



Lend a Hand

Toucan News

The monthly letter of the District 7030 Governor of Rotary International

July 2003

It's the month of Literacy and Numeracy

Dear Fellow Rotarians

It is with regret that I must begin the very first lines of this, my first monthly newsletter, with deplorably surprising statistics. Did you know that at the beginning of this XXI century, 860 million individuals throughout the world CAN NOT READ NOR WRITE, with 27 million of these persons living in the United States, a nation considered to be the Super Power of our world.

More than 130 million school-aged children are not in school of which 2/3 are girls who in becoming adults will be future mothers.

The poor beget the poor and the illiterate cannot teach others to read. Illiteracy becomes a vicious family circle in which children born to illiterate parents are twice as likely to die in infancy.

Rotary is conscious of this fact and among it's new programs, has undertaken the teaching of reading and writing as well as mathematical skills. Although July is our month for literacy, this problem should remain at the heart of our

concerns throughout the year.

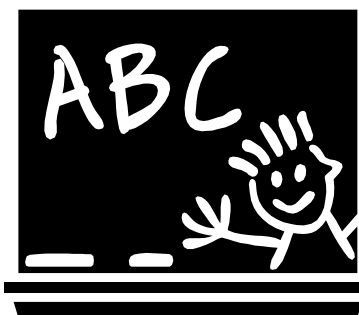
Ideas for our projects could include reading and math lessons for children, teaching illiterate adults

and donations of books and school

supplies. Let us see your imagination at work in your respective areas.

I wish you a year in which you give your all to Rotary.

Jean-Claude BLANCANEUX
District 7030 Governor



"IGNORANCE IS A MENACE FOR PEACE"
(Paul Harris)

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- * Participate to a International Convention is a unique occasion to meet Rotarians from all the world.
- * Communicate between us to exchange and to arouse actions to serve.

Governor's Agenda (Trinidad & Tobago)

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| July 09: Governor hand over ceremony | 24 : Tobago (PM) |
| 14 : Diego Martin (AM) - San-Juan (PM) | 29 : Maracas St Joseph (PM) |
| 15 : Maraval (AM) - Arima (PM) | 30 : St Augustine (PM) |
| 16 : POS West (AM) - Piarco (PM) | 31 : POS Central (AM) - St Augustine West (PM) |
| 17 : San Fernando (AM) - Pointe à Pierre (PM) | August 05: San Fernando South (PM) |
| 22 : POS (AM) - Chaguanas (PM) | 06 : Princetown (PM) |
| 23 : Point Fortin (PM) | 07 : Penal (PM) |

Convention 2003 Report

Approximately 15,000 Rotarians from 130 countries joined together to Sow the Seeds of Love in sunny Brisbane, Queensland, Australia, for four days of fun and fellowship at the 94th annual RI Convention. Twelve of them came from our district 7030 (Barbados, Guyana, Guadeloupe, Grenada, Martinique, St Lucia, Trinidad & Tobago).

One of the highlights was when President Bhichai Rattakul presented the charter for the Rotary Club of Kabul, Afghanistan and to the new Rotary Club of Dili, Timor Leste adding two new countries in the Rotary World.



(PEFC) that has had Rotarians racing ducks, building snowmen, running marathons, and co-ordinating countless other fundraising efforts throughout the current Rotary year.

A second dramatic moment was with the result of the "Fulfilling Our Promise: Eradicate Polio," the 15-month polio eradication fundraising campaign

The amount raised, US\$88,557,000, surpasses the fundraising goal set in 2002.

"Thanks to the remarkable commitment and generosity of Rotary members worldwide, we are closer than ever to wiping out this crippling and deadly disease," said Rattakul.

And, at least with the ringing of the Rotary Centennial bell. The bell now will travel from Brisbane to the first 100 Rotary clubs and will finish its journey at the centennial convention in Chicago, Illinois, USA, in 2005.

PP Jean-François DAIRON
District Secretary

On to OSAKA 2004 (Japan)

The 2004 Rotary Convention takes place in Osaka, Japan May 23-26, 2004. DG Jean Claude has asked me to Chair the On to Osaka committee.

What I am proposing at this time is for all Rotarians who have any type of interest in going at this stage to email me to indicate such and how many persons. Please do not think that it is too early.

Japan affords an opportunity to ex-

perience a different culture and great cuisine.

What I am going to do is approach airlines for fares to Japan, and they will need this information. Of course I will try for options through the US and UK.

I look forward to some emails and then I will communicate with all interested as information comes in. We will of course keep the information in

the Governors letter as well

Please email me at david@ddconstruction.net or fax only if email not available at 1-246-433-9407

PP David EDWARDS
Governor Elect 2004-05

District Conference in French Guiana

June 17th 2003 was the 45th anniversary of the arrival of the ROTARY in French Guiana with the presentation of the charter for the Rotary Club of Cayenne. In 1985, Henri PARFAIT, from this RC, was elected as District Governor ; unfortunately a sudden illness stopped his term of office. He died of these disease few weeks ago.

With the election of Jean-Claude BLANCANEAUX, the District 7030 Conference will be held for the first time in French Guiana.

For this major event, since October 2002, all Rotarians from the territory start to work on a tremendous agenda mixing intellectual work and pleasure.

Come in French Guiana, for the District Conference 2004, it will be unforgettable.

Patrick DELPHIN
RC Cayenne President
Conference Secretary



30 March to 04 April 2004

R.I. President Jonathan B. Majiyagbe

Jonathan Majiyagbe, a senior advocate of Nigeria, is the principal counsel of the law firm J.B. Majiyagbe & Company, in Kano. A member of the Nigerian and English bars, Majiyagbe also belongs to the Honourable Body of Benchers, the panel that evaluates the qualifications of those seeking to practice law in Nigeria and formally calls them to the bar. He is a graduate of London University and a member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, London.

Majiyagbe is chairman of the Kano State branch of the Nigerian Red Cross Society and was for many years chancellor of the Anglican Diocese of

Kano. He is also a member of the Kano Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Mines, and Agriculture and is trustee of various international cultural organizations.

Rotarian since 1967, Majiyagbe has served RI as district governor, International Assembly discussion leader, committee member and chairman, Foundation trustee, aide to the president, and director. He is past chairman of the African Regional PolioPlus Committee and the African Affairs Committee.



Polio Free 2005

Majiyagbe is currently a member of the Rotary Club of Kano. He and his wife, Ade, died suddenly on 6 June, are Major Donors to The Rotary Foundation.

You will find more about our President on his own web site at

<http://www.rotary.org/president/index.html>

Literacy and Education Task Force

The LITERACY and EDUCATION Task Force provides information and support to Rotary clubs and districts to encourage participation in programs and projects that promote universal literacy and educational opportunities for all.

Emphasis will be given to identifying resources to assist Rotarians in developing and implementing project activities that provide:

- Literacy training for children and adults, especially for women
- Mentoring for young people
- Support for community schools
- Educational opportunities for individuals with low economic resources
- Vocational training or mentoring for prison inmates.



A reminder of Rotary club duties

Receive from the outgoing secretary all the club files and take inventory of the club's possessions.

Verify that you have a Manual of Procedure (035 – EN) or otherwise download it from the Rotary Website at http://www.rotary.org/newsandinfo/downloadcenterpdfs/035en_full.

Prepare for the summer interclub reunions.



To Do !!

Before the 10th of each month send the **Attendance Report** to the District Secretary with a copy to the ADG.

Prepare the **semi-annual report** and send to RI at Evanston (even if you have not received any communication).

RI Fees: US\$18/member + subscription to "The Rotarian" magazine

Prepare and submit the **District fees:** US \$17/member.

Send the subscription notices, receive the dues and deliver the membership cards.

Finally, prepare for the Governor's official visit.

PP Jean-François DAIRON
District Secretary

Rotary International

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Service Above Self

Go to the District Web Site !
www.rotarydistrict7030.org



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Dominica : PP Samuel WIKE
French Guiana : PP Christian GIMEL
Grenada : PP Richard STRACHAN
Guadeloupe : PP Frank MAYNADIE
Guyana : PP Dunstan BARROW
Martinique : PP Charles BLANCANEUX
Montserrat : PP Benette ROACH
St. Kitts & Nevis : PP Percival HANLEY
St. Lucia : PP Michael THOM
St. Vincent & the Grenadines : PP Bertram E. COMMISSIONG
Suriname : PP Jan VAN CHARANTE
Tobago : PP Joseph LLOYDEN
Trinidad North East : PP Dietrich SCHOELLER
Trinidad North West : PP Ramganie BOB GOPEE
Trinidad South : PP Ronald GOBIN

Thoughts on Water Theme

During the month of May, I had the opportunity of visiting Martinique, Guadeloupe and Marie-Galante. The familiar flowery, verdant landscape was pitiful to behold due to a longer than usual drought of some two rainless months. The water was cut off alternatively in sectors and the media could talk of nothing else but water and its scarcity.

The population was asked to do its civic duty by refraining from watering lawns and washing cars. The private and public sector argued endlessly about the pros and cons of dams and water retainers.

And yet, our Caribbean islands receive a good sprinkling during the rest of the year!

If this problem was acute in the French Islands, then I was certain that the neighbouring islands of the District were not faring any better.

Unless of course (the thought came to mind), those responsible in these other islands, or at least some of them, had had better foresight regarding the water problem.



WATER, Source of life

I then thought that since the United Nations has chosen WATER for their theme for World Environment Day on June 5, 2003, maybe together we could have an exchange of ideas on this most essential of elements at the District Conference in French Guiana.

WATER! A commodity so precious; it has earned our Earth the appellation, "The Blue Planet"; we pollute it, waste it, and overuse it, yet over a billion human beings are deprived of it.

Jean-Claude BLANCANEUX
District 7030 Governor