

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

Ray Klingensmith
President, 2010–11

Spouse: Judie



To: District Governors Elect

Re: October Newsletter

Greetings,

I am now on the road for several zone institutes in October, and I enjoyed the opportunity to meet many of you at the Tulsa, Cochise, and Warsaw GETS programs in September.

The International Assembly Committee decided at its meeting in April to adopt a slightly less formal “business casual” dress code for the 2010 assembly, and I have discovered that the term means different things to different people around the world. Therefore, I will try to explain what it means to me.

The former standard for the international assemblies was business suits or sport coats (including theme blazers) with neckties and dress shirts for men. This year the same suits and coats will be expected for men, but neckties and dress shirts will be optional in order to create a more relaxed atmosphere to facilitate learning and networking. Equivalent adjustments in the dress code are available for women.

There will be a few events when coats, ties, and dress shirts should be worn by men. Those specific events are the opening plenary session, opening dinner, closing plenary session, and closing dinner, as well as the official photo sessions with Judie and me. The burgundy theme blazers are recommended for DGEs at those events, but the purchase of such blazers is optional.

National or regional dress is encouraged for the international fellowship dinner on Wednesday evening, which includes a Grand March to display the colorful clothing from around the world. Men who do not wear distinctive clothing from their parts of the globe are requested to wear dark business suits and ties with equivalent dress for women. Tuxedos and black ties have been common in past years, but we recognize the impracticality of transporting tuxedos and formal dresses for a single dinner, and therefore, black ties and long gowns will not be expected at the dinner this year. And just in case you are wondering, I do not plan to take my tuxedo to San Diego!

I had hoped to make more progress on some supplemental information for you in regard to my Top Ten New Ideas, which I distributed at the DGN meeting in Birmingham. Unfortunately, my travel schedule has delayed a completion of the new materials. I am still working on them when I have time, and I hope to have some additional Top Ten information for you in my November newsletter.

One Rotary Center
1560 Sherman Avenue
Evanston, Illinois
60201-3698 USA
phone 847.866.3025
fax 847.866.3390
www.rotary.org