

# Turning Wheels of Bulawayo Rotary Club



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## October 2002.



#### From the President's Computer

The jacarandas are in full colourful lilac bloom throughout the city uplifting one's spirits as we pass by them. Surely this beauty of nature portrays to us that all is not lost in these troubled times of drought, famine & pending war with. Iraq Perhaps these beautiful trees are reminding us how we need to focus on what is good in life and how much we have to be thankful for, family, health, friends and the fact that our Rotary Clubs are functioning through fellowship, need and Vocational Service. This verse comes to mind whilst writing this month's reflections.

'Its all in the State of Mind'

If you think you are beaten, you are
If you think, you dare not, you don't
If you think you'd like to win but can't
It's almost a cinch you won't;
For out in the world you'll find
Success begins with a fellows will
It's all in the state of mind.
Life's battle doesn't always go
To the stronger or faster man
But sooner or later the man who wins
Is the fellow who thinks he can.

President Maureen Bond Bulawayo Rotary Club

#### Rotary Thoughts for the Month

"Non-violence leads to the highest ethics, which is the goal of evolution"

Thomas Edison

"Willingness without action is like a cloud without rain, there may be lots of thunder and lightening but no parched earth is watered"

Anon

Rotary International designates each month to a particular subject. This is part of each clubs year planner.

#### The month of October is dedicated to:

#### Vocational Service Month

Vocational service is one of the cornerstones of Rotary and offers many opportunities. From its early years, Rotary has been a leader in promoting Vocational Service and maintaining high ethical standards in business. Rotary adheres to the standards of the 'Objects of Rotary' as its mission statement as well as abiding by the 'Four Way Test'.

Rotary hands out many Vocational awards in recognition of high ethical activity. As Rotarians we are in an ideal position to use our business connections and acumen to help those less fortunate than ourselves. As business leaders in our community, Rotarians concern and contacts can make a significant difference to those who's lives have been a series of challenges and lack of opportunity, we can provide limitless vocational help in education, training and employment.

Many Vocational seminars advocate 'Grow your club through Vocational Service' and 'Vocational Service should drive your club'.

Each of us was asked to join Rotary on the basis of our vocation, and by using our vocation to help others through Rotary, we ' Sow the Seeds of Love' with integrity and responsibility.

President Maureen Bond Bulawayo Rotary Club

#### Get Yourself Some Girlfriends!

Girlfriends bring casseroles and scrub your bathroom when you are sick. Girlfriends keep your children and keep your secrets.

Girlfriends give advice when you ask for it. Sometimes you take it, sometimes you don't.

Girlfriends don't always tell you that you're right, but they're usually honest.

Girlfriends still love you, even when they don't agree with your choices. Girlfriends might send you a birthday card, but they might not. It does not matter in the least.

Girlfriends laugh with you, and you don't need canned jokes to start the laughter.

Girlfriends pull you out of jams.

Girlfriends don't keep a calendar that lets them know who hosted the other last.

Girlfriends will give a party for your son or daughter when they get married or have a baby, in whichever order that comes!

And girlfriends are there for you, in an instant and truly, when the hard times come.

Girlfriends listen when you lose a job or a husband. Girlfriends listen when your children break your heart. Girlfriends listen when your parents' minds and bodies fail. My girlfriends bless my life. Once we were young, with no idea of the incredible joys or the incredible sorrows that lay ahead. Nor did we know how much we would need each other.

Get yourself some girlfriends. You are going to need them.

#### The Senility Prayer

God grant me the senility to forget the people I never liked anyway and the good fortune - to run into the ones I do, and the eyesight to tell the difference.

Now that I am older (but refuse to grow up) here is what I have discovered:

1) I started out with nothing and still have most of it.

2) My wild oats have turned into prunes and All bran.

3) I finally got my head together, now my body is falling apart.

4) Funny - I don't remember absent-minded.

4) Funny - I don't remember being absent-minded.

5) If all is not lost, where is it?

6) It is easier to get older than it is to get wiser.

7) The only time the world beats a path to your door is when you are in the bathroom.

8) If God wanted me to touch my toes, He would have put them on my knees.9) It's not hard to meet expenses - they are everywhere.

10) These days I spend a lot of time thinking about the hereafter... I go somewhere and then wonder what I am here after.

Now I lay me Down to sleep. I pray the Lord My shape to keep.

Please no wrinkles Please no bags And please lift my butt Before it sags

Please no age spots Please no gray And as for my belly, Please take it away.

Please keep me healthy Please keep me young

The Truth Is:

Inside every older person is a younger person - wondering what the hell happened.





#### Joys of Womanhood

Women over 50 don't have babies because they would put them down and forget where they left them.

One of life's mysteries is how a 2 pound box of candy can make a woman gain 5 lbs.

My mind not only wanders, it sometime leaves completely.

The best way to forget all your troubles is to wear tight shoes.

The nice part about living in a small town is that when you don't know what you're doing, someone else does.

The older you get, the tougher it is to lose weight because by then, your body and your fat are really good friends.

Just when I was getting used to yesterday, along came today.

Sometimes I think I understand everything, then I wake up.

I gave up jogging for my health when my thighs kept rubbing together and setting my pantyhose on fire.

Amazing! You hang something in your closet for a while and it shrinks two sizes!

Skinny people irritate me! Especially when they say things like, "You know, sometimes I just forget to eat."

Now I've forgotten my address, my mother's maiden name, and my keys. But I've never forgotten to eat. You have to be a special kind of stupid to forget to eat.

A friend of mine confused her valium with her birth control pills. She had 14 kids, but she doesn't really care.

The trouble with some women is that they get all excited about nothing and then they marry him.

I read this article that said the typical symptoms of stress are: eating too much, impulse buying, and driving too fast. Are they kidding? That is my idea of a perfect day.



### They say that this is a true story!

This is the best lawyer story of the year, decade and probably the century.

A Charlotte, NC, lawyer purchased a box of very rare and expensive cigars, then insured them against fire among other things.

Within a month, having smoked his entire stockpile of these great cigars and without yet having made even his first premium payment on the policy, the lawyer filed claim against the insurance company.

In his claim, the lawyer stated the cigars were lost "in a series of small fires." The insurance company refused to pay, citing the obvious reason: that the man had consumed the cigars in the normal fashion.

The lawyer sued ... and won!

In delivering the ruling the Judge agreed with the insurance company that the claim was frivolous. The Judge stated nevertheless, "That the lawyer held a policy from the company in which it had warranted that the cigars were insurable and also guaranteed that it would insure them against fire, without defining what is considered to be unacceptable fire," and was obligated to pay the claim.

Rather than endure lengthy and costly appeal process, the insurance company accepted the ruling and paid \$15,000.00 to the lawyer for his loss of the rare cigars lost in the "fires."

NOW FOR THE BEST PART...

After the lawyer cashed the check, the insurance company had him arrested on 24 counts of ARSON!!!

With the lawyer's own insurance claim and testimony from the previous case being used against him, the lawyer was convicted of intentionally burning his insured property and was sentenced to 24 months in jail and a \$24,000.00 fine.

This is a true story and was the 1st place winner in the recent Criminal Lawyers Award Contest.

ONLY IN AMERICA!

#### From Charles Lazarus

How are we going to Sow the Seeds of Love with Sizzled Sausages?
 What is the difference between a Sperm and a Lawyer?
 The Sperm has 1 in 100.000 chance of becoming a Human!



#### THINK YOU'RE HAVING A BAD DAY Check Out These Actual Cases

Fire authorities in California found a corpse in a burned out section of forest while assessing the damage done by a forest fire. The deceased male was dressed in a full wet suit, complete with scuba tanks on his back, flippers, and face mask in the middle of the forest.

A postmortem test revealed that the man died not from burns, but from massive internal injuries. Dental records provided a positive identification. Investigators then set about to determine how a fully clad diver ended up in the middle of a forest fire. It was revealed that on the day of the fire, the man went diving off the coast, some 20 miles from the forest. The fire fighters, seeking to control the fire as quickly as possible, had called in a fleet of helicopters with very large dip buckets. Water was dipped from the ocean and emptied at the site of the forest fire.

You guessed it. One minute our diver was making like Flipper in the Pacific, the next, he was doing the breaststroke in a fire dip bucket 300 feet in the air and then airborne into smoke heaven. Some days it just doesn't pay to get out of bed.



#### Still think you're having a bad day?

A man was working on his motorcycle on the patio, his wife nearby in the kitchen. While sitting on the bike and racing the engine, the motorcycle accidentally slipped into gear. The man, still holding onto the handlebars, was dragged along as it burst through the glass patio doors.

His wife, hearing the crash, ran in the room to find her husband cut and bleeding, the motorcycle, and the shattered patio door. She called for an ambulance and, because the house sat on a fairly large hill, went down the several flights of stairs to meet the paramedics and escort them to her husband.

While the attendants were loading her husband, the wife managed to right the motorcycle and push it outside. She also quickly blotted up the spilled gasoline with some paper towels and tossed them into the toilet.

After being treated and released, the man returned home, looked at the shattered patio door and the damage done to his motorcycle. He went into the bathroom and consoled himself with a cigarette while attending to his business. About to stand, he flipped the butt between his legs.

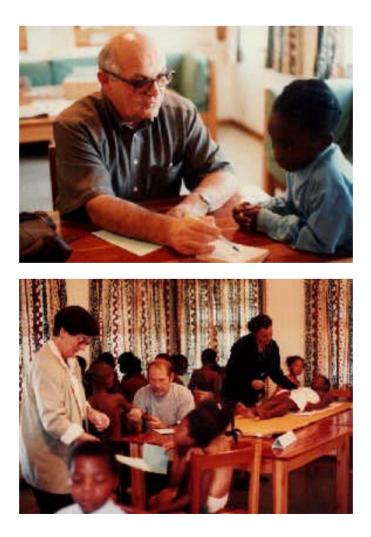
The wife, who was in the kitchen, heard a loud explosion and her husband screaming. Finding him lying on the bathroom floor with his trousers blown away and burns on his buttocks, legs and groin, she once again phoned for an ambulance. The same paramedic crew was dispatched.

As the paramedics carried the man down the stairs to the ambulance they asked the wife how he had come to burn himself. She told them. They started laughing so hard, one slipped, tipping the stretcher and dumping the husband out. He fell down the remaining stairs, breaking his arm.



### Still having a bad day? Just remember, it could be worse.

The average cost of rehabilitating a seal after the Exxon Valdez oil spill in Alaska was \$80,000. At a special ceremony, two of the most expensively saved animals were being released back into the wild amid cheers and applause from onlookers. A minute later, in full view, a killer whale ate them both.



#### From The Editor

From the month of September our Newsletter is going to be only in electronic form. Please let me have an empty diskette and I will give you most of the recent newsletters in .PDF format. Give me two diskettes and I will give you all the newsletters in .PDF format (for this you will need Acrobat Reader). I am going to post it to the e-mail addresses of the members of other Rotary clubs and other interested individuals and organizations. Those of you who do not wish to receive it in your email or on the diskette please let me know. I will ensure that the Board be informed and some of them will certainly make steps to provide for you your newsletter in printed form. It is also possible to download our Newsletter from the Club site:

http://members.tripod.com/ilandama/rotary/clubofbulawayo/index.htm



"Cowardice asks, is it safe? Expediency asks, is it politic? Vanity asks, is it popular? But conscience asks, IS IT RIGHT? There comes a time when one must take the position that it is neither safe, nor politic, nor popular - BUT one must do it because conscience says it is RIGHT!"

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

