



John Bosco
District Governor

DISTRICT 6630 NEWS

Mike Johns, Jr
Editor

January 2010

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Points of Interest:

- District receives \$8500 PR Grant
- House of Friendship seeks displays
- Medina resident elected Kiwanis International President
- DisCon Looks for sponsors
- ShelterBox mobilizes for Haiti
- Christmas in July raises \$10.8k
- International projects seek partners
- Foundation seminar Feb 20th
- Support TRF through Ohio plates
- Ambassadorial scholar available

Governor's Letter

January is ROTARY AWARENESS MONTH. Isn't every month Rotary Awareness Month? It is with me and I suspect it is with you. We Rotarians of District 6630 are doing so much good in our communities and worldwide that we are constantly aware of Rotary.

Rotary International provides us with so much material to help us learn about and appreciate our Rotary experience. The more we know about Rotary the more we feel connected and able to truly serve. Please visit our District Web Site www.rotary6630.com for a direct link to Rotary International and spend some time learning about Rotary. Ask your Club President and Secretary to get you a copy of the ABCs of Rotary. It's a wonderful way to learn the basics.

Past District Governor Jack

Harig of the Rotary Club of Akron has written a very informative article in this month's newsletter. I strongly urge you to read and follow the suggestions of PDG Jack and encourage all of your Club members to do the same.

Our District received a public relations grant from Rotary International. The grant is worth \$8,500.00 and will enable us to promote Rotary by using cable television spots. The ads will run for the next few months at different times on different stations. A list of the dates and times can be found on our District web site. We would appreciate any feedback from you or your family regarding these ads. We need to know how best to spend our advertising dollars.

January also means that this Rotary year is half over. Is your Rotary glass half empty or half

full? We still have six months to do the work we set out to do in July. I encourage each of you to continue being the best Rotarian you can be.

I will be visiting Clubs promoting the upcoming District Conference. If your Club needs a speaker please contact me or a member of the Conference committee to schedule a program. Don't forget the Conference is at the Kalahari Water Park the weekend of April 23-25th. Reservations can be made now by using the application on the District web site.

I have now visited all the Rotary Clubs in District 6630 and I am so proud to be your District Governor. Thank each and every one of you for your dedication and service. Remember I am only a phone call or an email away. If I can be of help to you please contact me.

Kalahari House of Friendship

The District Conference theme is family and object is fun. The resort is offering great prices for a great weekend. There will be professional child care who will see that your young ones are cared for and entertained. There will be activities for all ages that will help them participate in the theme of the conference. The child care will not take children into the indoor water park, but

will explore other parts of the resort.

Each club is asked to participate to the House of Friendship by providing a display of their activities and events through out the years. The location of the House of Friendship will be exposed to other convention groups attending the resort that weekend. It is a great way to show off your club and Rotary International to

those who are not familiar with what we are all about. No matter how large or how small your club's program may be we want your display. Please contact Joy Black with any questions or concerns. Fill out questionnaire and submit by February 15th, 2010. Displays may follow the jungle theme. There are prizes for originality of display, design, focus, international project, home project and party hardy.

Awareness and Fellowship in Rotary

By Jack Harig

January is Rotary Awareness Month; I have a challenge for my fellow Rotarians. It will just a little effort on your part, a little wee bit of your time; who knows, we may all be surprised with the new things we learn about Rotary Service and Rotary International's successes. The Challenge is in three parts, 1) The Rotarian Magazine, 2) Rotary International WEB Site www.Rotary.org and 3) RGHF Rotary Global History Fellowship WEB Site <http://www.rotaryfirst100.org/library/rotarian/>.

Scan each of these three Rotary resources and spot something you did not know about Rotary and jot that thought or idea down on a post-a-note, napkin, or scrap of paper and bring it to a meeting. It will create some interesting table talk. If you all do this it is possible with 8 people at a table and 4 meeting in January 2010 you could come away with 96 new things you did not know about Rotary.

Each year the RI Presidents theme freshens the way I look at my Rotary commitments. For me this years theme reminds me that Rotary is "Up Close & Personal" It makes clear the obligation of every Rotarian in every club, in every district and in every country around the world to share his or her unique talents and skills to do as a group of like minded individuals what we could never hope to do alone, the power of Rotary unleashed

The Rotary Theme for 2009-10 is "The Future of Rotary Is in Your Hands". If your hands are connected to a knowledge base that includes the history of Rotary, what is happening now

in Rotary and the dreams of Rotary for the future your Rotary your club will continue to grow and serve. Best of all your lives and the lives of your family will continue to be enriched as you see your contributions to the community, country and world grow. If there is a future week where your club has a club assembly or no scheduled program you could have a lot of fun sharing the scoop on what new things you have learned about Rotary in a group setting. Have fun, enjoy the New Year and share your love with family and friends.

The Rotary experience is enhanced as our understanding of the challenges and accomplishments of Rotary grows. Our lives are strengthened when bonds of fellowship are forged in service to mankind. The bonds of friendship you make in Rotary grow as you learn more about your fellow Rotarians, their work, their families and their dreams. Take time to get to know each other and share your dreams. Make 2010 the best Rotary year you have ever experienced.

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News From Medina Sunrise

By Mike Davanzo

Medina Sunrise Rotary has been busy with the Holiday Spirit. The club once again purchased Christmas gifts for needy families in three of our school districts. In addition to that, we have continued our association and sponsorship of the Rotaract Club in Ecuador. Club members volunteered to ring the bell for the Salvation Army and to staff the table for the Hospice fundraiser. The Club also held its joint Christmas meeting with the Medina Breakfast Kiwanis Club at Medina First Baptist Church. After a delicious breakfast, the club members enjoyed Christmas songs by the youth choir of First Baptist and then listened to inspiring words by Pastor Mark Milioni, a Sunrise Rotarian.

Following the festivities, Medina Sunrise Rotary was pleased to make a special presentation. Alan Penn, a resident of Medina and a Kiwanian, was recently elected International President of the Kiwanis. Sunrise President, Barbara Cummings, presented Alan

with an Honorary Membership for his year a International President in our club. She also noted that Sunrise Rotary has made a donation in his name to both the International Kiwanis Foundation and the Rotary International Foundation.

Medina Sunrise will be holding its Annual Wine and Roses Benefit Dinner on February 13, 2010 at Weymouth County Club. This is a special night was great food, a sit-down dinner, wine, desserts, music and dancing. There will also be a silent and live auction. Attendees with have the opportunity to mix a romantic night with the opportunity support some very worthy causes. The main beneficiary of the dinner will be the Medina Children's Center. If you are interested in attending, please call Mike at 330-725-3176 or 330-441-1507 or email him at mdavanzo@zoominternet.net. If you can not attend but would like to donate a prize for our auction, please contact me also. Happy New Year to all.

District Conference Sponsorships Available

The Rotary District 6630 is delighted to announce the Annual District Conference will be held at the Kalahari Resort in Sandusky the weekend of April 23-25, 2010 and *we have an opportunity for you!*

As in the past, the conference offers local establishments the chance to promote their business by taking advantage of various sponsorships.

The District 6630 conference will have several hundred Rotarians and their family members of all ages, attending from all over the district encompassing Ashtabula, Lake, Geauga, Cuyahoga, Medina, Summit and Portage counties in Ohio. We hope you will recognize this incredible opportunity for your business to be involved in an event such as this by supporting at some level. Attendees are among some of the community's finest; Rotary club members represent a cross-section of busi-

ness and professional leading men and women who have dedicated themselves to "Service Above Self".

Your participation will be a tremendous public relations/marketing opportunity for your firm all while supporting your local Rotary and ultimately the communities in which we live and work. Support will be acknowledged in a myriad of ways including exposure at the conference throughout the weekend. Sponsorship levels range from \$5000 to \$250, something to fit everyone's budget. Enclosed is a sponsorship form outlining the opportunities available and benefits you'll receive through your donation.

Thank you in advance for your consideration. If you need additional information, please feel free to contact Jim Lechko at 216.529.5625.

[Sponsorship Form](#)



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

Burton-Middlefield Shows Holiday Spirit

By Christina Livers

In the last half of 2009, Burton-Middlefield Rotary Club members constructed a large storage building on the grounds of the Geauga County Fair in Burton Village, donating labor at numerous work sessions directed by member Dave Brigham. This project is a joint venture with the Geauga County Fair Board. BMR paid half the bill and the Fair Board the other half of the construction costs. Also shared will be the cost of utilities. Both entities have used half of the finished building. In it BMR will store records and items such as the pancake breakfast supplies. For BMR this arrangement solves a long-standing storage problem.. Until now artifacts, records and various project supplies were stored in the homes of members. Member Bill Stute headed up the distribution of dictionaries to elementary school students in the Cardinal and Berkshire school districts, as well as St. Helen's Catholic School and the Amish schools in the Burton-Middlefield area. At Christmas time members were out ringing the bell at Salvation Army kettles in our area. Our Interact club pitched in their vigorous efforts as well. Since raising money for the Salvation Army is a friendly competition between the cluster

clubs of BMR, Chardon City, Chester Township and Chagrin Falls Village, we are all anxious to learn who raised the most. One of our last meetings of the year was holding a Christmas Party for the residents of the Geauga County Home. These residents are indigent and unable to live independently. Rotary members anonymously fill a gift wish for an individual resident. The gifts are left under the Home's Christmas tree the evening of the party and the

Home's staff distributes the gifts to the residents. BMR President Dave Zmek brought his accordion, Dave's cousin brought his saxophone and member Dick Hills led the singing. BMR members and wives brought cookies, punch, cheeses etc. to the party and everyone had a great time. BMR wishes one and all a very happy New Year.

Christmas in July Success for Foundation

Through the combined efforts of those attending the Christmas in July Foundation Fund-raiser, we raised \$10,850. As we committed to do, we credited clubs by the number of members and guests who attended this celebration.

Therefore, based upon the total club members and guests attending the Christmas in

July, we divided the total amount raised by the total number attending to get a per attendee

amount. We then multiplied the number of attendees representing each club by that amount.

Below is a list of each club and the dollar amount sent to The Rotary Foundation on behalf of each club toward their Polio Plus Goal. The appropriate paperwork has been filed so there is nothing you need to do. Presidents, remember that you can use the points from this donation toward a Paul Harris Fellow for one or more of your members.

Any questions regarding the paperwork, please give me a

call or email me.

Marsha Pappalardo 216-410-4844 CMPPappa@aol.com

Akron	\$840
Aurora	\$210
Ashtabula	\$280
Barberton	\$210
Bedford	\$280
Berea	\$210
Brunswick	\$980
Chagrin Highlands	\$280
Chagrin Valley	\$140
Chesterland	\$210
Cleveland	\$490
Conneaut	\$140
Cuyahoga Falls	\$70
Fairlawn	\$140
Hillcrest	\$1750
Hudson	\$280
Jefferson	\$280
Kent	\$420
Lakewood R R	\$140
Lkwd RR Sunrise	\$560
Lodi	\$140
Mantua	\$140
Medina Evening	\$70
Medina Sunrise	\$140
Mentor	\$560
Middleburg Heights	\$70
North Ridgeville	\$280
North Royalton	\$420
Port Summit	\$140
Strongsville	\$210
Twinsburg	\$560
Westlake Bay Village	\$70
Westshore	\$140

extended family of up to 10 people with a tent and lifesaving equipment to use while they are displaced or homeless. The contents are tailored depending on the nature and location of the disaster, with great care taken sourcing every item to ensure it is robust enough to be of lasting value. Highly trained ShelterBox Response Teams distribute boxes on the ground, working closely with local organizations, international aid agencies and Rotary clubs worldwide.

Each "ShelterBox" supplies an

****EDITOR'S NOTE****
BE SURE TO MOVE YOUR CURSOR OVER THE GRAPHICS OR PICTURES FOUND IN THIS DOCUMENT... MANY OF THEM ARE LINKS TO VIDEOS, WEBSITES, PICTURES OR OTHER GOODIES

Shelter Box Responds to Quake

Fact Sheet

LAKWOOD RANCH, FL (January 13, 2010) ~ ShelterBox is responding to the scenes of destruction in Haiti. ShelterBox Response Team (SRT) with members **David Eby from Tennessee and Wayne Robinson of Georgia from the USA** and Mark Pearson from the UK are on their way to Haiti right now. Shelter Box will most likely send 1,000 boxes.

A 7.0 magnitude earthquake struck the Caribbean island of

Haiti at close to 2200 GMT on Tuesday, January 12. Initial reports state that hundreds of people are feared dead while thousands of people have been left homeless.

ShelterBox USA is doing everything we can to ensure immediate aid reaches the people of Haiti, but needs help with donations. We encourage those who can give to donate online at www.ShelterBoxUSA.org or call 941-907-6036, or

info@ShelterBoxUSA.org.

Since its inception in 2000, ShelterBox has provided shelter and dignity following over 100 disasters in more than 60 countries, bringing the organization to the forefront of international disaster relief. ShelterBox instantly responds to earthquake, volcano, flood, hurricane, cyclone, tsunami or conflict by delivering boxes of aid. In many cases "ShelterBoxes" have made the difference between life and death.

World Community Service Seeks Partners

World Community Service has been busy trying to arouse interest in "partnerships" in some of the international service projects currently underway. Only a few; most recently Hudson (morning); have stepped forward with a request for how they can get on board. DG John Bosco would like to see more cooperative efforts with some of the Water Projects both underway and in the planning stages. Roger Cram (Aurora) has one underway in Africa although it has been delayed due to funding delays at RI, and personnel changes in Africa and has required some paper work changes. Carol Crimi (Kent) has worked on successful projects in Central America and may have another intra-district one coming up soon. There is another intra-district project with district 6400 in Canada that will take place in Nigeria. Rotary Internationals thrust towards safe drinking water throughout the world makes support for these projects critical. Please step up if your club is pondering where your international service should be directed this year.

There are several other projects already approved and with grants basically funded by your District 6630 that can still use partners also.

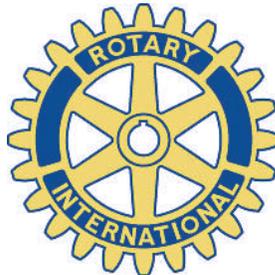
Please contact Bob Johnson, WCS Chair, for contacts and more info goracer_bob@aol.com 440-834-8447

Help Wanted

The District Conference Committee is looking for motivated, personable and enthusiastic individuals to assist with Sgt.-at-Arms duties at the Kalahari Apr. 23-25. Duties include "Leading the Way", "Lending a Hand", "Creating Awareness and Taking Action", "Taking Time to Serve" and "Being a Friend". Benefits include "Helping Shape the Future", "Building Bridges of Friendship", "Kindling the Spark Within" and "Discovering a New World of Service". For more information contact Mike Johns, Jr stonecut@sbcglobal.net for more information.

Silver Beaver Presented

At the Rotary Club of Berea's Nov. 15 meeting long-time Rotarian, **Hugh "Oz" Arey**, was completely surprised when he was presented with a duplicate copy of his father's National Boy Scout Silver Beaver citation and medal by fellow Rotarian and Scouter, **Ray Bartlett**. Arey's father, Hugh C. Arey, M.D., received the Silver Beaver from the Northern Star Council in Minnesota in 1931. Dr. Arey died in 1934, and the award was subsequently lost.



Upon becoming acquainted with Oz and learning about the lost award, Bartlett took it upon himself to contact the National Headquarters of the Boy Scouts of America to obtain duplicates of these two items. The Silver Beaver is the highest award given by the National Boy Scouts of America for service to youth on a local level.

At the same meeting Rotarian **Bob Huger** received the Cliff Dochterman International Fellowship of Scouting Rotarians medal and citation for his work in strengthening the relationship between Rotary and the Boy Scouts of America. Mr. Huger's award was presented to him by **Barry Norris**, Scout Executive of the Greater Cleveland Council/Boy Scouts of America, and **George Qua**, long-time Scouter and former president of the Rotary Club of Cleveland.

District Foundation Seminar

District 6630 Foundation Seminar Saturday, February 20, 2010 Hiram College Kennedy Center in the Ball Room - 2nd floor 11730 Garfield Road Hiram, Ohio 44234 District 6630 is pleased to offer a Rotary Foundation Seminar for Rotary Club members in our District. The seminar will start at 9:00 am and conclude at 3:00 pm. A delicious lunch will be provided accompanying informative and entertaining presentations and much camaraderie.

Those who should attend this seminar are members of District 6630 Rotary Clubs involved with:

- Annual giving (Permanent Fund, Annual Fund, EVEY (Every Rotarian Every Year))
- Grants (district and international)
- Polio Plus
- Major Donors
- Christmas in July
- Ambassador Scholarships
- Group Study Exchange
- Rotary Peace Fellowship
- Alumni
- All Rotarians wanting to learn more about the Rotary Foundation

The cost of this seminar, including the room, refreshments, catered lunch, and handout material is \$0.00. In case your eyes suffer from astigmatism and you cannot believe what you just read, the cost of this seminar is zero dollars.

This seminar is free because it is extremely important that Rotarians in our District 6630 understand the many wonderful workings of the Rotary Foundation and how this special organization provides us with the tools to make our many Rotary programs possible. Also, just as the Rotary Foundation gives back to our District, our District leadership gives back to our Clubs, and this free seminar is just one example of that effort.

To participate in this special opportunity, please make your reservation for the District 6630 Foundation Seminar by calling Roger Cram at 330-569-5104 or by emailing him at cramrf@hiram.edu.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Please feel free to send stories, articles or photographs to be included in future issues...

This newsletter is intended to be a complement to our District Website...

District Committee Chairs please submit minutes and articles to keep clubs up to date about what is happening in the District

Deadline for publication is the 23rd of the month...

Please submit correspondence to stonecut@sbcglobal.net

By: Laura Ban, Ambassadorial Scholar
2007-2008

The ad read: “new community center seeks volunteer teachers for after-school programs”, and in an instant I was on a bus and on my way to La Boca, one of the poorest sub-section of the great city of Buenos Aires. Despite being famous for its’ professional soccer team and tango roots there was a sad reality of poverty behind the famous colored houses seen in post cards. I would spend the next 11 months in Buenos Aires, Argentina learning a lesson about South America poverty due to political unrest over the years, but the greatest lesson I would learn, would come from the children of La Boca; for it was they who would teach me how to trust, and accept the world around me.

When I walked into the doors of the community center I was instantly surrounded by children asking me to play soccer with them. They seemed not to notice that my skin was much lighter than theirs’ as many of them had indigenous roots from Uruguay, that my clothing screamed “American”, and that I spoke Spanish with an accent. They just wanted to play. For the next two-weeks I came religiously to the community center, offering help and advice in any way possible. Slowly the adults began to accept me being there as much as the kids, and they told me that if I wanted to stay that I needed to know the community and the community would need to know me. They explained to me that borders exist and in order for a foreigner to cross those borders they must be trusted, so they sent me out with four of the kids to take a tour of the community.

As we walked the streets and the kids introduced me to the business owners of the run-down stores along the way, I felt a little hand in mine. Her name was Amaria, she was 5, and she looked up at me and said, “ I want to show you my home.” She pushed open the metal door

to expose what was really behind the colored walls of La Boca. Looking around, there was nothing more than an open courtyard surrounded by makeshift homes made from partitioned cardboard and scrap-metal walls. Amaria grabbed my hand and took me over to a 10x10 sectioned-off piece of dirt floor where a young woman with soiled clothing sat breast-feeding a baby. “Mom, this is my teacher, the nice one, who is beautiful and young just like you, and Laura, this is where I live!” said Amaria smiling with pride. Her mother stood up shocked to see me, and reprimanded Amaria for bringing a stranger into the house. Amaria looked at her confused and said, “ She isn’t a stranger, she is my friend.” Her mother smiled shyly and motioned for me to come in, and for the next twenty minutes, Amaria would show me every possession that she and her mother have gathered from the garbage to build their home.

Staring out the window on the bus ride home that day, I came to realize that there would be much more trust in this world if we could only just see it through the eyes of a child. Amaria didn’t look at the color of my skin, nor pay attention to where I was from; rather, she saw me for who I was. When you are blind to the differences in this world, like so many children are, you will see that the greatest of human qualities exist in every person. We can all learn a lesson from Amaria, and the children of La Boca, that borders only exist if we put them there. Rotarians, like so many children, are blind to the differences in this world, as their mission is simply to help. I’m very proud and grateful to have had your support during my time as an Ambassadorial Scholar while in Argentina, for it has forever changed my life. To all the members of district 6630, I thank you for the example you’ve set as humanitarian leaders of this world, and more so, I thank you for knowing no borders.

During a December 2009 Rotary Mission trip to Nicaragua, Ohio Past District Governor of District 6630, Jack A. Young met a young man who worked for Centro Solar as a Volunteer Project Coordinator, Groupe Fenix. David Smith, from Freelon, Ontario. is also a design engineer for the Groupe, Fenix, in Nicaragua. During their visit, David assisted in being the interpreter and helped a group of volunteers and Rotary members install several solar panels for families in a village near Ocotal, Nicaragua.

Therefore, during a meeting with the Rotarians from Ohio and the Rotarians of the Rotary Club of Ocotal, PDG proposed David, who home country is Canada, as a member of the Club. PDG Young explained to the club members that David truly represents what Rotarians are and that is “Service Above Self.” Therefore, his name was brought before the club members and he was unanimously accepted as a new Rotarian to the Rotary Club of Ocotal, Nicaragua on the evening of December 6, 2009. Thus, with the combined efforts and involvement from the Rotarians of the United States, Nicaragua and now Canada, a new Rotarian was brought into the family of Rotary. This truly represents that membership to Rotary has no boundaries.

As a side note, David has a Bachelor of Engineering Degree from the University of Guelph. He speaks Spanish, French and English and recently rode his bicycle over 2000KM through Central America to volunteer in Nicaragua to help the less fortunate. He is also a member of the IEEE Power and Energy Society and the Society of the Social Implications of Technology as well being a marathon runner. He has worked on various organic farms in Canada, Belize and Costa Rica.

Other Rotarians who were on the trip from Ohio District 6630 were Dan Selby, Trip Coordinator and Club President along with Karl Elsass, Past Club President both from the Rotary Club of Wadsworth; Stan Socha, Past Club President from the Rotary Club of Brunswick; and PDG Jack A. Young from the Rotary Club of Conneaut.

"Ohio Rotary License Plate Sales in 2009 have reached 555 which is over the 500 plate requirement. Congratulations! We still will be able to purchase Ohio Rotary Plates in 2010. Your help is needed in promoting the Rotary License Plate in 2010. Ride with pride, promote Rotary and encourage others to purchase Ohio Rotary Plates. Follow this link to order yours: <https://www.oplates.com/> click Special Plates

Olympian Rows For Water

On November 14, about 200 Rotarians, sponsors and guests gathered at Lowes Greenhouse and Gift Shop. The Water for Life Holiday Celebration featured co-honorary chairpersons Olympic Gold Medalist Diana Munz of Chagrin Falls and Katie Spatz of Mentor. The event raised over \$21,000 the majority of which went to support Katie's attempt to become the youngest person ever to solo row across an ocean. A highlight of the evening was a chance to see the boat that Katie will use on her 2500 mile row which is estimated to take 70-100 days.

The purpose of Katie's row is to call attention to the fact that over one billion of the world's people don't have safe drinking water. Initially her goal was to raise \$30,000 but having past that with the November Rotary event she is now aiming at \$50,000. The payback for a small investment in clean water is dramatic. Just \$30 guarantees one additional person safe water for life.

A 22 year old endurance athlete from Mentor, Katie has run a 65 mile ultra-marathon, bicycled 3300 miles across the US and swum the 360 mile length of the Allegheny River. Not bad for a self defined "bench sitter" who in addition to Cleveland press has been interviewed on NPR radio and highlighted in articles in the New York Times and Popular Mechanics.

Katie arrived in Dakar, Senegal, Africa in late December and will begin the row to Cayenne, French Guiana in early January. While in Dakar Katie has been the guest of Dakar Rotarians who have enthusiastically assisted her in areas like customs, media, etc. for which she is most grateful. Her row will be solo although she expects to be in regular contact with a support team that includes other ocean rowers, a sports psychologist, and weather experts. Her web site www.rowforwater.com features articles and interviews during her preparation. If all goes well with communications, the web site will also allow her followers to determine "Where's Katie" at any point on her journey.

In addition to being greeted by experienced ocean rowers when she arrives in Cayenne, plans are being made to involve local Rotarians in either Cayenne her first choice destination or Georgetown, Guiana her backup. Also, DG Mike Johns has invited Katie to the District 6630 Conference in late April to tell the story of her travels and showcase Liv - the name of her "rowboat" and the Norwegian word for life.

TRC Berea Announces Fundraiser

The Berea Rotary Annual Reverse Raffle/Silent Auction will be held on Feb. 26 and tickets are now on sale. The cost is \$100 per person. The event takes place at Columbia Hills Country Club and includes an excellent sit-down dinner, a \$2500 prize for the reverse raffle, silent auction, and more. Many of our auction items will be available on line through e-market.

Stow-Munroe Falls News

It was a busy December for members of the Rotary Club of Stow-Munroe Falls. Rotarians completed forty hours of bell ringing for the Salvation Army at the local Acme Fresh Market. Then on Dec. 17th

members along with their spouses and families met to wrap gifts and pack gift boxes for 18 deserving families in the Stow-Munroe Falls area.

The boxes were filled with gift cards to a grocery store and general merchandise store, and a gas card was included to help the families get around over the holidays. Also in each box were fruit, candy, cookies, and a Christmas ornament. Family games were packed in the boxes according to how many children were in the family. Also, several area merchants donated gift certificates to their stores to be included in the boxes. On Dec. 18th and 19th, teams of Rotarians delivered the gift boxes to the families.

The holiday season concluded with a December 23rd Christmas Breakfast held at Silver Lake Country Club for Rotarians and their guests. The morning's entertainment was provided by the Augmented Nine, a local singing group, and the String Quartet from Stow-Munroe Falls High School.

Rainman Dies in Salt Lake

PDG Jack Young recently returned from Salt Lake City where he was a Paul Bear at the Funeral of Kim Peek who was the inspiration for the movie the Rain Man in which Dustin Hoffman portrayed his character. Kim Peek and his father Fran Peek was a speaker at a number of Rotary Clubs in our District as well as, a number of Autistic and other organizations in the Cleveland area. Kim also was a speaker at the All Ohio PETS in Columbus, Ohio several years ago.

Chili Open Turns Twenty

On February 6, 2010 the Rotary Club of Akron is celebrating its 20th annual Chili Open at Hale Farm and Village in Bath, Ohio. The Chili Open is the club's largest fundraiser, raising over \$100,000 annually to support the Rotary Camp for Children with Special Needs. Over 500 golfers, friends, and volunteers will attend the annual winter golf outing. Beyond a unique golfing experience, there is food provided by Whitey's Chili, beverages, door prizes, putt putt, and more! For the 20th anniversary, we have created a new raffle which consists of three amazing prizes. The grand prize is \$5,000. The other prizes include a Cleveland Indians/Sports Time Ohio Behind the Scenes Media Package and a 2010 Bridgestone Invitational Golf Package. Tickets are only \$20. To purchase a raffle ticket or obtain information about golfing in this year's event, please call the Rotary Camp at 330.644.4512.

Brunswick Rotarians Serve Meals

Once again Brunswick Rotarians and their families came together on Thanksgiving and Christmas Eve Day to provide meals for Seniors in Medina County. Meals were prepared and packaged at St. Francis Catholic Church in Medina. Any Senior in the county who needed a meal, regardless of income, had a meal delivered by a Rotarian and their family! The club members and their families have been doing this for many years along with others in the community. This year over 300 meals were prepared and delivered!



Christina Paschyn Ambassadorial Scholar 2008-2009

PHOTO

As Parma Rotary's Ambassadorial Scholarship chairperson, I first had contact with Christina Paschyn in late February, 2007 when she expressed an interest in becoming a Rotary "Ambassador of Goodwill" and an interest in pursuing her graduate studies abroad. Here we are now, nearly three years later. She has represented our Club very well and I am glad that she has arrived home, safe and sound, and a better person for her experiences. I, personally, could not be more proud of her.

Christina Paschyn is a 2003 graduate of Parma Senior High School and resides on Wake Robin Drive in Parma with her parents. Her twin sister, Larissa, is a former Fulbright Scholar, who now resides in China.

In December, 2007 Christina received her Master of Science degree, after receiving her Bachelor's degree, in Broadcast Journalism from the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University. While at Northwestern, she studied abroad at the American University in Cairo, Egypt in 2005. She also was a business reporter and webcaster for the Medill News Service and a member of the Kappa Tau Alpha Journalism Honor Society. Christina was also President of the Northwestern Society of Professional Journalist in 2006-2007.

Her journalism experiences include:

-Serving as a Broadcast Reporter for E NEWS in Johannesburg, South Africa from March through June in 2006.

-Working as a Washington, D.C. Correspondent for KVRR-TV in Fargo, North Dakota from June through August, 2007.

-Obtaining experience as a Reporter and Video Editor for TIME Magazine in London, England from September, 2007 through January, 2008.

-Functioning as a War Correspondent in Israel for Cleveland, Ohio WEWS News Channel 5 during the January, 2009 Gaza War.

-Operating as a War Reporter in Israel for CNN, Atlanta, Georgia during January, 2009.

Christina was given a Rotary International Ambassadorial Scholarship for 2008-2009 in the amount of \$23,000.00 to study abroad. This was during our Club's 50th Anniversary Year and also my year serving as Club President, for a second time. The Rotary Club of Parma was her sponsor and I was her Rotary advisor and mentor.

The Ambassadorial Scholarship is for 1 regular academic year (usually 9 months) of full-time study at an institution abroad assigned by the Rotary Foundation Trustees. College juniors, seniors, or grad students are generally considered. Funding is provided to cover round trip transportation, one month of intensive language training, required fees for normal course loads, reasonable room and board, and some educational supplies. This is paid for by the

Rotary Foundation.

District 6630, which represents the 55 Rotary Clubs of Northeastern Ohio has one Scholarship to give each year. The process is an extensive application, followed by Club approval, District approval, and then District submission to the Rotary Foundation. The application process is extremely difficult and very competitive with usually 20-25 scholars competing for the 1 scholarship in our District. Ambassadorial Scholarships represent Rotary's faith that these promising students will become tomorrow's leaders and will make substantial contributions both to their communities and to the world by serving as "Ambassadors of Goodwill". Thus this Scholarship program really does support the mission of the Rotary Foundation to further international understanding and world peace.

In August, 2009, Christina received a Master of Arts in Middle East Studies degree from Ben-Gurion University of the Negev in Be'er Sheva, Israel. While in Israel, Christina received intensive language training in Arabic and Hebrew. She also was a website video producer and English tutor to Bedouin children for NGO Step Forward. Upon her arrival in Be'er Sheva, she joined a local English-speaking theater group called the Light Opera Group of the Negev and landed the lead role in the group's production of Guys and Dolls.

Within the first few months of her stay, Christina was taken under the wing of Be'er Sheva Rotarian Nathan Noach and his wife, Ruth, who are both originally from Holland, and who served as her "Host Family" while she was in Israel. Nathan is a survivor of the Auschwitz concentration camp, and a few years ago a local high school in Be'er Sheva produced an excellent documentary chronicling his and his wife's experience during the Holocaust. The documentary is in Hebrew but includes Dutch subtitles, which was funded by a Rotary club in the Netherlands.

Since Christina only had a basic comprehension of Hebrew, Nathan and Ruth orally translated the documentary for her. She found it so moving that she became determined to help Nathan in his efforts to add English subtitles to the film. To achieve this, she contacted her sponsor Club scholarship advisor, me. Together we were able to persuade the Rotary Club of Parma to fund the English translation of the documentary as an International Project for the Club. Once completed it will be sent to the Holocaust Institute in Washington, D.C. and then hopefully distributed to high schools across the United States.

Ultimately, the purpose of this international project is to educate people about what actually happened in the Holocaust through the stories and recollections of individuals who experienced it first hand, and to challenge the

misconception that mostly Eastern European Jews were affected by Hitler's extermination policies. For instance, few know that in Holland more than 80 percent of the country's Jews were killed in the Holocaust, making it second only to Poland to have had the most Jews murdered by the Nazis.

Christina's goal, upon returning home to the U.S., is to work as a foreign correspondent or international reporter in the Middle East.

RYLA Awards

RYLA Appl.

The District 6630 Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) Committee encourages your club's involvement in sponsoring local high school juniors (who will be seniors in September 2010) for the upcoming leadership camp at Hiram College in Hiram, Ohio.

The RYLA Committee has planned a five-day leadership conference for high school juniors who are aspiring young leaders. The conference will be held **June 13-17, 2010** at Hiram College. The program will enhance the student's leadership skills through lectures, hands on participation and recreation.

The cost to the sponsoring Rotary Club is **\$425.00** per student. This fee includes room, board, staff fees, supplies and recreational costs. There will be a 10:1 student to staff ratio and a professional conference director on campus the entire week.

To assist you in the selection process, I have attached an application form and a tentative schedule of activities. Please duplicate the application form, as needed, and use these forms to assist your local schools and youth groups.

This year's program will be limited to 50 students. There is no limit to the number of students your club may sponsor, however, we ask that you sponsor **no more than 3 students from the same school.**

Completed applications should be sent to: **RYLA c/o Dan Sveta 3068 Oak Hill Road Peninsula, OH 44264** Or E-mailed to: DSveta@aol.com

Make checks payable to: **Rotary District 6630- RYLA**

Applications due by May 31, 2010. Applications accepted after 5-31-10, if limits are not exceeded.

If you have questions feel free to call me at 330-657-2944 or 330-715-5909 (cell), or e-mail Dsveta@aol.com