



MESSAGE FROM THE DISTRICT GOVERNOR



UPCOMING EVENTS

- Feb. 2 - District Talk Show
- Feb. 14 - District Board Meeting
- Feb. 15 - Presidents Meeting



ROTARY MAKING A BIG SPLASH

The Rotary Club of Kenora made their final disbursement of \$12,353.78 to the City of Kenora for the Splash Park. The club raised \$630,00 in just over three years to build the new Splash Park in Kenora which opened in 2019. This was done in partnership with the City of Kenora who now operate the park.

The final disbursement will be used to purchase themed trash bins and other small additions for the park. Splash Park Committee Chair Deb LeMaistre emphasized the successful partnership and generosity of the community of Kenora in getting the vision realized.

District Talk Show

Conducting your Rotary Orchestra

Standing at the Front, Without Making a Sound

Thursday, Feb. 2 @7:30 pm

Jo-Anne Dalton, president of the Rotary Club of South Eastman, in Steinbach, is going to help take the mystery out of Club leadership and give us some practical tools to step to the podium as a conductor of a Rotary 'orchestra' - even if we aren't quite sure if we can read the music yet.



ROTARY VS POLIO

Patty Vann, president of the Rotary Club of Dryden received recognition for their club's outstanding contributions to Polio Plus.



MELFORT ROTARY SUPPORTS LOCAL GIRL GUIDES PIPON RALLY

The Rotary Club of Melfort is pleased to support the Girl Guides Pipon Rally where they will learn and participate in Indigenous and Metis Culture traditions. We support the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action that encourages our cultures to learn from each other and to build positive relationships going forward. This is a wonderful educational project that should instill in the participants a sense of responsibility to embrace all cultures in diversity, equity and inclusion.

The rally will be held on January 28, 2023 at the Kerry Vickar Centre in Melfort, bringing together young ladies ages 5-18 years from Melfort, Tisdale & Nipawin.

Such an amazing Rally could not happen without the support from the Rotary Club of Melfort who's donation \$1000 to the event will help put on a top rated day full of fun, interactive activity/learning, while providing life long memories for our girl guide attendees.

Pictured left to right: Rotarians, Ken Singer, Gailmarie Anderson, Darlene Campbell, Brian Cocks along with Marley Lok (Brownies), Blakelyn Bear-Ozeroff (Brownies), Kinley Archdekin (Brownies)

2nd Row: Olivia Bragg (Pathfinder)



MELFORT ROTARY SUPPORTS LOCAL LIBRARY

Our Rotary Club of Melfort supports Literacy initiatives both locally and internationally. Our goal is to help eliminate child poverty and literacy is a crucial component to achieving this goal.

The "Books for Babies" and the "1000 Books Before Kindergarten" projects of Melfort Public Library are extremely important in the development of children and their learning to read. We are proud to sponsor these projects.

Receiving the \$1,000 donation from Rotary are left to right: Renee Chambers, Library Kathleen Copeland, Raeanne Usselman, Shaye Mansiere, Rotarians Brian Cocks, Ken Singer and Gailmarie Anderson.



SOME OF OUR NEWEST MEMBERS



The Rotary Club of Selkirk recently added three new members to their club. Pictured here are David Thorne (Club President), with the three new members, Jim Pelletier, Murray Melvin and Scott Thorne.



Rotary



District Leadership Seminar

March 10 to 12

Russell, Manitoba

Participate in person or virtually

Open to all Club Leaders

DISTRICT LEADERSHIP SEMINAR

GRATITUDE IS A GREAT ATTITUDE by Fred Wright, DG

I hope that I am not alone in feeling thankful. **Please consider sending me your kudos** and we will publish them in this newsletter.

Thank you to all our Clubs who are taking our District Growth Action Plan seriously and showing positive net growth! This year is the first time in recent history that we have showed a positive net membership number at the beginning of January. **GO TEAM ROTARY!**

Thank you to our District Governor Team who are working so hard in the background to provide positive change going forward.

Thank you to our District Learning and Development Team for: GREAT TALK SHOWS, a GREAT DLS coming up in March and for all of the work that is going into producing a super Technical Program for the District Conference from May 11 to 14 in Saskatoon.

Thank you to the Rotary Club of Prince Albert for initiating gratitude as part of their meetings.

Thank you to the Rotary Club of Dryden for inviting me to your planning meeting on January 7. It was a great day! Your planning and dedication will help you to maintain your position as the largest Club in our District with 63 members and growing.

I am thankful for the many opportunities to learn that I have been gifted with throughout my life. I am thankful that I spent much of my youth in situational poverty rather than generational poverty, because escape from situational poverty just takes determination and hard work. It provided excellent learning opportunities. There isn't much hope for those in generational poverty and this is where **Rotary can and does make a difference**.

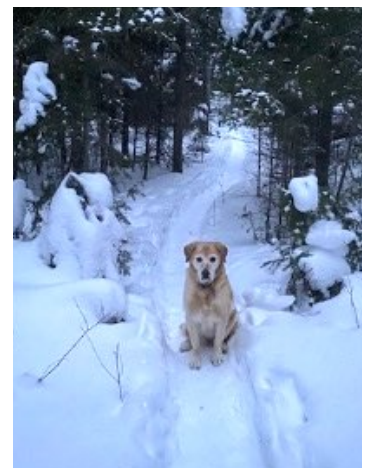
What are YOU thankful for?



WALKING CHALLENGE TO HELP END POLIO

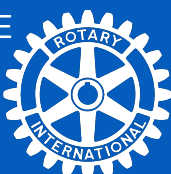
by Fred Wright, DG

Zoey and I are walking 100 km in January to raise funds for Polio Plus. We are averaging more than 3 kilometers per day and have pledges in excess of \$300, mostly from non-Rotarians. Because the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation matches 2 to 1, we will have raised about \$1000 for Polio prevention. I was struck by the irony one morning as Zoey and I walked past huge empty cottages on Coney island. They are like thousands on our lake and we have a homeless problem in Kenora.



DISTRICT WEBSITE

Rotary



Keep informed of what's happening in our District. Check out the District 5550 Web Page regularly. Click on the Rotary Logo to the left to go to the web site or click on the Facebook logo to follow us on Facebook.



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

by Rod Riopel

Happy New Year!

With a new year comes new membership ideas. Please see below for details on the Impact Club Model



IMPACT is an innovative satellite club model we call a companion club. We at IMPACT prefer to call them companion clubs as these satellite clubs remain attached to the sponsoring club regardless of size. IMPACT companion clubs meet only for service projects. Members “get in, serve, and go home.” The bread and butter of these companion clubs is the micro-project, smaller projects which require little coordination but accumulate to have a massive impact on the larger community.

Why IMPACT?

Service unites us. Membership in Rotary International in the North America is in decline. The traditional club model requires attendance at meetings that may not fit the schedule of many people who are otherwise Rotarians “without the pin.” Attaching an IMPACT companion club allows legacy clubs to offer a wider menu of membership options to prospective Rotarians. Some members will join the IMPACT model, which fits their lifestyle and interests. Others will be attracted to the meet-and-eat model of a traditional Rotary club. IMPACT companion clubs address the issue of Rotary being an aging club. Legacy clubs are full of older, very generous Rotarians, many of whom cannot perform a lot of physical service. Adding an IMPACT companion club attracts a younger demographic, which can perform the functions of the currently lacking “worker bee.”

What are the benefits of IMPACT?

IMPACT companion clubs and their legacy clubs utilize the IMPACT website, which provides members a quick and easy way to track service hours, convert donations to service hours, submit service photos, and access a service calendar. IMPACT also encourages additional programs such as Service Together, in which all Rotary clubs within a county perform service together despite being in different clubs, and PH36, an initiative that fosters leadership in younger Rotarians.

For additional information on Impact clubs please contact me at rodriopel@gmail.com or learn more

DISTRICT 5550 MEMBERSHIP INCREASE

Congratulations to the following Clubs for increasing their membership this Rotary Year:

Assiniboia	Plus 1	Regina Oskaya	Plus 2	Neepawa	Plus 4
Brandon	Plus 5	Saskatoon Meewasin	Plus 1	The Pas	Plus 3
Saskatoon North	Plus 1	Saskatoon Riverside	Plus 6	Weyburn	Plus 1
Regina Eastview	Plus 4	Sioux Lookout	Plus 3	Flin Flon	Plus 1
Portage la Prairie	Plus 1	Winnipeg Charleswood	Plus 8	Gimli	Plus 4
Moose Jaw	Plus 1	Wpg St. Boniface/St. Vital	Plus 1	Melfort	Plus 1

We have a net gain of 26 members since July 1. CONGRATULATIONS! POSITIVE MOMENTUM!

BECOME A
MEMBER

Rotary

ROARY SPOTLIGHT ON CANDACE ODISHAW



Candace Odishaw is born and raised in North Battleford, SK and after graduation moved to Saskatoon to attend school where she completed a Paralegal course and worked in Edmonton, AB for a number of years. She then moved back to Saskatoon to run a business with her mom called TLC The Linen Closet, selling high end beds and linens. After tragedy hit the US on 9-11, Candace decided to close the business and she travelled extensively for the next 2 years.

Candace eventually found herself in Red Deer, AB where she first joined Rotary for networking purposes when she owned a marketing business there. She only stayed in Red Deer for another year but a couple of years later ended up in Lloydminster managing a Jacuzzi hot tub store and was approached by one of her radio reps to join Rotary. That was now about 17 years ago. With Candace's travel background she decided that her talents would be best suited to the student exchange program. In District 5370 Candace was the

outbound counsellor for the program preparing students for their year travelling abroad and helping them while they were away. In 2014-2015 she was also President of her club, Border City Rotary.

In 2015 Candace moved from Lloydminster to Saskatoon where she joined the Rotary Club of Saskatoon Nutana in District 5550. Since joining she has been President from 2019-2020 and again this year 2022-23. She has been very involved in her club participating in their major fundraiser Ribfest by selling 50/50's, organizing scavenger hunts and a club auction during Covid when there was very little else people could do, plus she works yearly at Enchanted Forest at the entrance booth which is the second largest fundraiser for the club. While being President, Candace currently manages the website, communications and Facebook, handles school scholarships, plus she sits on the District Literacy committee, the District Conference committee and is an Assistant District Governor. In her spare time Candace works full time selling furniture for Furniture World, a privately owned furniture store in Saskatoon, and has worked in retail for over 25 years with majority of that in furniture.

Candace is a great example of service above self.



ROTARY SPOTLIGHT

Each month we would love to spotlight one or more District Rotarians. Please submit suggestions with background information to newsletter editor, Ron Nordstrom via email. Email rnord@mymts.net

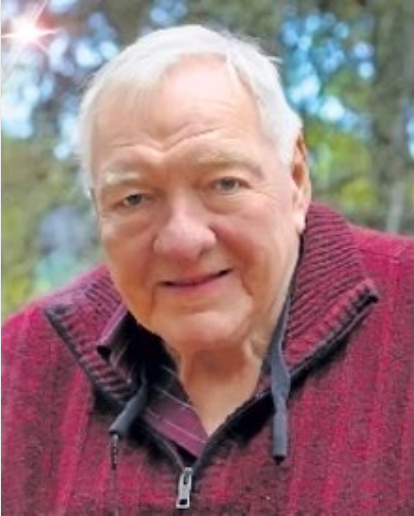
ROTARIANS TO REMEMBER



Barry Hartley,
Rotarian since the late 1980s, passed away on January 5. Click on Barry's picture to read more about his life.



Douglas Johnson,
longtime Rotarian and past president, passed away Nov. 15. Click on Doug's picture to read more about his life.



Tell us about your successes. What did your club do for World Polio Day? Tell us about a fundraiser or project your club is involved with. We would love to hear about it and place it in a future newsletter. Email rnord@mymts.net.