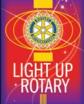


#### Leave a Legacy District 6840 Newsletter February, 2015



#### Governor Brian Hall's Message

"The people who are crazy enough to believe they can change the world are the ones that do." – Steve Jobs

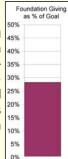
On February 23, 1905 Paul Harris and three other gentlemen met in an office in Chicago for the purpose of friendship and business networking. From those humble beginnings grew what we know today as Rotary. I don't



claim to know exactly what Paul Harris's dreams were in regards to Rotary. My guess is he had no idea in 1905 that one meeting would grow into what we are today.

Studies have proven that people join Rotary for friendship and to make a difference in their community. Like Paul Harris, my guess is that when you joined Rotary you didn't think about changing the world. When you took a leadership position in Rotary, you didn't imagine that term being a platform for changing the world.

That's exactly what happened though. When you joined Rotary you became part of an organization that is leading the charge to end polio. You became part of an organization dedicated to promoting peace, educating children, fighting water and sanitation problems, and making our communities better places. You became a world changer in an organization of world changers.



At the beginning of the year, we set three goals.



year. We set two other goals to allow us to continue to be world changers. Those two goals were increased membership and giving to the Rotary Foundation. You'll find reports on those goals inside. Invite a member and give to the Rotary Foundation – and be a world changer with us.

#### **Upcoming Events**

February 7, 2015 District 6840 Team Training First Pentecostal Church Slidell, LA

March 6-7, 2015 Ole Man River PETS Jackson Convention Complex Jackson, MS

March 14, 2015 Million Dollar Dinner Antoine's Restaurant New Orleans, LA

April 10-12, 2015 Rotary Rivage 2015 Joint District 6820 & 6840 Conference Beau Rivage Resort & Casino Biloxi, MS

May 2, 2015 District Assembly Pearl River Community College Poplarville, MS

June 6-9, 2015 Rotary International Convention Sao Paulo, Brazil

Page 1, Governor's Message Pages 2, 3 & 4, Club & District News Page 5, Youth Exchange Page 6, ShelterBox and Syria Page 7, PETS, Mid Year Checkup Page 8, Rotary Rivage 2015 Page 9, D-9800 GSE Team Bios Page 10, Annual Fund Giving

www.rotary6840.org

Serving Southeast Louisiana and the Mississippi Gulf Coast

### **Club & District News**



Please make sure your attendance reports are sent to the District Secretary not later than the fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) day following the last meeting of the month. I need this data promptly to get my report in on a timely manner. Also there are 13 clubs that have not sent their officer data for the 2014-2015 year. This was due not later than December 9<sup>th</sup>. Please send it in now! If you need the forms to complete this, let me know and I will forward them to you. I can also answer any questions you might have.

Thank You for your assistance in this very important matter! Gill Miller, District Secretary

The Rotary Foundation approved the Global Grant providing a sanitation network to Al Adly village near Cairo, Egypt. The Rotary Club of Slidell and District 6840 are participants in the project. The \$72,305 Global Grant was submitted by the Rotary Club of Heliopolis (Egypt) and the Rotary Club of Oldenburg (Germany).



A similar Global Grant had been submitted and approved recently for a clean water network for the same village. The two projects will dramatically improve the general health of the citizens of Al Adly.

This grant is truly an international service project, supported by the following Rotary Clubs and their respective districts:

RC Heliopolis (Egypt) RC Hoogezand (Netherlands) RC Scafati-Angri (Italy) RC Minneapolis (Minnesota) RC Oldenburg (Germany) RC Villa Park (California) RC Slidell (Louisiana) RC Soissons (France) RC Orange North (California) RC Newport Balboa (California)

A lot of attention is given to the young people who get into trouble or underachieve in school, but often the students who do exceptionally well in the classroom or make a huge difference in their community do not receive the recognition they deserve. That's why Louisiana Public Broadcasting and the Rotary Club of Baton Rouge created the **Louisiana Young Heroes Awards**. Now in its 20th year, the awards honor inspirational students in grades 7-12 who have excelled in the classroom, served their community, or shown great courage in overcoming adversity in their lives.

Nominations are now being taken for the 2015 Louisiana Young Heroes Awards. Students must be enrolled in a Louisiana school (public, private or parochial) or be homeschooled, and cannot be older than 19 years of age. Some of our former Young Heroes have overcome physical handicaps, raised money for charity – or started their own charity, cared for family members, assisted hurricane victims, and even saved lives. Nomination forms can be downloaded from <u>LPB's website</u> or submitted through the online form. Letters of recognition, newspaper articles, copies of awards, and other supporting materials should be sent to support the nomination.

Students who have been nominated in past years may be re-nominated for this year's awards. Previous winners are not eligible. **The deadline for entries is Friday, February 6, 2015.** Winners will be announced on the air and on the LPB website on Friday, March 6, 2015. **Louisiana Young Heroes Day will be Monday, April 27, 2015.** The Young Heroes will be treated to a day full of activities including lunch on the grounds of the Governor's Mansion. The day will culminate in a banquet that night at the Renaissance Hotel in Baton Rouge. The awards are co-presented by the Baton Rouge Rotary Club. Underwriters for the Louisiana Young Heroes Awards are Acadian Companies and CenturyLink. Check out the Louisiana Young Heroes Facebook page. For more information, call Margaret Schlaudecker at (800) 272-8161, ext. 4276 or (225) 767-4276, or emailkids@lpb.org

### Club & District News (cont)





The two remaining sessions for this year's Rotary Leadership Institute are Saturday, Jan. 31, and Saturday, Feb. 21. Come even if you have not attended a previous session; both Parts I and II will be presented on Jan. 31. RLI gives current and future club leaders insight into Rotary and their respective job assignments through interactive discussion groups. Both sessions will be held at the 1st Pentecostal Church in Slidell from 8 am to 3 pm.

Children's Cup MobilePack – February 6-7, 2015, Healing Place Church, Prairieville, LA



We invite you to join us in being a part of the hunger solution through this Feed My Starving Children MobilePack. This is an opportunity to learn about hunger related issues, pray for those in need, raise funds to cover the cost of meals and pack meals for the hungry. Through this powerful event, we can impact the lives of thousands of children in southern Africa.

Feed My Starving Children is a non-profit Christian organization committed to feeding God's children hungry in body and spirit. The approach is simple: children and adults hand-pack meals specifically formulated for malnourished children, and we ship the meals to nearly 70 countries around the world. Contact <u>www.childrenscup.org</u> for more information.



All of our Interact Clubs are encouraged to qualify for and receive the 2014-15 Presidential Citation Award from Rotary International. Please download the application form EN-(414). This form can be found by going to Rotary International - My Rotary and look for the Document Center - Awards section. The completed forms must be received by our District Governor by March 31, 2015. Again, all of our Interact Clubs are encouraged to receive this very prestigious award. Reminder: the Interact District 6840 Conference, will turday Ech. 28th from 0 AM to 5 DM at Salman High School, Slidell LA

be held on Saturday Feb. 28th from 9 AM to 5 PM at Salmen High School, Slidell, LA.

The provisional Mid City club held its first community service function at the Crescent City Café. The mission of the Café is to serve breakfast to New Orleans homeless, and to connect young adults to service to our community. The Café is open two Saturdays a month from 8:00 am to 9:30 am and typically serves about eighty clients. The hosting facility is Rayne United Methodist Church on St. Charles Avenue. Photo is courtesy of Carl Michel.



WHO: All Rotarians, Families of Rotarians, Rotaract Members, and Interact Members attending Rotary Rivage 2015, the Joint District 6840 / 6820 Conference, Beau Rivage, Biloxi, MS

WHAT: Stop Hunger Now Packaging Event, April 11, Saturday afternoon

WHY: Every day 25,000 people die from hunger and hunger related causes. Rotarians working together to package food provides Rotarians a viable way to end hunger as the food they package is directed to school feeding programs in developing countries.

Another WHY is to educate and engage a community of volunteers in the movement to fight hunger and poverty. What a great way to get to know your fellow Rotarians by working side by side at this fun-filled event!

HOW: Action Item, mail a check for \$250 to our District Treasurer, Vicky Gutierrez, made payable to District 6840.

### Club & District News (cont)



#### "FRIENDSHIP EXCHANGE" - VERMONT/NEW HAMPSHIRE!

February 11 to 21, 2015, a group of Rotarians from Vermont/New Hampshire District 7850 will join us for some of the Mardi Gras festivities, and other features of our Gulf Coast Region! There will be a few opportunities for D6840 Rotarians to meet our visitors:



- On Mardi Gras Day, the group will be at a Prytania home at 7<sup>th</sup> St. check with Karen!
- On February 19, Sharron Newton will be hosting a dinner at her home in Slidell please inform Sharron as to what you will be contributing to the feast - 415-710-7347!
- On February 20, our visitors will be at the Slidell Rotary Club meeting.

If you are interested in participating in the fall trip to D7850, this would be a good opportunity to meet some of the potential hosts!



September 29 to October 7, 2015, or September 30 to October 10, 2015, D6840 Rotarians are invited to a special part of New England to enjoy Vermont's renowned Fall Foliage, New Hampshire, and other activities! Montreal is a terrific spot for coming and going! D7850 includes Sherbrook in Canada, and Burlington, VT, featuring the University of Vermont & Middlebury Colleges, in a charming and picturesque town. The Shelburne Museum is near Burlington – a fascinating destination that could take a whole day. There are local and historical sites in the Upper Valley (near Dartmouth College), Montpelier (capital of VT), Waterbury area (home of Ben and Jerry's ice cream).

The plans are basically home-stays with Rotarians, "Bed & Breakfast style." Guests will have their own rental cars/vans (probably for 4 or more passengers each) and will be responsible for their personal expenses and meals when they are on their own. Every effort will be made to make sure that the planned itinerary suits the interests and needs of the participating folks.

PLEASE let me know ASAP if you are interested!!

Karen Babin, 2015 Friendship Exchange Coordinator for D6840 504-875-4342, 518-588-9096 (mobile)

ksbabin@gmail.com

RI President-elect K.R. "Ravi" Ravindran chose Be a Gift to the World as his theme for 2015-16. Ravindran urges Rotary members to give the gifts of time, talent, and knowledge to improve lives in communities across the globe. "Through Rotary, we can take these gifts and make a genuine difference in the lives of others and in our world."



Be a gift to the world

**106th Annual Convention of Rotary International** 6 - 9 June, 2015

São Paulo, Brazil

**Howard Tours** 516 Grand Avenue Oakland, CA 94610 Phone: 510-834-2260 Toll Free: 1-800-475-2260 Fax: 510-834-1019 F-mail: Travel@HowardTours.net www.HowardTours.net

You are invited to join us as we travel to the 106th Annual Convention of Rotary International in São Paulo, Brazil from June 6-9, 2015. It has been fifteen years since the convention has been in South America, and the time has never been better to explore the beauty, cultures and history of this region.

Our programs have been designed to give you freedom and flexibility of choice. From short tours that are economically minded, to deluxe programs designed for experienced travelers, we have offered you a wide range from which to choose.

Howard Tours, which is owned and operated by Rotarians, has been taking Rotarians to the Rotary International conventions since the early 1950's. Literally tens of thousands of Rotarians have traveled with us. We hope that we have included something that you would like to see and do in the following materials, and hope you will join us.

Please contact DGND Kathie Short, 228-234-1256, topdogms@aol.com, for more information.

### District Committee Reports-Rotary Youth Exchange



We are excited to announce that we have selected three students from D6840 to represent us as Rotary Goodwill Ambassadors in the 2015-2016 school year. Our **Outbound students** are: Bradley, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Picayune; Zoe, sponsored by the Rotary Club of St. Charles Parish, and Dana, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Metairie Sunrise. These fantastic young people were interviewed by a panel of 20 Rotarians and friends of Rotary in December and have already participated in their first Outbound Training Session following the Mid-Year Check-up in Bay St. Louis on

January 10. Their training will continue with a service project with the Rotary Club of Hammond on March 14, participation at District Conference and service project on April 11 in Biloxi, and a final meeting sponsored by the Rotary Club of Franklinton in May. They are awaiting confirmation from their sponsor countries and we will announce their placement by the end of February.

We are actively seeking host clubs for the 2015-2016 school year. Bay St. Louis, Picayune, and Covington have confirmed their willingness to host. If your club is ready to get engaged, please contact Rotary Youth Exchange Chair, Elizabeth Van Sant, to arrange for an information and training session. This will need to take place outside of a regular club meeting and lasts approximately 2 hours. At this session, you will need to bring together your club's Youth Exchange Officer, Rotary Counselor, and the first 2 host families. A school representative and next year's leadership team are also key components of a successful program. The number of students we can host and sponsor as a district is limited only by the hospitality of your clubs and communities. Contact Elizabeth at: rye6840@gmail.com

Our current **Inbound students**, Joara from Brazil (hosted by Covington), Anna from Denmark (St. Charles Parish), and Lily from Taiwan (Slidell and Slidell Northshore), are already completing their 6<sup>th</sup> month in our district. They are happy to come and speak to your clubs about their experiences and to get your membership excited about Rotary Youth Exchange and the many personal benefits of hosting and building International Goodwill and Fellowship. Contact any of the host clubs to be put in touch with the Youth Exchange Officers who will help with logistics and getting the students from school and to your club meeting.



All of our students, Inbound and Outbound, will be participating fully at District Conference and in the service project on April 11. If you haven't met them at any other district and club events, this will be your last chance. Everyone involved in Youth Exchange is ready to share this fabulous experience with you and assist you in bringing the program to your club, school, and community. The newly unveiled Strategic Plan for D6840 emphasizes Youth Exchange – if you are having trouble identifying how to get involved, don't panic! It's really quite simple. Here are some ideas:

Name and train a Club Youth Exchange Officer and Rotary Counselor to begin preparing for the future (we will hold another session at District Conference but we also will come to your club – see above)

Commit to host a student

Cultivate your club's recruitment efforts with local schools (the application for the 2016-2017 school year will be live soon at the district website under District Programs/Youth Exchange)

Invite a student or the RYE Committee to give a program;

Bring our Youth Exchange Students to the next Interact meeting, project, or social event;

- identify a weekend with a club service project and reach out now to Elizabeth to have it included in the students' program.
- Build a cultural outing with Exchange Students in mind: a fishing trip, a crawfish boil, a college or professional sports event, an afternoon at a gun range, a cooking class (at your home), take them to a festival in your community, a Cajun dance class, an evening of live local music...

One of our students gave the club's report at Mid-Year Check-Up

Hosting a Mardi Gras parade party? Have a toilet along the parade routes? Let us know – we'll be in New Orleans for all the parades Friday, Feb 14-Monday, Feb 16

#### District Committee Reports-ShelterBox Response to the Syrian Refugee Crisis



Thanks to the overwhelming support of our donors, ShelterBox has been able to help more than 130,000 families around the world since our inception in 2000. In 2014, we have already sent aid to more than 25 different disasters and throughout the holidays we will be looking back at how these responses have made a difference to families in need as a direct result of the support of our donors.

One disaster, which we have continued to respond to throughout the year, is the ongoing conflict throughout Syria, Lebanon, the Kurdistan region of Iraq and Jordan. In the three years since the conflict first broke out in Syria, more than 9 million people have been forced from their homes in the war-torn country, after being exposed to violence and unremitting fighting. The majority now remain within the borders with no home to go to and no possessions. More than 3.2 million refugees still seek safety and shelter across neighboring countries. The vast majority of fleeing families arrive with little more than the clothes on their backs.



Many are injured from continuous bombing and shelling. They have no regular food and no income. Men, women and children are suffering through no fault of their own. They are in desperate need of shelter and other vital supplies.

ShelterBox has to date sent aid to support more than 5,000 families in Syria, the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, Lebanon and Jordan in some truly challenging situations. Throughout 2014 our aid efforts have continued in earnest, working with partner organizations to continually preserve to deliver vital aid to where it is needed the most.

One of the aspects of life that has been most greatly affected is education. Children whose families are on the run from conflict in Syria have been described as a generation lost to education. However, ShelterBox is helping to bring refugee children back into the classroom.

Working with long-term partner charity Hand in Hand for Syria, ShelterBox has been sending truckloads of aid deep into Syria, containing tents, shelter repair kits, mosquito nets, water filters and carriers, blankets, groundsheets, solar lamps and most importantly for some, ShelterBox SchoolBoxes. Our SchoolBoxes contain essential supplies for teachers, including wind-up radios that also charge mobile phones, and school equipment for 50 children.

They also include blackboard paint and a brush – these two items alone can transform any flat surface into a focus for learning. School packs, in bright yellow material bags, also contain stationery, pens and calculators along with drawing and maths equipment. ShelterBox continues to work to assist families in need in the region. As another winter closes in on those who have lost their homes, thanks to the support of our donors, we strive to help bring families in from the cold.

We would like to thank everyone who donated to our request for assistance during the Syrian refugee crisis, and our Typhoon Haiyan appeal, allowing us to assist families in the Philippines. The photo to the left is from flooding earlier in 2014 in Indonesia. ShelterBox now has a Response Team in neighboring Malaysia which is experiencing flooding this year.



## PETS Planning and Mid Year Checkup

The 2015 Ole Man River PETS Organizing Committee met on January 9th at the Jackson Country Club to finalize plans for the upcoming PETS, to be held at the Jackson Convention Complex on March 6th and 7th. This year the multi-district PETS will include five districts: 6190, 6200, 6800, 6820, and 6840, encompassing all Louisiana and Mississippi. Tracks for presidents-elect, presidents-nominee, and assistant governors are planned.



The Mid Year Checkup was held on January 10th at the Bay Waveland Yacht Club. Each Rotary club gave a two-minute briefing on the club's major accomplishments during the past six months. District Governor Nominee Randy Feldman rolled out the new District Long Range Plan, and PDG Greg Lier explained requirements to get an invitation to the Million Dollar Dinner at Antoine's Restaurant on March 14th.





Concurrent with the Mid Year Checkup was a training session for participants in next year's Rotary Youth Exchange, led by District Youth Exchange Officer

Elizabeth Van Sant. This year's Incoming Youth Exchange Students, Anna from Denmark, Lily from Taiwan, and Joara from Brazil made appearances, as did our Outgoing Group Study Exchange Team, led by Carl Michel, and accompa-

nied by team members Chris Vignes, Kait Sukiennik, and Alex Michael.



















## Rotary Rivage 2015

#### 2015 ROTARY RIVAGE DISTRICT CONFERENCE - D6820 & D6840 Thursday, April 9 to Sunday, April 12

Family Friendly!Great rate at The Beau Rivage!Casual, Fun, Inspiring!PLEASE bring a "non-perishable food item" which will be delivered to an impoverished little MS town

On Saturday afternoon, everyone is invited (including children as young as 5!) to participate in a service project - **"Stop Hunger Now"**!!! In assembly line fashion, we will be assembling packets containing a nutritious meal for 6 people! Our target is 40,000 meals at \$.29 each - cost \$11,600 - just 24 clubs in each district contributing \$250 will achieve our goal of \$5,800 per district!

Here are some of the highlights:

There will be a nice "Welcome Reception" on Thursday evening (6:00 to 7:00).

Club project displays will be in the House of Friendship.

The early Friday start will be for the "Business Meeting" and the very interesting "General Session."

The "Lunch Honoring Club Presidents" will include a presentation by the newly named 2016-2017 RI

President, John Germ from Chattanooga!

After lunch there will be 9 engaging and enlightening "Breakout Sessions" to choose from!

The new **"Maritime & Seafood Industry Museum**," (on the same property as the venue for the Food Fest), will stay open until 6:00pm for our group!

The rollicking **"Food Fest"** will start at 6:00 at the open-air **Point Cadet Pavilion**! Clubs provide the food and drinks. Great band, great fellowship - no charge!

Saturday morning features the "Foundation Breakfast."

Leading up to Saturday lunch, there will be 9 more interesting and educational "Breakout Sessions."

Lunch will feature some special presentations.

Saturday afternoon is "Free Time" with many folks participating in the "Stop Hunger Now" project!

A casual, fun, "Luau" themed dinner (overlooking the Gulf, weather permitting), will round out Saturday! Awards, comedy, music, dancing - "Let the Good Times Roll"

The Sunday morning "Service of Remembrance" is followed by a "Jazz Brunch" and the "Wrap up"

Numerous top Rotary leaders from around the USA and beyond will be with us! Children's activities!! Bring the children and grandchildren!

## D-9800 GSE Team (Australia)

Peter Frueh Team Leader

Age: 62 at departure Birth Date: 19<sup>th</sup> February 1953 Hometown: Melbourne, Victoria Current City: Melbourne, Victoria Vocation: Change Management Consulting

Assistant Governor – Beachside Cluster Past President - Balwyn Rotary District 9800



Jacqui Dickenson Team Member

Age: 25 Birth Date: 4<sup>th</sup> August 1989 Hometown: Melbourne, Victoria Current City: Melbourne, Victoria Vocation: Event Manager and Cellar Door Operations Sponsored By: Rotary Club of Melbourne



#### Latasha Slocombe Team Member

AGE: 30 BIRTHDATE: 5<sup>th</sup> July 1984 HOMETOWN: Bungal, Victoria CURRENT TOWN: Bungal, Victoria VOCATION: Teacher SPONSORED BY: Rotary Club of Altona, District 9800



#### Tom Mitchell TEAM Member

AGE: 26 BIRTH DATE: October 24, 1988 HOMETOWN: Mornington Peninsula, Melbourne CURRENT CITY: Mornington Peninsula, Melbourne VOCATION: Building Estimator SPONSORED BY: Rotary Club of Melton Valley, District 9800



Joni Pirovich **Team Member** Age: 26 5 March 1988 DOB: Hometown: Mareeba, Far North Queensland **Current city:** Melbourne, Victoria Vocation: Corporate tax senior consultant & Youth homelessness project leader Sponsored by: Rotary Club of Melbourne & Rotary Club of Carlton



# District 6840 Giving – Annual Fund

Club	Actual AF Giving	Actual AF per mem	
North Bay Biloxi		\$ 720.10	
Northlake Mandeville	\$14,035	\$ 246.23	
Amite	\$5,810	\$ 223.46	
New Orleans Riverbend	\$3,040	\$ 202.67	
Slidell	\$9,595	\$ 195.82	
Covington	\$4,250	\$ 151.79	
Kenner	\$2,240	\$ 149.33	
Algiers	\$2,125	\$ 141.67	
McComb	\$7,197	\$ 78.22	
Ocean Springs	\$4,425	\$ 66.04	
Plaquemines Parish	\$900	\$ 64.29	
Pass Christian	\$1,512	\$ 63.00	
Central Hancock	\$1,345	\$ 53.80	
Biloxi	\$3,100	\$ 47.69	
Carrollton	\$780	\$ 32.50	
Long Beach	\$413	\$ 31.79	
Metairie	\$1,780	\$ 31.23	
Lucedale	\$1,000	\$ 27.03	
Gautier	\$1,225	\$ 23.11	
Picayune	\$1,000	\$ 22.22	
Belle Chasse	\$730	\$ 21.47	
New Orleans	\$2,565	\$ 20.52	
Metairie Sunrise	\$370	\$ 17.62	
East New Orleans	\$190	\$ 15.83	
St. Charles	\$1,200	\$ 14.81	
La Place	\$280	\$ 12.73	
Hattiesburg	\$970	\$ 11.02	

<u>Club</u>	Actual AF Giving	Actual AF per mem	
Bogalusa	\$260	\$	10.83
Gulfport Orange Grove	\$350	\$	9.46
Hammond	\$488	\$	8.27
Stennis	\$100	\$	7.14
Richton	\$100	\$	5.56
Westwego	\$130	\$	5.42
West Bank	\$364	\$	5.28
Tylertown	\$130	\$	5.00
Hattiesburg Sunrise	\$130	\$	3.82
Petal	\$175	\$	3.57
Poplarville	\$100	\$	3.57
Slidell North Shore	\$130	\$	3.02
Gulfport	\$380	\$	2.86
Bay St. Louis	\$175	\$	2.50
Ponchatoula	\$100	\$	2.22
Pascagoula	\$150	\$	1.20
Hammond Ponchatoula Sunrisers	\$25	\$	0.44
Edgewater	\$15	\$	0.35
Columbia	\$0	\$	-
Franklinton	\$0	\$	-
Greene County	\$0	\$	-
Harahan	\$0	\$	-
Kentwood	\$0	\$	-
Moss Point	\$0	\$	-
St. Bernard	\$0	\$	-
Summit	\$0	\$	-
District Totals	\$79,699	\$	36.81