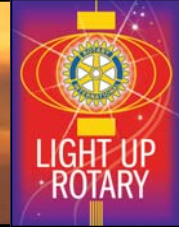




Leave a Legacy District 6840 Newsletter November, 2014

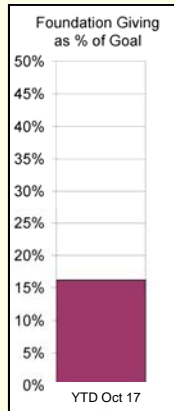


Governor Brian Hall's Message

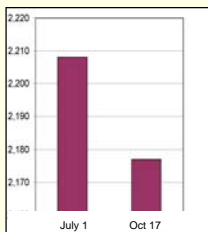
I'd like to start off this month – Rotary Foundation month! – with a story from one of our clubs. I got an email from President Regina Wedig of the Amite club. Like all of our clubs, they're doing some great projects that benefit their community. They decided to take a close look at their dictionary project. They went to the elementary school teachers and principals and asked if the dictionary project is still relevant. They received a quick and emphatic YES. (That surprised them, and me to be honest.) When the response from the teachers was shared at their meeting, their Interact club members were present. The students chimed in saying that they still had and used the dictionaries they had received years ago.



This is a fantastic example of what Rotary should be about. Not only is this a project that affects the community, but they took the time to assess whether it was relevant. Had it not been, they could have changed their project to make it better. As it stands, the club is again enthused about the dictionary project. The club received a shot in the arm because they know what they are doing matters. As I've said in my presentations, what you do matters. Don't forget that.



On Foundation giving, we're at a hair over \$46,000. We are up almost 70% over last year, which is fantastic progress! We've asked each of our presidents to lead by example and give to the Rotary Foundation. Several already have and many more have committed to do so. Let's keep moving forward and do our best to leave a legacy this year. Keep up the great work of Rotary.



District Membership

Upcoming Events

- November 15, 2014
Strategic Planning Session
WYES Offices
New Orleans, LA
- December 4, 2014
Paul Harris Society - Foundation Gala
Hancock Bank Bldg
Gulfport, MS
- January 10, 2015
Mid-Year Checkup
Bay Waveland Yacht Club
Bay St. Louis, MS
- 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
- April 10-12, 2015
Joint District 6820 & 6840 Conference
Beau Rivage Resort & Casino
Biloxi, MS

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- Page 5, Youth Exchange & Foundation
- Page 6, Stop Hunger Now
- Page 7, Annual Fund Giving

www.rotary6840.org



Club & District News



"VERMONT FOLIAGE ADVENTURE" FRIENDSHIP EXCHANGE BETWEEN D6840, & D7850 IN VERMONT!

Rotarians in District 6840 have an opportunity to participate in a Friendship Exchange with Rotarians in Vermont! Our D6840 Rotarians will be travelling to Vermont in late September and early October, 2015. The Rotarians from Vermont will be joining us in District 6840 in mid-February for Mardi Gras festivities and other features of our Gulf Coast Region.

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. If you are interested in participating as a "host" for some of our visitors next February, please let me know. "Hosts" will have some priority if the September-October trip gets over-subscribed!

The Vermont trip is a GREAT opportunity to visit a special part of New England, at a special time of year!! Start your planning for a wonderful Rotary adventure!!!

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



The first session of The Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) was held October 25. Future sessions will be January 31 and February 21. The mission of The Rotary Leadership Institute is to provide an educational opportunity for Rotarians identified as potential leaders by their club presidents. Each club president is asked annually to nominate club members as potential club leaders (not necessarily future presidents) in the years ahead.



Rotary needs a constant influx of leaders as club officers, since they change every year. It is difficult at the club level to learn enough about the exciting world of Rotary and leadership skills in volunteer organizations are often different from business leadership skills.

SHOULD MY CLUB PARTICIPATE? If your club members care about its future, they will want the best leaders possible. RLI is an outstanding opportunity for each club to improve the Rotary knowledge of its key people and to be exposed to new ideas of leadership. The exchange of ideas with other experienced Rotarians alone makes the courses extremely worthwhile.

Parts I and II will be presented on January 31. For more information visit Rotary 6840 website; or contact Janice S. McKellar, District Chair, at 601-303-1152 or jmckellar@smcc.edu.



The following clubs are planning to host a Rotary Youth Exchange student in the 2015-2016 school year: Bay St. Louis, Covington, Picayune, Slidell/Slidell Northshore, St. Charles Parish. Contact RYE Chair Elizabeth to see how to add your club to list and continue to expand this incredible program and the opportunities it offers to your club, your families, your communities, your schools, and your students. **All it takes is your personal commitment to Light Up Rotary!**

District Committee Reports- Strategic Planning and ShelterBox

District 6840

Strategic Planning Initiative

Saturday, November 15

The creation of the district's long-range plan is reaching the critical juncture in our Strategic Planning Initiative. On Saturday, November 15, Rotarians interested in the future of the district's service to the clubs will meet from 8:30 a.m. to noon at WYES Studios in New Orleans (916 Navarre Avenue) to have coffee, doughnuts, and hammer out how to accomplish "service above self" starting July 1, 2015.

All Rotarians are encouraged to register and attend. If you have an opinion about what your club needs or issues it faces, make a comment and we will see how the district can deal with it. Or perhaps you may just be interested to find out what the district is and how it may affect you and your club's activities.

Registration is on the District 6840 website, www.rotary6840.org. These sessions have gotten positive reviews; they are fun and interesting. Become engaged and light up Rotary. We'll see you on the 15th.

District Governor Nominee Randy Feldman



Philippine Update -The Philippines, a country of approximately 100 million people spread across 7,100 islands, stands in the path of the most violent storms anywhere on the globe. In a typical year, 19 typhoons thunder across the Pacific towards them, with around nine making landfall, regularly bringing widespread destruction, loss of life and shattered livelihoods.

Like other humanitarian agencies, ShelterBox has a near continuous presence in these storm-ravaged communities, and keeps stocks of aid in permanent storage at Clark Air Base on Luzon Island. Often we are returning to the same communities time after time as the rebuilding work is simply not of the standard to withstand these storms.

But Typhoon Haiyan - at 195 mph the most powerful storm ever recorded to make landfall and which claimed 6,200 lives - was a game-changer. Since last November, the



shelter needs of Filipino families have moved from response to recovery to rebuilding.

The international outpouring of sympathy and support has enabled ShelterBox to expand its normal operations, maintaining its commitment in the Philippines and assisting families with their shelter needs in the following ways:

- Over the last ten months more than 100 response team members have worked delivering aid, much of it to remote island communities.
- Over 7,200 families received emergency shelter, and ShelterBox has also provided an additional 10,000 solar lights, 870 water filtration systems, 2,300 mosquito nets, 445 tool kits and 30 School Boxes.
- ShelterBox has also deployed a new product, the Shelter Repair Kit, which contains tools, tarpaulins and fixings to help protect rebuilding sites from the unforgiving monsoon rains.

District Committee Reports- Group Study Exchange & Friends Forever



On October 3-4, the GSE Team participated in an overnight retreat, hosted by Sharron & Bill Newton of the Slidell Club. The objectives of the overnight retreat were team building, leadership development, and to gather a basic understanding of Rotary.

On Friday, October 3 our team prepared...and later devoured, an Australian meal consisting of meatpies along with sides of brussel sprouts with bacon and shallots, salad, and mashed potatoes. The next morning we enjoyed breakfast with our guest presenter, District Governor Brian Hall, who gave our team members a basic overview of Rotary as well as our District.



Finally, our team completed the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator and participated in a session facilitated by Michele Blanchard of Leadership Northshore. Michele discussed our different personality types and how they would interact in a team setting. That night some of the team members were able to attend the Rotary social event at Rock 'N Bowl, hosted by the Covington Club. We have assembled a great group of young professionals from our region and this team is really coming together.

Next month look for detailed profiles of our team members as well as information about our soon to be released Facebook page. We will depart for Melbourne on February 19, 2015 and return with the inbound Australian GSE Team on March 22.

Carl Michel, 2015 GSE Team Leader



The 2015 Friends Forever delegation from Belfast, Northern Ireland, arrived on October 18, and will stay until November 1. On Wednesday, October 22, the Mayor of Slidell, Freddy Drennan, met with the delegation and introduced them to the City. He proclaimed the day to be Friends Forever Day in Slidell. Then the delegation attended the noon meeting of the Rotary Club of St. Charles Parish. The delegation had Belfast city emblems to present to the City of Slidell and to the Rotary Club of St. Charles Parish.



On Monday, October 27, the clubs of the Beach Territory, (Biloxi, Edgewater, North Bay, Ocean Springs), hosted a dinner for the group from Friends Forever and Rotarians throughout the District. The event, held at the Donal Snyder Center in Biloxi was an event not to be missed. The teens from Belfast gave a thought provoking presentation to those in attendance. This is the 3rd event the clubs of Beach Territory have worked on as a group this year.



District Committee Reports- Rotary Youth Exchange and Foundation



Deadline for submission of applications for the 2015-2016 school year to sponsoring clubs is **Nov 7, 2014**. Clubs, IF YOU RECEIVE AN APPLICATION AND ARE UNSURE OF THE NEXT STEPS, PLEASE CONTACT OUTBOUND CHAIR HOUSTON COSTOLO (jhcostolo@att.net). All students of D6840 are eligible to apply EVEN IF YOUR CLUB DOESN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO! Motivated students will be seeking the application and following the instructions **which are to be sponsored by a local Rotary Club**. The District RYE Committee will fully support any club that receives an application to ensure that the student is interviewed and is not disqualified because of a club's inexperience with the program. Additionally, we are seeking Rotarians from across D6840 with an interest in Youth and/or experience living overseas and/or cultural adaptation **to assist with the District Interviews of Youth Exchange Applicants from 8am-1pm on DEC. 6 in Slidell**. Please contact RYE Chair Elizabeth Van Sant rye6840@gmail.com to indicate your interest and availability.

If your club has not invited a Rotary Youth Exchange Student or a member of the RYE Committee to present to your club this year, please do! If you invited us last year, invite us again! RYE is one of the most exciting programs of Rotary and can both bring the world into your club, homes, and community and also open up the world to the high school students in your area. Each year, approximately 8,000 incredibly brave students participate in Rotary Youth Exchange for a full school year and the students in the communities we serve now have this opportunity... But each club needs to have **one** knowledgeable person to field questions from applicants and families and to deliver information to Interact clubs and applicants.

Our three students this year, Lily from Taiwan in Slidell (contact Ron Davis: ron.davis@bluebell.com), Anna from Denmark in St. Charles Parish (Fen Swann: fswann@bellsouth.net), and Joara from Brazil in Covington (Kirk Michel: kmmapps@gmail.com), are looking forward to invitations to your clubs, your service projects, and the experiences you can offer. Going fishing? Have extra tickets to a Saints game? Does your club have a fun social event planned? Is your club membership feeling old? Invite a student to keep you young! Does your membership need to know more about the World of Rotary? Invite a Rotary Youth Exchange Student!

Save the Date
Thursday, December 4, 2014



Make your plans now to join us at our

District 6840 Paul Harris Society –
Foundation Gala

at the Great Southern Club, atop the
Hancock Bank Building, Gulfport, Mississippi.

Social: 6:30 pm (cash bar)

Dinner: 7:00 pm

(Choice of Entries, steak or salmon with
salad, vegetable, dessert, tea, and coffee) \$45/person

Registration is now open on the district
website www.rotary6840.org.

Fees can be paid online.

The
Rotary
Foundation 

Stop Hunger Now



Rotarians of District 6840 and District 6820 plan to put on their hair nets (see photos) and join in on the effort to fight hunger at the 2015 District Conference in Biloxi. This event will be coordinated by Stop Hunger Now, an international relief organization headquartered in Raleigh, North Carolina. I would like to encourage each club to donate \$250.00 via our district, as well as, provide a few conference attendees to participate in the packaging event on April 11th.

Each club may participate by making your check payable to District 6840 or District 6820 with a memo for Stop Hunger Now and mailed to the District Treasurer Vicky Gutierrez before February 1, 2015. For more information on this organization, the website is www.stophungernow.com I may be contacted at currie.sheila@gmail.com.

This meal packaging program is a volunteer-based program that coordinates the streamlined packaging of highly nutritious dehydrated meals comprised of rice, soy, vegetables, flavoring, and 21 essential vitamins and minerals. The meals are easily transported to crises-burdened areas or supplied to school feeding programs around the world. The meals cost only 29 cents per meal to create and are specifically designed for malnourished individuals.

Stop Hunger Now's meal packaging program has two goals: The first is to package as much food as possible and send it all over the world to support sustainable educational/development programs. The second goal of the program is to educate and engage a community of volunteers in the movement to fight hunger and poverty.

In 2009, The Rotary Club of Gulfport packaged 20,000 meals to benefit third world countries and enjoyed a club fellowship project that is still talked about even today. I believe that this can be done at the district level. If each club within the two districts donates \$250, we could package 83,621 meals for this project. These meals can be packaged over a four-hour period of time and the volunteers may work in shifts so more people may have an opportunity to participate.



And finally, what a great opportunity it would be for the interact club members, Rotary Ambassadorial Scholars, and Group Study Exchange team members (current and alumni) to work side by side with the members of the Rotary clubs attending the conference on this international project.

Sheila Currie
Rotary Club of Gulfport



District 6840 Giving - Annual Fund

Club	Actual APF Giving	Actual APF per member	Club	Actual APF Giving	Actual APF per member
Northlake Mandeville	\$11,955	\$ 209.74	Belle Chasse	\$0	\$ -
Amite	\$4,810	\$ 171.79	Bogalusa	\$0	\$ -
Slidell	\$7,906	\$ 146.41	Columbia	\$0	\$ -
Algiers	\$1,950	\$ 130.00	East New Orleans	\$0	\$ -
McComb	\$5,672	\$ 61.65	Edgewater	\$0	\$ -
Ocean Springs	\$3,925	\$ 57.72	Franklinton	\$0	\$ -
Pass Christian	\$1,512	\$ 52.14	Greene County	\$0	\$ -
Covington	\$1,420	\$ 47.33	Gulfport Orange Grove	\$0	\$ -
Picayune	\$1,000	\$ 21.74	Harahan	\$0	\$ -
Metairie	\$1,050	\$ 18.42	Hattiesburg Sunrise	\$0	\$ -
Carrollton	\$530	\$ 17.10	Kenner	\$0	\$ -
Biloxi	\$1,100	\$ 16.18	Kentwood	\$0	\$ -
St. Charles	\$1,200	\$ 14.81	Lucedale	\$0	\$ -
Central Hancock	\$325	\$ 13.54	Metairie Sunrise	\$0	\$ -
Long Beach	\$150	\$ 11.54	Moss Point	\$0	\$ -
Hattiesburg	\$560	\$ 6.22	North Bay Biloxi	\$0	\$ -
Richton	\$100	\$ 5.56	Pascagoula	\$0	\$ -
Westwego	\$130	\$ 5.42	Petal	\$0	\$ -
Tylertown	\$130	\$ 4.81	Plaquemines Parish	\$0	\$ -
La Place	\$100	\$ 3.85	Poplarville	\$0	\$ -
West Bank	\$200	\$ 2.90	Slidell North Shore	\$0	\$ -
New Orleans Riverbend	\$40	\$ 2.67	St. Bernard	\$0	\$ -
Ponchatoula	\$100	\$ 2.22	Stennis	\$0	\$ -
Bay St. Louis	\$150	\$ 2.17	Summit	\$0	\$ -
New Orleans	\$255	\$ 1.98			
Gulfport	\$250	\$ 1.89			
Gautier	\$100	\$ 1.89			
Hammond	\$100	\$ 1.67			
Hammond Ponchatoula Sunrisers	\$25	\$ 0.44			