

**At the April 2008 District Conference, several Rotarians were honored for their service to the District and the District Governor during the Rotary year. These individuals received a Paul Harris recognition pin. Following are comments made by DG Mary Kessens in honoring them.**

**Rob Stroud:** Many of you recognize Rob Stroud as the long term chair of the District Group Study Exchange Committee and member of the Rotary Club of Madison. He has been the chair of GSE for many years. In the last couple of years, he has done more than usual. He was challenged by rescheduling and visa issues with our last in bound team from Nigeria while planning the next GSE exchange at the same time. He exhibited leadership in attracting a great selection of folks for our very first vocational exchange this year for disability service professionals with a district in Argentina. Rob has also been an active participant in the Youth Exchange program in his club and has participated in many Rotary activities that are too long to catalog here. He has been an active participant in Rotary Fellowships both local and international and has supported many local activities. For this long time service, Rob receives his **eight** Paul Harris recognition pin on behalf of Rotary District 6250.

**Bob Boelter:** Bob is an active member of the Rotary Club of Madison and marketing consultant for Momentum Marketing communications. Bob has served not only as PR committee Chair for his club, but also for the district this year. He has also been responsible for doing promotional materials for three district conferences, including this year's conference. He is also the district PR Chair and is responsible for our district's award of a \$6000 Rotary International PR grant along with donations of \$10,000 in advertising, along with district funds, for a total project of \$20,000 to promote membership in district clubs. He has a long record of service in Madison both with businesses and community organizations. **For Bob's** service to the world, his community and Rotarians, Bob receives his **third** Paul Harris recognition pin on behalf of Rotary District 6250.

**Ed Smith:** Ed Smith, an active member of the Rotary Club of Stoughton, has long been a resource to our Rotary District as historian. He took on the role of district treasurer over a year ago and we have seen an amazing transformation in our accounting information. More significantly, he has worked with several disparate groups to bring all district financial records together in one place. So, I think after this year, we may actually have officially reviewed accounts of all district related financial activities. While doing this, he has also produced monthly financial statements for the finance committee and made financial reports on a regular basis to the District Advisory Committee. I'm grateful that for his work in pulling our district budget and finances together in one place for increased accountability and transparency. For Ed's long time service to the district, Ed receives his **ninth** Paul Harris recognition pin on behalf of Rotary District 6250.

**Virginia Bartelt:** Virginia Bartelt is a former member of the Rotary Club of Middleton Sunrise and now the Rotary Club of Madison where she has already been elected to the

Board of Directors. Virginia is also a former GSE Team Leader to India and Past Assistant Governor. Several years ago she joined me on the District Training Committee and was a key person to making this committee one of the best in the district. She served as District Trainer and was responsible for training this year's club district leaders in 2007. Her organization, planning ability, quiet manner and communication skills have served our district and clubs in an exemplary manner. She has been active in the programs of her club and community. She has also devoted a good deal of her time as Board Chair to the development of the Interfaith Hospitality Network which provides shelter to homeless families in the Madison area.

For Virginia's long time service to the district in helping clubs and leaders excel, Virginia receives her **third** Paul Harris recognition pin on behalf of Rotary District 6250.

**Roxanne Brazzeau:** In order for Rotary to thrive another 100 years, we all must work to attract and retain bright, young talent to help us succeed. Roxanne Brazzeau is one of the bright young talents that has shared her talents with us this year. Roxanne has worked diligently for over two years as the District Conference Chair. She has been thoughtful, diligent, planful and best of all positive and energetic. I think the most fun parts of the district conference have been because of her work and the event has been wonderful because of her leadership throughout.

Roxanne, I'm very grateful for your efforts, your energy and your positive attitude. Thank you so much for chairing the District Conference Committee. For Roxanne's efforts, energy and positive attitude, Roxanne receives her **first** Paul Harris recognition pin on behalf of Rotary District 6250.

**Tom Mickelson:** "There is someone special to me that I could not possibly forget. He has been the wind beneath my wings as I've flown around the district and flitted from Rotary meeting to Rotary meeting. He has kept the house clean, the clothes washed, been a life raft on the bad days and fellow celebrator on the good days. He even decided to become a member of Rotary this year. And, it has been my delight to sponsor him as a member of my club and watch him jump into club and district activities so quickly. Thank you, Tom Mickelson, for your support, your love and help this year. And, I would like to share with you your first Paul Harris recognition on behalf of District 6250."