

AUGUST IS
EXTENSION MONTH

Group Study Team--Ready to Travel

PDG George Rosentreter and four non-Rotarians leave later this month on a GSE tour to Nottingham, England and surrounding areas. The team members and sponsoring clubs include Wayne LeeLoy (Germantown), Robert Skelton (New Albany), Cynthia Stanley (Senatobia), and Deborah Stevens (Memphis.)

The Group Study Exchange (GSE) program is a unique cultural and vocational exchange opportunity for young business and professional men and women in the early stages of their careers. The program is designed to develop professional and leadership skills among young adults to better prepare them to address the needs of their communities in an increasingly global workplace.

The GSE program is an excellent opportunity for any organization to develop and recognize their top performing young staff members for the global environment in which they will be working. International experience is a valuable asset to young employees. It enhances a global perspective for mutual national organizations. It promotes open-minded thinking through contact with business and professional people of other cultures. It fosters creative approaches to problem solving by broadening the employee's outlook. And it improves an employee's professional skills through exposure to alternative methodologies.

A GSE team consists of four non-Rotarian business or professional people and a Rotarian team leader. Applicants must be between the ages of 25-40; be in the early stages of their careers or professions; reside in or be employed in the sending Rotary district and also be citizens of the United States. For each team member, The Rotary Foundation provides a round-trip air ticket between the home and host countries. Local Rotarians in the host area provide for meals, lodging and group travel in their district. Each team member is responsible for all personal and incidental expenses incurred before, during and after the study tour. While in the host country, team members will attend meetings at different Rotary clubs in that district and present information about their home district. The presentation may include information regarding business, education, cultural activities, religion, and different sports in their home district. Each individual stays with a Rotarian family so that they have a chance to discuss and exchange cultures of the two countries. Once a week the team members are paired with their counter parts in the host country so that they have a chance to exchange professional ideas.

Funding for GSE comes from The Rotary Foundation. When Rotarians and others contribute to the Annual Program Fund, 50 percent of the contributions are credited to the District Designated Fund (DDF) and 50 percent to the Foundation's World Fund (WF). The funds for GSE come from the World Fund. The World Fund also supports Humanitarian, Education, Enhancement, and International Service and Foundation programs.

Vijay Surpuriya, Group Study Exchange Chairman]

DISTRICT STATISTICS AUGUST 2003

CLUB	No. 7/1	# MEET	% ATTND	[+/-]	No.8/31
Aberdeen	58	4	75	-1	57
Amory	65	4	75	-1	64
Baldwyn	34	4	66		34
Bartlett-Cordova	39	4	70		39
Batesville	88	4	62	+1	89
Booneville	52	4	60	-2	50
Bruce	31	4	86		31
Calhoun City	40	4	68	+1	41
Charleston	22	4	54		22
Clarksdale	84	4	61	+2	86
Cleveland	56	4	65	+1	57
Collierville	58	4	64		58
Como	19	4	55		19
Corinth	90	4	52		90
Drew	11	4	65		11
Fulton	34	4	65	+1	35
Germantown	50	4	85	-4	46
Grenada	51	4	58		51
Hernando	22	4	70	+1	23
Holly Springs	42	4	82	+4	46
Houston	21	4	60		21
Iuka	32	4	77		32
Memphis	367	4	49	-1	366
Memphis-Central	44	3	77		44
Memphis-East	138	4	60	+2	138
New Albany	55	5	67		55
Olive Branch	63	4	67	+1	64
Oxford	145	5	45	-4	141
Pontotoc	46	4	60	-1	45
Quitman County	21	4	73		21
Ripley	65	4	81	+1	66
Robinsonville	35	4	55	+2	37
Ruleville	12	4	66		12
Sardis	16	4	67		16
Senatobia	54	5	70	+2	56
Southaven	48	4	65	+1	49
Sumner	32	4	46		32
Tunica	41	4	52		41
Tupelo	154	4	84	+1	155
Water Valley	24	5	84		24
West Point	74	4	67		74
District 6/30/03			2433		
District 8/31/03			2440	+7	

THE VILLAGE OF ROTARY

>>DISTRICT TOP THREE PER CAPITA GIVERS-2002-2003<<
 MEMPHIS -- \$113.66 MEMPHIS CENTRAL--\$104.88 OXFORD--\$93.75

In October, Curtis and I will represent President Jonathan Majiyagbe at D7150's District Conference in Chatauqua, New York. Since I will be sharing the podium with Senator Hillary Clinton, I read her book, It Takes a Village. Regardless of our agreement/disagreement with her politics, we can heed her words to support the Foundation's cause of *expanding our help to children*. Herman Melville said, "We cannot live for ourselves alone. Our lives are connected by a thousand invisible threads, and along these sympathetic fibers, *our actions run as causes and return to us as results.*"

Committed to the cause of helping children, our results can restore children's potential lost to spirit-crushing poverty, restore children's health lost to unaffordable medical care, restore children's lives lost to violence and abuse, and restore literacy lost in a world that must focus on eating rather than educating.

D6800 Rotary Clubs help children through Adopt-a-Schools and provide health and dental care to children of the working poor. We sponsor Matching Grants to combat literacy in India and for Happy Face in Celaya. While most of the local projects are 100% Club-supported, the new District Simplified Grants (DSG) allow us to provide District matching funds. But, it all depends on how much we give.

Has your Club established its 2003-04 Rotary Foundation giving goal?

Rotary's Centennial goal for Foundation Giving is *Every Rotarian, Every Year \$100*. Do you know that if we could do that, we would have

ROTARY FRIENDSHIP EXCHANGE

[Betty Jo Dulaney (Robinsonville) Chairman]
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Are you looking for excitement? Do you want to meet new people, experience exotic foods, have fun and experience life in another culture? The Rotary Friendship Exchange is the program for you! The goal of this program is to advance international understanding, goodwill and peace through person-to-person contacts across national boundaries. Rotarians and their families have the opportunity to experience other cultures firsthand, by participating in reciprocal visits with Rotarians from other countries and their families.

There are two main types of Friendship exchanges: the visitor and the team exchange. The visitor exchange lasts three to seven days; the team exchange may last one to four weeks. The univocational exchange is where both guest and host Rotarians are of the same profession. Rotarians can expand their views on a common interest.

The exchange is funded by the individuals who participate. Rotarians must apply through their club president. We are in the process of lining up some districts in the Caribbean who may want to be in our Rotary Friendship Exchange. Call or e-mail me if you are interested. This is an excellent way to promote peace and goodwill in the world.

MAKING UP ON LINE

Recently, while visiting one of the clubs a person with a twelve-year perfect attendance record said she was unable to make up in the time allowed. Sometimes these circumstances face us all. There is a way, however, to make up *on line*. Go to the district newsletter <www.watervalley.net/users/Rotary6800> and, near the bottom of the page, is a link to <clubOne> You can make up your missed meeting and gain valuable knowledge about Rotary. K.R.B.

WHAT INTERACT MEANS TO ME, BY WILL COOK

[You should recognize Will not only as the son of PDG Bill Cook, but for his dedication to Rotary. He purchased a team-signed Ole Miss football and sold chances on it as he traveled around the district with his father. He turned that ball into a \$3250 contribution to the Rotary Foundation! Now a freshman at Ole Miss, he served as President of his high school Internet club]

When you think of Interact certain things might come to your mind. Rotary, community service, helping others, and meeting inspirational people and life long friends are just a few that come to my mind. To me Interact is more than just meeting friends and helping the community. Interact is knowing that you have made somebody's day better or easier because you decided to take a little bit of time out of your schedule to sit down and make a difference. I became interested in Interact through the influence of my father.

My father is an active member of the Batesville Rotary Club and as he explained to me what Interact was all about it struck me as something that could be both rewarding and fun. When I attended my first Interact meeting at Magnolia Heights, it was everything that my father had described to me and more. We learned about projects such as Drug Awareness Week and Toys for Tots, and when I actually was able to be apart of these projects I quickly discovered that Interact was going to be a large part of my High school career. Throughout my high school years I was elected the Vice President and eventually President of the South Panola Interact Club. Obtaining these positions in such a highly acclaimed program was truly one of the greatest milestones I accomplished in high school. Throughout my involvement with Interact I learned a lot about myself in the process. I became a better leader among others, I learned how to interact with people on a higher level, I learned much about my community, and I learned about the satisfaction that comes along when you help another person. Interact is truly as an experience that one can not understand without being part of the program. I am truly grateful that I was able to participate in Interact, and I encourage all students to become involved with their school Interact club so they too can be a part of something extraordinary.

\$62,500, barely enough to fund two scholarships.

November is Foundation Month. Between now and then, set your goal and have November programs on the Foundation that will help you meet that goal. Call on any of your District leaders for help or programs. Let's commit to the cause of the Rotary Foundation and see the results it provides worldwide.

Janice Johnson Trawick (Tupelo)
 D6800 Foundation Chair
 Zone 30 Annual Program
 Fund Strategic Advisor

P.S. The winner of the PHF for achieving the \$50 goal will be announced next month.