

# District 5610 Newsletter

Volume 7, Issue 3

September 1, 2007

## District Leaders

**DG Richard Nolte**  
Custer, SD

**DGE Vivian Adams**  
Sioux City, IA

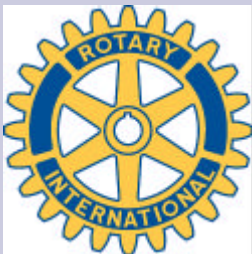
**DGN Roger Kozak**  
Vermillion, SD

**District Treasurer**  
**George Twitero**  
Rapid City, SD

**District Trainer**  
**Ed Jacobsen**  
Pierre/Ft. Pierre, SD

**Executive Director**  
**Susan Hughes**  
Rapid City, SD

[www.rotary5610.org](http://www.rotary5610.org)



## Inside this issue:

DGE Vivian	2
RYLA	2
Miracle Field	3
GSE Team	4
Backpacks	4
Contest	4

## “ROTARY SHARES – MEMBERS COUNT” By DG Nolte

WOW! That’s all I can say about the visits Bernie and I have made to 32 of the 41 clubs in District 5610. Each one of the clubs has its own character and does its own “thing”. I should say “things”, plural, because all clubs are involved in multiple projects and activities. There are as many different projects and activities as there are clubs! At all clubs we received warm and enthusiastic welcomes and had visits (although brief) with many of our fine Rotarians. We were invited to a great dinner and social with the Sioux Falls West Club and the Marshall Noon Club; an evening of dinner, social and Rotary business hosted by Sioux Falls Downtown Club President Tom Gage and his spouse; a Belgian waffle supper fund raiser at Rock Valley, IA where we were hosted by Wilbert and Betty Vanden Bos. Also at Marshall

we were guests of and hosted to a dinner out with PDG Shirley and Scott Hiller; at Wagner we were hosted to a dinner out with PDG Roger and Betsy Wiltz; at Pierre we were hosted to a dinner with Assistant District Governor Jim Mollison and spouse. We also enjoyed a dinner out with DGE Vivian and Mark Adams at Sioux City. That’s all I can think of, I hope I didn’t forget someone ! We were also given tours of some of the cities and some of their facilities and special sites. We did take some time off to relax and visited museums and antique shops. Overall clubs in our District are doing much good in their communities as well as around the globe. Having said that, of course there is so much more that we can do through Rotary. So let’s all continue to expand our projects and activities and grow

our clubs, as we know increasing club membership is the key to increased participation in our club activities and projects. Membership needs to be an ongoing, continuous, year around activity for each Rotarian. For the Month of September we are taking a break from making club visits since we have our District Conference the weekend of September 14-16 and the last week of September is Zone 25 & 26 Institute at Austin, TX. We will be making the remaining 9 club visits during October and will be requesting confirmation of the dates for those visits during September, just so we are all on the same page.

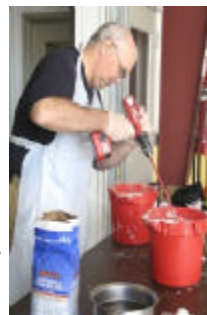
**Don’t forget our DISTRICT CONFERENCE Sept 14-16, we need all 41 clubs represented to be the most effective to achieve our goals and do the most good.**  
Yours in Rotary, DG Dick

## Food and flight mix at fly-in breakfast

MARSHALL — Fresh from the griddle, the pancakes were going, well, like hot-cakes at the Marshall airport on Saturday morning. At any rate it was enough to keep the members of the **Sunshine Rotary Club** busy serving.

John DeCramer had to re-

sort to a little extra power to keep up. “This is the 10th



## By Deb Gau

bag or batch of mix we’ve been through,” DeCramer said, while mixing pancake batter in a plastic bucket with a power drill. Without the help of a bright red drill bit designed for mixing paint, he said, “I would’ve given out a long time ago.”

Continued on Page 3

**ROTARIANS  
IN ACTION!**

## September — New Generations Month By DGE Vivian

Mark your  
calendars for  
April 4-5, 2008

ROTARIANS  
IN ACTION!



### Youth programs are a spring- board to Rotary

September is New Generations month. Is your club looking to programs like RYLA to recruit future members?

September is the month to start planning – for district team training seminar, presidents-elect training seminar (PETS), and district assembly. This is according to Rotary International's training schedule.

As I begin my planning I find that I need to know who, in each club, will be President next Rotary Year. Please send this information to me at [Rotary@Cableone.net](mailto:Rotary@Cableone.net)

According to Rotary by-laws you should have elected this person LAST year – see the next section about election of officers.

#### **Section 5 Election of Officers.**

(a) Terms of Officers other than President. Each officer shall be elected as provided in the bylaws. Except for the president, each officer shall take office on 1 July immediately following election and shall serve for the term of office or until a successor has been duly elected and qualified.

(b) Term of President. The president shall be elected as

provided in the bylaws, not more than two (2) years but not less than eighteen (18) months prior to the day of taking office and shall serve as president-nominee upon election. The nominee shall take the title of president-elect upon the election of a successor. The president shall take office on 1 July and shall serve a period of one (1) year or until a successor has been duly elected and qualified.

(c) Qualifications. Each officer and director shall be a member in good standing of this club. The president-elect shall attend the district presidents-elect training seminar and the district assembly unless excused by the governor-elect. If so excused, the president-elect shall send a designated club representative who shall report back to the president-elect. If the president-elect does not attend the presidents-elect training seminar and the district assembly and has not been excused by the governor-elect or, if so excused, does not send a designated club representative to such meetings, the president-elect shall not be able to serve as club president.

We will be doing things a little bit differently this year. We hope you like the changes.

Most of the required (see above) meetings, plus the semi-annual district leadership meeting, Rotary Foundation raffle and seminar, and youth exchange training will all be held the same weekend. We might find a few more groups to get together that same weekend. There are plans for a "Thank You" banquet one night.

I would like **all Rotarians** in the district to mark **April 4-5, 2008** on their calendar. Most, if not all, district Rotarians can/should be involved in learning more about Rotary and our district. The meetings will be held at Cedar Shores Resort in Chamberlain, South Dakota. Further details will be coming, but...**MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW!**

I hope to be able to give more details at the upcoming District Conference. I hope to see you there.

Vivian Adams,  
District Governor Elect  
2008-2009

## History of RYLA by Sonny Brown



In 1959, the state government of Queensland, Australia, invited local Rotarians to help plan a festival celebrating Queensland's upcoming centenary. Learning that Queen Elizabeth II was sending her cousin Princess Alexandra, who was in her early 20s, to the celebration, Rotarians planned activities specifically for the princess' age group. The gundoo, an aboriginal word meaning "festival" or "fun together," was a rousing success. More than 300 men and women between the ages of 17 and 23 attended. Encouraged by the event's popularity with the young attendees, Rotarians saw potential to create a similar annual youth program. With little hesitation, Governor Art Brand of then-District 260 approved the project, and on 2 May 1960, RYLA was born. Australian districts 258 and 260 shared in establishing a committee that developed the official framework of RYLA: to train youth (ages 14-30) in character, leadership, personal development, and good citizenship. These guidelines helped RYLA expand to all Rotary districts in Australia and led to RYLA's approval as an international program by the RI board at the 1971 RI Convention in Sydney, Australia.

By 1998, RYLA had become an established program in more than half of the 521 Rotary districts worldwide. Also in 1998, then-RI President James Lacy, emphasizing his concern for children, appointed an international RYLA committee, dedicated to improving and expanding this

Special Rotary program to the entire world. Rotarians with different RYLA experiences were invited to RI headquarters to exchange information and ideas. Participants agreed that RYLA could be improved through regional training workshops.

After District 5520's first RYLA camp 20 years ago, a camper summed up his RYLA experience in one word, "Camelot." He wrote the RYLA chairman, "If you know the story of King Arthur, you may recall that as King Arthur was dying in a young man's arms, he turned to the youth and said, 'If you learn of anyone that has not heard of Camelot, tell them loudly and clearly that there really was that one wisp of glory called Camelot.'"

"Gundoo" or "Camelot?" RYLA is both and aren't we fortunate? Dedication, passion and love describe the heart of RYLA, a most remarkable investment

that assures Rotary's future. Every Rotarian should take the opportunity to enjoy this exciting program and life-changing experience.



## Miracle Field By Patrick Lalley

Even miracles can get a little behind schedule.

The first scoops of dirt were turned during a ceremony Monday, beginning the construction of the Miracle Field near Covell Lake in Sioux Falls.

The plan had been to get the process moving earlier in the year so that kids in wheelchairs, and others who can't participate in traditional leagues, could play their first baseball game this fall.

That's not going to happen until next spring. But Ron Griebel, the unassuming father who got the project moving, isn't too shook up about it.

"There was just not enough time," Griebel told me last week. It's only been a year, after all, since he first attended a game with his daughter, Samantha, at a Miracle Field in Rochester, Minn.

You might recall Samantha's story from previous columns.

The bright-eyed Roosevelt High School student uses a wheelchair because of cerebral palsy. She's also

a baseball fan, and the trip to a Miracle Field in Rochester was an inspiration to her father. Upon returning to Sioux Falls, he approached his bosses at Architecture, Inc., where he's a draftsman about building a field here.

That led to a partnership with Sioux Falls Construction, meetings with the city, major donations of \$100,000 from the Community Dividend Fund at Sanford Health System and the Downtown Rotary Club. There also was financial help from First Premier Bank, First National Bank and Citibank. By May, they had commitments of about \$300,000, enough to build the field.

It all happened so fast and came together so smoothly, that this scheduling bump was a bit of a shock.

"It's so inspiring how the community leaders have gotten behind this," said Heather Stettinichs, vice president of the board for the Miracle League of Sioux Falls. Stettinichs' daughter also uses a wheelchair and last summer the family traveled to Sioux City, Iowa,

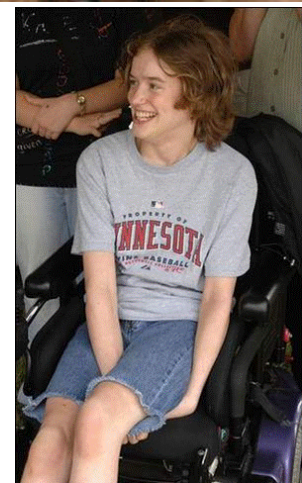


every Sunday to participate in a baseball league. She says people there were surprised that Sioux Falls didn't have a similar activity.

She wondered what she could do to get one started when she read about the Miracle Field effort. She called Griebel to offer assistance and ended up the vice president. There is a huge need for activities for kids with disabilities, and the community recognized that, she said.

"As the word got out there, the support was just there. It's just flying," she said.

Continue to Page 4



Samantha Griebel, a student at Roosevelt High School, attended the groundbreaking ceremony. Griebel's father, Ron, helping to create a ballfield for disabled people

## Food and flight mix at fly-in breakfast

## Continued from Page 1

The pancakes were impressive — and tasty, but that was only half the draw at the Rotary's Fly-In Pancake Breakfast. For a lot of people who came out to enjoy the Sounds of Summer event, the focus was on the airplanes.

"Look at that one!" said Ethan Schwankl, watching from his father Eric Schwankl's shoulder as a plane came in for a landing. Ethan said he liked watching all the planes.

"There was one that went up in the air and then it went over this way," he said.

Eric Schwankl said he, Ethan and his baby daughter Lucie were out enjoying the day.

"It's a very nice event," he said.

As the morning progressed, as

many as a dozen planes, from small Cessnas to restored World War II aircraft and even a biplane, were parked on the tarmac outside the pancake breakfast in the main hangar. Some pilots traveled quite a distance to attend. Mark Steidinger and Jana Reeg-Steidinger said they flew in from Menominee, Wis. Their dog Carley came with them, riding in the back of the plane as if it were the family station wagon.

"She loves to fly, just like riding in the car," Reeg-Steidinger said.

"You just open the door, and she jumps right in," Steidinger added.

The Steidingers said they didn't have ties to the Marshall area, but they heard about the fly-in breakfast through the Internet and decided to make the hour-long trip by air to attend.

Pilots have a pretty tight-knit community, Reeg-Steidinger explained.

"We love to do anything with flying," she said.

Pete Johnson of Marshall was polishing up one of the more unusual aircraft at the fly-in, a small yellow plane that Johnson said can hit speeds of 210 mph. Johnson built the plane from a kind of full-sized airplane kit.

"It's one of the most popular kits that's made of metal," Johnson said.

Spectators enjoyed watching the plane fly, but Johnson said he did have one passenger who felt airsick — perhaps the only bad combination of pancakes and airplanes there is.

**Congratulations Marshall Sunshine Club!**

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**BE A STAR**  
**Let's get at**  
**least one**  
**member**  
**from each**  
**Club to the**  
**Conference!**  
 ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

## Miracles—From Page 3

### DISTRICT CONTEST

WE NEED A NAME FOR OUR NEWS-LETTER.

PLEASE SEND YOUR ENTRY TO SUSAN AT [blacks-bookkeeping@rushmore.com](mailto:blacks-bookkeeping@rushmore.com)

Entries must be received by September 12, 2007 to be considered.

We are on the Web  
[www.rotary5610.org](http://www.rotary5610.org)

### It is all about our clubs!

Have you sent in your news items to Susan?

The district wants to see more of the club's activities!



### Final Club Visits by DG Dick

So. Sioux City	10-1-07
Sioux City	10-1-07
Vermillion	10-2-07
Suburban Sioux City	10-4-07
Winner	10-11-07
Sibley	10-15-07
Centerville	10-18-07
Mobridge	10-22-07

The field itself will be a rubberized surface painted the colors of a traditional baseball diamond. The bases and plate area also painted on so there are no protruding obstructions. Each player has a ball buddy to help out in the field. Construction should be wrapped up this fall.

**ROTARIANS IN ACTION!**

The Sioux Empire Baseball Association, which operates the youth leagues in Sioux Falls, also will supervise the Miracle League.

Griebel and SEBA are currently sending out surveys to families with disabled children in the Sioux Falls School District to find players. But the league is open to anyone in the area who wants to get involved.

The organizers are also looking for volunteers to coach and umpire when things get going next spring.

For Griebel, there have been challenges, as there are with any construction project. He credits his board of directors and co-workers at Architecture Inc. for navigating the potential snags along the way. His story, the miracle of the Miracle Field, demonstrates there is power in ideas.

"It doesn't take somebody in a high position to get it done," Griebel said. "If you have something that is worthwhile people tend to rally around it and support that project. That's what makes happy, there have been a lot of people willing to step up to the plate and help."

**Great Job Sioux Falls!**

### Backpacks collected



**GREAT JOB CHEROKEE ROTARY CLUB!**

**ROTARIANS IN ACTION!**

The Cherokee Rotary Club purchased 120 backpacks and filled them with school supplies to help out Cherokee County children in need. This is the second year of this effort and more than twice as many backpacks have been purchased and filled this year as last. They were recently delivered to Sara Lively (middle of front row, holding gray backpack with red and black trim) of Mid-Sioux Opportunity, the organization that identified the needy children and delivered the backpacks.

*Photo by Ken Ross*



### GSE Team from Brazil will be at District Conference

- 1- Alex Cleidir Tardetti, 26 years old, an English teacher and the owner of Fisk School.
  - 2 - André Rodrigo Neuhauser, 28 years old, a quality manager for maintenance and implementation ISO-2000 and a professor.
  - 3 - Elisete Aparecida Stanger, 36 years old, an Administrative Assistant at an Agricultural Department.
  - 4 - Ricardo Tiedjen, 26 years old, an office clerk at a paper-producing company.
- Team Leader : Cláudia Grander Barbieri, a business-woman.

**L-R: Ricardo, Team Leader Claudia, Andre, Elisete, Alex**

More information can be found on our website under newsletter archives. Questions can be directed to Bert Olson [FBOlson@fnbsf.com](mailto:FBOlson@fnbsf.com) GSE Committee Co-Chair.