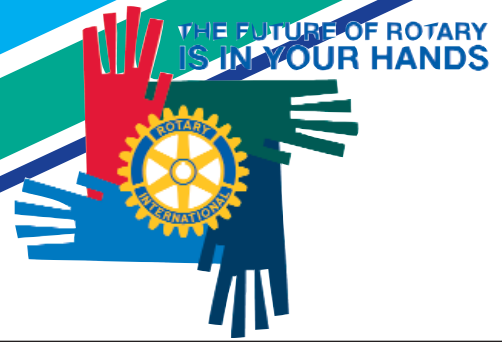


District Newsletter

July 2009 Issue: 1



A new Rotary year begins.....

Sylvia Plourde

District Governor 2009-2010

The Future of Rotary is in Your Hands

It is truly an honor and a privilege to take on the responsibility of District Governor of Rotary International District 7790. I look forward to meeting all of you and to working with such distinguished Rotarians. This district is blessed with so many capable leaders at all levels. Under their guidance, our district will be able to continue its excellent programs such as Rotary Youth Leadership Award (better known as RYLA), Group Study Exchange, Youth Exchange, Ambassadorial Scholarship and grants for community and international projects. More evident though, is the direction in which Rotary International is moving with the "Future Vision Plan."

Rotary International's President John Kenny states "YOU are the Rotarians and the leaders of tomorrow". Our clubs work together through our district with the support of the Foundation. That is why, in 2009-2010, our theme will be: "The Future of Rotary is in Your Hands". You have been asked to participate in shaping the future of Rotary. It is with hope but not without challenges that we step through the threshold of a new future in Rotary.

At times I've asked Rotarians, "Why did you join Rotary?" I'm often told that one of the reasons is as an avenue for business networking. After joining Rotary, there's an awareness of the great camaraderie and fellowship that Rotarians share. And so begins the journey of self discovery. Rotarians become involved in their community projects with selfless acts of giving their time and resources to benefit their community-in reality they are demonstrating Service Above Self. And so the journey expands throughout the world to provide international service to those of great need. We address the global challenge of Water,

Health and Hunger, Literacy, Polio and Shelter. We are making a huge difference in the life of another fellow human being. We are changing lives but more often we come to the realization that it is our life that has changed. We have expanded our consciousness. We are no longer just a professional in our community; we are part of the great Rotary family and together we can make a difference. When one child suffers, we too feel the pain and must act.

Ever since I joined the Rotary Club of Lewiston-Auburn, I have marveled at the number of projects Rotarians have accomplished in their communities and around the world. Rotarians possess a unique spirit and strength of character, tempered with compassion and understanding for those less fortunate. That is why they respond with kindness and generosity of heart to those in need. Rotarians truly promote peace and international harmony through educational programs and service projects.

I am proud to be a Rotarian and a member of this great international district. I've always said "Once a Rotarian, Always a Rotarian". It is my hope that my grandchildren will one day become passionate Rotarians like their Mémère.

Sylvia Plourde, DG
2009-2010
District 7790

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District Project

In 2009-2010, our District Project is in Portoviejo/Cojimies, Ecuador. This project is for a Water Purification/Filtration System plant that will clean the water from the salt as Cojimies is very close to the ocean. It was chosen from 32 proposals that was received from over 10 countries in Central America. These proposals had to meet a number of criteria, namely:

Focus on at least one of the six areas of the Future Vision Plan

- Water and Sanitation
- Maternal & Child Care
- Disease Prevention & Treatment
- Basic Education & Literacy
- Economic & Community Development
- Peace & Conflict Prevention/Resolution



The project should encourage local participation and leadership to include women and provide opportunities for hands on work by Rotarians, both local and from District 7790. A community survey should be included with indicators/facts about the needs; these indicators would be used to measure the success of the project during the implementation stages, during, as well as after its completion

The project needs to be completed in one year at a cost of \$90,160 USD. As we were not chosen as a Future Vision Pilot district, we will have \$25,000 from District Designated Funds plus \$25,000 from The Rotary Foundation which leaves \$40,000 from the clubs in our district. Thank you for your pledges at PET's and continued support of this extremely worthwhile project.

The target club should be in good standing with The Rotary Foundation in regards to grant reporting requirements

The World Service Committee met and continued the selection process by each member rating their top five choices. These were reviewed closely against our requirements. After long deliberation, the one proposal which met all of our criteria was the Portoviejo/Cojimies Project in Ecuador. It also met RI's first focus of providing good drinking water and sanitation in the prevention of disease.

Thanks to Rotarians in District 7790, YOU will provide good drinking water and proper sanitation in the prevention of deaths of young infants, children and their families. Because of YOU, children will thrive and become healthy adults.

Upcoming Events

September 18-20, 2009: Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) - The Forks, Maine

October 3, 2009: Governor's Council Meeting, Farmington, Maine

October 17, 2009: Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) - Lewiston, Maine

March 2010: President Elect Training Seminar (PETS), St. George, Quebec, Maine

May 21-23, 2010: Rotary International District 7790 District Conference, Lewiston, Maine

June 20-23, 2010: Rotary International Convention in Montreal

District Contact List

Please use this reference list in contacting your District Chairs to learn more about the various programs we offer.

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(continued on page 4)

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September 18-20th, The Forks, Maine



Rotary District 7790 is embarking on another great weekend for the leaders of tomorrow through the RYLA program. Rotary Youth Leadership Awards provides your club with an opportunity to sponsor someone in your club or community to “learn the ropes” of leadership.

This is a great opportunity for your club to sponsor a newer Rotary member or a deserving member of your community to jump-start their leadership and interaction skills. The program is geared towards the young adult who is entering the job force or in the job force beyond entry level within an organization but not a senior executive. When your club sponsors a participant, you have the potential to expand Rotary International membership, gain exposure in your community and contribute to the personal development of a member of your community. RYLA in District 7790 is unique! We are a bi-lingual district and attendees will be exposed to two cultures and build friendships across the border.

RYLA participants are also exposed to values that Rotarians deem essential for those who hold leadership roles: ethical behavior, integrity of character, and a commitment to community service.

RYLA gives awardees an opportunity to: • Develop leadership skills • Increase self-confidence • Meet community leaders and mentors • Gain exposure to a variety of issues and people • Learn about Rotary International

The date for this year’s program is September 18-20, 2009. The program takes place at Northern Outdoors in The Forks, Maine. Registration will start at 11:00am and we will provide lunch before the program begins at 1:00pm prompt. Cost per person: \$300.00 (US) Same as RYLA 2008!

For registration and additional information contact:

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Quebec

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Registration is due by
August 21, 2009



USA, PUERTO RICO and US VIRGIN ISLANDS ROTARY CLUBS AND DISTRICTS AND THE IRS

From Club and District Support - Pan America Department
Rotary International, 1560 Sherman Avenue, Evanston, Illinois 60201 USA
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What follows is not tax advice, but general information, which may be useful. Questions regarding any tax matters need to be referred to local counsel, your tax adviser or to the IRS.
(<http://www.irs.ustreas.gov> or 1-800-829-1040)

On 13 May 1958, the Internal Revenue Service declared that Rotary International (RI) and its clubs and districts are entitled to exemption from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code. While Rotary districts and clubs are exempt from paying federal income tax, the law does require Rotary clubs and districts to file an annual information return on IRS Form 990, on or before the 15th day of the 5th month following the close of the annual accounting period (15 November). Certain organizations, other than private foundations, that do not normally receive more than \$25,000 in gross receipts in each taxable year are not required to file Form 990.

Starting in 2008, clubs or districts with gross receipts of \$25,000 or less were required to file Form 990-N, which is an electronic e-Postcard report. This report is required annually. Failure to meet the annual filing requirement for three consecutive years will result in revocation of the tax-exempt status of the club or district in question. To learn more about this requirement, and to obtain the necessary e-Postcard report form, visit the US Treasury website at: www.irs.gov/eo, or call the toll-free number: (877) 829-5500.

Numbers: RI's Group Exemption Number (referred to as "GEN" on Form 990), is 0573, which applies to RI as well as all USA, Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands clubs and districts. At the same time, every club and district in the USA, Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands is required to have its own Employer Identification Number (EIN). This 9-digit number is essentially a tax ID number, and has nothing to do with whether the club or district has any employees. As RI must report annually the EINs of all districts and clubs in the USA, Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands, the RI secretariat maintains a list of those EIN tax numbers for reference. New Rotary Clubs, however, must apply directly to the IRS for an EIN number to be assigned to the new Rotary club. Please contact your Club and District Support (CDS) representative at Rotary International headquarters if you have any questions about the EIN number for your club or district.

Tax Deductible Status: Though clubs and districts do not have to pay federal income tax, donations to clubs and districts are not tax deductible as a charitable contribution. However, such deductible status is possible for a contribution to any club or district charitable fund that has been independently classified by the IRS as qualifying under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Membership dues may be deductible for some Rotarians as a business expense. Please contact the IRS or your tax consultant or attorney for guidance on this issue.

Other Taxes: Clubs or districts may be required to file IRS Form 990-T if they have "unrelated business income." An unrelated trade or business is defined as any trade or business that is regularly carried on, and that is not substantially related to the organization's exempt purpose or function. (IRC Sec. 513)

Federal Social Security and withholding taxes, and local state income taxes may be required from a club or district that has one or more paid employees. Please contact the IRS or your tax consultant or attorney for guidance on this issue.

The laws of individual states vary in regard to state income tax, sales tax, other taxes and special licenses. The 501(c)(4) status applies only to federal income tax and does not necessarily have any bearing on state or local taxes. IRS interpretation of its Code also can vary slightly in different US Treasury districts.

April 2009

Youth Exchange Student in Croatia from Camden Maine



This is an update (in part) from Allie Holmes who is on exchange in Croatia from Camden. It's another affirmation that this is money well spent with our Youth.

Her last paragraph in her update says it all, "Exchange has taught me about friendship, family, love, and the true definition of missing someone...even when you're with them, and haven't left yet. These are honest words when I say that Croatia has changed me for life. I've made some lifelong friendships and that my heart will always be here in Croatia. It will be harder for me to come home than it was to come here. Thank You all so, so much for this great experience and all of the opportunities that you have provided for me. If it wasn't for you, I wouldn't be the person that I am now, today, and who I will be for the rest of my life".

Allie says that she will be returning home on July 3rd with her host sister who will be staying with her and her family until August 12. Then on August 22, her new exchange sister, Petra from Croatia will be coming to live with them. She says that "Rotary touches the lives and hearts of more than just Exchange Students, it also touches the lives and hearts of many more people. We all thank you so much for that".

Does your club sponsor a Youth Exchange Student? If you would like to learn more contact:

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