
Turning Wheels of Bulawayo Rotary Club

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District Newsletter: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/RotaryD9210_DG_Newsletter

From the Editor

We did have an extremely exciting and satisfactory District Conference here in Bulawayo - The City of Kings! Our Zebra Team did its best to organize everything.

RIPPR Dan and his Shirley were absolute stars. DG Phil showed fantastic stamina and dedication. I was personally very impressed with PDG Patrick Chisanga and our next "Boss" William - such nice booming voices and charming personalities. Many other leading and clever Rotarians - to mention just Chris Molam and Derrick McDiarmid.

This Conference made me proud of being a Rotarian.

On a more technical note. Lots of you guys out there have YOUR e-mail addresses in MY address book. Which means that I am going to send you some interesting materials. If you do not like that (me sending things to you through copper wires amidst of electron clouds!) let me know and something terrible is going to happen to YOUR e-mail address in MY address book.

Finally, those web sites cited above and below in the text are worth visiting.

If you travel - wear anti-SARS mask!
And for AIDS ...

Maks

June 2003.

From the President's Computer

"The bell is about to sound as we enter the final lap of the year". Hopefully all the Seeds of Love we have sown as a Club and in the District are now beginning to take harvest.

As my Rotary years draws to an end, so quickly as it seems to have flown by, just as I feel I am getting into the swing of things and perhaps for some presidents like myself, a year is just not long enough to do everything one would wish to!

It's a time for reflection and time to take the final action to complete some of the tasks and goals started in the year but have not yet reached finality.

It's been a busy year, with our fingers in so many pies, like the Food relief drive, Youth and Rotaract programs, membership recruitment, fellowship events, District conferences, pending International Matching Grants and Gift of Hope Medical containers, history projects, taking care of the aged, Carols by Candlelight to name but a few projects.

Main area of success has been the Club accounts now reconciled and running smoothly thanks to Laurie, having Charles Chiponda being elected a GSE leader, which is a great honor to our Club, District Service awards to myself, Laurie, Julie and MD Naik, Gordon Geddes running in the

London Marathon to raise funds for the food relief and above all the commitment shown by the majority of Rotarians to our Club. I like to think that our Club is on the map as a well-oiled functioning club.

The biggest disappointment was the lack of District recognition as a Rotary Club during the Conference awards and hopefully time will prove that we are in the top clubs if we continue on our upward path. This club has such a wealth of history that I am sure we will continue to add to this as long as we all work together with teamwork, not for individual rewards, which is so important in Rotary. Disappointing has been the lack of commitment to the club by a small number of our Rotarians which makes me question why they are in Rotary, no-one has twisted their arm to join us, and they were aware of the needs of the club through an intense pre-induction interview, they are the losers as what you give into Rotary, one gets back two fold in return.

My sincere thanks goes to my Board of Directors and Club Rotarians that have stood not behind me, but with me, during this Rotary year. It has been a time of great concern and worry to us all in this

country as to what the near future holds and it has truly amazed me that we have not only retained our members but have had so many new members join us to 'serve above self' in Rotary. It's been wonderful how our Rotarians have thrown themselves into helping those less fortunate than others.

As our outgoing RI President Bhichai Rattakul writes: 'Let us not retreat to our little corner of the world to hide our heads in the sand. Let us not be so concerned over our own problems that we may not have the time for the important things in life. May we never be so busy that we ignore our responsibilities, for we are fighting for a reward that is higher than splendor and honor. We are fighting to win the hearts of the people everywhere. Go forth then to sow the Seeds of love and sow generously and when you serve, serve mightily.'

My best wishes to IC President Kingsley Dube and his new Board for 2003/2004 and we will all be behind you to 'Lend a hand'.

President Maureen Bond

Rotary Thoughts for the Month

In honor of Father's day and all those Dads out there!

Father:

- A banker provided by nature.
- A person who wears last years suit, drives this years car and lives on next years income.

'If you sit on a rainy day in your home and the ceiling starts to leak, not a lot just a little, would you not start worrying? The late John F. Kennedy said 'the time to repair the roof is when the sun is shining'.

The month of June is dedicated to the RI Convention and Rotary Fellowships Month!

The Rotary 'law' dictates that each District has a conference at least two weeks before the Rotary International World Convention. This RI 'Meet' is set at a new venue each year throughout the world. It's the meeting place for Rotarians from all over the world to come and discuss RI business and of course to indulge in Rotary fun, fellowship and friendship. This year's has just been held in Brisbane.

The first RI conference was held in Chicago in August 1910. The basis of the first conference was that each club was entitled to one delegate for each 50 members and 14 clubs were represented at the roll call.

June is **Rotary Fellowship month** and there are over 70 different Rotary fellowships operating throughout the Rotary world. Each 'fellowship' focuses on a specific vocational or rotary recreational discipline / sport or hobby. They give Rotarians the opportunity to network and extend friendships with other Rotarians with whom they share common interests. Fellowship is the foundation on which Rotary was built and is the source of Rotary's strength.

Some examples is an international yachting fellowship of Rotarians, and Maureen Bond belongs to the one called 'the History of Rotary Project'.

Friendship exchange, the fellowship to fight fraud on the Internet, motorbikes, cars enthusiasts, in fact there are 70 fellowships that are known of. The first fellowship ever formed in 1928 being Esperanto - a language devised from a number of European tongues in 1928 hoping to form an international language.

Rotary in South Africa have successfully bid to host the 40th World Championship of the International golfing Fellowship of Rotarians (IGFR) in 2003. This championship will be played on the Gary Player Country Club and Lost City courses at Sun City and Pecan Wood Golf Course, Hartbeespoort Dam in September!

These fellowships share an international vision, enjoyment of learning and opportunities to serve which are available in the fellowships.

President Maureen Bond

Bulawayo Rotary Club

Rotary Round-Up

What's happening in our Club?

Induction Dinner: For ICP Kingsley Dube
Friday 4th July 2003
Time: 7pm sharp
Venue: Lions Den, Cecil Avenue.

Invitations are now being given out to all Club Rotarians. Please make every effort to support your new incoming President, as this is one of the premier events of the Rotary calendar.

Details from PP Malcolm Ross and PP Chris Pool

Please pay the fee and give your acceptances soonest, for catering and seating numbers!

On Leave: Noel Scott from July
Father Chris Eisentraut

Club Subscriptions: Advance warning! There is going to be a special general meeting coming up to discuss the hefty raise in our subscriptions.

Medical Container: International are forging ahead with this donation of equipment. A sterling committee has been set up to monitor all the administration of this 40f container expected later on in the year.

Fund Raising: There will be a big drive on to fundraise to help our coffers in this inflationary environment; all details will be forthcoming.

Bulletin: Club Bulletin needs your inputs. Everyone has a story to tell whether its Rotary related or not - please forward to Maks.

Reflections on the District Conference

Bulawayo "City of Kings" 14th-17th May 2003

By President Maureen Bond

Why do we have a District Conference?

To sow our thoughts and reap our actions!

Rotarians especially from outside the District sacrifice a lot both in terms of time and personal financial resources in order to attend this conference in the true Rotary spirit. The Rotary District Conference provides us with an opportunity to review our program and activities over the past year throughout the District.

It is the District 9210's family of all four countries most important gathering for the Rotary year and the one opportunity to make new friends, renew friendships, discuss and be informed about District and international projects. Its more akin to a family reunion and a time to relax and enjoy one's self and realize that you, being a Rotarian are part of this unique community that is Rotary! Its also the best

opportunity to renew and update your knowledge of Rotary as we all work towards the same goal of making the world a better place and promoting peace and understanding among mankind.

A chance to met your District Leaders and future leaders and District Hierarchy as well as the Rotary International Representative who is usually someone very important in the world of Rotary who will assess the conference and report back to RI on the District.

One leaves the conference with your Rotary batteries re-charged, full of enthusiasm for the year ahead.

Conference Committee

The Conference Committee under the quiet, but steady hand of PP Omar Hassim, aided by Conference / District secretary Julie Bonett, has been planning this for nearly a year since DG Phil's induction in July 2003. Both Omar and Julie received a

'Paul Harris' for their immense contributions from DG Phil.

Thursday evenings from 5.30 at Bulawayo Club became part of the norm in our lives.

The planning, organization and attention to every minute detail are immense and pure teamwork as we each had our part to play, however small or behind the scenes. DG Phil designed the Conference logo seen on the bags, programs and invitations.

The venue was the subject of much discussion and eventually the Bulawayo Amphitheatre adjacent to the Bulawayo Bowling Club was chosen which turned out to be superb in every respect.

The Committee was kitted out, through the courtesy of Femina Garments with Zebra Kaftans for the Ladies and matching shirts and pith helmets for the men - very noticeable and much admired!

Our key function at the conference besides allotted tasks was to assist, achieve warm and friendly rapport with fellow Rotarians and show that despite the weather we are warm in heart in Bulawayo!

Sadly two members of the team passed on during this time, PP Guy Miller Cranko and PP Hugh Curtis who gave so much time and support during their last unexpected months.

The experienced PDG Brian Meikle planned the immense conference program. PDG Ann Shelagh Meikle was the Anns' Conference Convener and held a varied program for Thursday 15th May with the Ann's.

Our 'Maks' was superb with all the technological details of websites, advertising and Help line support to all.

Décor was designed around the Africa, City of Kings, Black and White Zebra themes which was very effective as one looked from the top of the amphitheatre down towards the stage and at various locations throughout the area with abstract Zebra's and Rotary wheels made by Jean Garrett hanging from many ceilings. John Parkin and son hung banners, Richard Arrowsmith scaffolding, and Maureen, aided marvelously by Shelagh and her team of Anns and friends produced memorable décor.

The Rotary Shop was a tremendous task, ably undertaken by various committee members especially Julie with her many designs of clothing and the late Hugh Curtis. Brian Gillett and Zhaimu Tembo took over the task at the critical hour to which we were all most grateful.

Electronics, microphones and all technical items connected to this function was undertaken by PP Peter Rollason, happily at home in his old haunt as in 1952 when the Queen Mum came to this very place for the Centennial celebration.

Security, such a difficult and time consuming task was fulfilled by PP John Parkin, one of his many roles in the conference, to ensure protection and peace of mind to all.

Jean Whiley undertook the tedious and consuming job of registration, nametags and PRO, meticulously making sure it was all coordinated.

'Money, Money, Money, a tedious, difficult task with so many exchange rates was kept under close lock and key and account by RTN Dickie Peters and Pres Adrian Feather.

Colin Lyle was described by many as the best Sergeant at Arms witnessed at a conference and contributed greatly to the atmosphere with his military style uniform, whistle and knobkerrie.

As previously said before, the teamwork was such a powerful force at this conference, there was no ways that it could possibly fail as we were all 'one'.

Conference events

The assembly and the Conference are not just meant to be a retrospective. It is also a clarion call to arms for further achievements in the coming and future years.

'Today's peaks are but the foothills of the future'

In the words of Winnie the Pooh-the conference began on a 'cold blustery windy day'.

This was aptly portrayed by the Executive Mayor of Bulawayo Mr. Japhet Ndabeni Ncube who opened the Conference and described the cold weather conditions due to superb air conditioning provided by the Bulawayo City Council! As always at every conference, the official procession and flag procession makes one very proud to be a Rotarian and part of the Rotary family.

Food, a life giving substance, in this partially cold weather, was cooked served, and catered for at the majority of Fellowship events and lunches by Lorna Riley and her team who undertook this mammoth task to perfection. Despite commodity shortages in Zimbabwe, Lorna was simply the best! (It is known that the only part of the conference that RTN Charles Lazarus attended was meal times and the hosting evening!)

RTN Noel Scott organized the Youth Conference at the MacDonald Club across the road from the Amphitheatre for the interactors district wide, and was overwhelmed by the 250 youth support shown. Several keynote speakers spoke on topics originally called upon by the youth and much discussion and feedback was shared - so very inspiring to listen to the youth of today who will be tomorrow's future leaders and Rotarians.

The business side of the Conference is always in-depth and busy. To write about it all would take pages, but highlights in my opinion were.

Address by Rotary International President's Representative Dan Mooers came with an inspiring message about weapons of Mass Preservation and the destruction of HIV/Aids and Polio that Rotary holds in its grasp. He appeared to be very moved by our District's concerted efforts and dedication to work 'Rotary' despite the economic hardships, hunger, distances and political turmoil in the district.

He advocated that 'Rotary does God's work and brings heavens favor to the world'.

Dan was very dominant during the conference through his wise counsel, interest in all the Rotarians present and in his first time visit to our country Zimbabwe.

Tree Africa presentation by Charlene Hewitt 'Ro-Tree'. Trees saplings were displayed all the way down the aisles of the amphitheatre as part of the décor and Charlie gave a terrific talk on their aims of the project - 'to plant 5 million trees in our District by 2005. The saplings were bought by Rotarians and given to the Century Park.

Disaster Relief/Feeding scheme presented by Egbert Wever, (although we all battle to understand his accent and Liz wasn't there to translate!), has been an unparalleled success despite all the problems Egbert encountered and solved. The donation of funds from USA via RIPR Dan Mooers as he literally dished out cheques to the value of US\$5000+ shows what great PR this man has done throughout Rotary to help feed a nation.

The District Leadership Seminar as part of the District training program was so focused on leadership through Rotary, getting involved in Rotary activities above Club level, communication levels, aided by management principals and the technologically advanced Powerpoint presentation. Hats off to DG Phil, DGNom Chris Molan, PDG Derrick McDiarmid for a powerful session.

Group Study Exchange is regarded by many Rotarians as being the most beneficial of Rotary's programs headed by Ian Helby. The incoming team from East Africa introduced themselves to the District. Then PP Charles Chiponda's team who visited East Africa made their talks in traditional East African gear and Charles, the team leader was terribly funny as always as he described his adventures and perceptions of East Africa. His equally vibrant team members spoke on their experiences, all stating how dominant Malaria was in those areas and how enriching they found Rotary.

Presentation on *Rotary Against Malaria* by PP Peter Rollason showed that the old method of net and spray prevention

and Gin and Indian Tonics helped combat this biggest killer in Africa.

Polio Plus Update by Don Macdonald gave us facts and figures of how close we are to eradicating this 'wild polio' and achieving the polio free world by 2005.

Trophies and 'Paul Harris' awards were given out, always a time for Rotarians of utter surprise, bitter disappointments, and sheer pride in what their clubs and individual Rotarians have achieved this year. Brian Gillett is to be commended in locating so many Trophies throughout the District through sheer persistence and hard work. Lusaka Central won Best District Rotary Club of the Year

The only 'rumblings' were the talks on the District Accounts, unfortunately not presented to this conference as all in sundry who were involved were away, so the District was none the wiser, this was a poor show of important information that needs to be viewed.

The Entertainment evening, choreographed by Julie Bonett and Lorimer Scott produced a mixed variety of performers, the children from KG VI especially, were mind blowing with their singing, dancing and acting. Despite the cold, there was just such so much warmth and emotion and Rotary spirit that evening watching children who despite severe handicaps gave so much.

Club hosting evening by the four Bulawayo Rotary Clubs fostered great fellowship and friendship for the district. The overworked DG Phil and Ann with RIPR Dan and Shirley Mooers visited each 'party' throughout the evening. Certainly the liveliest event was that at the Bulawayo Rotary Club when the Mozambiquan Rotarians amongst us introduced us to their music and the party was in full swing from there onwards!

The final morning, saw 'Club Roll Call' being called, but sadly everyone who should have been there weren't due to perhaps the cold, hangovers and general tiredness after a long week! The momentum picked up as the program, chaired by PDG Patrick Chisanga, went on to discuss the state of the District, recognition of the Conference committee and general discussion.

Youth-Interact and Rotaract and Youth Exchange programs through PP Robin Bottomley along with the presentation of Grass-roots Soccer and Aids all combined the same theme of the young in action, the way these programs are helping develop community minded citizens. They provide an opportunity for boys and girls in higher school and early working age, being together in a world fellowship of service and international understanding.

This final session provided an insight to the aims and character of our incoming DGE William Nyrienda, a very dedicated and focused Rotarian with distinct goals for 2003/2004.

DG Phil Whitehead officially declared Conference 2003 closed at lunchtime.

Grand finale - the DG's Gala Banquet

Held at the Hotel school, again decorated in the Zebra, gold black and white themes with Alvord Mabena as the Master of Ceremonies for the evening and the chefs and staff kept under the beady eye of Lorna Riley so that another scrumptious organized meal was produced for all.

Pomp and Ceremony was the order of the night!

RIPR Dan Mooers gave a heart warming speech again to the audience and presented Pres Maureen Bond with a 1905 Rotary coin for her work on the History of Rotary project.

DG Phil along with PDG Derrick MacDiarmid gave out more awards at this event, District Service awards going to Rotarians for their work towards the District this year and a few more 'Paul Harris' awards for the special women behind the men, DG Ann Sandy Whitehead and Liz

Wever. His special thank you to his family for all their love and support during his eventful year had very few dry eyes left in the audience.

District Governor Elect 2003/4 William Nyirenda and his wife Mable were duly and ceremoniously announced in as the new District Governor for District 9210 and our best wishes to go to him for a rewarding Rotary year ahead.

His recognition of DG Phil's year was indeed an honor and befitting speech to Phil and echoed by all that attended

Auld Lang Syne - we all held hands around the hall, sung goodbye to the old year and heralded in the new Rotary Year!

Closing with the immortal word by DG Phil Whitehead - PHEW!

President Maureen Bond

Bulawayo Rotary Club



ROTARY DISTRICT CONFERENCE. Bulawayo, May, 1937.