



# INSPIRING STUDENTS TO CARE

## A New Generations Program



A Partnership between Rotary Clubs of Warton, District 6330 and Zone 24, and Spectrum Artistic & Educational Media

### Spring/Summer 2013 Newsletter



Keith Martin and Kristin Otten, Rotary Youth Exchange Student from Germany Rotary Club of Warton 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, March 3, 2013 (Photo by Dan Kerr)

## Rotary District 6330 Conference Thank You

I've asked the conference chair for a few minutes to thank you for your support for **Inspiring Students To Care: A New Generations Program**. Inspiring Students To Care is a partnership between Rotary clubs of Warton, District 6330 and Zone 24, and Spectrum Artistic and Educational Media, a non-profit registered charity. The goals are to raise awareness about world issues and motivate students to action. The program consists of two projects, No More Turning Away: Inspiring Students to Care about Hunger and Poverty, and Take It Back: Inspiring Students to Care about the Environment.

We plan to keep the program going for one more year, so there's still time to participate, especially to help with about 150 DVDs that have been placed and still need a Rotary club to sponsor them. But now that we've offered both DVDs to school boards right across Canada, *this is a good time to celebrate what we've achieved and to thank some key people.*

*39 Rotary clubs in 6 Rotary districts, including 29 in our own district, have participated in the program, placing over 1,100 DVDs in 42 school boards in 6 provinces.* To each of the 29 clubs in our district that participated, some of you several times, a huge THANK YOU! In the words of past Assistant Governor Wilf Flavell, "You will never know the full impact of your efforts, but a few years down the road you will hear adults say, 'I got my interest in community

service by watching No More Turning Away in grade 8."

I would like to thank in particular the following:

- Bob Carson, Ralph Sprague and Bev Garinger from The Rotary Club of Warton for forming the initial steering committee for No More Turning Away;
- our entire club for supporting both projects;
- Past District Governor Kelly Fotheringham for giving us his blessing in 2008 to take No More Turning Away district-wide;
- Tanya Wolff for supporting the project during her year as governor;
- Michael Atkins for giving his blessing in 2010 for Take It Back to go district-wide;
- Rotarians Bev, Michael, Tom Robitaille and Nick Torra for serving on Spectrum's board these past two years;
- Bev, Nick, Ann Iles and Paul Shirley for forming a support committee within our club;
- Jim Schlatman from the Rotary Club of Hanover for using our project as an example of vocational service at District Assembly last year;
- Joe Reynolds for inviting us to give a plenary presentation at District Conference last year;
- District Governor Elect Don Moore for distributing copies of No More Turning Away to Rotary Exchange Students three years in a row; and finally
- each of you who gave moral and financial support over the past five years, through your club and sometimes directly. Thank you!

Tom Robitaille got involved when I asked at an Area 5 Meeting in 2011 if anyone would be interested in joining Spectrum's board to strengthen the partnership between Spectrum and Rotary. Next day, to my surprise and joy, especially knowing he was going to be our governor, he emailed me his interest.

*As Spectrum expands and changes its focus this coming year, I'd like to throw out another invitation and hope one or two of you will surprise me.*

Many of you have heard me say that I joined Rotary because I was looking for a non-religious but spiritually-caring fellowship of men and women who were making a difference in their community and around the world. Our Foundation motto, "Doing good in the world," is one of the best definitions I can think of for both humanitarianism and true spirituality. So while Rotary is non-religious, in my books it is quite spiritual, in the good sense of lifting people's spirits.

This fall I hope to publish a book I've been working on called *Seismic Shift: From God to Goodness*. Subtitled 'A journey of loss and discovery,' it describes my own journey from belief in God as a higher Being to God as a higher Ideal, especially the ideal of Goodness.

Spectrum itself will be shifting its focus from our current productions to producing a companion DVD entitled *Seismic Shift: Spirituality for the Rest of Us*. While not a Rotary project, I know the book and DVD will resonate with many of you, who, like me, have wondered if there is a non-religious alternative to traditional faith, New Age spirituality, or atheism.

If this is a subject that interests you, and you might like to help us produce such a resource, especially for adult and university audiences, please come talk to me at our display in the House of Friendship.

So thank you, Tom, for your support these past two years as DGE and DG. I have a copy for you of the latest draft of *Seismic Shift*. A year from now I look forward to receiving a copy of the book you will be writing, for which Michael Atkins has already chosen a title: *Seismic Shift: From District Governor to Nobody!*

And to all of you, thank you again these past five years for helping us inspire students to care by doing good in the world and for the world.

Keith Martin, Program Coordinator  
Rotary District 6330 Conference, Sarnia, ON, June 8, 2013



Inspiring Students To Care receiving donation from Roger Shantz, The Men's Breakfast Tobermory to sponsor 10 copies of No More Turning Away in 10 schools, May 11, 2013 (Photo by Dave Robertson)

### **INSPIRING STUDENTS TO CARE: A New Generations Program**

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