

District 9650 Weekly mailing update 26

24 January 2010

From District Secretary PDG Laurie Barber (4 pages)

Prepared and Edited by Publicity & Public Relations 2009-10 Director Ken Hall and circulated to all Club Presidents and Secretaries.

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Please ensure this information is available to all interested members of your Club.

Please Note that all prior editions of this weekly news together with the Monthly District Governors Newsletter are available on the District website at <http://www.rotary9650.org.au/Newsletter.htm>



January is Rotary Awareness Month.

Secretary

- ✓ Rotary International President Elect Ray Klinginsmith announced the Theme "**Building Communities – Bridging Continents**" for 2010-2011 at the International Assembly in San Diego on Monday.

DGE Jo Wilkin reports from San Diego:

I am pleased to be able to report to you how impressed everyone has been here with the thoughtful way that DGE Ray Klinginsmith has devised his theme for the coming year, and how well it relates to what we do best in Rotary - 'Building communities, Bridging continents'.

Ray is a very down to earth gentleman, very keen to cut through to doing rather than thinking about it. We are having a great time, and meeting many interesting people. There will be so much to share when we return.



- ✓ **A personal note and request from Gemma Sisia – School of St. Jude**

On a personal note, I am heading to Australia in a few weeks time to raise awareness of St Jude's and to say thanks to everyone for supporting us. The itinerary with the events confirmed so far, will be posted on our website next week. My trip is quite lengthy this time (three months in total), so my husband and kids are coming to visit for a half-time break and we would love to spend some time at the beach! If you happen to have a house/unit on the beach somewhere between Surfers and Sydney, which is vacant at some stage between the end of March and the middle of April (and you would be willing to allow my family to use!), I would be so grateful if you could get back to me. Contact Gemma at schoolofstjude@habari.co.tzn

- ✓ **Reserve the date: District Changeover 2010 date is Saturday 3 July 2010**
- ✓ **Reserve the date: 4pm on Saturday, February 6, for the District management committee meeting at Taree**

Youth Service – RYLA

- ✓ Fellow Rotarians: Has your Club nominated a candidate for RYLA 2010?
All applications for potential attendees at RYLA 2010 need to be finalised by Friday 12th March 2010

FORWARD COMPLETED APPLICATION FORM AND MAKE PAYMENT CHEQUE (\$695) TO:

Rotary District 9650 (RYLA,2010),

C/o Rotary Club of Port Macquarie, PO Box 136 PORT MACQUARIE NSW 2444

International Service – Haiti

✓ Dear Rotarians:

We are deeply saddened to hear of the recent earthquake in Haiti, and we are touched by the commitment of Rotarians to assist the communities affected by this disaster. Rotary International is coordinating relief efforts, and we are writing to you today to provide you with information on how you may work through Rotary to make a significant contribution toward alleviating this major humanitarian crisis.

Rotary International coordinates information and provides resources on club and district disaster relief efforts. When informed of local relief initiatives, RI shares updates about these efforts on the [RI website](#). Rotarians wishing to contribute funds or donated goods to disaster victims can visit the website or contact the International Service Programs Section at relief@rotary.org to learn about current relief and recovery efforts.

Also, The Rotary Foundation has established the Haiti Earthquake Relief Fund, a donor advised fund, for the purpose of collecting contributions for earthquake victims. Details about the fund have been posted on the [RI website](#). Please note that all contributions must be in U.S. dollars, and only U.S. tax receipts will be issued. Additionally, District Designated Funds cannot be accepted.

We have been in contact with District Governor Errol C. Alberga to offer assistance in publicizing any relief efforts that clubs in Haiti are implementing on RI's online projects database, ProjectLINK. Any disaster recovery projects registered by District 7020 will be posted on ProjectLINK on a priority basis. Additionally, articles have been posted to the home page of the [RI website](#) with details on Rotary club involvement in relief efforts and how you can help.

Rotarians may contact Governor Alberga directly at al.gram@cwjamaica.com or visit the [District 7020 website](#). As always, when organizing a response to a local or international disaster, we encourage Rotary clubs and districts to work with experienced emergency relief organizations such as [UNICEF](#), the [International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies](#), [Doctors Without Borders](#), [ShelterBox](#), [Aquabox](#), and [World Water Works](#) to meet the immediate needs of victims affected by the disaster.

The full text of this letter including links that you may use is available at:

http://rotary.org/en/AboutUs/RotaryLeadership/Announcements/Pages/100118_announce_haitiletterrileaders.aspx

DG Neville writes: I refer you to the attached release from the Rotary Foundation re relief efforts for Haiti. It is my view that we should channel any relief that Clubs desire to support via these programs.

Have a great day. Regards, Neville 19 January 2010

✓ Follow up: Neville asked PDG Harry Durey: "[Can I ask if you can follow up with RI Parramatta Foundation staff to see if we can donate through Australia rather than to America?](#)" Response from Harry: I rang Bruce Allen, who advised that Parramatta are currently establishing a procedure and will put the word out in a couple of days. Keep looking at this space.

[ShelterBox](#) Bulletin - Posted by Leslie Diefenbach Hall

Shelterbox has established three separate operational centers in and around Haiti to help distribute assistance to the estimated one million people left homeless by the devastating 12 January earthquake.

The three-person Shelterbox Response Team (SRT) in Haiti has set up an operations base in the capital Port au Prince with the assistance of local Rotarians to co-ordinate the delivery of aid in the country. They are working with the French aid agency ACTED to determine the areas in most need of assistance and are training personnel to put up tents ahead of their arrival into the devastated country.

The Haiti operation is being supported by logistical hubs set up in Miami and the Dominican Republic capital Santa Domingo. Shelterboxes have been flown to both cities for onward transportation to Haiti.

Shelterbox Head of Operations John Leach said, "This is the largest, quickest and most complex deployment in our history. We are now very well organized across four countries to get Shelterboxes to the people of Haiti quickly. We are now set up to channel aid to those in need efficiently and effectively in the days and weeks to come. This is a long term commitment from Shelterbox and we have to sustain our initial push."

Warehouse volunteers continue to pack Shelterboxes day and night at the Shelterbox HQ in Helston. More than 3,300 Shelterboxes have been committed so far, enough to help up to 33,000 people. Given the enormity of the disaster, more boxes are being packed ready to be sent to the Caribbean country.

Shelterbox Founder and CEO Tom Henderson added, "The need in Haiti is huge. Current estimates are that there are over a million people who have lost their homes. We continue to rely on the support of volunteers and donors to allow

International Service – Haiti an update as more material comes in

21 Jan 10 - Good morning all;

I received this message in an email from PDG Art Harrington in the States and thought it may be of interest to our wider Rotary community. Rotarians are doing their utmost on the ground in Haiti!

Regards, Rob Crabtree

The following account was posted on Jan. 19 by our good friend PDG Dick McCombe, who is serving as the Haiti Liaison Chair for Rotary District 7020 (which includes Haiti). It will give you some idea of what our Rotarians on the ground are accomplishing there with the Rotarian help that is coming in from around the world.

Dear Fellow Rotarians ,

We had two flights today from Nassau and 1 from Tortola into Haiti. The flight from Tortola had Dr Klas Buring and Dr Belkys Rhymer on board along with the orthopaedic tools and supplies necessary for the surgeries that were waiting. Our Immediate Past Assistant Governor Eves Martial received them.

Thank you to the BVI team. On a side note, the three Rotary Clubs of the BVI and their Family of Rotary had a fund raiser the day before yesterday and raised \$180,000 and have pledged to get to \$200,000. It's a small Island but what a huge heart!!!!!! Thank You!

Of the 2 flights from Nassau today one went on to Pignon, and landed on the grass strip there. It is only 25 miles further south but saves 3 or 4 hours of delivery and transport on the ground. Pignon is the home of Caleb Lucien's Hosean Ministries and DGN Guy Theodore's Hospital. In the Rotary fashion Caleb was in Cap Haitien clearing the flights in and his wife Debbie received the flight in Pignon. Thanks Debbie.

Tomorrow we are taking a lay day in the air. Caleb has loaded up one of his big school busses and a truck and is making a run into PaP. The supplies will be sent to Rotarian Dr. Claude Surena in PaP to allocate where needed. We will resume flights in again tomorrow.

We have been receiving very specific Medical supply lists that we are continuing to fill. We have sent approximately 50,000 lbs of medical supplies so far and most of them donated. We used some of the relief funds raised to purchase the exact supplies needed and have them ready to be loaded tonight. PRID Barry has a full size Gym at the Western Medical Clinic in Nassau. We have received enough to fill it and it sits about 1/3rd filled today for those trying to imagine the quantity we have moved.

As I mentioned we have spoken to our Rotarians in Jamaica and we are now in the process of shipping the big and heavy stuff from the US through Jamaica via Air Jamaica and onto PaP. We have huge generators, water makers, water etc going that way.

Nathan is trying to organize for the Southern Command to meet with us to plan the ground distribution to remote sites in Haiti. That will probably work hand in hand with the Shelter Box Camps. More to follow on that if it happens. We will use some of their big helicopters to do lifts out of PaP and drop in sites designated and distributed by Rotarians as mentioned earlier.

St. Croix has sent 1200 cases of water and additional supplies by Barge and are intended to land in St. Marc and transhipped into PaP. I am following that and will advise how that goes.

We have 2 inbound flights from the States that are picking up medical supplies in Vero Beach and then on into Nassau and onto Haiti. They are staying with us for a week to do additional runs. I think we have approximately 15 planes at our service in total right now. Rotary Rocks! And, Rotary Flies too!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

We are trying to organize the barge and should that have completed in the next day or so. That will be a run for the heavy stuff. We are cleared into Cape Haitien and should have the ground trans available to get it to PaP. We are going to need to take fuel to provide for outer truckers as that commodity is very low right now. Our club in Carrefour is desperate for some. Unfortunately we can not fly it so we are trying to get some to them from within Haiti.

The way forward is beginning to be more strategic as we are able to find out more information on what is happening on the ground and the international relief becomes more organized. We have been very effective in providing support where the "big guys" have not yet been able to get to yet, which has avoided wastage and duplication of effort. I plan to go down with a small team in the next short while to assess where we are with the ground team in Haiti, but will only do so when they feel that is appropriate and will not impede what they are doing.

I have been told that the quake that hit Cayman did not do much damage. Thankfully that is the case.

Keep up the great work with the fund raising and supplies collection through your local relief efforts throughout the district. This will be a very long process and every effort that you have made will eventually be put to use on the ground there when appropriate. Please let me know what you have done and if there is any way I can facilitate getting it on the ground for you. Thank you for the support. I'll keep you posted. PDG Dick McCombe

To monitor Rotarian disaster relief efforts in Haiti, you can paste this website address for District 7020 into your web browser: <http://www.clubrunner.ca/dprg/dxhome/home.aspx?did=7020>

2010 Rotary D9650 Conference

DG Neville's District Conference will be held in Port Macquarie from 11th to 14th March 2010 and it promises to be a great Rotary experience.

Listed below is an invitation from DG Neville and myself. The Registration website is now open. We would very much like to see you in Port Macquarie and encourage you to register on-line at www.decorama.com.au/rotary. More information, including the draft program, is on the District website www.rotary9650.org.au/Conference.htm and this will be updated as the program develops. You will also note that 2 seminars have been organised for Friday 12th March and we encourage all Rotarians and their guests to attend one of these and benefit from the message delivered by this highly regarded speaker.

Trevor Gilson; District 9650 Conference Chairman

It is with great pleasure that we invite you to remove yourself from what is the normal day to day experience and pack your bags to come to Port Macquarie from 11 to 14 March 2010 and "Reach Out" for what we guarantee will be a Rotary District Conference that will inspire you to actively build the future for Rotary through action. In "Reaching Out" you will have plenty of fun, rekindle and develop new friendships, experience excitement, great entertainment and of course learning.

To deliver on our promise your Conference Committee has positioned quality speakers, a proven quality Conference Venue and a program that will excite and enthuse as well as inspire.

Our Rotary International President John Kenny's Official Representative will be Past District Governor Ross Murray and his wife Pamela from D9940 North Island New Zealand and we know that we will certainly enjoy the opportunity to have as our Official Conference Guests our friends from across "the ditch".

We have some exciting new features for the District Conference in 2010:

- The provision of 2 Leadership Development Seminars entitled "The Leader within – Your Future Success is in Your Hands" one in the morning and one in the afternoon on Friday 12 March 2010 to provide plenty of opportunity for all to attend one of these seminars. These seminars will be delivered by one of our Saturday Conference Keynote Speakers Keith Abraham and the seminars will be promoted to non Rotarians as well, as we promote Rotary through this quality speaker and seminar. For further information about Keith Abraham please review his website - <http://www.keithabraham.com.au>

- The Sunday morning Breakfast that has been traditionally for those with Paul Harris Fellow recognition will this Conference also be open to any new members that have joined in the 2009-2010 Rotary Year and their sponsor and partners. This will enable the recognition of our new members and also our members who have made the effort to get a new member.

- All of the Conference speakers will be focusing on one of the key areas of focus for this Rotary year as promoted by our Rotary International President John Kenny namely Health, Hunger, Water and Literacy.

Your Keynote Conference Speakers will be PDG Ross Murray, Keith Abraham, John Brogden, and Port Macquarie Hastings Council's Water Supply Manager Murray Thompson, Gail & John Tingle, PDG Neil Adamson, and Australian Rotary Health Research Grant Awardee Bryce Vissel.

- We encourage you to register early and secure your place at what we know will be a truly inspirational Conference which will: Inspire individual Rotarians, partners and guests to, in turn, inspire their Rotary Clubs to become even more effective in making their community a better place through the actions of Rotary.
- Provide the opportunity for the visitors to the Port Macquarie Hastings region to experience the award winning local business "Customer Care" program first hand and to experience the many tourist and leisure facilities in the region that has always been "home" for your District Governor.
- Encourage you to "Reach Out" and develop new friendships through the foundation stone of Rotary – fun and fellowship.

Neville Parsons
District Governor

Trevor Gilson
Conference Committee Chairman