



Monday Morning Memo - A Rotary Message from Governor Jerry

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The Circle of Rotary - Living, Sharing, Giving

From The Governor



While heavy emphasis is given to The Rotary Foundation during the month of November, we can not forget that in just seven weeks, this Rotary year will be one-half over ! As with this year's theme, we must

constantly balance focusing on both current issues while also planning for the future.

Optimizing leadership talents with our clubs is essential to ensuring continuity. Each Rotarian should take a leadership role, whether it be as a club officer or heading a committee. All Rotarians are leaders in their businesses and professions; let us

THE IRS
MEMBERSHIP
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be leader in Rotary as well. Club nominating committees should be active in positioning the club leaders for the upcoming Rotary year and beyond. Continuity of club officers and committee leaders is essential to a healthy Rotary club.

ATTENTION - 990 Filing Due Today!

What follows is not tax advice, but general information, which may be useful. Questions regarding any tax matters need to be referred to local counsel, your tax adviser or to the IRS. (<http://www.irs.ustreas.gov> or 1- 800-829-1040).

On 13 May 1958, the Internal Revenue Service declared that Rotary International (RI) and its clubs and districts are entitled to exemption from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code. While Rotary districts and clubs are exempt from paying federal income tax, **the law does require Rotary clubs and districts to file an annual information return on IRS Form 990, on or before the 15th day of the 5th month following the close of the annual accounting period (15 November)**. Certain organizations, other than private foundations, that do not normally receive more than \$25,000 in gross receipts in each taxable year are not required to file Form 990.

Starting in 2008, clubs or districts with gross receipts of \$25,000 or less were required to file Form 990-N, which is an electronic e-Postcard report. This report is required annually. Failure to meet the annual filing requirement for three consecutive years will result in revocation of the tax-exempt status of the club or district in question. To learn more about this requirement, and to obtain the necessary e-Postcard report form, visit the US Treasury website at: www.irs.gov/eo, or call the toll-free number: (877) 829- 5500.

Service Projects

Rotary clubs make a difference locally and internationally through service. By taking time to learn about local and international issues, your club may discover new opportunities for effective service projects.

What are your community's needs and assets? This is an important question in planning any service project. By taking time to learn about local issues, your club will discover new opportunities for service projects and avoid duplicating existing resources. Community assessments such as surveys, asset inventories, and focus groups will reveal information you didn't know before.

Assessment tips - When assessing your community, take a positive approach - don't just look at the community's problems. A close assessment might include these factors:

Human assets - One of the community's most important assets is its people. What are some of the residents' unique skills and talents, and what are their needs and challenges? How can the community be involved in your club's project?

Organizational assets - What groups and organizations in your community provide resources for local projects? Consider government offices, nongovernmental and nonprofit organizations, religious institutions, schools, and businesses. Don't forget to look at informal groups, such as neighborhood organizations or sports teams, as well.

Physical assets - A community's physical assets include any existing infrastructure - buildings, parks, public transit systems, hospitals and clinics, water and sanitation facilities, recycling centers and landfills, libraries, theaters, meeting halls - that might be used to support a project.

Club assets - Rotary clubs sometimes forget that they're full of hidden assets. Club members' expertise and professional skills are important tools for service. A close examination of your club's

financial and human resources will help determine the types of projects club members can effectively manage.

Transportation for Medical Supplies Needed

Howard Schwadron has collected several boxes of medical supplies to be donated to a hospital in a developing nation. A Rotary Club in Tulsa , Oklahoma operates an organization that identifies appropriate hospitals and ships medical supplies to them. If you or someone you know will be traveling to Tulsa and can take the supplies, please notify Howard. It is a stack of boxes which would fit in a car. Howard can be reached at schwfam1@yahoo.com or by phone: 314- 579-9255.

District Governor's Calendar

November - Foundation Month

- Nov. 21 - District Council - Cape Girardeau
- Nov. 26 - Thanksgiving Day
- Apr. 15-17, 2010 - Joint District Conference in Springfield, MO

Full District Calendar

The Future of Rotary Is In Your Hands

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