



Mike Johns, Jr
Editor

DISTRICT 6630 NEWS

Steve Zabor
District Governor

April 2012

G o v e r n o r ' s L e t t e r

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This has been a very busy month, taxes, baseball, District Conference and so much more. April is Rotary Magazine month. While I hope you read your Rotarian each and every month this is one month you should pay particular attention to the magazine to familiarize yourself with all that is included. This month's cover has Muhammad Yunus, founder of the Grameen Bank. From a very small start his initiative has led to a global network of micro-finance organizations helping to create entrepreneurial activities that support families and communities. One effort was created by the Rotary Club of Barberton using a matching grant to start a micro-finance project in Togo. I have been so impressed with their program that I asked them to present at the District Conference of Clubs on April 13th.

Speaking of the District Conference of Clubs I hope that you either attended at least a part of the Conference or have heard from one of your club members about their experience. I had a wonderful time putting the Conference of Clubs together. Focusing on Building Sustainable Commu-

nities we heard from a variety of speakers and panels. The District Conference of Clubs and the District Assembly are two ways that the District provides opportunities for us to strengthen our clubs and our impact locally and around the world. The community of District 6630 Rotarians is diverse in its interests and talents and we can always be more effective if we listen to and learn from each other. Sharing our ideas, our successes and our failures can only help us provide "Service Above Self." I would like to thank everyone who helped put the conference together and all those who took time from their busy schedules to attend.

When you read this I will probably be on my way to Southeast Asia where I will be with Hiram College students in Bhutan and then Kathryn and I will be attending the Rotary International Convention in Bangkok, Thailand. While a District Conference highlights the strengths and diversity of a district the Rotary International Convention clearly demonstrates the internationality of Rotary and the many ways that Rotarians "Reach Within to

Embrace Humanity." I will be able to renew some friendships made over the last few years and hopefully start some new friendships.

The Rotary year goes by quickly. It is hard for me to believe that it was two years ago that I was chosen to be your District Governor for 2011/2012. While the year is not over yet this is a time of transition. I have been working with the incoming District Governors (Julie West, Bob Johnson, and Mike Davanzo) to help them prepare for their years. I encourage you to help your incoming club leadership prepare for their year and to work to ensure that your current club leadership completes their year successfully.

When I return I would be very willing to speak at your club about the Rotary International Convention or about my trip to Bhutan.

Yours in Rotary Spirit,

Steve

No, Really, Is There Anybody Out There

By Mike Johns, Jr.

In last month's Newsletter I reached out to all the Rotarians in the District to see how many actually read the newsletter. I asked readers to click a link indicating that they do in fact read what I've been told is one of the best Newsletters out there. (Remember, I don't make the news, I just report it.) Anyway, if I took the number of responses as an accurate reflection of the readership, last month's edition would have been the last I published.

In point of fact out of about 2200 potential readers I received about 30 responses! We really need an accurate picture of how many Rotarians are or are not (and why they are not) receiving or reading the District Newsletter. (This has nothing to do with my ego.) So please click on this link to send me an email. Just click [f Y U X h \ Y B](#) (The g subject line should automatically say I read the Newsletter, if not just type that in and hit send. Thank for your support.



Hillcrest Sunrise Rotarian Shares Insight

By Tony Corrao

At the request of Julie West, I was asked to give a presentation to the Rotaract Club of CWRU. (Alex Hoffman, Rotary Ambassadorial scholar who is currently attending CWRU as a graduate student, had requested a speaker for his club.) The 1hour presentation was given on April 19, 2012 and was titled "Preparing for Success". It gave the students insight into the steps required to achieve their goals as well as how to overcome the challenges they will encounter. My wife Tina and I were impressed with the quality of the students and the level of partici-



ation. It was rewarding and fun to interact with Alex and others. My hope is that upon completion of their studies, they will all reside in the area...we need leaders! The objective was to provide them useful and beneficial information for their professional and personal development. Some of the topics covered:

- Z Choosing the High Road of Achievement
- Z Impact of Positive Thinking
- Z Positive First Impressions
- Z Speaking Louder Than Words
- Z Routes to the Executive Suite
- Z The Truth About Failure

April: Magazine Month

By Richard Pollak

*H \ J g a c b h \ D g
Thoughts focus on peace and
conflict prevention/
resolution*

Peace...

"A skeptic might ask: 'How can Rotary be a real force for peace? It has no jurisdictional power. It is not a religion. It has no army or tanks, and it insists on being nonpolitical.' Such a viewpoint looks at peace as something that can be ordered or militarily enforced, as if it is only the responsibility of governments. Rotary has always approached peacemaking systematically — it has sought to break down the barriers that cause people to point fingers at one another. By trying to understand peoples' points of view and reaching across lines of race, religion, and culture to become partners in service to all mankind, tensions are reduced and friendships are increased. Humanitarian aid has been Rotary's answer to hunger, sickness, illiteracy, and economic disaster — the seeds of conflict." — From A Century of Service: The Story of Rotary International by David C. Forward

Rotary Peace Fellows...

Former Rotary Peace Fellow Arik Gutler-Ofir, who studied at the University of Queensland, Australia, organized a War, Peace, and Social Justice Festival in Israel. Half of the plays were in Arabic, half in

Hebrew. One of Gutler-Ofir's hopes is that audience members came away knowing they shared concerns other than conflict. About 700 people attended the festival, which showcased nine plays over five days.

F c h U f m ' D Y U W Y : Y

Vanessa Contopulos, a 2008-2010 Rotary Peace Fellow sponsored by the Rotary Club of Temecula, California, USA (District 5330), attended the University of Bradford in England. Contopulos returned to her native San Diego after her fellowship and picked up her pre-fellowship work as a music therapist. Her research interests focus on the role of the arts and music in peace-building. She and a colleague are in the process of starting a consultancy called Create4Peace. Its mission is to support peace-building organizations by providing creative resources, workshops, and training. They have already begun working with local organizations and hope to expand their services to national and international opportunities.

Peace...

"Hope is the expectation of better things — a polio-free world, a world without hunger, universal peace. It is the spark that keeps a man going, whatever his station. Without it, life is nothing more than existence in despair." | 1986 87 RI President M.A.T. Caparas



Inevitability and Rotary

By Barry A. Becker

This is something the mind conjures after the fact. We say I saw this coming, but with the advantage of seeing the apparent outcome AKA hindsight.

Let's use the analogy of pro golfer Tiger Woods. At one time it appeared it was a cinch that Tiger Woods would surpass Jack Nicklaus's record for career Major Golf championships of 18 in a 25 year career. Tiger turned pro in 1996 and up to 2008 had won 14, but none in the last 3+ years. He is in his 16th season on the tour.

However; first injury, and then personal matters have intervened, ending what appeared to be the inevitable or will the outcome change? Recently it appeared he might be back, but this Easter weekend he again imploded. That doesn't foretell his final descent, but bears further watching.

Many intangibles enter into our lives, bad luck, poor judgment, health, & personal problems to name a few. Desire, ambition, and good fortune all internal spirit matters drive us forward. The mind sometimes intervenes such as Tiger's tinkering four times with his stroke. Did it lead to injury? Did it reflect in the self-imposed personal problems, or the over-compensating and doubt some refer to as choking? Golf is said to be 90% mental, and it best internalized as an automatic response. When you don't trust your instincts, trouble is brewing! Maybe that's why Tiger's woes ebb in and out? Stayed tuned as this plays out.

In our personal and business lives we have a lot of opportunities to control outcomes, but

Intervening circumstances can and do arise. It's the serendipity that makes life both interesting and sometimes vexing. Having a well-crafted plan and sticking to it helps, but periodic reassess-

ment is vital. Adapting to change such as technology and business cycles is critical. Since we integrate with other people, it's important we consider the consequences of human dynamics.

Our Rotary experiences and aspirations demand much of us. Sometimes we are followers; at times we assume leadership at the request of fellow Rotarians or going after it on our own. What our predilection is develops over time. Rotary needs leadership, but requires many members to become involved. If not for many working together effectively, Rotary would fail. Become involved and lend your talents willingly. You will learn much that has application in our avocations and vocations.

Rotary is an enjoyable experience, but what transpires is a reflection of planning and member involvement, and nothing is inevitable. It's a work in progress! No one person can cause it to fail, and no club president should have the weight of the world on his or her shoulders. A president is wise to have ideas, and to work them in with the membership's input. A good mix results in a successful year because the term of the president is a norm of one year. Be a good Rotarian by becoming involved and committed!

Opportunity to Visit El Salvador

By Carol Crimi

Since 2004 Rotary has been involved in implementing water projects in small villages in El Salvador. Thus far three projects for entire villages have been completed and a fourth project that will service two villages is underway. Several Rotary districts have been involved. Clubs from District 6360 that have participated in these projects include Kent, Aurora, Stow-Munroe Falls

to do along with the villagers who must furnish all but the technical labor for the projects. Of course no one is asked to do work they are not capable of and comfortable doing.

Groundwater in El Salvador is so polluted that it is not safe for drinking or bathing. Nevertheless most people in this small Central American country have no choice. The implementation of the Rotary water projects has greatly enhanced public health and brought these villagers a quality of life never before realized. The villages with completed projects report a far fewer incidents of water borne diseases, the improvement of nutrition as people can water and thus grow more vegetables, and an immense improvement of quality of life as the women can now devote to the care of their children the three hours a day it took them to haul water.

and Ravenna. These projects are self-sustaining and functioning well under the supervision of local water boards comprised of representatives elected by the villagers. The most recent project is solar powered. It is the first project in Central America designed to use this alternative form of energy.

You can have the opportunity to visit these projects this summer and see firsthand the wonderful work that Rotary is doing. During the trips, we typically hold meetings with some of the local water boards, check on their finances and act as consultants for current issues they may need to address. Depending on the particular stage of the construction, there may be work

This summer's delegation trip is scheduled July 22-29. The cost is approximately \$900 plus air fare. The fees are all inclusive. They cover all food, lodging, transportation, programs etc. Skilled interpreters accompany the group throughout the day. This is an opportunity to meet the Salvadoran people, learn a little about their history and culture and support them in their efforts to improve their quality of life.

The delegation is not restricted to Rotarians, so you may bring family members or friends. Anyone interested in participating should contact Carol Crimi of the Kent club as soon as possible. Contact Carol at ccrimi@sbcglobal.net or (330) 607-5105.

1198 = HCFDG BCHA
BE SURE TO MOVE YOUR CURSOR
OVER THE GRAPHICS OR PICTURES
: C I B 8 : = B : H < = G : 8 C 7 I
OF THEM ARE LINKS TO VIDEOS,
WEBSITES, PICTURES OR OTHER
GOODIES

*Celebrating Our Rotarians and Our Clubs
District 6630 Awards Picnic
Save the Date! June 24th we will have an awards picnic
to recognize the many accomplishments of our fellow district
and our district clubs to give me a chance to thank
people who helped make this a special day. Plans are
to have the picnic at one of the Geauga County Park
ternoon of Sunday the 24th of June.*

District Conference of Clubs

I have had one day to reflect on the conference and I am very pleased with what we did. We had some wonderful presentations at our meals and some great breakout sessions. So many District Rotarians stepped up that I hesitate mentioning any names. The clubs and clusters who took over the task of running the meetings were great. Each meal had a slightly different feel to it as I wanted them to reflect the personalities of the clubs. The coincidence of having a Rotary International President from India, a Group Study Exchange team from India and having had 15 months pass without a new case of polio created a great focus for our celebration.

My theme this year has been "Building a Sustainable Community" which is done by "Reaching Within to Embrace Humanity.". Jim Rokakis started us off by pointing out both the challenge communities face due to the housing foreclosure crisis and opportunities the crisis creates to build a greener and more sustainable community. Working with the remaining residents of the troubled areas, understanding better their concerns, wishes and resources Rotary clubs can have a major impact. This was illustrated by the Friday evening presentation concerning Etta Project in Bolivia. Penney Nixon-West spoke with great passion about the need to do a thorough community assessment, to educate the residents to empower them

to maintain the momentum, to develop leadership capabilities and most importantly to involve and empower them so they know what it takes to succeed and have the willingness to take charge. We came back to these ideas with a presentation about Youth Empowered to Succeed through Sailing. The two high school students who spoke were inspiring. While there are many ways to increase self-confidence and to develop leadership skills in a tea context this is certainly a great example.

Saturday afternoon Fran Bayless encouraged us to look forward to consider four key vocational areas of our northeast Ohio region: transportation, education, health and the arts. As we look to the future of our communities we must build on our strengths and this panel did a great job of presenting the current situation and considering the future.

While iris hard to pick out one memory that captures the essence of the conference I would lean to The Power of Rotary Fellowship. Often it was hard to interrupt conversations so that we could get the sessions started. Rotarians were getting to know each other and were sharing ideas. And that can only help strengthen our clubs and therefore our district. Together we can have a phenomenal impact on the communities we choose to help.

I would like to take a moment to complement our Rotary International President's representative, Diana Reed and her husband Rick Rarick, and the GSE team from India. Diana spoke eloquently about the importance of membership and The Rotary Foundation. Both presentations came from her heart and were personal. I only wish we had a way to share them with everyone in the district. And the GSE team was phenomenal. Sharing their culture and talents with us they have broadened our horizon and expanded our Family of Rotary.

My thanks to everyone who contributed to the success of this conference. Most importantly to those who took the time out of their busy lives to attend, to learn, to share, and to build the community of Rotary in Northeast Ohio.

Yours in Rotary Service,
Steve



- Build peace
- Prevent disease
- Provide clean water
- Improve health
- Promote literacy
- Support community development

New Year's resolutions

Enroll in Rotary's recurring giving program.

Sign up at www.rotary.org, and make doing good a resolution you can keep.



BEDFORD ROTARY RIB FEST Friday, June 1st - Sunday, June 3rd

Thunder Bongs OHIO

Vintage Bike Show Saturday, June 2nd

On Broadway, In Downtown Bedford, Ohio 44146

Registration at 3:30pm Judging Begins at 5:00pm

Pre-Registration \$15 or \$20 Day of Show

Prizes for the first 5 in 9 classes plus

Best of Japanese, American, British, European, and Show

FREE ADMISSION **FREE PARKING**

Live Music! Friday Victory Hwy Saturday Armstrong Bearcat Sunday The Extremes

Entry forms available at: www.EventsinBedford.com

For more information email: Mguyer@msn.com Embassy Healthcare or call 440-773-2835

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Visit to a German Rotary Club Fall 2002

By Bruce Corson

The Rotary Club in Düsseldorf, the original Düsseldorf club, meets in the Industrie Club on the edge of the Altstadt ("Old City") in the center of town. It's in an old stone building, distinguished from its neighbors only by a small metal plaque by the door. Drivers in black Mercedes drop off their employers at 1:15 every Monday afternoon and wait patiently in the gray rain to pick them up.

I'm by myself, on a business trip, and curious about Rotary everywhere I visit. Upon entering the building, a uniformed gentleman checks coats. No signs or mention of Rotary yet.

I traveled up a small handicapped elevator with a stooped Rotarian old enough to have fought in the first war. He was hard of hearing, and my German *ist nicht so gut*. I entered a dark walnut room filled with smoke and about forty dark-suited men, still wondering if I was in the right place.

I found the lone woman at a small table to sign me in and collect the ~\$30 for my meal. The woman was an employee, not

part of the Rotary meeting. There wasn't anyone sitting up front wearing funny ties, misspelling my name or saying hello. No name tags were used. There was no coffee to get; it was very formal.

The meeting began promptly at 1:15 with people sitting down to be served in a second room, a formal paneled dining room. Four to five people at a table. No prayer, no patriotism, no song (I actually thought that last was an advantage). We ate a formal meal until about 2:00.

I stopped the conversation when I asked my table mates what type of service projects their club is involved in. Well, uh, it seems they contribute money to charities. Oh, and they provide language lessons (to whom, I'm not sure). I'm also sure I misunderstood some of what they said. Could be I've got it all wrong.

One of the guys at that point related a common joke among the chauffeurs: Rotary is a bunch of rich old guys who meet to help each other out. They all had a good laugh at that one.

Further levity came when I told them our

club met at 7:30 in the morning. They were non-plussed, and couldn't imagine adjusting to that time. When I told them we also sang a song right off, they were beside themselves. No way would they do that.

At two o'clock the program started. It was a visiting Turkish Rotary member and family who talked about his country, and its celebration of 75 years of independence. Just before it started, I heard a couple members chuckle about how these guys were going to try to "convert us to Islam." After the presentation and questions, the meeting was dismissed. No raffle. No announcements, except for introduction of the visitors.

Saying my *auf wiedersehens* and *danke schoens*, one member mentioned again how different our clubs' traditions were. "Meetings in the morning with songs, I cannot imagine" he exclaimed.

When I added with a smirk that he would have to try meetings not only in the morning and with songs but also with women in the club, he couldn't contain himself.

There was laughter all around as I left. The world is sure different.

Rotary Youth Leadership Awards

By Dan Sveda

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 2012) for the upcoming leadership camp at Baldwin Wallace College in Berea, 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 10-14, 2012 at Baldwin Wallace 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 Sveda 3068 Oak Hill Road Peninsula, OH 44264 Or E-mailed to: dsveda@aol.com

Make checks payable to: Rotary District 6630-RYLA

Applications due by May 31, 2012. Applications accepted after 5-31-12, 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 dsveda@aol.com

This information is also available on the internet at <http://www.rotarydistrict6630.com/ryla>

Rotary Youth Leadership Award

APPLICATION FORM

The Rotary Youth Leadership Award is a scholarship presented by your local Rotary Club to youths who have shown desire to be better leaders. Your Rotary Club offers the students the opportunity to attend a 5-day leadership camp at Baldwin Wallace College, June 10-14, 2012 at no charge to the recipient.

TO BE ELIGIBLE, YOU MUST BE A JUNIOR AT THE TIME OF APPLICATION.

Please complete this application and return it to your local Rotary Club.

Name: Mr. Me _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Birth Date _____

E-Mail _____

High School _____ Counselor _____

ACTIVITIES:

Community Service _____

School Activities _____

Work Experience _____

Hobbies _____

ESSAY: In 100 words or less, please explain why you should be a Rotary Youth Leadership Award Recipient. Please use a separate sheet of paper for your essay.

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Counselor's Signature _____ Date _____

Sponsoring Rotary Club _____ Contact _____

Rotary Contact phone _____ E-mail _____

Rotary Clubs: Please send completed forms to: RYLA c/o Dan Sveda 3068 Oak Hill Rd. Peninsula, OH 44264

Or E-mail to dsveda@aol.com, 330-657-2944, 330-715-5909 cell.

By Marlene Herman

We are proud to have extraordinary club members who not only partake together for the greater good, but also go in small groups or sometimes on their own on behalf of Rotary.

We had our annual Pancake Breakfast fundraiser March 18th and what a great day it was. Started out with heavy rains and by 10 was bright and shining allowing over 400 folks to have breakfast at Orange High School to benefit Chagrin Highlands Rotary. Members arrived before 7 a.m. to make sure the griddles were hot, the coffee perking, and placements in place and so much more. Thank you to everyone for your efforts. Preliminary figures exceed \$6,000 to the Club.

Our own Avery went in for gall bladder surgery on March 23rd and is recovering nicely.

Avery Fromet, Mike Goldstein & George Rogers were going to be our brainiacs at the Match Wits with Medina County on March 22nd, but Avery had surgery. So, Steve Atkins came to the rescue to fill in all the way from Willoughby to Medina. Our hats go off to you Steve. It was based on the old Academic Challenge series on TV years ago. Unfortunately, our team was eliminated but thought it was a great event. Perhaps someone will take the lead to create this competition as a fund raiser for us next year.

The GSE team was here from S. India to visit the Nordonia Hills Club. It was treated as a Cluster event at Gambita's in Macedonia. Thanks to Gita for representing us.

The District 6630 Conference of Clubs is April 13-15 at the Sheraton in Cuyahoga Falls beginning Friday, April 12th for lunch. Several of our members will attend lunch at the Conference.

Governor Zabor has asked for help to manage a "Remember" literacy project. Victims of domestic violence often leave home on short notice and only with clothes on their backs. This project will provide books, toys and games new or gently used for all ages. If everyone gave us just one item, we would be mildly successful. Look around your home and I'm sure you can help make many women and children a little happier.

We're better together!

On Monday, 4/2/2012, the Grants Committee met at the Bedford/Southeast Library on Columbus Rd. in Bedford and approved several new projects and heard presentations on others.

1. Aurora/Nakuru-Great Rift Valley - Kenya - Water supply project. Status: ongoing (needs status report)

2. Aurora/Montego Bay - Jamaica - Ongoing project Status (needs status report)

3. Hudson/Kitwe North/ Ubumi Africa - Zambia Ongoing project (needs status report)

4. Strongsville/Angeles City - Philippines - Water project - Still seeking partners and working on paper work. Will apply next Rotary year and may split project into 2 parts.

5. Barberton/Zapopan - Mexico - Therapeutic Wheelchairs - Money received and project proceeding.

6. West Shore/Ndola - Zambia - Utility truck for Omni Children's Hospital. Ongoing. *****NOTE ON THIS PROJECT***** West Shore is trying to raise the final \$3000.00 of the total \$13,000.00 their club has committed to move this project forward. *ANY CLUB OUT THERE THAT HAS NOT DONE AN INTERNATIONAL PROJECT THIS YEAR OR HAS AN UNUSED BALANCE OF FUNDS IN THEIR BUDGET, IS ASKED TO PLEASE GIVE THIS PROJECT CONSIDERATION FOR A DONATION.* Even a small amount of \$250.00 or \$500.00 would help a great deal. This is a very worth while project that will ultimately benefit many children in Zambia and should not be allowed to fade away because of a minor \$3000. 00 budget shortfall. West Shore is so close on this. In the Rotary spirit, let's work together to make this project happen. Contact- Dan Fronczak : Email bartonhab@windstream.net or call 440-331-3034

7. Cleveland/Sonkatch - India Water and sanitation \$86,000.00 sustainable villages project that will be submitted to RI next Rotary year for approval. Ongoing. Includes: schools, water & sanitation components.

All of the above are International Match-

ing Grant projects that are ongoing in our district.

Also discussed were several District Simplified Grants for local projects:

1. Hillcrest-Sunrise Club - Vermont disaster relief. All paper work and budget in order. Approved for District match of \$750.00

2. Mentor Club - Mentor Senior Center Landscaping improvements - all paper work and budget in order. Approved for district match of \$1700.25.

3. Ashtabula - Gazebo Park project on Hike & Bike Trail. all paper work and budget in order. Approved for district match of \$2044.84.

The District 6630 Grants Committee is proud to announce that all of our District Designated Funds for local matching grant projects has been used this year in the amount of \$17,016.09. Congratulations to all of the clubs that came forward with good quality, high visibility projects throughout our district. We look forward to another challenging but productive year in 2012/2013.

Also discussed at the meeting: The new Rotary Foundation qualification MOU (memorandum of Understanding) that will be used as we move into Future Vision in 2013/2014. The committee plans an open discussion at its June meeting to discuss other issues relating to Future Vision.

*Next Meeting: Monday May 7 at the Bedford/Southeast Library 70 Columbus Rd. Bedford 440-439-4997

Bob Johnson, Grants Coordinator
District 6630 Grants Committee

The image shows a screenshot of the TRF-DIRECT USA website. At the top, it says "TRF-DIRECT USA" and "makes giving to The Rotary Foundation as easy as 1, 2, 3". Below this is a navigation bar with "HOME", "ABOUT", "DONATE", and "CONTACT" links. The main content area is a form titled "TRF-DIRECT USA" with instructions and fields for personal information, banking details, and contact information. The form includes sections for "Banking Information" and "Credit Card Information". At the bottom right, there is a small logo for the Rotary Foundation.

Noted Cleveland Clinic Immunologist to Speak on Vaccine Mediated Prevention of Breast Cancer and Other Adult Diseases

By Kathryn Chadwick-Koke

Imagine a future in which women are vaccinated against breast cancer and in which a regimen of vaccinations designed to prevent diseases like ovarian cancer and prostate cancer are commonplace.

Dr. Vincent K. Tuohy, a noted Cleveland Clinic immunologist, believes that such a future is within reach. He's in a position to know; his prototypic breast cancer vaccine has received extensive media attention and human trials may soon be on the horizon.

In a special event sponsored by the Hudson City Schools, Junior Leadership Hudson, the Rotary Club of Hudson, the Rotary Club of Hudson Clocktower, and Western Reserve Academy, Dr. Tuohy will deliver an hour-long program at the Hudson High School Media Center on Tuesday, May 15, at 7 p.m.

His presentation, "New Breast Cancer Vaccine Strategy Serves as a Prototype for Preventing Other Adult Onset Diseases," will include exciting news about his research and will feature a question and answer session with the audience. The event is free and open to the public, and light refreshments will be served, with the help of students from the 2010 and 2011 classes of Junior Leadership Hudson, who toured his laboratory in the Cleveland Clinic's Lerner Research Institute the past two years.

"One out of every eight women develops breast cancer," Dr. Tuohy told 19 Junior Leader-

ship Hudson students from Hudson High School, Western Reserve Academy, and Cuyahoga Valley Christian Academy on April 10. "One out of every six men develops prostate cancer. The current paradigm is that cures for these cancers will come from treatment. We think that cures can also come from vaccine mediated prevention."

A team of researchers led by Dr. Tuohy has created a vaccine that safely and effectively prevents breast tumors from forming in mice. This vaccine targets a protein (lactalbumin) found in many breast cancers, but not found in breasts of healthy women, except during lactation.

If proven successful in clinical testing, the vaccine would likely be given to women over 40 - when breast cancer risk begins to increase and pregnancy becomes less likely. For younger women with a heightened risk of breast cancer, the vaccine may be an option instead of preventive mastectomy.

Dr. Tuohy, recipient of the Sones Award as Cleveland Clinic's Innovator of the Year for 2010, is currently seeking funding for clinical trials. His team is simultaneously developing similar vaccine strategies against other cancers.

Ultimately, Dr. Tuohy's vision of the future of health care is revolutionary: "America's childhood vaccination program protects against infectious diseases caused by 16 different pathogens. You don't wait until you get polio

or measles before getting vaccinated. You get vaccinated and develop immunity that protects against the development of these diseases," he said.

"What we're proposing is that we don't stop primary vaccinations in our teens, and that we continue vaccinating in our adult years against diseases we confront as we age, like breast, ovarian, and prostate cancer."

The benefits of a prevention-based strategy could prove significant to the nation's economy, Dr. Tuohy believes. "The single most effective way to lower healthcare costs long term is to lower disease incidence, and the most effective and proven way to control disease incidence is through preventive vaccination. If we don't have the disease, we don't have to pay for it."

In his Hudson presentation on May 15, Dr. Tuohy will explain how the breast cancer vaccination research was conducted and how it would work for humans. He will then outline how the childhood vaccination program has significantly reduced disease incidence in the United States and the developed world since the 1950s in what he calls "the single most powerful medical intervention in history."

Finally, utilizing the childhood vaccination program as a roadmap, he will lay out a vision for an adult vaccination program designed to prevent a number of adult diseases, potentially saving the health care system billions of dollars and

diminishing human suffering on a grand scale.

"When this exciting research comes to fruition," Delos M. 'Toby' Cosgrove, MD, Cleveland Clinic President and CEO, said, "it would be a major breakthrough - once of the most important things Cleveland Clinic has ever developed.

"There is nothing more powerful than an idea whose time has come," Dr. Tuohy said, quoting Victor Hugo. His laboratory's breast cancer vaccine is ready for human trials. And if his predictions hold true, a full program of vaccinations against other adult diseases will follow.

To learn more about Dr. Tuohy's work at Lerner Research Institute, visit www.lerner.ccf.org/immuno/tuohy. Also see the following links from recent media coverage: [Interview with Keith Olbermann on Countdown \(MSNBC 6/1/10\)](#); [Breast Cancer Breakthrough, Commentary by Dr. Marc Siegel \(FOX News 6/1/10\)](#); [Breast Cancer Vaccine Successful in Mice \(CNN, 6/1/10\)](#).



By Stan Socha, GSE Chair

District 6330 has completed another successful Group Study Exchange (GSE) program. The D3202 Team has departed for home on Monday 16 APRIL. They were all in good spirits and good health upon their departure. The Team was very thankful for the hospitality shown them from the time they arrived till the time of their departure. Several of the Team members stated that they plan on joining Rotary when they arrive home.

The Team had a very busy 30 days in our District. They had the opportunity to give 17 presentations promoting themselves and their country. This year many clubs stepped up to the plate and hosted the Team at their meetings. GSE Committee is very thankful for the RC's that joined together for multi club meetings. This gives the visiting Team an opportunity to meet more of our fine Rotarians and it also gives more Rotarians to meet with the Team. This program is both a professional and cultural exchange and the more that the Teams can meet with their host Rotarians the better it is for all concerned. This is truly a world peace building program.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the GSE Committee members for putting together a great schedule of professional and cultural activities for the D3202 Team. Also I want to thank all the Rotarians of D6330 Who worked with the committee to host and escort the Team while in D6630. Without everyone's cooperation the program cannot succeed. Again thank you D6630 Rotarians for another successful Group Study Exchange year.



Announcing The Rotary District 6630 Golf Outing
 QUAIL HOLLOW COUNTRY CLUB
 Monday, June 18, 2012

Golf one of Ohio's Top Rated Private Country Clubs.
 Visit the NEW CLUBHOUSE.
 Bring your foursome, or just yourself, play the Weiskoff Course!
 Newest of the two QHCC courses.

Noon registration, boxed lunch, 1:00 pm shotgun start, scramble format
 5:30 pm - Picnic BBQ, adult beverages, 6:30 pm golf awards presented
 Four new golf clubs awarded for "closest to the pin" holes. (donated by QHCC)
 Best team score, Second best team score. Other prizes to be announced

Golf (18 holes), Boxed Lunch, Picnic BBQ - \$105 per person

By PDG Jack Young

At a special fundraising event for Mission Possible for the Dominican Republic and Impacta-Kids held at the Terrace Club at Progressive Field to help the poorest of the Poor in the Dominican Republic on April 4th, it was announced that Rotarians of District 6630 will make an effort to obtain an ambulance for the hometown of Manny Acta, Manager of the Cleveland Indians. The ambulance will be used to transport the sick and injured to medical facilities in the Dominican Republic.

It should be noted that prior to the announcement Manny was asked what he wanted to achieve this year. His answer was for the Cleveland Indians to win a pennant and for his home town in the Dominican Republic to receive an ambulance. He had no knowledge that the above announcement was going to be made.

Wednesday's event was called, "The Grand Slam" with the honorary chairs being Larry and Eva Dolan, Manager Manny Acta and Slider. Over 250 individuals attended the Wednesday evening event prior to the Thursday afternoon home opener. The purpose of the event was to raise funds to help build a new home and provide needed support to the "poorest of the poor" and support "Impacta for Kids" headed by Manny Acta in the Dominican Republic and helping build a better world for all. Their purpose fits well with years Rotary Theme "Reach Within to Embrace Humanity"

Even though the procurement of the ambulance has not yet been confirmed,

when it does happen, the Mission Possible team to the Dominican Republic will help finance the shipping cost. Jack Young, PDG indicated that he is working on the arrangements with Rotarians in the DR to make sure it will properly be processed through customs. It was further stated by helping to serve those in the world who need our help, we are fulfilling the objects of Mission Possible, The Cleveland Indians and Rotary International.

How District 6630 Rotarians Can Help:

Even though a number of contacts have



already been made, if any Rotarians or friends of Rotary has any information as to the potential location of an working ambulance or emergency vehicle that may be available, please contact PDG Jack Young for further information. It does not have to be new and as long as it is still in good working condition, we can have it checked out prior to shipment. This would be a great opportunity if an organization wishes to be recognized by Rotary and Manny Acta for their support. For further information, please contact PDG Jack Young, 440-759-4000 or (Jack1villa@aol.com)

Even though our current District Governor, Steve Zabor, was not available to attend this event; past, current and future District leadership from our district were present. Special Rotary guest were Julie West, DGE from the Rotary Club of Cleveland; Gary Newman; Mike Davanzo, District Governor for 2014-2015, from the Rotary Club of Medina Sunrise; Sawn Mueller, Assistant Governor Cuyahoga County Northwest from the Rotary club of North Ridgeville and his wife Rebecca; John Bosco, PDG from the Rotary Club of Hillcrest; Marsha Pappalardo, Past President and Past Assistant Governor from the Rotary Club of Brunswick; and Jack Young, PDG from the Rotary Club of Conneaut.

REGISTRATION FORM-Golf, Lunch & Picnic BBQ
 Open to Rotarians and Guests of Rotarians (same foursome)
 Singles or pairs of golfers are encouraged to register.
 will be added to a team of friendly similar skilled Rotarians.

Name (print) _____	Club _____	Golf & Picnic \$125 _____
E-mail address _____		
Name (print) _____	Club _____	Golf & Picnic \$125 _____
E-mail address _____		
Name (print) _____	Club _____	Golf & Picnic \$125 _____
E-mail address _____		
Name (print) _____	Club _____	Golf & Picnic \$125 _____
E-mail address _____		
GRAND TOTAL _____		

TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT RETURN ASAP (no later than May 30, 2012).
 Timothy.wright@aol.com
 Then forward your check(s).

Please send your check(s) to Timothy W. Wright, Sr. PDG,
 4500 Tewksbury Lane, Concord Twp., OH 44027.
 Make checks payable to Rotary International District 6630
 Please note: This is not a fundraiser. The price reflects actual costs.

QUAIL HOLLOW COUNTRY CLUB, 8225 Quail Hollow Drive, CONCORD TWP., OH 44027
 Set your GPS. Note: This is the new clubhouse location.

Stephen L. Zabor, Ph.D. District Governor (Marina)

Bone Marrow Donor Registration Drive at District Conference

Space Available

By Mike Scruggs

The RC of Mentor held a bone marrow donor registration drive at the District Conference on Saturday April 14, 2012 from 10am-2pm.

We are trying to find a match for Sarah, a 7 year old little girl, whose mom is a teacher at Lake Catholic High School here in Mentor.



It is a very simple process to join; you must be in good health and between the ages of 18 and 60. All that is required is a simple cheek swab, answer some health questions and you could possibly save a life!

There is no cost to you, RC of Mentor and Be The Match are paying for the testing.

Registering possible bone marrow donors has been an ongoing mission of our club.



The screening and donation process has changed dramatically over the years. Often donating bone marrow no longer requires surgery. Details are available on the web at marrow.org. Thanks to those who participated on Saturday. Lets help Sarah find a match!

This (or an even larger space) could have been where your article ran. Maybe next month your Club's news, project or program will be featured in the Newsletter. All you have to do is submit it to me at stonecut@sbcglobal.net



Children of the Dump Nicaragua "Beads of Hope:"

Your next International Project?

By PDG Jack Young

May clubs in friends of Rotary have supported the Shoe Boxes to the Children of Dump in Nicaragua in past years and we certainly appreciate your efforts and hope you will continue the Shone Boxes for this year.

Incoming club leaders, how would you like to cross off one of these avenues of service your first week as a club officer in 2012-2013? Many of the Presidents Elect saw the bracelets that were made by the "Children of the Dump" at the March All Ohio PETS in Columbus. In addition, many of you actually purchased these high quality bracelets.

In order to help the children in the school, there is a kit of 100 hand-made, high-quality bracelets that your club can use as a fund raiser and sell at whatever price you choose. The profit from selling these unique/quality bracelets can be used in

whatever way you wish. Some clubs will use the profits to help with the purchase of shoe boxes for Nicaragua or support youth programs or community projects/charity.

The cost of 100 beautifully hand crafted beaded bracelets is \$ 375.00 which includes shipping, a DVD documentary of the project and a promotional brochure. The club can sell them for whatever they wish. I have been told that other clubs have sold them for between 5 - 8 dollars. If each member of your club would a few bracelets, a club could easily sell several boxes and make 3-4 hundred dollars with little effort.

A UNIQUE FEATURE OF THESE BRACELETS: Unless I told you, you would have never known that the children of the dump and villagers in Nicaragua made each uniquely hand crafted bead by using recycled wall paper donated from the

U.S. At PETS, I know clubs from Ashtabula County to Hillcrest-Sunrise to Medina purchased or ordered bracelets for their club, friends and family.

It is ALSO a great fundraiser for Interact, Rotract and other community youth organizations.

YOUR PURCHASE OF THE ONE-OF-A-KIND bracelets will help provide thousands of children with food, education, and opportunities for sustained economic development. Hope and Relief International Foundation is a 501(c)3 and was formed by a group of Rotarians and like-minded service oriented people who are committed to eliminating poverty one family at a time. It operates under the supervision of a Rotarian Board of Directors with support of many other Rotarians throughout Canada and the United States.

For more information or for ordering the bracelets, please

feel free to contact District 6630 PDG, Jack A. Young, Board Director, Nicaragua Hope and Relief International Foundation (jack1villa@aol.com), Jim Kite, Rotary Club of Brenham, Texas (c-979-251-0840) or Ray Trudeau, Board Director, Nicaragua Hope and Relief International Foundation and past president of the RC of Dearborn, Michigan

sct1235@aol.com

Help those children in Nicaragua who are living in extreme poverty share their dream for a better life. THANK YOU AGAIN FOR THE ROTARY CLUBS AND FRIENDS OF ROTARY IN DISTRICT 6630 FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THE SHOEBOX PROGRAM and your continued support.

Note: If you call Rotarian Jim Kite, just mention your Rotary Club and District 6630.

By DGE Julie West

If you enjoy working with high-school aged youth and would like to help make it possible for them to have a life-changing international experience, or know another Rotarian who might be interested, please read on.

“The Rotary International Youth Exchange Program is a tremendous adventure. Each year hundreds of young people travel to distant parts of the world to live and study in a different environment. The prime purpose of the program is to promote international understanding by granting young people a unique opportunity to broaden their knowledge and widen their horizons. The ultimate impact that this program will have on the lives of the students is incalculable. Many of these young people will be leaders of their communities in the future.”

Our District has long been involved with Inbound, Outbound, and Short Term Youth Exchange as a member of Ohio-Erie Youth Exchange Program, Inc., a multi-district organization. We have a dedicated group of Rotarian volunteers at both the Club and District level. Many have been doing this for a number of years; some are ready to train their successors. In addition we want to add some depth to our Youth Exchange Committee and the teams that work with the Clubs. We need additional volunteers.

As you can imagine, this program requires a lot of work, but it also has amazing rewards.

Earlier this year, I had the opportunity to attend the training session for our students who will be going abroad later this year and their parents. One of the highlights of the session was skyping with several of the students from our District who are currently abroad. The experiences they relayed regarding adapting to a different culture and their level of mastery of the language of the country where they are staying was exciting. A student from Spain relayed how just recently he had dreamed in Spanish; another student demonstrated his mastery of Russian.

Then, several evenings ago, I had the opportunity to meet and hear a presentation by a Youth Exchange student from Brazil who is staying our District. Not only did I learn about her, her country, and her family, but she also shared with us the story of “The Children of the Dump” in Nicaragua and the bracelets they make, through which they learn how to be entrepreneurs and earn a fair wage so they can stay in school.

For more information on the Inbound Program, contact Jack Young (jackvilla1@aol.com) or Marsha Pappalardo (cmpappa@aol.com); for Outbound Program contact Patrick Kelley (ryepatrickkelley@yahoo.com). If you or a Rotarian you know would like to be a part of our Youth Exchange team making these opportunities available, please let me (jwest@ameritech.net) or Bob Johnson, (goracerbob@aol.com) know.

By Linda Kramer

The Rotary Club of Berea’s major fundraiser, the annual Reverse Raffle and Silent Auction, was March 31 at the Cleveland Browns Training Facility on Lou Groza Boulevard in Berea. Guests could take part in a variety of sideboards, a 50/50 raffle and a chance to win the grand prize of \$2,500 as well as bidding on a wide variety of auction items. Up for bid were gift certificates to Casino Windsor, a Josh Cribbs signed jersey, restaurant gift certificates, wine, a tower of designer beers, a bottle of Dom Perignon champagne, hot air balloon rides, a basket of lottery tickets, a cruise on the Nautica Queen and a week’s stay at a vacation condo in Hawaii, among other items.

More than 200 guests enjoyed the gourmet buffet and open bar catered by Aramark in the Browns indoor practice field.

Money raised will provide scholarships for local high school seniors as well as support Berea Rotary community projects, such as food pantries, the third-grade dictionary project, the city’s electronic bulletin board and local arts organizations.

NEW PAUL HARRIS FELLOW - Jim Matcham, former member of Berea Rotary and now a member of Rotary in York, Pa., donated a Paul Harris Fellowship to his father, Art, during a ceremony at TRC Berea. The ceremony was conducted by Jim Walters, a longtime member of TRC Berea and a friend of the family. The award was a surprise for Art, who said he had no idea his son intended to honor him. Jim said he owed much to Rotary and to TRC Berea. “All of these people I stand on the shoulders of as a Rotarian,” he said. “On the shoulders of my dad I stand as a man.” Also attending the ceremony were Art’s wife, Donna, and son, Will.

GUEST SPEAKERS - Programs during the past month included a presentation by Joe Lynch of the Cuyahoga County Board of Health. Because of the warmer and wetter than usual winter, mosquitoes will be a

problem this year, he warned. Mosquito breeding is running about three weeks ahead of schedule. He said one female mosquito can lay 200 to 250 eggs, so it’s a good idea to get rid of all areas of standing water and flush out bird baths on a regular basis. Lynch said the Board of Health also deals with bed bug infestations and hoarding, among other issues. For more information, go to www.ccbh.net.

Berea Rotarians also listened to speeches by two Berea High School seniors on the Four-Way Test. Winner was Angela Holecko, a member of the speech and debate team. Team adviser is Ryan Peoples. Angela went on to the District Four-Way Test Speech Contest in Aurora.

FOOD PANTRY - Each month Berea Rotarians donate to the local food pantry. In March, members donated more than 31 pounds of non-perishables, including canned food and pasta. So far this year, Berea Rotary has donated 121 pounds of food. Chair of this project is Matthew Lombardi.



SHRED FEST - TRC Berea is co-sponsoring a Shred Fest, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, May 5, with the City of Berea. Documents will be collected in the parking lot of Roehm Middle School, corner of Bagley Road and Pleasant

Street. Rotarians also will collect unwanted eyeglasses, eyeglass parts, cases and sunglasses to be recycled by Lions International. Expired and unwanted prescription medicines will be collected for disposal by Southwest General Health Center. These services are free to individuals but donations will be accepted to benefit Rotary projects. There will be a \$5 charge per box for businesses.

KIVA LOANS - Ken Weber, Berea Rotary Kiva chair, has made 258 loans to entrepreneurs around the world. The latest \$25 loans went to businesses in Mexico (animal sales & farm supplies), Peru (cattle), Ecuador (animal sales), Pakistan (animal sales), Rwanda (agriculture), Cambodia (farming), Jordan (animal sales) and Vietnam (dairy).

To learn more about Kiva loans, go to www.kiva.org.

GSE Team Travels to Niagara Falls

By Birkett Gibson

On Saturday, March 24, 2012, San Socha, District 6630 Group Study Exchange Chairman, and Birkett Gibson, Past President of The Rotary Club of Cleveland, took the GSE team from District 3230, Tamil Nadu, India, to Niagara Falls. Alt-



hough the weather was alternately rainy, foggy, and drizzly, the team thoroughly enjoyed visiting one of the most revered

tourist attractions in the world. Outside temperature was in the upper 50's. The team was, to a person, cold. They bundled up in ALL the extra jackets, gloves, scarves, and raincoats that Birkett had put in his car, "just in case". The team was asked what the average temperature was in Tamil Nadu, India. They replied, "35



Degrees" (Celsius). That translates to 95F. No wonder they were chilly!



TRC Strongsville Welcomes Home GSE Team Leader News From TRC Fairlawn

By David Lariviere

Medina Sunrise Rotary welcomed home Carol Dombrose, leader of Rotary's 2012 Group Study Exchange Team from Ohio to India. Carol, who is a member of the



Rotary Club of Strongsville, was the Rotary team leader of a group of five professionals from Northeast Ohio that participated in a 5-week Group Study Exchange in southern India. "India is a beautiful and vast country in which nearly 1.2 billion people live in harmony with the spirituality of their ancient culture and the promise of a dynamic future,"

stated Dombrose. "We visited schools and hospitals, experienced businesses and temples, admired wild animal preserves



and botanical gardens; but all the while, it was the people of India who opened their homes and hearts to us."

Carol ended her presentation with, "Our visit to India was a life changing experience and an opportunity to grow culturally and spiritually. Thanks to Rotary, I shall never forget it."

By Thomas Parry

Speakeasy Charity Casino night was a success for the Fairlawn Rotary Club Foundation. Held this past March 10th at the Portage Country Club in Akron the event was enjoyed by 125 attendees. (HELLO -rest of the district-we missed you). Along with games of chance the evening featured a cash bar and dining stations offering salads, create your own pasta dishes, a carving station plus desert and coffee. The Chinese Raffle highlighted the end of the evening. It offered wonderful prizes ranging from a diamond encrusted sapphire ring to a 46 inch flat screen Sony color TV and a loge for 20 to attend an Akron Aeros game. All proceeds from this event go to our Foundation and will be returned to our community over the course of the year.

Last year the Club assisted 51 needy families by providing \$75.00 gift cards and a turkey to each that enabled them to have food for the Christmas Holiday. Also the club provides sponsorships for the Bath and Copley Police Safety Towns for pre-kindergarten children. These two samples of ongoing commitments by the Rotary Club of Fairlawn help continue Rotary's message and motto of "Service Above Self."

ShelterBox and Rotary International Sign Project Partner Agreement Shoebox Time is Almost Here

Friday 30 March 2012

ShelterBox and Rotary International (RI) have formed a project partner agreement this month, signed by John Hewko, Rotary International's CEO and General Secretary, and Tom Henderson, ShelterBox Founder and CEO.



ShelterBox Founder and CEO Tom Henderson signing project partnership agreement with Rotary International's CEO and General Secretary John Hewko.

The formalization of this partnership cements a 12-year relationship providing emergency shelter and life-saving humanitarian aid for hundreds of thousands of families around the world, who have been made homeless by disaster.

ShelterBox began as a Rotary Club Millennium Project in 2000 and today continues to have a significant input from Rotarians in its governance Board, senior management, operational capacity and international development.

'Rotary and Rotarians have been integral in the operational development of the organization, from being eyes and ears on the ground during deployments, to providing logistics, accommodation and translation services, right to assisting with the pitching of tents,' said Tom. 'Many of our global Response Team volunteers are Rotarians. Others have joined the Rotary family having seen the difference that Rotary and ShelterBox make on the ground. They have always helped us in endless ways.'

Not only have Rotary clubs and Rotarians historically contributed a huge amount to

ShelterBox's fundraising efforts but members of the Rotary family have also founded each one of its 21 affiliates. This support remains key for the charity to be prepared for a disaster of any scale and to be in a position to assist the most vulnerable families at the time when they need it the most.

Through the new partnership, the two organizations will assist Rotarians to be part of a critical solution at times of disaster through providing humanitarian service when disasters occur in their area; engaging with ShelterBox in disaster preparedness initiatives within their country or district; and supporting ShelterBox readiness, awareness and capacity building.



ShelterBox International Director Lasse Petersen with Rotary International President Kalyan Banerjee.

Mutual goals

'For more than ten years, ShelterBox has given light to over one hundred thousand families worldwide in their darkest hour,' said John. 'This project partner agreement represents our mutual goal of helping those in need. It gives RI a forward-facing approach to immediate disaster relief.'

'It's an historic moment for us to become a Rotary project partner,' said Tom. 'It's the first of its kind and is a great opportunity for us to engage with our Rotary friends around the world to increase awareness of what we do with Rotary and, of course, an opportunity for Rotarians to increase our avenues of service worldwide.'

By PDG Jack Young

We are again planning on supporting the shoe boxes for the Children of the Dump from the Rotary Clubs in District 6630. In the past years we have sent over 3,000 shoe boxes to Nicaragua and are entering our 6th years in being involved in this humanitarian effort. Over the years clubs in our district have sent over 3,000 children shoe boxes to Nicaragua to give to children living off a garbage dump in Chinnendega.

We have also had over 40 Rotarians, family members, high school and college students go on the one week trip to Nicaragua to deliver the shoe boxes the first week after thanksgiving. In addition, clubs in our district have sent over \$250,000 worth of Medical equipment, including a fire truck, 2 ambulances, fire equipment and various medical equipment and supplies.

WHAT IS NEEDED???? We need to know the clubs who will support the shoe boxes this year and the number they are willing to sponsor. This can be done either by having the club members purchase the items for the Shoe Box (THIS IS PREFERRED) or a Club can donate the money and we can purchase the items on behalf of the club.

WE NEED TO KNOW BY MAY 15 if your club will help in this hands-on International project to give a gift at Christmas Time. As many of you know it takes a great deal of time to order shoe boxes, purchase the items, prepare them for shipment to Texas, get them through the customs in Nicaragua and then deliver the shoe boxes to the children the first week after thanksgiving.

Therefore, please confirm or contact either Rotarian Marsha Pappalardo (RC of Brunswick cmpappa@aol.com or PDG Jack Young (RC of Conneaut Jack1villa@aol.com) if you have any questions. They have all of the information needed to purchase the items for the shoe box. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Rotary on mission for children's lives

By JOAN DEMIRJIAN

Chagrin Valley Rotary is making an impact on the lives of children and families throughout the world.

The Rotary helps support Gift of Life Northeast Ohio, which provides lifesaving heart surgeries for children in countries where their parents cannot afford the costs or the services are not available.

The local Rotary also raises funds for the El Porvenir program, which drills wells for clean drinking water and builds latrines, especially in Nicaragua.

Rotary Club members Kenneth Fogle and Brian Kastner, of South Russell, flew to Nicaragua last month to see firsthand how the efforts are going.

The heart program is highly successful, said Mr. Fogle said, who is chairman of Chagrin Valley Rotary Club's program for the Gift of Live Northeast Ohio. The medical team there is performing 60 surgeries a year, all by Nicaraguans, he said. "We want it to become sustainable."

Team leader Dr. Kathleen Fenton, a pediatric cardiac surgeon from the United States, is moving on to lead teams in Ecuador and Dominican Republic, he said.

The clean-water efforts are a success as well, according to Dr. Kastner. The donations are being used to drill wells in small villages, some with seven to 10 families, he said.

Each family receives a latrine, and they participate in the work to build them, he said.

There are 50 clubs in the Northeast Ohio Rotary District, and Chagrin Valley Rotary is the biggest donor to Gift of Life, according to Mr. Fogle. "We've given \$50,000 to \$60,000 over the last five years," he said. "We've done a couple of fundraisers."

The Gift of Life of Northeast Ohio works with a program for open-heart surgery for children, from birth to 18 years, with common birth defects in the



Dentist Brian Kastner, a member of the Chagrin Valley Rotary, was surrounded by children during his visit to the village of Camoapa in Nicaragua.

developing world. "It is something we do routinely here in the United States, and the condition is so fixable," Mr. Fogle said. "It is a lifelong gift for them. It's a common birth defect, and we can have a big impact."

Gift of Life also brings children who need heart surgery to the United States when it is not available to them in their own countries. "Over the years, the Gift of Life Northeast Ohio Rotary has brought in 50 children to Ohio," he

said.

"Heart problems are common at birth across the world," Mr. Fogle said. "It's common here, but we have the resources to deal with it."

Two children from Haiti, where there are no cardiac surgeons, arrived this month for surgery in Akron. "We have two boys, one 16 months old and one who is 4, sponsored by Gift of Life Northeast Ohio," Mr. Fogle said.

Their surgeries were scheduled for April 17, and there is usually three to six weeks of recovery, Mr. Fogle said.

"They came with just a guardian, because Haiti doesn't allow their parents out of the country," he said. "We're trying to help them do it there by training teams."

"I'm so glad to be a part of this," Mr. Fogle said. "It is touching the lives of children, their parents and extended families. The children's heart conditions are so fixable, but the resources aren't in place in their own countries."

Some countries have the surgeons but not the after-care recovery teams around them that are so critical, he said. "They can lose the child without those teams."

Dr. Kastner said it was his and Mr. Fogle's first time in Nicaragua, although he has provided his services as a dentist in rural Mexico and Honduras and speaks Spanish.

He and Mr. Fogle had an opportunity to look at the wells and sanitation available in villages, Dr. Kastner said. "The pride in latrines was unbelievable."

Many ask the El Porvenir program for help, and those who benefit help with construction, he said.

Without access to local water, villagers would walk miles to carry water back to their homes, Dr. Kastner said. Because of the poor sanitation, children and adults suffer from illness, he said.

El Porvenir has helped more than 100,000 villagers with sanitation, he said. "The main thrust is clean water."

To help the two efforts, Chagrin Valley Rotary will hold a fundraiser in November at the Federated Church Family Life Center in Bainbridge.

Chagrin Valley Rotary meets at 7:30 a.m. each Tuesday in the Kenston Middle School Betty Patton Room in Bainbridge.