

**DG Erna Stevenson 2006-2007**  
**Rotary District 5130 News**  
**Issue 1, July 2006**



DG ERNA's First Newsletter

Dear Rotarians,

July is here and a new year of Rotary leadership is underway.. And as we take our roles in our Clubs, I see Rotarians everywhere living as role models of tolerance, humility and integrity. As a result, others are eager to help you "Lead the Way"...by example.

This newsletter touches on things that are already happening around our district:

- Membership Resources
- Rotary Foundation Seminars
- Yes, Your Club Can Get Matching Grants for World Community Service!
- July is Literacy Month
- Coming your Way!

The Rotary International Theme for 2006-2007 is "Lead the Way". RI President William "Bill" Boyd believes in continuity and sustainability. Therefore the emphases will continue to be clean water, health, hunger, literacy and the Family of Rotary. The District 5130 Vision (Goals) for 2006-2007 looks for Clubs to adopt projects that address needs in your communities and communities around the world that include literacy projects, address poverty, hunger, health and clean water.

### **Membership Resources – Irresistibly Attractive News**

The membership statistics I just reviewed, which are as of April 2006, show that our District grew by 32 new Rotarians or 1.27%. This continues a trend of growth that we have enjoyed over the last several years, and reversed a slight dip the two years before. This means that we are meeting the challenges of a changing world! Membership success tells me that we are paying attention to retention, and satisfying the service needs in our communities, both locally and globally.

Each Club has been asked to set a membership goal for this year. District 5130 Membership Chair, Maureen Merrill, will hold a series of regional "Rotary Leadership Round Tables" that will help identify and discuss the elements of a strong, effective, enjoyable club that is, as she puts it, "irresistibly attractive" to current and prospective members. Maureen and her Committee will work with the Assistant District Governors facilitating the meetings. Watch the web site for dates and locations. Flyers will also be sent to the Clubs announcing the workshops.

## **Foundation Essentials**

The District goal for 2006-2007 is to have 100% of Rotarians in the District donate \$100 (this is the “Every Rotarian Every Year” goal), and that 50% of our Rotarians become Foundation Benefactors. Just as Rotarians are the heart and soul of Rotary, The Rotary Foundation is the core of our great work. Why?

- The Matching Grants, District Simplified Grants, Ambassadorial Scholars, Peace Fellows, Group Study Exchange are all possible through TRF.
- PDG Bruce Campbell reports that for the 2005-2006 year, all 43 Clubs in our District contributed to the Rotary Foundation.

**Congratulations to all the Clubs.** It looks like all clubs exceeded the Foundation Goals they set at the beginning of the year.

**Because we want to do it again,** Foundation Seminars are scheduled for August 12<sup>th</sup> in the South, and August 26<sup>th</sup> in the North. Watch this site for details!

## **District Simplified Grants (DSG) – You can do this!**

Important as it is to give to The Rotary Foundation, it’s equally important to help spend the money! I met with Grants Chair, Dale Ann Knight last week and discussed grants.

- We will have approximately \$24,000 available for District Simplified Grants for 2006-2007.
- Applications were distributed at PETS to all 2006-07 Club Presidents. For more copies and for questions, please contact Chairperson Dale Knight, 838-3202. Deadline for submitting a DSG is August 31, 2006.

## **July is Rotary Literacy Month**

What a better way to promote literacy than our Dictionary Project, every third grader in your community receives a beautiful, illustrated dictionary?. Contact Harvey Freetly, District 5130 Literacy Chair, 762-1042. And I’d love to hear your ideas about how Rotary Clubs promote literacy in other ways.

## **Club Visits – Here I come!**

The most pleasant task of a DG is to visit every club in the district. My first official visit is July 13<sup>th</sup> with the South Ukiah Club, followed by Gualala, Healdsburg, Petaluma, Petaluma Sunrise. The week of July 24<sup>th</sup> George and I will be visiting Clearlake, Lakeport, Middletown and Kelseyville Sunrise. Santa Rosa West will finish our July visits.

This is a great adventure and I am proud to serve this beautiful District as your liaison and officer of Rotary International. George and I look forward to spending time with all the great Clubs in District 5130. I appreciate your input; your support and the caring you show by taking on the challenge of "Leading The Way" with your Club and/or the District.

Yours in Rotary Service,  
Erna Stevenson