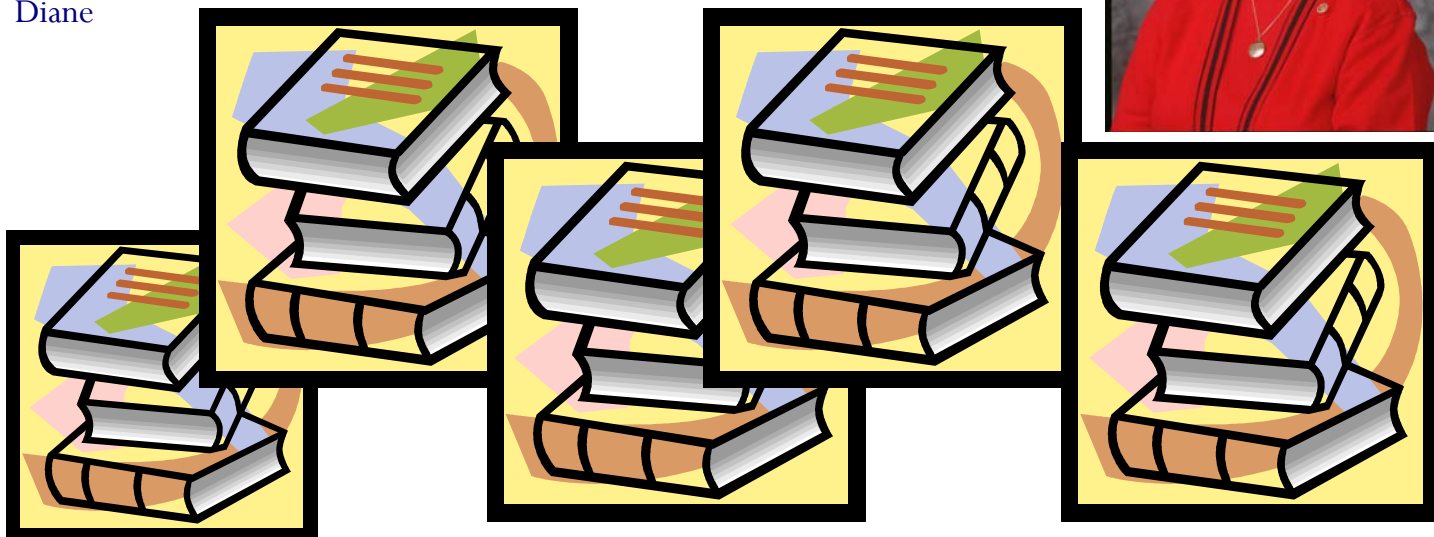
There's a Masonic motto: Many hands make heavy burdens light. And, in Rotary, we have enough projects to keep at least twice as many hands busy. For the next six months and on into the next if necessary, let's each commit to work to bring in at least one of those among our family, friends, clients or acquaintances and introduce him/her to the wonderful world and works of Rotary. If each one of us brings in one new member, soon we'll have many more hands to accomplish our many projects.

DIANE ANDERSON'S BOOK CORNER-20,000 BOOKS & COUNTING!

The books are still coming in and I am amazed at the response to the clubs in district 5300. I was hoping to receive a total of 5300 books and to date we are over 20,000 books. The numbers are still coming in.

Thanks to all who have donated books back into their local and international communities.

Diane



MORE THAN 50% OF D5300 CLUBS TO PARTICIPATE IN 3H GRANT

BY: BOB NOVELL

It is now official - we have been invited to the BIG dance! The Rotary Foundation has selected District 5300's 3H Grant application for a site visit. I had learned earlier in the week that this was going to happen but I wanted to get something in writing - this will be the second notice that I have received on a Sunday which means these people at the Foundation must be on overload. I will get a more comprehensive notification out to our 32 participating Clubs but in the meantime, I wanted to inform each of you who has played an important role in this effort.

In my phone conversation with James Robinson, who heads up 3H grants, I had already earlier in the week learned the following:

1. 50 3-H grant applications were received by the Foundation
2. Only 26 went through formal review. Many were disqualified because the two primary clubs had not previously and successfully done a matching grant together.
3. Earlier this week, the Foundation's Board had selected 14 projects for a site review. Our project is one of those 14 projects.
4. I had heard that the Foundation Board was increasing the budget for the 3-H area and James Robinson confirmed that this year's budget is now \$5,000,000.
5. Unless there are some grant applications for amounts greater than \$300,000 (the max amount when we submitted our application), 14 times \$300,000 is \$4,200,000 or less than the amount budgeted. From a financial standpoint therefore, there should be no constraints on our being approved.
6. I have spoken with Hamlet who has a number of irons in the fire during the next six weeks. Once we get the next set of instructions, we will have to put our heads together to strategize and begin preparations. He called me back to say that our project area is going to be put on the national electricity grid and therefore, some of power costs that we have budgeted may be reduced.

Hamlet Mbabazi and Bob Novell pose with the 2004-2005 Club Presidents who participated in the 3H grant roll call at the 2005 District 5300 Conference.



Dear Rotarians:

I am writing to inform you that the Programs Committee of the Trustees have reviewed your 3-H application and have requested an advance site visitor travel to the project site to collect additional information for consideration of your application at the April 2006 Trustee meeting.

In the next two weeks, the following events will take place:

1. Lisa Silberstein of the Auditing and Monitoring Department will contact you to inform you about the member of the Humanitarian Grants Cadre who will be contacting you to schedule the site visit.
2. You will receive shortly a list of questions and clarifications that have been requested by the Trustees. Please be prepared to address these questions when the advance site visitor arrives.
3. Steve Townsend, Senior Coordinator for 3-H Grants has been assigned to process your application from this point forward and you will communicate with him and the advance site visitor directly. If you have any further questions you can contact Steve by e-mail at steve.townsend@rotary.org

Please know that the advance site visitor will contact the international partner club/district by phone or e-mail to request additional information to complete the application for consideration by the Trustees. The advance site visitors will make their report to the Trustees prior to the meeting in April. You will be informed after the meeting has ended, (29 April 06) about their funding decision.

I hope you find this information useful and appreciate your cooperation in scheduling time to meet with the advance site visitor.

MUIR & MARSHALL HIGH SCHOOLS NOW IMBIBING ROTARY BUSINESS SAVVY

by C. Ray Carlson, Rotary Club of Altadena

After watching my presentation at a **Marshall HS** (Pasadena Unified School District) class, Lon Weind urged me to come to the **Muir HS Business and Finance Academy** and teach How to Write a Business Plan. I did so last Friday. The first class at 07.50 consisted of senior students who are developing a **Virtual Enterprise** to sell T-shirts and skate/surf boards.

The document handed to me was **United States Network of Virtual Enterprises & Merrill Lynch National Business Plan Competition**. It spells out all the details of how to form such a *phantom* business by writing a business plan. The whole class are Virtual Enterprise *employees* and *able to participate in writing a complete Business Plan*. The class was divided into groups — each responsible for writing a section of the Business Plan.

The Marketing group (3 girls) came to me and outlined their plans for custom-designed graphics on T-shirts. I was surprised to learn how much they were expecting to pay for the T-shirts, but even more surprised to learn the selling price: \$75 each! I asked how many of them would be willing to pay such a price, and all three girls said they had already done so. When I asked the whole class if any had also done so, a number of hands were raised. Even Mr. Weind was surprised. “How many do you hope to sell each month?” — “About 200.” “How do you propose to promote sales?” — “On the Internet.”

When the Human Resources group (2 males and 1 female) came to me, I asked, “How many employees are you proposing?” — “20.” When I calculated in my head what the monthly payroll would be — \$30,000, I wondered if product sales could support such a large staff and suggested that the business start with as few employees as possible and add only when the first two or so are exhausted by working too much but the company is making sufficient money to hire staff — the way the real-world operates. However, a basic premise of the Virtual Enterprise program is that every student should *feel* employed, regardless of the financial ramifications.

The second class members were junior students who were learning about Personal Finances but knew nothing about Business Plans. So I could expound on my favorite fill-in-the-blanks 1-page Business Plan, with the idea that **EVERY** student should be thinking about something he/she would like to start — as opposed to the group-think of the Virtual Enterprise concept, which rarely happens in the real world.

I WANT YOU...

To Register for our District Conference! It's simple, just go to

www.district5300.org

and register online!



“THE HIGHLIGHTER”
IS THE OFFICIAL
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF
ROTARY DISTRICT 5300
STEWART L. “STEW” ANDERSON
DISTRICT GOVERNOR 2005-2006

Deadline: 15th of month

Editor: Susanne Hayek

Rotary Club of Sierra Madre

626-353-1266

kahay@earthlink.net

Assistant Editor: Sylvia Whitlock,

Rotary Club of Claremont

WWW.DISTRICT5300.ORG