



ROTARY DISTRICT 6800



Birthplace of Rock and Roll

February 2010



*I don't understand why Cupid was chosen to represent Valentine's Day. When I think about romance, the last thing on my mind is a short, chubby toddler coming at me with a weapon.
~ Author Unknown*

Message from the Governor

February is "World Understanding Month." Rotary International fosters world understanding through involvement with the Rotary Foundation. District 6800 awards two Ambassadorial Scholarships worth \$25,000 each year and this year we have also awarded our first World Peace Scholar. Arthur McGovern, a former Ambassadorial Scholar to Ghana, is presently at the Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok where he will be working toward a certificate of Professional Development in Peace and Conflict Resolution for the next three months.



This year the Group Study Exchange team will spend the month of April with District Governor Gyo-Seong Lee in District 3670 which is in the southern part of South Korea. Neal Sherman, from the Germantown, Tennessee club, will be the Rotarian accompanying our team. District 3670 will be sending four professional non-Rotarians to visit our district during the month of April: Park Kyung Su, a 34-year-old male fire fighter; Suk Ja Shin, a 34-year-old female middle school teacher; Choi Jung Pil, a 33-year-old male public servant specializing in river management; and Soo Jeong Eun, a 38-year-old female journalist. The GSE team along with the Rotarian from District 3670 will accompany us on our district conference cruise, April 22 – 26, 2010.

District Governor-Elect Frank Givens and his wife, Signy, just returned from a week in San Diego, California where they attended the Rotary International Assembly. There they met many of the 530-plus district governors from around the world and began acquaintances that may last a lifetime.

The multi-district Presidents-Elect Training will be conducted at the Vicksburg, Mississippi Convention Center, February 26 & 27. While this training is mandatory for club presidents-elect, it is beneficial for all Rotarians

interested in leadership training and broadening their acquaintance in other districts. Please register by going to the District 6800 website, click online registration, and then click 2010 Old Man River Multi-District PETS. There is also a list of hotels in the area on the website.

The Rotary Youth Leadership Academy, RYLA, will again be at Whispering Woods in Olive Branch, Mississippi, March 25 – 28, 2010. There are currently 100 high school juniors enrolled. We need an additional 20 students. This is one of the best youth leadership programs in all of Rotary and it is facilitated by District 6800 Rotarians. It is a life-changing experience for all involved. Please help us enroll as many high school juniors as we possibly can!

It is still not too late to sign up for the District Conference, a four-day cruise on Carnival Cruise Lines from New Orleans to Cozumel, Mexico and back. April 22 – 26, 2010. You can register by going to www.mtstravel.com/greenville/rotary. We need you to make this conference successful.

*If your actions inspire others to dream more,
learn more, do more and become more,
you are a leader.*

- John Quincy Adams

Rotary Youth Leadership Assembly (RYLA) **March 25-28, 2010**

The year's RYLA weekend (March 25-28, 2010) will again be filled with activity for 120 high school juniors from Memphis and North Mississippi. The Rotary Youth Leadership Assembly (RYLA) will be held at the Whispering Woods Conference Center in Olive Branch, MS. Every year since 1982, Rotary Clubs from District 6800 have invited outstanding students from local area high schools to this leadership building event. The goal of the weekend is to enhance and strengthen the leadership skills and abilities of the students and to prepare them to respond to tomorrow's challenges. All 42 Rotary Clubs in the District are asked to nominate delegates to attend the conference. It is time to get your delegate registered.

During the four days of RYLA, the delegates have an opportunity to meet other high school juniors from the area and to make new friends for life. For many, this is their first experience to act as independent young adults in a challenging environment. The event is comprised of individual growth activities, team building exercises, inspirational speakers, communication skills training, goal setting, understanding personality styles, time management and many other concepts required of effective leaders. The students are challenged with activities using balloons, mousetraps, paper bridges, Braille lettering and other creative tools.

Several speakers come in to address the delegates during the weekend. They introduce their own personal thoughts and experiences to reinforce the leadership activities of the conference. Last year Mayor Sharon Goldsworthy of Germantown shared stories of her trip to Afghanistan to build stronger political relationships with a very different culture. Jim Rout, past Mayor of Shelby County, explained how he overcame his fear of public speaking by getting involved in a neighborhood zoning problem that eventually led him to the political election process. Austin Baker, a successful young business man, guided the delegates through an exercise to help them begin writing their own personal "Life Vision Journal." King Rogers, Governor-District 6800, shared a personal success story of mentoring a young man over the last 15 years. Over the weekend the delegates had several additional opportunities to interact with professional business men and women from the region.

Several sessions are presented by the professors and students from the Emerging Leaders Program at the University of Memphis. Discussions and activities demonstrate that leadership requires you to give of yourself and to serve others. Team building emphasizes that "it's not just about me". The delegates also spend a day with the Emerging Leader students from U of M learning what college life is really like and what they can do to better prepare themselves for the independence of life as a young adult. The delegates participate in breakout sessions discussing college topics, e.g., academics, Greek life, cultural groups, service organizations, honorary clubs, athletics, intramurals, etc. Most of the delegates had not seriously considered the complexities of college life.

RYLA helps the delegates to find the strengths in their personalities that will make them better leaders. The weekend always brings out the best in every delegate and prepares them for tomorrow's challenges. Be sure to get your delegates selected and registered (\$375 each) by February 28, 2010.

O.W. Smith, Registration Chrm. 2010
901-849-7653 ow@owsmith.com

Marty Petrusek, Conference Chrm - 2010
901-233-4125 mpetrusek@trane.com

Real Calls to Technical Support

Customer: Hi, good afternoon, this is Martha. I can't print. Every time I try, it says "Can't find Printer." I've even lifted the printer and placed it in front of the monitor, but the computer still says it can't find it.

Customer: I can't get on the internet.

Tech Support: Are you sure you used the right password?

Customer: Yes, I'm sure. I saw my colleague do it.

Tech Support: Can you tell me what the password was?

Customer: Five stars.

Tech Support: Good day. How may I help you?

Male Customer: Hello . . . I can't print.

Tech Support: Would you click on start for me and . . .

Customer: Listen pal, don't start getting technical on me! I'm not Bill Gates.

Memphis University School Students to Bike 2,700 miles for Clean Water in Haiti

While most seniors are cruising through their last semester of high school, Memphis University School (MUS) seniors Cort Gatliff and Christian Kauffman are preparing to cruise thousands of miles on their bicycles through 10 states from March 4 to April 4, 2010, to help people in Haiti get access to clean water. They call their fund-raiser the Water Cycle. Cort's father, Mike Gatliff, has been a Rotary member since 1997, first in Northville, MI, and now in East Memphis Rotary for the last three years. "Water is something every human being needs to survive," Gatliff said. "When I found out how many people lack clean water and, as a result, that one person dies every 15 seconds, I knew I had to do something. Our main goal is to raise awareness and money for the water crisis and help those who are in need. We created the Water Cycle Project because we want to save lives."

With water in mind, Gatliff and Kauffman chose a coast-to-coast route that will take the two 18-year-olds 2,700 miles from the Pacific Ocean to the Atlantic Ocean. They will follow the famous Route 66, starting in Santa Monica, Calif. They will stop in cities along the way, including Flagstaff, Ariz., Albuquerque, N.M., Amarillo, Texas and Oklahoma City, and then follow I-40 through Little Rock, Ark. and Memphis, Tenn., before heading to Atlanta and finishing their journey in Savannah, Ga. "We want to do our small part in reducing the number of people who are without clean water," Kauffman said. "Our goal of \$50,000 will build 10 wells providing clean water for 5,000 people in Haiti."

Gatliff and Kauffman are relying on corporate and individual sponsors and donations to help them reach their goal. They built a Web site, www.thewatercycle.org, to raise money and to educate the public on the current water crisis. They hope that people in each city they visit will come out and show their support by riding with them for a short time or cheering them on from the road. Also, we wouldn't turn down a home-cooked meal along the way," Gatliff said. The Gatliffs and the Kauffmans will take turns following the boys in a support vehicle.

Gatliff and Kauffman were recently introduced at East Memphis Rotary by District Governor Mike Moffatt, who is endorsing their effort.

*The work an unknown good man has done
is like a vein of water flowing hidden underground
secretly making the ground green.
- Thomas Carlyle*

Rotary Club of Senatobia

This month's spotlight is on The Rotary Club of Senatobia, which celebrated their 75th anniversary on January 21st. Past District Governor, Kirk Moore was the master of ceremonies for this special event. The club first met in the Moore Hotel, which was owned by Kirk's grandparents and Kirk related many memories about the club meeting there. Many past members from around north Mississippi came back to celebrate the anniversary and relate stories about the club.

The club currently sponsors five Interact Clubs, having recently chartered one at Strayhorn High School. This is the third Interact Club in the Tate County School system. The club conducts a Blood Drive with Lifeblood and drew 22 pints of blood on January 15th. The club's annual coat drive netted over 700 coats for those in need in the community. Their annual raffle raised money for four \$750.00 scholarships. They recognize a teacher and student of the month every month from each high school in the county. They also financially support the local Boy Scout Troop.

Future plans for the club are to send five high school juniors to RYLA in March, conduct an annual Valentine's banquet and partnering with the Hernando club in sending money to buy shelter boxes for the Haitian Relief effort. They will host the GSE team in April, support the annual Tate county cleanup in May, recognize the Policeman and Fireman of the year, and conduct an annual essay contest for third graders.

Rotary is successful around the world because like the Senatobia, Mississippi club, it transcends race, creed, color and political preference. The Rotary Club of Senatobia realizes that "the future of Rotary is in their hands".

District 6800 Membership as of December 31, 2009

Club	1st of Mo	New Mbrs	Resignations	End of Mo
Aberdeen	58	0	0	58
Amory	58	0	0	58
Baldwyn	No Report			
Bartlett/Cordova	26	0	0	26
Batesville	77	0	1	76
Booneville	39	0	0	39
Bruce	27	0	0	27
Calhoun City	31	0	0	31
Charleston	No Report			
Clarksdale	72	0	0	72
Cleveland	55	2	0	57
Collierville	64	0	0	64
Como	27	0	0	27
Corinth	76	3	0	79
Drew/Ruleville	20	0	0	20
Fulton	24	0	0	24
Germantown	43	1	0	44
Grenada	36	1	0	37
Hernando	35	1	0	36
Holly Springs	35	2	0	37
Houston	14	1	2	13
Iuka	32	0	0	32
Memphis	239	0	0	239
Memphis Central	No Report			
Memphis East	144	0	0	144
Millington	31	0	0	31
New Albany	50	0	0	50
Olive Branch	46	0	1	45
Oxford	121	0	1	120
Oxford/Ole Miss	No Report			
Pontotoc	53	0	0	53
Quitman Cnty	18	0	0	18
Ripley	65	2	0	67
Robinsonville	28	0	1	27
Sardis	13	0	1	12
Senatobia	57	1	0	58
Southaven	61	1	0	62
Sumner	32	1	0	33
Tunica	43	2	0	45
Tupelo	151	0	2	149
Water Valley	25	1	4	22
West Point	68	0	0	68

Membership Total Reporting as of December 31, 2009 - 2217
 Reports due by the 5th of each month

Government does not solve problems; it subsidizes them.

Ronald Reagan