

The Rotary Foundation



District 6080

November 7, 2014
Volume 2, Issue 5

Star Clubs

7 Star

Branson-Hollister
Laurie Sunrise Beach
Mountain View
Springfield Southeast
Springfield Sunrise
Thayer-Mammoth Springs

6 Star

Belton-Raymore
Columbia South
Columbia Sunrise SW
Rolla Breakfast
Springfield North

5 Star

Columbia
Columbia Metro
Fayette
Jefferson City Evening

4 Star

Clinton
Harrisonville
Jefferson City Breakfast

3 Star

Bolivar
Fulton
Marshall
Marshfield
Springfield
Springfield Metro
Willow Springs

2 Star

Branson Daybreakers
Jefferson City
Nixa
Pulaski Country
Rolla
Warrensburg
Warrensburg Early Bird

1 Star

Butler
Columbia Northwest
Jefferson City West
Lake Ozark Daybreak
Table Rock L-Branson W

100 Percent Paul Harris Fellow Clubs

- Jefferson City Evening
- Clinton
- Willow Springs
- Columbia South

District Rotary Foundation Banquet

District 6080's fifth Annual Foundation Banquet and celebration will be held at 6 pm., Saturday, Nov. 15, at the University of Missouri Reynolds Alumni Center, Columns Ballroom C. The cost is \$40, and registration is available on DACdb or by telephone to chair, David Bixler. Make this event your club's Foundation Celebration, presenting Paul Harris Fellow Awards, recognizing Paul Harris Society members, new Major Donors and Bequest Society members and other awards. All Rotarians should plan to attend.

Parking is in the Turner Avenue Parking Garage. From north-south Providence Road turn east on Rollins St. to Maryland Ave., left on Maryland to Turner, left on Turner and enter Garage.

Contact Chair DGN David Bixler, 417-873-3110 (office), 417-839-4254 (mobile).

Foundation Committee

Joe Beltz
District Governor

Mark Pearce
Assistant Regional Rotary
Foundation Coordinator

Raymond Plue
District Rotary
Foundation Chair

Susan Hart
District Grants
Subcommittee Chair

Janet Mudd
District Simplified
Grants Chair

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Endowment

Mary Lou Martin
Paul Harris Society
Coordinator

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Grants Treasurer

Ted Groshong
Polio Plus

Melvin Platt
Scholarships

Brad Bodenhausen
Group Study Exchange

Lisa Eimers
Vocational Training Team

Joe Beltz
TRF Funding Coordinator



District Conference and Club Qualification for District Simplified and Global Grants

Foundation seminars were held Saturday afternoon, Nov. 1, during the District Conference. Suggested ways of giving to The Rotary Foundation were given, including Annual Fund, Endowment, PolioPlus and Matching Grants.

Chair Jim Libey gave a presentation on the Annual Fund. Reg Turnbull presented an entertaining and educational seminar with a call to participate in the Endowment Fund. Raymond Plue gave a report on the current status of polio in the world and the end-game strategy for eradication. Examples of successful uses of matching grant funds and contributions to matching grants were shown.

Group Study Exchange Chair Brad Bodenhausen, team leader Melvin Platt and team members Stacey Armstrong, Ann Case-Halferty and Kate Henschel presented the purpose and objectives of the GSE program and gave a brief autobiography. Team member Brian Simpson was unable to attend.

Rotary club members attended the Club Qualification for District Simplified and Global Grants presented by District Grants Subcommittee Chair Susan Hart, with participation by incoming District Simplified Grants Chair Melissa Davis.

Questions regarding Foundation contributions and grants were answered.



It Is About Time

First: *Nobody can manage time.* But you can manage those things that take up your time.

Second: *Time is expensive.* As a matter of fact, 80 percent of our day is spent on those things or those people that only bring us 2 percent of our results.

Third: *Time is perishable.* It cannot be saved for later use.

Fourth: *Time is measurable.* Everybody has the same amount of time ... pauper or king. It is not how much time you have; it is how much you use.

Fifth: *Time is irreplaceable.* We never make back time once it is gone.

Sixth: *Time is a priority.* You have enough time for anything in the world, so long as it ranks high enough among your priorities.



Please take time to read page 3, Rotary Scholar Maddie Callis reporting on her graduate studies in Brazil, and pages 4-5, a final report by Rotary Scholar Chris Clark on his UK graduate studies.

District Designated Funds (DDF) afford these two young people to continue on a path that will see them being a part of making great changes in our world.

We take great pride in our Rotary Scholars. I urge you to ask them to present at your Rotary club during the next year. Thank you for your contributions to Our Rotary Foundation.

The following report is from Maddie Callis, a district-funded Rotary Scholar from District 6080 enrolled for graduate study of public policy and government at the Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro for 2014. In this report, she writes about working with poor children in the favelas of Rio.

A Rotary Scholar in Rio de Janeiro

As I become more settled in my life in Rio de Janeiro, time only seems to speed forward. October kept me busy with Rotary projects, expanded duties within Green My Favela, and keeping up with Brazil's national elections. Oct. 12, Brazil celebrated Dia da Criança, Day of the Child. No holiday in the United States compares to Day of the Child, a day (or week) when children are revered and reminded of their uniqueness and then given presents as if it were Christmas.

Rotary Club São Conrado, my sponsoring club in Rio de Janeiro, held its annual Festa das Crianças for students in Vidigal, a favela (slum ghetto) of Rio de Janeiro. More than 300 children saw a magic show and enjoyed snacks during the celebration. I attended the party, helped with plans and took pictures during the festivities. At first, to me, the magician seemed a bit corny, and I wondered why the club had not invested in a more "impactful" event. As the kids left the party though, they were so happy and grateful, and I realized my preconceived idea of what qualified as impactful was misguided.

The students who attended this school probably do not have more than a simple celebration of Dia da Criança in their homes. Eating hot dogs and pizza to their heart's content is a rarity for them, when meat may not be a staple in their diets at home. Rotary São Conrado sponsored a joyous occasion that brightened many of the children's day and gave them a good meal. Serving as a Rotary Scholar has showed me that not every good need or humanitarian project requires a planned global impact; just making a difference in an individual's life may be enough.

I continue to work with Green My Favela. In September and October, I managed all garden volunteers and projects while the director traveled to conferences in Canada and Europe. The director reported upon her return that our methodology of letting the residents determine the course of the urban garden has been well received by the development professionals at the conferences. Few organizations that work with degraded land in urban communities seem to trust the residents to determine the best use for space.

With a little guidance and leading by example (meaning foreigners do manual labor tasks), Green My Favela has nurtured a thriving garden that provides vegetables for an estimated 300 people. Currently, Green My Favela is also hosting filmmakers creating a documentary on social entrepreneurship for the United Nations. I have enjoyed immensely sharing my studies with them and hearing of other global projects. This month, I am visiting other favelas with the director to consider other possible garden sites and help her evaluate degraded land in Rio de Janeiro.

This month, Brazil reelected President Dilma Rousseff to a second term. I found the campaign and election process fascinating. First, Brazil has a multi-party system, and the government grants each party and candidate TV ads. Mandatory political hours are scheduled twice a day on the largest cable network in Brazil during the two months prior to the election. All campaigns for each office begin on the same day and end with at election time. Voting is obligatory in Brazil.

I had the privilege of going to vote with my Rotary counselors, and they both voted for all candidates in less than five minutes. Results are released three hours after the polls closed. In the 2012 presidential election in the United States, it took me more than two hours to vote. Witnessing the second round of the presidential election proved interesting; some Brazilians felt they were choosing the less corrupt candidate rather than someone they fully supported. This past week I have fielded many questions about the midterm elections in the United States—such as our process of voting, voting fraud and how campaigns are so expensive. These informal cultural exchanges provide me with many insights into Brazil.

Final Report from Chris Clark, Rotary Global Scholar

I was one of two Rotary Scholars sponsored by District 6080 during the 2013-14 academic year. Several District 6080 Rotarians kept in touch with me throughout the past year via a blog I set up to be able to share my experiences as a graduate student studying economic development at the University of Cambridge in the UK. Since I've recently returned from my year of study abroad, I want to give District 6080 Rotarians a final update on how my year finished up, reflect a bit on my broader experience as a Rotary Global Scholar, and also briefly update you on my future plans.

A native of Springfield, I graduated from Parkview High School in 2007 and attended Tulane University, where I studied political science, English and philosophy. While an undergrad, I became interested in microfinance, the small loans most often made to women in developing countries to start or expand an income-generating enterprise. I found microfinance to be interesting for many reasons. One such reason was that, despite its popularity, there was a general consensus among development experts that there was no scientific evidence to show microloans made borrowers any wealthier in the long-run.

This really struck home with me. I knew most development interventions were deemed successful or unsuccessful according to whether they increased people's incomes. And I also knew many of the micro-borrowers I investigated as an undergrad in Bolivia and as Fulbright Scholar in Chile were very supportive of the microfinance institutions of which they were clients. According to the micro-borrowers I worked with, microfinance was an essential tool for removing oneself from poverty. For them, microfinance was definitely a success. How could this be? I struggled to reconcile these two seemingly opposed positions.

To help me better understand this opposition, I applied for a Rotary Global Scholarship to help finance a year abroad studying for my master's degree in economic development at the University of Cambridge. From several professors who had studied there as graduate students, I knew the university, especially its Development Studies Centre, was known for being somewhat unorthodox, which I thought might be just the environment I was looking for.

My year in Cambridge fulfilled my expectations. In fact, it was extraordinary. In my Development Economics course, Professor Ha-Joon Chang introduced me to a variety of both macro and micro-level approaches to reducing poverty, as well as some of the more formal theory behind these approaches. In the Business, Globalization, and Development course, Peter Nolan showed how globalized firms and their supply chains have significant power to reduce poverty in developing countries. And in Philosophical Issues in Economic Development, Professor Gay Meeks introduced a variety of theoretical frameworks, each with its own strengths and weaknesses, that can be used to measure poverty and development. In addition to the formal coursework, I also took a research methods module that honed some of my technical impact evaluation skills.

Outside of the classroom, I enjoyed eye-opening discussion with students from throughout the world. I also rowed crew for St. John's College and competed on Cambridge's triathlon team. One highlight of the year, of course, was the relationships I developed with many of the Rotarians in District 1080, which spans a large part of southeast England. Throughout my year abroad, I presented at about 20 Rotary clubs throughout District 1080 and made invaluable friendships and connections with Rotarians and other Global Scholars.

I also became involved with the Cambridge Development Initiative (CDI), a student-led development consultancy that undertakes projects in engineering/sanitation, education, healthcare access, and entrepreneurship in the informal settlements of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. Specifically, I was CDI's impact evaluation coordinator, which means I spent a significant amount of my free time while in Cambridge designing studies to better understand the change attributable to each of CDI's projects. My work with CDI also took me to Dar es Salaam for the summer, where I learned more about each of CDI's interventions and also administered surveys and coordinated focus groups among those whom our interventions aimed to help.

I learned a lot from my involvement with CDI. In addition to having an understanding of the change our interventions effected, I also gained invaluable insight into how an NGO concerned with alleviating poverty develops from the outset. I also learned the importance of setting realistic objectives that don't rely on problematic assumptions about the context in question. Much of the impact evaluation work I did has informed strategic decisions made about how CDI's model and scope should evolve. My time with CDI in Tanzania gave me the opportunity to understand how the work I did in the classroom in Cambridge unfolded on the ground in a developing country.

Altogether, my coursework and my broader experience at Cambridge and in Tanzania gave me a much more nuanced understanding of both poverty and also approaches to poverty alleviation, it didn't necessarily provide a straightforward answer to the question about how micro-borrowers could view microfinance to be a success despite not increasing their incomes. Rather, my experiences throughout the past year helped me to understand that my question about the success (or lack thereof) of microfinance was perhaps a symptom of my not fully recognizing the complexity of both poverty and also attempts to alleviate poverty.

My past year taught me that when it comes to poverty and attempts to address it, there are very few absolutes. In turn, when thinking about how to address poverty, it's important to be analytical. To solve poverty, we have to first clearly define what sorts of poverty we're concerned with. Are we concerned with income poverty? Perhaps multi-dimensional poverty? Do we hope to address objective or subjective definitions of poverty? If we're concerned with objective poverty, what sorts of metrics and thresholds should we use? Who will decide these metrics and thresholds?

Framing effective solutions to poverty also means that we identify how we're best positioned to make change. If I were a government official the tools in my toolbox would be very different than those available to non-profit organizations, religious groups and individuals, for example. All of these questions plus many others must be addressed from the outset if we are really concerned about making people better-off.

There's no doubt that thinking and talking about poverty is tricky and doing something about it is even trickier. But it absolutely can be done. In fact, it is being done every day.

One example is Rotary's End Polio Now campaign, which has played a significant role in reducing the number of countries where polio is endemic from 125 in 1988 to three today. Another example of successful poverty reduction strategy is conditional cash transfers in Latin America, whereby a government grants cash payments to poor families for taking kids to school and to the doctor's office for regular checkups. Such transfers have effected significant changes in health and education outcomes among young people in Mexico and other Latin American countries. Yet another example is the pro-market reforms that have been largely responsible for reducing the portion of Chinese people consuming less than a dollar per day from 65 percent in 1981 to about 10 percent in 2004.

While strikingly different in terms of ideology and approach, each of these interventions have nonetheless been successful in part because they were done in an analytical way. They identified a specific definition of poverty to be addressed that was solvable given the tools available. They established metrics and thresholds that actually reflected the change that they aimed to effect. And they didn't depend on problematic assumptions about how things work on the ground. While sorting out these issues may be difficult, it is worthwhile: this is an essential part of what I have learned throughout the past year.

Now that I've returned from Cambridge, I'm back home studying for the Law School Admissions Test (LSAT), which I plan to take in December, and applying for jobs with non-profit consulting firms such as ideas42, Dalberg, Bridgespan, and others. My plan (which is intentionally not set in stone) is to work for several years, go to law school, and eventually begin a career in government, politics, or the non-profit sector.

Wherever I end up in the future, I know I will be much better off because of my year spent in Cambridge thanks to Rotarians from District 6080. It was an invaluable opportunity and I promise not to disappoint. Words can't express my gratitude. Thank you.