

District Newsletter

February 2010 Issue: 7



World Understanding Month



Sylvia Plourde

District Governor 2009-2010

February is the month of World Understanding and so appropriate for our district. We bring good will, understanding and much needed assistance through our clubs' individual International Projects. These are numerous throughout the district touching the lives of those living in so many different countries. I applaud all your good works in the name of Rotary.

I cannot thank everyone enough for the very generous donations to the people of Haiti and those clubs who have chosen to buy Shelter Boxes as a relief aid. When in need, Rotarians like us know how to respond quickly and efficiently to those who have been so devastatingly affected. So far the clubs have raised more than \$35,000 in both cash donations and shelter boxes. It doesn't get any better than this.

World Understanding is also evidenced by our District Projects. Clubs have long supported District Projects and this year was no exception with the Water Project in Ecuador. Having good drinking water is essential to human life. Other district projects we've done include School benches and supplies in Togo, Africa, Safe Passage in Guatemala, Prostheses for children in Columbia, Agriculture programs in Peru, Library in the Philippines, Orphanage in Romania, Building houses in Brazil to name a few. These and others are listed on our district website.

Rotary Peace and Conflict Resolution Centers are also a key in achieving World Understanding as are Group Study Exchange, Youth Exchange, and our Scholarship Program-exchanges that occur throughout the world. Our young people bring peace, understanding, goodwill, professional exchanges that have an affect on how we are perceived. Polio is another area that Rotarians have devoted themselves by providing hands-on participation in administering vaccines to children and adults in so many countries. Sometimes we forget just how much we do internationally but those who receive our assistance know first hand what is in our hearts.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact PDG Paul Beaulieu for the World Community Service and PDG Yves Fecteau for the Centers on Peace and Conflict Resolution.

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Sylvia Plourde, DG
2009-2010



YOUTH EXCHANGE GATHERING IN QUEBEC FOR WINTER CARNIVAL

Recently, we were hosted by our Quebec Rotary friends and 7790 Youth Exchange Committee at the Winter Carnival with great results. Everybody involved in this experience enjoyed excellent fellowship. It was good to see dozens of countries getting along in true Rotary spirit of peace and friendship.

While in Quebec, the committee and exchange students discussed ideas of getting together again during the district conference and participating in a service project in the city of Lewiston. The students will also be showcasing their work with a powerpoint presentation-and share lunch with our fellow Rotarians on Saturday at which time three of these accomplished musician youth will be entertaining us with their musical talents . One student is a concert pianist, another plays a cello and the third is a singer. This will be a great chance for all in attendance to enjoy a truly unique international experience.

The committee has been working with fellow Waterville Rotarian James Delorie for these special activities and lodging. Rotarian Delorie is one of the directors of the Waterville Boys and Girls Clubs. I urge you to come and meet these extraordinary youth at the district conference.



Al Feather, ADG
Maine Youth Exchange Chair



MAINE SIDE IN-BOUND YOUTH EXCHANGE VISIT STATE CAPITAL

7790 Maine Rotary in-bound youth exchange in-bound students recently visited our State Capital in Augusta. The students started there day with a visit with Maine Governor John Baldacci, they then went on a guided tour of the state house, they were trained as pages and worked the house floor, then visited the Maine State Museum.

Many of the legislators were very happy to meet these young Rotary ambassadors from all over the world. The students all enjoyed this unique experience of participating first hand in our legislative process.

Rotary's Youth Exchange program is helping to make tomorrow's leaders today!

Al Feather, ADG
Maine Youth Exchange Chair



Photos of the Bangor Club in celebration of Rotary's 105th Anniversary. Also are photos of 15 clubs of Quebec City and some from the South shore of St-Laurent river held at an InterClub meeting on February 23rd from 5 to 9. 185 Members, including spouses, guests, prospects and 12 Inbound students were present. This activity was sponsored by the Quebec-Val-Belaire Rotary Club.

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Celebrations around the District of Rotary's 105th Birthday! February 23, 2010.



Bonjour à tous, au nom du Club Rotary Québec-Val-Bélair, c'est avec fierté que j'aimerais vous remercier beaucoup pour votre participation à la journée Rotary du 23 février 2010. Plus de 185 rotariens/invités ont fraternisés, fait du réseautage et stimuler la vie rotarienne au Québec. De plus 10 étudiants d'échange jeunesse étaient présent pour promouvoir le programme Échange Jeunesse et notre ami de tous Dino Marzaro présentait un vidéo sur PolioPlus.

Merci au comité de la journée Rotary, Laurent Lapointe, Jean Chaumette, Claude Martel, Frédéric Turcotte, Guy Blanchet, Marc DeLair, Gilles Desrosiers
Une très belle soirée, merci

A l'année prochaine sous la gouverne du club Rotary de Lévis.

André Pomerleau
Président du club Québec-Val-Bélair 2009-10
Responsable de la journée Rotary du 23 février 2010
Inbound Coordinator Échange Jeunesse

