

# April 2017 Newsletter



Happy Spring Rotarians. Those of us that have spent the winter here are enjoying the change. The snow birds that have returned are still wearing their winter coats.

It is District Conference time. This month's podcast talks about some of the great breakout sessions we have scheduled. Give a listen: <<[April Podcast](#)>>

The conference committee has done an excellent job of scheduling powerful speakers. I am just going to briefly list them here as we have talked about them before.

1. [Christopher Michaelson](#) who is Distinguished Professor of Business Ethics and Social Responsibility at the University of St Thomas.
2. [David LaMotte](#), an award-winning songwriter, speaker, author ("World Changing 101") and activist.
3. [Tom Thorfinnson](#), Chief Strategy Officer for Rotary International
4. [Neema Namadamu](#), polio survivor and dramatic speaker, she was honored as "Africa's Most Influential Woman in 2014."

You can find more information and bios on the keynote speakers and the breakout session at the District website. And you can REGISTER there NOW! <<[Click Here](#)>>. Site is password protected please use the account name: **future** and password: **yourhands**.

[Neema Namadamu](#) is an incredible speaker. If for some reason, you can't make her Saturday morning presentation, you have the opportunity to hear her on Monday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, 12:15 pm at the Roseville club. All proceeds to go for Polio Plus, but you need to register on their site <<Roseville Meeting Registration – [Click Here](#)>>.

**Membership Idea:** A lot of clubs do spring fund raisers that include silent auction items. How about offering a 1 year membership to your Rotary club? If someone is willing to donate anything to come to your meetings, they sound like a hot prospect for your club. Your challenge is to engage them so at the end of the year, the action to renew is without question. Reports I have heard is that it is fairly effective if the silent auction is donated to a non-Rotarian fund raiser (example Chamber of Commerce).

Next big event after conference is The International Convention in Atlanta on June 10<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>. Bill Gates is going to be one of the keynote speakers. We currently have over 140 District Rotarians registered. Come join us for a reception on Saturday, or just plan to enjoy the conference.

**Upcoming calendar events** you should be aware of:

**Grants Management Seminar (GMS).** The deadline for submitting District Grants proposals is May 19<sup>th</sup>. If you plan to apply for a grant it is mandatory that you attend a Grants Management Seminars. Last one scheduled for Thursday, April 27<sup>th</sup> at the Hotel Metro (formerly Holiday Inn East) in St Paul, just prior to District Conference.

**Camp RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards).** This is for high school kids to develop leadership skills. It will be held on April 20<sup>th</sup> through April 25<sup>th</sup> at YMCA Camp St Croix just outside of Hudson, WI. [More information](#)

**District Conference** is scheduled for Friday, April 28<sup>th</sup> and Saturday morning, April 29<sup>th</sup>. Our theme this year is “Rotarians Changing the World.” The conference committee has been working hard and we have 4 excellent keynote speakers that you are going to want to hear. There will be nearly 20 breakouts on Vibrant Clubs, Business of Rotary, International Service and the Environment will offer opportunities for you beyond just Rotary. The Youth Exchange Students will be putting on a Country Fair. There will be a House of Friendship to network with Rotarians and others. The Group Study Exchange (GSE) team from Northern Australia and Timor-Leste will present at 2 breakouts and be around the conference for you to connect with.



**Neema Namadamu** speaking at the Roseville Polio Plus fund raiser on May 1<sup>st</sup>.

The **International Convention** is happening in Atlanta on June 10<sup>th</sup> through the 14<sup>th</sup>. This will be the closest Convention to Minnesota for several years, along with being the culmination of the 100-year Celebration of the Rotary Foundation. Attendance is the best way that I know of to fully connect with the International side of Rotary. You will be able to interact with Rotarians from over 200 countries. For Rotaractors only, I have some funds in my budget to help defer the costs. Please come join us for the party in Atlanta. We have already register 125 members from our District. [Click Here](#) for more information and registration.

**District Governor Installation** The final calendar entry is June 20<sup>th</sup> for Kyle Haugen's installation as District Governor. That will be held at the new Mystic Lake Convention Center. [Click Here](#) for registration.

The newsletter has just highlighted the events. Specific details and registration for most of the proceedings are on the District website. Please join us where you can as it will be worth your while.

You are truly "Rotary Serving Humanity" and your efforts are appreciated by many people you will never meet,

Thank you for your service.

Jim Hunt, 2016-17 District Governor

