



The Ambassador

The official weekly publication of the Rotary Club of September 8, 2005 edition

SERVICE Above Self

Weekly Message to Club Members

Rotary Club of Hamilton
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In Memory of Rotarian Rick Broadfoot: Special Sunshine Fund Memorial donation forms were distributed at the tables last meeting for members wishing to make a memorial donation in memory of Rotarian Rick Broadfoot. In lieu of flowers, the Club will be donating \$100 to this fund. According to Rick's wishes, all memorial donations will be distributed to our Club's charitable work with children in the community and internationally.

September 8, 2005 Regular Luncheon Meeting

Guest Speakers: We have Jean Clinton speaking on the Importance of the Early Years.

Please NOTE: The caterer is receiving requests for vegetarian meals that we were not aware of. If any Rotarian has an ongoing need for vegetarian meals please let me (Tammy) know.

Exchange Student: Joanne Albert, from Belgium, is currently being home hosted by Janet Walsh. Rotarians are encouraged to make her stay in Hamilton memorable by inviting her to their homes for a dinner or taking her to a cultural, entertainment or tourist outing (e.g. Toronto CN tower, Mennonite country, Festitalia, football game, Dofasco Theatre, Hamilton Place, etc). Contact Janet Walsh or John Duffy to make arrangements.

2005-2006 Annual Membership Dues: we hope to have invoices available for distribution to members on Thursday and would appreciate prompt payment since they were delayed this year awaiting volunteers to prepare them.

September 9, 2005 The Rotary Club of St. Catharines is having their annual Charity Golf Tournament at Lookout Point Country Club in Fonthill. 18 Holes with Cart, BBQ Lunch, Dinner and Live & Silent Auction. For more information contact Kimberly Deanne 905-892-2689 ex: 250 OR Jean Bancroft 905-892-0310.

Club Administrator

On behalf of Keith McIntyre, I will be distributing the weekly message based on input from Club Directors, Committee Chairs and Club Officers. I had an opportunity to meet many Members at the last 2 meetings and I look forward to meeting those I have not over the next few weeks. If you would like to contact me, my email address is tammy.martin@cogeco.ca

Tammy Martin
Club Administrator
Rotary Club of Hamilton
tammy.martin@cogeco.ca

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Hurricane Disaster Relief

Several directors have been asking what, if any, our Club's response could be or should be to the New Orleans storm disaster.

RI has issued some information...see following message from the district office.

From what I can gather, our Club tends to favour partnering with a Rotary Club in the affected area and sending our donation directly to that club to administer on the priorities/needs they have established....as we did with the Indian Club re our recent Tsunami relief donation. We do this in the belief such a club knows best what is most urgently needed that meets Rotary's criteria. Apparently we've had less satisfactory experience donating to general charitable disaster relief funds set up by RI (or other agencies), the most recent being a 9/11 donation in 2001 to RI's New York disaster recovery fund, which involve large bureaucracies and questionable accountability for where and how the donation(s) get used.

The board will not rush to simply "make a donation" ...rather we will deliberate on this matter at our next board meeting on September 19 and to some extent we will be guided by what sister clubs in our area are doing.

Keith McIntyre

To: District Officers & Directors, District Committee Chairs, AGs and Club Presidents

To all District 7090 members,

All of us have been concerned and questioning how we as District 7090 Rotarians might respond effectively and appropriately to the current disaster in the Gulf Coast of the United States.

I have been in a round of discussion with the District Governors in our Zones and contact was finally made with the Rotary District Governors in the effected areas and together with Rotary International a system of responses is beginning to be put in place. We are working with them and anticipate hearing from those Rotarians in the immediate area as to what are the immediate and more likely long term opportunities we will have to assist.

As in other similar situations, Rotary tends to focus their efforts not just on short term assistance but looks at more long term follow up as happened during the Tsunami issues earlier this year.

I have attached the release within the last few hours from Rotary International and the release is copied from the Rotary International website. There are a number of suggestions as to how we might assist.

In addition, I am reporting the following:

1. The Rotary Club of Springville through media advertising is, for the month of September, collecting cheques and funds to be forwarded to the American Red Cross. Other clubs in the southern tier such as Olean and Ellicottville are also involved in a similar campaign.

2. A number of clubs are also donating cash to the American Red Cross. If your club chooses to follow this process please remember to signify you want the donation to go to the Katrina response effort.

3. District 7090 will accept cheques sent to our District Treasurer Brian St. Hilaire or our Assistant Treasurer Don DeMeo, made out to the District 7090 Katrina Fund. We would anticipate forwarding the funds to one or more of the affected Rotary Districts in the damaged area in the next few weeks as their needs become more specific.

4. In addition, I have had the following request:

"Good Morning DG, How difficult would it be for us to find a club in Louisiana and put together a transport trailer of stuff from Brantford and coordinate with them to receive it and distribute it? We did that with a club in Thailand and built three houses last year. Let me know". Mark Littel, Rotary club of Brantford Sunrise

If you have some ideas, you may contact Mark at mark@customlogoproducts.ca

If you have any other thoughts, please send me an email message.

Thanks for Committing to SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Art Wing
District Governor

Rotary Grace

Please join me in a moment of reflection and thanks with these words

With our friends beside us,
And no person beneath us,
With the bonds of Rotary Between us,
And our worries behind us,
With our goals before us,
And no task beyond us,
With a thirst for knowledge,
And a dream of a Polio free world,
We are thankful for our Rotary friends and the meal we are about to share.

Submitted by Wendy Brawn

Rotarians mobilize to aid Hurricane Katrina victims

*By Joseph Derr and David Schober
Rotary International News*

1 September 2005

In the wake of Hurricane Katrina, one of the worst natural disasters in U.S. history, Rotary clubs and districts from throughout the affected Gulf Coast region and beyond sprang into action to collect necessary food and supplies, raise money, and provide shelter to refugees.

Based on preliminary reports coming in to Rotary International, Rotarians are responding en-masse to RI President Stenhammar's call to help communities affected by the disaster.

Districts in Louisiana and Mississippi have led the charge. Throughout the area Rotarians are doing what they can to ensure the most affected regions are stable.

District 6820 (Mississippi) Governor Stuart Vance reported via e-mail that Rotary districts 6820 and 6840 (Louisiana) established a relief fund and have the mechanics in place to collect money. Funds will be available to all affected. Donations may be sent to Rotary Katrina Fund, Bill Simmons, District Treasurer, 627 Sherwood Road, Starkville, MS 39759.

District 6200 (Louisiana) Governor Don Chauvin reports that the district committee is holding a meeting on Friday, 2 September, to develop a course of action. Chauvin noted that the District 6200 Foundation will be accepting monetary contributions for hurricane aid. Checks may be mailed to Janice Bradshaw, P.O. Box 44365, Lafayette, LA, 70504, USA.

Rotary clubs on Marco Island in District 6960 (Florida) are collecting donations as well. Rotary club secretaries and presidents can consult their Official Directory for club contact information.

In Tennessee, Rotarians from the Rotary Clubs of Oak Ridge-Breakfast and Oak Ridge have parked a truck at a local Wal-Mart and are seeking donations of hygiene and health necessities. Water, paper products, personal hygiene products, diapers, baby formula, and canned foods are being accepted in a weekend-long effort. Working with the American Red Cross, the group will bring the truck to a designated relief center in the affected area.

Farther from the immediate fray, the Rotary Club of Decatur, Illinois, is collecting summer clothes in an effort to meet basic needs of victims. Donation centers are being set up at a local mall and radio station.

For more information on relief efforts and how you can help, please visit RI's World Community Service Disaster Relief page.

Club and District Disaster Relief Efforts

The relief efforts below are being undertaken by individual Rotary clubs and districts. To contribute to these relief initiatives, please contact the Rotarian Disaster Relief Coordinator listed for the appropriate relief effort. Please contact the Rotarian coordinating relief efforts for guidance on sending contributions from your country. When organizing club or district relief efforts, it is important to work closely with an experienced disaster relief organization such as the International Federation of the Red Cross.

What makes RI so unique is that we have established a network of over 32,000 clubs worldwide and implementing successful, long-term projects is what we do best. An immediate emergency response is necessary, but we encourage individuals, clubs, and districts to start thinking of how they can provide long-term assistance.

Rotary Zones 29 and 30 have established a Donor Advised Fund called the "Katrina Relief Fund" and are prepared to receive contributions from Rotarians. A committee identified by the leadership in the two zones will work with local Rotary clubs and districts, as well as emergency relief agencies, to meet the most pressing needs of people in the affected areas. Please note, that contributions to this account can only be accepted in US dollars*.

Make all checks payable to "TRF DAF" and indicate "Katrina Relief Fund" in the MEMO line. Checks should be mailed to:
Mr. Clint McGowan, TRF DAF
The Ayco Company
855 Route 146, Suite 120
Clifton Park, NY 12065

* Contributions are tax deductible for US citizens. No Rotary Foundation recognition will be awarded for contributions to this fund.

RI Zones 29 and 30, which include areas affected by Katrina and surrounding districts, have also deployed 100 Shelter Boxes (<http://shelterboxusa.org>) to Houston, Texas for the refugees stationed there. RI Director Robert Stuart is overseeing the collection of funds for additional boxes. The Shelter Box project began as a Rotary club-to-club project to provide disaster victims with necessary items. The boxes are being prepared to meet the needs of the hurricane/flood victims, containing 2 tents, water purification tablets, and other miscellaneous tools and equipment. Each box costs US\$900 and will provide support for 20 people. For more information, please contact RI Director Robert Stuart, telephone: 217-544-8491 (office); PDG and Shelter Box USA President Jerry Hearn, telephone: 941-704-6627 (mobile),

Florida District 6930 has established a relief effort committee and is working with Louisiana Districts 6190 and 6200, Mississippi Districts 6800 and 6820 Louisiana and Mississippi District 6840 and Florida District 6890 in the affected areas to deliver aid. Funds are being collected for the purchase of water, food, blankets and water purification tablets. If you are located North of Boca Raton, in Florida, donated goods may be arranged for pick-up on the way to the affected areas. The committee has raised over US\$50,000 to date and is preparing a truck for shipment of aid to the nearest communities and will be sending additional aid by plane. Necessary supplies will also be purchased locally. Contributions may be made to "Rotary District 6930, Katrina Relief," c/o District Treasurer Steve Fattel, 2200 NW Corporate Blvd, Suite 401, Boca Raton, FL 33431.

The Rotary Club of Lucedale in Gulfport, Mississippi (District 6840) delivered a truckload of supplies to the affected communities of Pearl River, Stone, and George Counties in Mississippi. The club is now collecting funds to purchase and transport additional non-perishable food items, canned goods, water, dry ice, paper products, eating utensils, toiletries, bug spray, baby food, and diapers. Local donations may be sent directly to: Texas Autopro Inc., 2214 North Frazier, Conroe, TX 77303. For more information on sending contributions to this project, please contact Past President Dean Belton, 936-760-3222 (office), 936-760-3245 (fax), 601-528-2465 (cell).

New Member Proposals

The following has been proposed for membership in the club.

Week two notification

Bob Munroe
Partner and Chairperson, Ross and McBride LLP
Proposed by Bob Leek

These membership proposals will be published for two consecutive weeks in the Ambassador. If you have any comments about these prospective members, please contact the Membership Committee chair Jim Commerford.

APPOINTMENT OF CLUB ADMINISTRATOR

On behalf of the board of directors, President Keith McIntyre is pleased to announce the appointment of Tammy Martin to handle the club's administrative duties on a part-time contractual basis.

Tammy brings to our club over nine years of office management and systems administration experience that includes advanced computer skills, basic accounting and coordination of several special events. She is completing a maternity leave and is presently completing a degree in Social Sciences through part-time studies at McMaster University. She was licensed with the Ontario Securities Commission for four years.

Tammy and husband Steve reside in Ancaster and they are raising 2 children.

Tammy will commenced training in the Rotary office and was introduced to club members at the August 25th meeting.

As opportunity presents itself over the next few weeks, I invite members to introduce themselves to Tammy and welcome her to our club.

From our Scribe

Some Wonderful Memories

About ten days ago, a group of us went over to visit your Scribe's sister and brother-in-law at their beautiful cottage on the Indian River which flows into Lake Rousseau at Port Carling.

The folks bought 400 feet of shoreline and an old Muskoka cottage and boathouse from the Grafton Family (Grafton Stores) of Dundas in 1950. They and their children and grandchildren have enjoyed for 50 years what we believe to be one of the beauty spots of Canada.

Your Scribe and family visited the folks often and for 3 summers rented the old Boathouse with three bedrooms, kitchenette and eventually a porch. Your Scribe loved to watch the steady stream of boats that passed the cottage on the way to Port Carling, at least 50 an hour in the busy hours. While in the river, the speed limit was and still is 10k's so you got a good look at the boats.

At that time, the family were and still are members of the prestigious Muskoka Lakes Golf and Country Club. Their membership included two passes for their guests. Your Scribe and wife enjoyed many games of golf, courtesy of the passes.

Every Saturday the Club held a dinner dance for members and guests. Frank Bogart's Society Orchestra played at the dances. In the winter he played every Saturday at the famous Granite Club in Toronto and for the debutante balls and society dances. Frank was a Hamiltonian and his music was really danceable. He compared to the famous New York Society band of Lester Lanin. They were great times.

Your Scribe returned from one of the dances exhausted. He had just settled down in bed on the main floor bedroom when two pails full of water came in the window. We all went swimming in our night gear.

On our recent visit we had lunch at the beautifully maintained Muskoka Lakes Club House on the water. Because so many people live on Islands or in locations easier to come to the Club by boat than car, there are about fifty boat slips at the Clubhouse.

Back in the 50's when we were at the Club, you could only dock mahogany boats at the main dock. Fibreglass boats had to dock way down the shore. When we were their last week, there wasn't a single wooden boat, all fibreglass and some beauties.

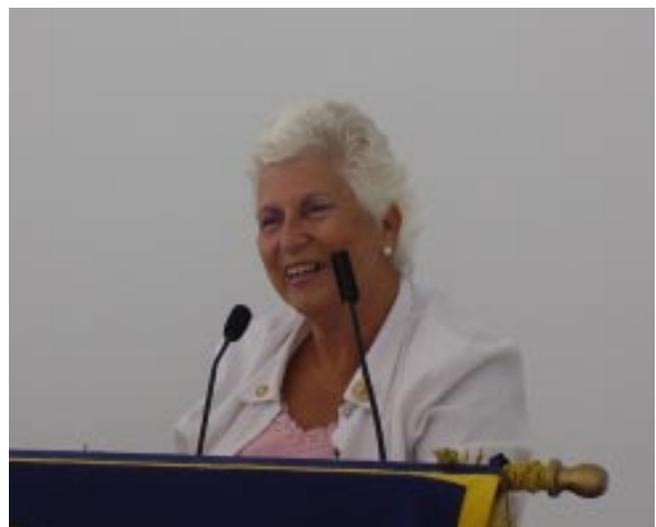
Great memories revisited.
Your Scribe

September 1 meeting

We welcomed guests from a Group Study Exchange group from Brazil.



*Rotarians
Jim Commerford
and Joan Heels
presented their
classification
talks*





The Ambassador

The Ambassador is the weekly newsletter of the Rotary Club of Hamilton.. Deadline for articles is Monday each week for publication the following Thursday.

The newsletter is distributed by email each Thursday, and printed for distribution the following week.

You can help save the club money for mailing and printing costs if you are able to download the electronic version, and no longer need to pick up a printed copy at our weekly meetings.

Janet McNaught (janet.mcnaught@gmail.com)
Rotary mailing list rotary-l@mailman.mcmaster.ca

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