



TURNING WHEELS OF BULAWAYO ROTARY CLUB



June 2000.

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Poor club President!

If he begins on time ... he is a tyrant.
If he allows a bit of time ... he's too tolerant.
If he requests attendance ... he is a despot.
If he speaks too much ... he becomes tiresome.
If he doesn't speak a lot ... he's not interested.
If he requests silence ... he abuses his power.
If he allows free conversation, he's lacking in authority.
If he's firm ... he's too serious.
If he's affable ... he's not up to the challenge.
If he speaks up ... you have to oppose him.
If he gives you a choice ... he's indecisive.
If he's dynamic ... he's a hothead.
If he's prudent ... he's incapable.
If he does everything by himself ... he's too pretentious.
If he delegates ... he's lazy. The poor man!

He needs:

The patience of a donkey,
The cleverness of a cat,
The courage of a lion,
The resourcefulness of a fox,
The calm of a sphinx,
The force of an elephant,
The nobility of a horse,
The loyalty of a dog.
The thick skin of a crocodile,
And the faith of an apostle.
If he survives ... what an amazing leader he is!

Induction Dinner for Incoming President Chris Pool 17. June 2000.

A wonderful evening was had by all, as the saying goes "great company, great food and wine!" The sixty two who attended were greeted at the door by a glass of punch prepared by Malcolm and Les and received place mats from Pres Chris. The food, as always, was beautifully prepared by the Riley's.

Highlights of the evening were the presentation of the Vocation award to Costa Manzini of the Chronicle by outgoing Pres Charles for all his help in bringing the plight of the poor to the public. PP Charles gave a heartwarming speech about his two years as our Club President followed by Pres Chris 's Induction and Chris's in depth speech on the History of our Club. A raffle was conducted by Alan Downing and we thank him for all his hard work in making it so successful.

We all thank PP Charles for the tremendous work he has done as our President and now look towards the year of Pres Chris as being rewarding as well.

I thank of you all that attended this special event in our new Rotary year.

Rtn Maureen Bond

Last Thought (Anonymous)

*I'd rather see a sermon than hear one any day
I'd rather you would walk with me
Than merely point the way
For the eye's a better pupil
And more willing than the ear
Good council is confusing but examples always clear*

*The best of all teachers
Are those that live their creeds
To see good put into action
Is what everybody needs.*

*I can soon learn how to do it
If you let me see it run
I can watch your hand in action
But your tongue too fast may run*

*And the lectures you deliver
May be very fine and true
But I'd rather get my lesson
By observing what you do*

*For I may misunderstand you
And the high advice you give
But there's no misunderstanding
How you act and how you live*

Bulawayo Rotary Club gives Award to Christian Brothers

Brother Duncan on behalf of the Christian Brothers accepted the Services Rendered Award.

The Christian Brothers have always worked for those in need. Their commitment to a life of service follows that of their founder, blessed Edmund Rice.

Brother Turner saw the appalling situation of children in primary schools: semi-starved children walking miles to school and on arrival simply lying on the floor and going to sleep, sent by parents with forlorn hope that their children would get an education in dilapidated sheds, without textbooks, stationery or normal school equipment and taught by a staff of demoralised teachers, who struggled to do justice to the children committed to their care.

The Edmund Rice Schools Association was set up in 1999 to consolidate and make permanent activities on behalf of the poor and marginalised.

Millennium Dawn Conference - Harare 25-28 May 2000.

Any convention is the bringing together of like minded people with a common purpose. But a Rotary Convention is more akin to a family reunion. It's a wonderful opportunity to enjoy that part of Rotary so important to the success of fellowship and friendship.

This years conference was attended by seven Rotarians and two Anns from our club and a host of Interactors from Bulawayo schools led by Rtn Noel Scott. A memorable time was had by all. The other three Bulawayo Clubs also presented a united front and two members from Bulawayo Clubs, Penny Leher and Steve Millar received Paul Fellowship Awards.

It is the celebration and opportunity of the District family of all our four countries to enjoy the fun and fellowship of Rotary, reconnect with old acquaintances, form new friendships and welcome those Rotarians and their partners attending a conference for the first time.

As always there was a balanced programme of sport, fellowship, fun and inspiration. A district or international conference gives one the opportunity to appreciate how vast international Rotary is and a chance to gain information about our District 9210 and become aware of local and international activities and projects.

We learnt from various reports how much has been achieved particularly with the Drought Relief Aid to Mozambique and Polio Plus.

Presentations by the Exchange Students, including our own Brenda were very moving as they sang their way through their memories and experiences. The Interactors, mostly Bulawayo based, performed a very 'hip inspirational number' promoting the goodwill and fellowship of Rotary.

Two "Meet and Greet's", a Conference luncheon and the Dg's formal Banquet were the 'fellowship and fun' part of the conference, to us the 'crew of outgoing DG Eric's Cruise ship' for the closing Rotary year.

It makes one feel really good to be part of Rotary and I urge you all to try and attend and perhaps when some of the dormant Rotarians we have amongst us realise how privileged they are to be part of this organisation, it will commit them properly to Rotary and become and active worthwhile members.

Next year conference will be in Harare again 24-27 May 2001 and the conference theme being:

"Zimala Zamoza"

which reflects the four countries in our district, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Zambia and Mozambique

and I hope you all try and find out what it's all about - you won't be disappointed.

Rtn Maureen Bond
Chairperson-Fellowship Committee

Who Touched You?

Richard D. King

(Rotary Africa, June 1996, Vol. 69, No. 12)

Every Rotarian was originally proposed for membership by another Rotarian. That individual who proposes someone for club membership offer a wonderful gift of self. Who touched you? Who proposed you for membership? How does one repay such a gift?

It is estimated there are approximately 1.2 million Rotarians in the world. I really don't agree with this figure. There may be that many club members, but there are millions more "Rotarians" in the world. In their hearts, these people are one with us. They want to give, to do something for mankind. They seek the fellowship and friendship that is so unique to Rotary and makes the organisation a close global family. They want to be part of an organisation in which every race, colour, nationality, language, culture, ideology, and religion are presented. They want to be part of a movement that, in the words of Albert Schweitzer, develops "the truly human man".

And the only reason they are not members of a Rotary club is because no one has asked them. No one has offered the gift of membership; no one has touched them.

Rotary International does wonderful things in this world. We help the lame to walk, the blind to see, the deaf to hear. We help heal the sick, clothe the naked, and feed the hungry. We prevent disease, clean polluted water, build schools, educate teachers, fund scholarships, develop throughout the world. Rotary's programmes of service to others are vast, and involve Rotarians in nearly 28000 clubs all over the globe. Rotary makes a difference, it changes people's lives.

An argument could be made, however, that the people who benefit the most from the organisation's work are not the recipients of the service, but the Rotarians themselves who do the giving. The ones who benefit most are those members fortunate enough to not only be in Rotary - but to have Rotary in them.

They have performed the service project, the fund-raising, the club leadership roles, and the programmes of The Rotary Foundation of RI; Yes, these are the individuals whose lives have been touched - and have been changed.

And how do we repay that person who gave us these opportunities by sponsoring us for membership? What debt do we owe to that individual, and to Rotary?

I have heard the estimate that 98 percent of Rotarians have never sponsored a single new member. They have benefitted - some for many years - from Rotary club membership, yet, have never extended the opportunity to anyone else. They speak with affection and gratitude of the one who sponsored them; they talk of how much Rotary means to them - but they have never shared the opportunity of membership with another person.

This year, RI President Herb Brown has asked us to change this. We, who have all been the recipients of club membership, are asked to sponsor at least one new member in this Rotary year. It is not difficult; it does not cost any money. What it does require, however, is an awareness of what our sponsor did for us, and the realisation that the best way to repay the one who touched us is to do the same for someone else.

The organisation needs these new people - these individuals who are already Rotarians in their hearts and are waiting for an invitation to join.

In order to carry out the programmes of Rotary into the next century, we must reverse the decline of membership in existing clubs that has occurred every single year for the past five. If we do not build for the future, we are destined to become a relic of the past.

In the membership campaign this year, I have traveled to many places to urge Rotarians to perform their duty to sponsor a new member. I have heard all the excuses: "Our club is just the right size", "We don't have room to add any more members", "We are tired of hearing about membership - we've heard it all before", "We are more interested in quality than quantity", "This kind of campaign ruins the prestige of Rotary", et cetera. If a club thinks it is the "right" size, or really cannot add any more, then change the meeting place. There is no reason to deny to others the privileges of membership we enjoy because the room is too small. What does that mean to a starving child? To an illiterate adult? To a polio-stricken youth? There is too much to get done in this world. Every time a club sponsors another club, the sponsoring club itself grows. It is one of the oldest principles: the more one shares, the more one receives.

And there is no doubt we have heard about membership for years. I can fully understand why some are tired of hearing about it. The problem is that while we've heard it, we haven't done it. It is not enough to just hear the message - we must act on the message if the job is to get done. If in fact we had been doing what we've been hearing, there would not be the serious decline in existing clubs. There would be no need for Calgary Challenge or a membership campaign.

The issues of "quality" versus "quantity" and the "prestige" of Rotary are, of course, of vital concern. Rotary is a quality organisation, and we seek quality people. We do not seek people "just to add numbers". The question is, have you invited every qualified person in your community to be a part of Rotary? Can we seriously submit that all the persons of "quality" have been invited, that there are no more in the world? Only when the answer to that question is yes, can we then worry about quantity. Until that time, there is work to be done.

The quality we seek is a quality of the heart. We seek that person who truly wants to give something back, who wants to serve beyond self. It can be argued that the organisation has many quality people, as determined by position or income, who are more interested in taking the benefits of membership than in performing Rotary service for others. Which one is the truly "quality" person? What would your religion say? Of course we want to maintain the prestige of Rotary.

Each of us is proud of the fact that Rotary is a prestigious service organisation, made up of people who are leaders: owners, managers, executives, and professionals - people who have the ability to make a difference. But too many clubs are more worried about prestige than about doing service, or even staying alive. The average age in many clubs is 60 to 70 years. Without adding many new young members, where are these clubs going to be in another 10 to 20 years? They could be dead "prestige" clubs. Whether we like it or not, young people may be interested in prestige, but they are more interested in a organisation that does things, and that provides tangible benefits to the member. It is the ideal of Rotary, and Rotary's dreams of a world at peace, which really invites them. We learned this from PolioPlus. Much as we have given to the world through our PolioPlus Programmes, Rotary itself has benefitted even that much more. In giving, we receive. And it is things like PolioPlus which really bring prestige and honour to Rotary.

Some districts and clubs are responding magnificently to President Herb's Calgary Challenge this year. How are they doing it?

First, there must be a goal. Most clubs and districts submitted their goal to President Herb at the beginning of this Rotary year. If your club did not set a goal then, it isn't too late to set one now. There are two months left in this Rotary year, plenty of time for each Rotary to propose a new member.

The goal is important. A specific number - a target. Without such a goal, most campaigns will not succeed.

Second, there must be a plan. Is the club going to divide into teams? Is there a deadline by which each member on each team will propose a new member? Will the club have a "bring-a-guest" day, or a "fireside" for potential new members and their spouses? Does the plan involve seeking out younger business people - former interactors, Rotaractors, Rotary Foundation Scholars, young people in the news? In the words of Past RI President Robert R. Barth, "If we want Rotary to survive into the next century, we must make Rotary attractive for young people".

And thirdly, there must be action. It does no good to have a goal and a plan unless the plan elicits action. It needs to get done over the next two months if the club is going to be part of this historic year. The time to act is now. Every Rotarian should be a part of this historic effort, by sponsoring a new member this year.

I will always remember with much love Past District Governor Paul Ehret, who came to my office one day and said, "Rick, how would you like to visit the Rotary club?" Paul changed my life. He touched me.

Who touched you? and more importantly - who will you touch?

Past President Director Richard D. "Dick" King is general chairman of the 1995-96 Membership Task Force and a member of the 10th Decade Committee and the PolioPlus Speakers committee. He is a Trustee-Elect of the Rotary Foundation of RI, and a member of the Rotary Club of Niles-Fremont, California, USA.

Living under Stress (Good Reading before/after Elections!!!)

It is said that life without stress is practically impossible, every human being has to deal with stress. Besides the negative effects stress also has a positive side. It motivates us, challenges us, overcoming stress provides a personal reward with a feeling of competence, strength and even elation. Unfortunately stress carries certain physical and psychological effects. Acute reaction to stress occurs in normal people in response to stressful circumstances such as natural catastrophes. economic crises, crises in relationships within societies. Adjustment reaction lasts longer than acute. Adaptation to the changes takes time. Prolonged reaction to intense stressors such as natural catastrophes (floods, earthquakes), man-made disasters: violence, personal assaults, effects of war or prosecution sometime produces the long-lasting physical or psychological problems in the form of posttraumatic stress disorder. Extreme stress suppresses a person's routine coping mechanisms by lowering our mental efficiency with difficulties in concentration and perceptual distortion. Emotional overload does not allow the stressed person to make appropriate judgment, comprehension and adequate decisions. Accumulative stress develops a condition in which the body is continuously in a state of psychological and physiological arousal. Psychological symptoms include anxiety, difficulties in relaxation, irritability, recurrent distressing nightmares, sleeplessness and depression. Some somatic symptoms are unpleasant such as a palpitation, heartburns, headache, gastrointestinal problems, etc. Prolonged stress suppresses our immune system which makes are more prone to infections. The natural reaction by the body in an effort to response to the stressors is "fight or flight". To overcome the effects of stress it is necessary to ventilate our emotions, to face ourselves with new situation, to restore our self-confidence. The best way is to share our feelings, problems with others through various kinds of fellowships (clubs, church) or with personal friends. Of course in circumstances with severe emotional problems the professional treatment is unavoidable.

Prof. S. Milic

Gordon's Speakers:

7. July 2000: Len Pearce with "Bushmen". 14. July 2000: New President's Address.

Special Issue of Postage Stamps

The Posts and Telecommunications Corporation of Zimbabwe is bringing out a special issue of postage stamps on the subject of Health and Combating Disease.

Rotary is featured on the \$16 stamp as providing the largest source of private support for public health initiatives. Particular emphasis has been put on Rotary's work on the eradication of Malaria and Polio. ROTARY ... provides the largest source of private support for public health initiatives. This huge international organisation has particularly targeted the malaria problem in Zimbabwe which kills thousands every year. Research is underway to find methods of sterilising the male mosquito while also providing the use of suitably impregnated mosquito nets. Rotary clubs are working together to ensure that one day malaria will be wiped off the face of the earth.

Rotary International is also at the forefront of the "Kick Polio Out Of Africa" campaign both in financial contributions and volunteer work at clinics and immunisation centres.