

District Newsletter

September 2009 Issue: 3



New Generations Month!

Sylvia Plourde

District Governor 2009-2010

September is New Generations Month—a month to highlight our youth programs and in the words of RI President John Kenny "the role they play in shaping the Rotarians of Tomorrow".

Our four Youth Programs are—Rotaract, Interact, Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (better known as RYLA), and Rotary Youth Exchange. And recently we've been working with Early Act—youngsters from the age of five.

Many of the clubs are currently working with Rotaract in association with their colleges and universities. Some are working with their local high school for the Interact Program. Students participate in club fundraisers and activities devoted to their community needs through the Rotary Clubs. What a way to bring awareness of the needs of others and to give back to one's community. RYLA this year was able to recruit 30 youth for this great program—10 from Québec and 20 from Maine. Bravo to all clubs for recruiting so many participants.

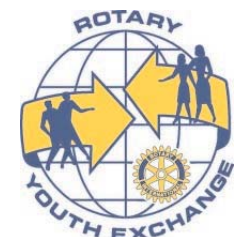
Rotary Youth Exchange is happening in full force. Abroad, these youth are our ambassadors of goodwill, peace and understanding. Living abroad, the students get an inside view of their host country's life. They learn goodwill and understanding by networking, by being tolerant of each other, and by discovering diversity in the world. To host a Youth Exchange brings a widened understanding of cultural differences and yet how we are so much alike in so many ways.



District Governor Sylvia enjoyed a nice afternoon meeting the student/ambassadors from 18 different countries. 8000 students a year participate in the Rotary Youth Exchange program that helps promote peace, good will and better understanding in our world.

This year I made a pledge to devote at least one article a month in my newsletter to youth programs and sharing their news. Remember, youth are our future generation of leaders.

Sylvia Plourde, DG
2009-2010





Shelter Box was invented by Tom Henderson of the Helston-Lizard Rotary Club, Cornwall, England in 2000 to aid those who became homeless due to disasters such as earthquakes, droughts, floods, tsunamis, landslides, hurricanes, cyclones, famine and many other causes.

Shelter box has been in operation for:

- 9 Years
- 80 Disasters

- 52 Countries
- 800,000 People
- Raised over 25 Million Pounds

To provide shelter, warmth, and comfort, each box contains:

- Durable plastic box
- Sleeping bags for a family of ten
- Custom-designed ten-person tent
- Thermal fleece blankets
- Stove and cooking equipment
- Toolkit
- Waterproof ground mats
- Mosquito nets
- Waterproof ponchos
- Children's activity pack
- Collapsible water containers and water purifying equipment



Each box weighs 55 kilograms and when empty can serve as food storage, water container or other purpose.

Countries that have received thousands of Shelter Boxes due to natural disasters include:

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|--------------------|------------|------------------|---------------|
| Afghanistan | Ghana | Liberia | Romania |
| Algeria | Grenada | Maldives | Serbia |
| Angola | Guatemala | Myanmar | Soloman Is. |
| Bangladesh | Haiti | Mexico | Somalia |
| Belize | India | Mozambique | Somaliland |
| Bolivia | Indonesia | Nepal | Sri Lanka |
| Burundi | Iran | North Korea | Sudan |
| China | Iraq | Pakistan | Swaziland |
| Dominican Republic | Jamaica | Palestine | Turks, Caicos |
| Congo | Kenya | Papua New Guinea | Uganda |
| East Timor | Kyrgyzstan | Peru | Ukraine |
| Ecuador | Lebanon | Philippines | United States |
| | | | Zambia |

For more information, go to www.shelterbox.org