

**Rotary District 6860
Fall Leadership Conference
The Harbert Center
Birmingham, AL
September 7, 2012**

Minutes of the COG Meeting:

PDG Georgia Medori, Chair

Gary Andrew, Secretary

Georgia Medori, Council of Governors Chair, called the meeting to order with the following members of the Council present:

Members Present:

DG Phil Williams

IPDG Martin Uptain

PDG Don Hadden

PDG John Valieant

PDG Ty Robin

RIVP Ken Schuppert

PDG Dennis Brooks

PDG Mary Jean Sanspree

PDG JG Brazil

PDG Scott Stone

Members Absent:

DGE Tom Greene (RY 2013-14)

PDG Phil Fowler

PDG Bill Johnson

PDG Riley Lumpkin

PDG Mark Maloney

PDG Harold Patterson

PDG Jim Shamblin

DGN Jerry Shepard (RY 2014-15)

PDG Bill French

PDG Ron Layne

PDG John Lutenbacher

PDG Byron Nelson

PDG Bo Porter

Chair Medori welcomed everyone and distributed the agenda for the meeting. She called on District Governor Phil Williams for his report to the COG.

- DG Phil discussed the updated Strategic Plan and how it is structured to cover three years and three District Governors. He discussed the Training Team concept and how it is to be operated. A Club Self-Assessment will be used to determine what assistance the Clubs need. Copies of the Strategic Plan were distributed.
- Public Relations – DG Phil discussed the importance of Public Relations and sharing the work of Rotary. He commented that clubs are doing a good job of Public Relations on their projects and the DG visits. Discussion was held on the Trucking Company that has Rotary messages on their trucks that travel all over the US.

- DG Phil talked about the upcoming 2012 Zone Institute that is being held in Huntsville the first week of October. This is the first time the Institute has been in District 6860 since the 1980's. He encouraged maximum attendance at the Friday Luncheon featuring RIP Sakuji Tanaka. RIVP Ken Schuppert reported that the RIP Tanaka is a humble man who speaks eloquently about Rotary. It's a unique opportunity to meet RIP Tanaka in Huntsville, October 5, 2012. DG Phil has sent an email to all Club Presidents asking them to cancel their meeting that week and have their members attend the Luncheon in Huntsville. The lunch will be \$22 person and the Club President has the opportunity to attend a President's Forum with RIP Tanaka after the luncheon (\$35).
- DG Phil asked that all clubs sponsor an Interact Club in their community and a Rotaract Club in their areas. He encourages clubs to support sending student leaders in the Interact Clubs to RYLA.
- Continued support for Children's Hospital was encouraged.. We need to raise \$250K for the Hospital. It is a District wide project. PDG Dennis Brooks asked could we use some of the DDF money that is in reserve for the Hospital. The answer was no, without a specific project involving Rotarians.
- Regarding the DaCdb and District Website, training for senior leaders and others is in underway. DG Williams asked District Secretary Andrew to ensure DaCdb and Website Training is included at the spring 2013 District Conference.
- DG Phil talked about the Rotary Leadership Institute(RLI). PDG Bo Porter will be serving as the District RLI Coordinator and the first training session will be held Saturday October 13th. Copies of the announcement that was sent to all Club Presidents were distributed to all COG members.

District Awards Chairman, Don Hadden, asked the COG for feedback on last year's awards presentation ceremony so that we can improve the program for the next District Conference. District Secretary and District Conference Chair Andrew will work closely with PDG Hadden to insure a meaningful awards program is planned for the next District Conference. We may hold an Awards Dinner to focus more attention on Clubs that win awards.

COG Chair Georgia, read a request from DGE Tom Greene who could not attend the meeting. Tom wanted to get some input from the COG about the PDG dinner connected to District Conference. *How important is the dinner to the PDG's and do they believe it should be connected to the Conference? The current arrangement can add an extra day to the conference for them. If other activities are going on the PDGs are not able to join the rest of the District.* A discussion was held and the comments made were as follows; The PDG Dinner is a special time for fellowship for the PDGs and their spouses; the Dinner is the time for the President's Rep to meet District Leaders before the Conference begins; it is a time to thank the outgoing DG for their service; PDGs do not

mind coming a day early; sometimes there are no other events planned at the same time. Overall, the PDGs like the PDG tied with the District Conference as it is now.

DGN Jerry Shepherd was not able to attend the meeting, but he sent a special article on Membership to share with the COG. The article "Our Members are Our Customers" was written by PDG Brent Rosenthal. Copies were distributed to all COG members.

RIVP Ken Schuppert thanked the COG for their support of the upcoming 2012 Zone Institute in Huntsville. He also shared some of his experiences as RI Vice President and updates on Rotary International news.

Chair Georgia thanked everyone for their attendance and input. No new business was presented and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Gary Andrew
District Secretary