Did you know:

- more than 800 million people over age 15 do not have basic reading and writing skills, and 64% of them are women?
- 98% of the world’s illiterate live in developing countries?
- nearly half of all children in Africa will not complete secondary school?
- about 113 million eligible children do not go to school?  

Excerpts from "Rotary Promotes Literacy PowerPoint"

RI President 2009-2010 John Kenny Promotes Literacy

Literacy rounds out Kenny’s emphases. "In the words of Nelson Mandela, 'no country can succeed if its future leaders are not educated,' " he said.  

Excerpts from the RI International Assembly January 20, 2009

District 6080 – What are we doing and what can we do?

District 6080 Literacy Task Force is a relatively new committee at the district level, and our goals include the following:

1. Be a resource to the clubs.
2. Raise awareness and create emphasis for literacy.
3. Document literacy projects throughout district 6080 to provide clubs with project ideas.
4. Actively assist Rotary clubs in literacy activities and projects – both locally and globally.
5. Provide literacy information to clubs during Literacy Month (March) or throughout the year as needed.
6. Help assemble the District 6080’s vision for literacy.

For more information, please contact:

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RI Literacy Resource Group: AWARDS FOR CLUBS - 2009-2010

2009-10 Literacy Resource Group
The resource group provides information and support to Rotary clubs and districts to encourage participation in programs and projects that promote universal literacy and educational opportunities for all. The resource group encourages clubs to undertake projects in each of Rotary’s Four Avenues of Service and plan projects supportive of the RI Strategic Plan. The Literacy Resource Group promotes the connection of literacy projects to those involving health, hunger and water through those particular resource groups.

Suggested Goals for Clubs
- Celebrate International Literacy Day on 8 September
- Celebrate Literacy Month in March
- Conduct a dictionary project or other book project
- Share information about its literacy activities with the District Literacy Chair or the District Governor
- Earn a district literacy award
- Conduct a Vocational Service literacy project

Suggested Goals for Districts and Zones
- Conduct a district literacy workshop or area literacy workshop
- Incorporate a literacy component into all district training functions, the district conference, and the Zone Institute
- Encourage all clubs to earn the district literacy award

Criteria for Awards

District Award
Club must complete five literacy projects. Projects that are the same but in different locations (e.g. books, dictionaries to schools) count as only one project.

Zone Award
Club must complete ten literacy projects, including the five required for the District Literacy Award, and
1. one project from the list of suggested activities on the other side of this brochure
2. either celebrate International Literacy Day (Sept. 8th) or celebrate Literacy Month in March
3. complete a book project (e.g. a dictionary project)
Suggested Activities for Literacy Awards

Club Service
- Recruit a new club member with a literacy classification
- Promote International Literacy Day and/or Literacy Month.
- Invite a literacy speaker to a club meeting
- Devote a club meeting to creating awareness of literacy project opportunities
- Send club members to a district literacy seminar or conference and devote a subsequent club meeting to their report from the seminar.

Vocational Service
- Conduct a 4-Way Test project or make the test part of other projects such as book gifts or of other character literacy projects
- Conduct a character literacy project such as Who Is Nobody, Laws of Life; BrainWise or gift of books such as Elmer and Andy’s Apple Dumpling Adventure.
- Recognize a community leader who is a vocational service role model; use the occasion to create public awareness of Rotary’s vocational service values.
- Sponsor (perhaps in partnership with an Interact club) a high school workshop which teaches vocational literacy as exemplified in Rotary’s Four-Way Test, the second part of the Object of Rotary, and our two mottos.

International Service
- Participate in an international book shipping project, a mini-library project, or school or family book or supplies or equipment project.
- Participate in a literacy and education-focused international project that is connected to health, hunger, and water concerns.
- Find an international partner and support their proposed project. (Project Link can help you find a partner – Go to www.rotary.org).

Community Service
- Support a Concentrated Language Encounter or similar program (such as Yo Puedo)
- Support a Computer-Assisted Literacy Solution (CALS) or similar program.
- Do an Imagination Library project or other reading readiness program such as SOUNS, Books for Babies, and Sandparents (to cite a few examples). Note that some programs are complementary (e.g. Imagination Library and SOUNS).
- Partner with the International Reading Association (or its equivalent in your community) on a literacy project. Use the Every School a Star tool kit.
- Join or support a local project to raise funds for a school or other literacy organization.
- Engage in a school partnership such as providing reading mentors, financial support, gifts-in-kind, scholarships or other needs identified by the school.

Literacy Certification Form

I, ________________________________, President of the Rotary Club of ____________________________, District __________, Country ______________________, certify that our club has completed the literacy activities listed below to qualify for a Literacy Award:

1. __________________________________________________
2. __________________________________________________
3. __________________________________________________
4. __________________________________________________
5. __________________________________________________
6. __________________________________________________
7. __________________________________________________
8. __________________________________________________
9. __________________________________________________
10. __________________________________________________

President’s Signature: ________________________________

Date: ________________________________

Please send this form to your District Literacy Chair or District Governor by 15 April 2010.