

The Toolbox



100TH EDITION

Barb Wyllie Editor

Send submissions to: THETOOLBOX7190@GMAIL.COM Deadline: 15th of the month

From the Governor's Chair

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE TOOLBOX ON 100 EDITIONS OF FAITHFUL CLUB AND DISTRICT REPORTING!!

Wrap-up of the Wrap-up

Dear 7190er-s,

We near the end of another Rotary year, and the District Conference on Saturday, May 19-Sunday, May 20 served to celebrate what we have accomplished. To bring back memories, here's a summary of the reports of the year's activities, which included several audio-visual presentations:

Our Saturday session was called to order at 9:00 AM by emcee Tammy Heckenberg.

The initial report was the State of the District by DG Bill. Membership growth this year was cited, reversing a five-year or longer downward trend. Retention is now the key; the Rotary Leadership Institute in October is recommended as a significant step in that direction.

The 100% Every Year Every Rotarian Banner was shown, available to all clubs. It represents contributions of "some amount" by all members of a club to The Rotary Foundation Annual Program Fund. It could be a gift of \$5 or \$10; it could be more. Submittal to RI by June 15 is recommended to assure proper credit. Each of us has committed to world peace and understanding when we became Rotarians. The Annual Program Fund supports those efforts, at both local and international levels. *Contact Foundation Chairman PDG Dan Stec or Annual Giving Chair PDG Anne Cargile for more information.*

The State of the District also included a video produced by Ed Brown, "Flood Disaster, August 28, 2011: Middleburgh, Schoharie, Rotterdam Junction &

Amsterdam." AG's Garry Wilkens, Sue Austin & Jeanne So respectively led us through the response of the District to the storm damage in their areas. This video is available to be shown to the clubs. *Contact DG Bill if you wish to see it*

Ambassadorial Scholar Bat-Erdene Gombosuren ("Batuka") told about his country, Mongolia, and Rotary projects therein. He included a video greeting by one his countrymen ascending Mount Everest for the cause of Polio! Batuka has now returned home for a few weeks but will be back at U/Albany this summer. We're happy to say that he will be available during the coming Rotary year to visit the clubs. *Again, contact DG Bill to make arrangements.*

Presentations were made by both our visiting Group Study Exchange Team from District 2820 in Japan and our outgoing Team that returned in April. The visiting Team was an exceptional group, and all in attendance felt their presentation brought home the cultural value that makes the GSE program special. Our outgoing Team was likewise outstanding and had heartwarming and fun experiences to tell about. They are prepared now to visit the clubs. *Contact their Team Leader, AG Vicky Plotsky, for scheduling.*

The Gift of Life reported that they are promoting placement of used clothing collection bins in parking lots. The Gift of Life receives monthly compensation and the local club has their name and website address on it. Over a year's time, with placement of enough bins the costs of operating on a child can be covered. *Contact Gift of Life President Tom Burdick for more information.*

The New Generations update began with the presentation of flags representing the countries of our Youth Exchange. Dan Graves, New Generations Chair, along with the respective Sub-Committee Chairs and youth participants then reported on the activities of the Early Act, Interact, Youth Exchange and Rotaract

programs. The Changemaker Award Certificate for Interact Clubs was presented to representatives of the Amsterdam, Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake and Southern Saratoga Interact clubs. *Contact Dan Graves for information on youth programs.*

At lunchtime our RI President's Representative, PDG Chuck Reiley from District 7670 in North Carolina used his Southern hospitality to speak to us in terms of what our District has achieved, both for membership and the Rotary Foundation. Special Guest Speaker PDG Al Conners from District 6630 in Ohio told the story of Arch C. Klumph, founder of The Rotary Foundation, who lived in his District. Special thanks should be noted to PDG Jim Spencer and Ellie as our RI President Rep's Aide.

The District Governor election update consisted of the formal announcement of David Hennel as District Governor Nominee and the Annual Corporate Meeting of the District, at which a vote was held appointing Directors. Under the guidance of District Bylaws Chair PDG George Frost a proposed Bylaws amendment was voted on and approved. Additional business of the District was reported by District Secretary Joyce Musco and District Treasurer (in absentia) John Mucha.

The District Historian report was given by PDG Harriet Noble, District Historian 2012-2013. She thanked current District Historian Barbara Faraone for her work and spoke about new directions in maintaining District records. Harriet also provided the display of District Conference program booklets from the 50's, shown in the building lobby. *Clubs are encouraged to submit historical records, contact Harriet with your finds!*

The conclusion of our Saturday programming was the presentation of Awards and Recognitions. District Governor's Citations were given to the AG's and other members of the Board and Executive Committee. Four special recognitions were given as follows:

Student of the Year – Scott Ferron, Ballston Spa High School, nominated by the Ballston Spa Club. \$500 check accompanied the award

Special citations to both Tom Dwyer and Blair Hartman as longtime Co-Chairs of the Youth Exchange Program. Tom's certificate was received by his daughter, Melissa Lescault of the Glens Falls club and

Rotarian of the Year to Garry Wilkens of the Middleburgh Club.

A listing of these recognitions and others subsequently presented at their clubs is given

on pages 3 and 11. Congratulations to all!

We're happy to say that the entire program was followed by Prelaunch Cocktails in the Conference Center at 4:00 PM with wine and soft drinks donated by the Lake George Club. *Thank you from all, Lake George Club, for this generous gift!*

A separate Rotary Foundation Reception was held for Paul Harris Fellows +1 and beyond, at which special guest Janet Newcomer, Foundation Regional Major Gifts Officer, was introduced and a Paul Harris Fellow award was given to Bob Brilling of the Rotterdam Sunrise club.

Our dinner cruise on the Lac du Saint Sacrement departed at 6:30 PM amid a beautiful sun, comfortable summer temperatures and a calm lake. A full dinner, cash bar and the best of Rotary fellowship filled the evening for over 140 attendees. The raffle drawing of Schenectady East's Ireland trip was held, won by Fred Goodman of that club. To top things off after we returned, fireworks took place over the Lake, easily viewed from the Hotel lawn!

Our Sunday morning program included a Memorial Service, led by Linda LeTendre of the Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake club, at which Trees for Life Certificates were given to families of the departed. The list of those names is printed elsewhere in this edition. Brief concluding remarks were then made by RI President's Rep Chuck Reiley, DG Bill and DGE Melissa...ending with "On To Turning Stone 2013!"

Our optional Golf and Bocce Day on Friday, May 18 was also held in perfect weather and concluded with dinner at the Farmhouse Restaurant on the golf course property.

Every aspect of our success was due to the work of our Conference Committee: Charlotte DiPaola, Chair; C.G. Frink, Nick George, Dan Graves, Tammy Heckenberg, Richard Hodge, Patti Pepe and Cindy Rosenthal as well as to photographer Ed Brown. We are most grateful to each of you for your hard work.

Thank you also to Mike Popolizio for creating the 25 beautiful club project displays which are now in the hands of the individual clubs; and to Jack and Nancy Faddegon for setting up the Shelterbox tent and display to greet us as we entered the Conference building.

A good time was had by all with plenty of Rotary knowledge. See you all next year!

DG Bill Nathan

**DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S
CITATION CERTIFICATES
PRESENTED AT THE
DISTRICT CONFERENCE
(OR TO BE PRESENTED SHORTLY)**



Melissa Ward	District Governor Elect and Public Relations Chair
Sue Austin	District Governor Nominee and Assistant Governor
PDG Daniel Stec	Board of Directors Member and District Foundation Chair
PDG John Eaton	Board of Directors Member
Joyce Musco	District Secretary
John Mucha	District Treasurer
Linc Cathers	Assistant Governor, Foundation Coordinator Area 1
Jeanne So	Assistant Governor Area 2
Bradley Sexauer	Assistant Governor Area 3
Charles Perry	Assistant Governor Area 4
Dee Pangburn	Assistant Governor Area 5
Garry Wilkens	Assistant Governor Area 6
Sue Austin	Assistant Governor Area 7
John Musco	Assistant Governor Area 8
Victoria Plotsky	Assistant Governor Area 9
Richard Hodge	Governor's Aide and Foundation Coordinator
Alexander Courtney	District Finance Chair
William Corbett	District Membership Development Chair
Daniel Graves	New Generations Chair
Nick George	District Trainer, RYLA Director and Consultant for All Things Rotary Foundation Coordinator
David Rey	District Historian, Foundation Coordinator and Paul Harris Society Chair
Barbara Faraone	
Stephen Williams	Foundation Coordinator

Ray Whetten	Foundation Coordinator
James Spencer	Foundation Coordinator
John Halstead	Foundation Coordinator
Tony Rivera	Group Study Exchange Outgoing Chair and Foundation Event Chair
Ellen Schaefer	Group Study Exchange Incoming Chair
C.G. Frink	Foundation Scholarship Co-Chair
Charles Lindholm	Foundation Scholarship Co-Chair
Anne Cargile	Foundation Annual Giving Chair
Phil Tiberio	Benefactor Program Chair
Michael Popolizio	Permanent Fund Chair
Sandra McAlonie	District Grants Chair
Tammy Heckenberg	Polio Initiative Chair

ADDITIONAL NAMES - 5/17

Suzanna Bernd	Youth Exchange Chair
Eric Hamilton	Interact Chair
Charlotte DiPaola	District Conference Chair
George Frost	PDG Advisory Committee Chair and Bylaws Committee Chair
Linda LeTendre	District Memorial Observance Chair
Barbara Wyllie	Toolbox Editor
Blasé Mercoglan	Rotary Leadership Institute Promotion
Middleburgh Interact Club	Middleburgh Rotary Club Vounteer of the Year
Stephen Springer	Ballston Spa Rotary Club Volunteer of the Year
Harold McKinney	Granville Rotary Club Volunteer of the Year
Jack Hill	Mechanicville Rotary Club Volunteer of the Year
Darryl Rosa	Northville Rotary Club Volunteer of the Year
William W. Borthwick	Burnt Hills - Ballston Lake Rotary Club Volunteer of the Year

DISTRICT REMEMBERING ROTARIANS SERVICE

AT THE DISTRICT CONFERENCE ON MAY 20 A MEMORIAL SERVICE WAS HELD, LED BY LINDA LETENDRE OF THE BURNT HILLS-BALLSTON LAKE CLUB, CALLING OFF THE NAMES OF THOSE ROTARIANS WHO HAD PASSED AWAY DURING THE ROTARY YEAR. THE NAMES WERE AS FOLLOWS:

ANDY MAIER
LANSINGBURGH ROTARY CLUB

RICHARD LAJEUNESSE
LANSINGBURGH ROTARY CLUB

NORMAN BROWN
SARATOGA SPRINGS ROTARY CLUB

DONALD LEE
SARATOGA SPRINGS ROTARY CLUB

CARL "BUNKY" BALDWIN
SARATOGA SPRINGS ROTARY CLUB

HARRY DUTCHER
SARATOGA SPRINGS ROTARY CLUB

REV. RODNEY SCOVILLE
SARATOGA SPRINGS ROTARY CLUB

JACK MCLUCKIE
SARATOGA SPRINGS ROTARY CLUB

MARK "DOC" CRANDALL
JOHNSTOWN ROTARY CLUB

LEWIS SMITH
MECHANICVILLE ROTARY CLUB

PATRICIA RUTLAND
BALLSTON SPA ROTARY CLUB

MYRON NICHOLS
SCHENECTADY EAST ROTARY CLUB

GEORGE HALSEY
SCHENECTADY EAST ROTARY CLUB

JOHN KING
SCHENECTADY EAST ROTARY CLUB

DON MIDDLETON
SCHENECTADY EAST ROTARY CLUB

DAVID FISHER
FORT ANNE ROTARY

WILLIAM NICKERSON
NORTH CREEK ROTARY CLUB

ED MINKIEWICZ
ROTTERDAM SUNRISE ROTARY

FRANK LUCARELLI
ROTTERDAM SUNRISE ROTARY

THE FAMILIES OF EACH OF THE DECEASED RECEIVED RECOGNITION OF A COMMEMORATIVE DONATION TO TREES FOR LIFE, A PROGRAM THAT PLANTS TREES IN PLACES IN NEED THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

DISTRICT EVENTS AT A GLANCE

- **July 13th** – Celebration of Heroes
District Change-Over Event

CLUB EVENTS AT A GLANCE

- **June 2nd** – Annual Wine & Brewery Tour
Sponsored by the Rotary Club of Glenville
- **June 8th – 10th Anniversary Dinner**
Sponsored by Wilton Rotary
- **June 9th – Car & Craft Show** Sponsored by Shenendehowa Rotary
- **July 20th, 21st, 22nd – Woodworking & Fine Arts Show** Sponsored by Northville Rotary
- **August 16th – Rotarian of the Year Recognition Night** Sponsored by the Rotary Club of Glenville
- **September 19th – 'Elvis is Back!' Benefit Concert** Sponsored by Mechanicville Rotary

Glenville Rotary presents its *annual* Winery, Brewery & Indulgences Tour

Saturday, June 2nd
\$60 per person

We'll be featuring a selection of wineries, breweries, distilleries, and specialty stops in the Hudson Valley of NY.

Come fill your senses with aromatic wines, unique brews, and the element of the unexpected found only on this one of a kind tour.

Contact Barb Wyllie now at 370-2214 or bw4rotary@gmail.com if interested in attending.

Follow-up article and photos on page 10.

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The Wilton Rotary Club *announces its Celebratory* 10th Anniversary Dinner

June 8, 2012

(cocktails at 6:00 pm / dinner at 7:00 pm)

**At The Wishing Well Restaurant
Route 9, Wilton**

Tickets are \$40.00 per person

All Rotarians are invited to help celebrate.

Induction of officers, to start their second decade of service, will be held.

Reservations can be made by contacting either Bob Rice at rrice1@nycap.rr.com or Debbie Graves at

debpeaves@aol.com.

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Shenendehowa Rotary presents its
5th Annual

Car & Craft Show

Saturday June 9th
(Rain Date Sunday June 10th)
10am –3pm

at HealthPlex Fitness

1679 Route 9 #1, Clifton Park, NY

Featuring custom, antique, classic, muscle and custom cars along with crafters and vendors

Food will be provided by Giffy’s Bar-B-Q and there will be live music.

All proceeds from the show will go to support local children and teen programs in Southern Saratoga County as well as Rotary International projects throughout the world.

For additional information about car show entries and vendor space contact Edward Brown 518-371-9207 or downtowneddiebrown46@gmail.com. Shenendehowa Rotary meets every Thursday morning at 7:15 AM for breakfast at Coburg Village (at the intersection of Grooms and Vischer Ferry Roads in Clifton Park).

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District Event: Celebration of Heroes

Friday July 13, 2012

Saratoga Hilton

What better way to start the new Rotary year then with a Thank You! Join us on July 13, 2012 at the Hilton in Saratoga Springs to thank the organizations we have partnered with throughout our history. Join us for music, dinner, dancing and celebrating all that we do for our local and international community. Complete the registration form below or register online at <http://celebrationofheroes.org>.

Or use the registration form on page 12.

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Northville Rotary presents its

Fourth Annual

Woodworking & Fine Arts Show

Friday July 20th 6-9pm

Sat July 21st 9-6pm / Sun July 22nd 10-3pm

at the Bradt Building

on Main Street in Northville

There will be over 40 artists including woodworkers, painters, jewelers, photographers, weavers, sculptors, potters, and many more. Admission is free. Food will be available for purchase. For more information go to our website NorthvilleRotary.com

Rotary Club of Glenville
presents it annual

Rotarian of the Year

Recognition Night

Thursday August 16th

At the Joe Bruno Stadium at HVCC

Tickets: \$11.50 each

This is an excellent opportunity to celebrate your club’s *Rotarian-of-the-Year* with those from neighboring clubs.

Many specials and giveaways

More info to follow

For reservations contact Barb Wyllie at 370-2214 or bw4rotary@gmail.com

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SAVE THE DATE

ELVIS IS BACK! Benefit Concert

Join the Mechanicville Rotary Club

Wednesday, September 19th

Arts Center on the Hudson

2 So Main St, Mechanicville NY



Starring Donny ‘ELVIS’ Romines
Reserve Your Table Early
www.mechanicvillerotary.org

~ ~ ~

Do you know the difference?

District Assembly

vs

District Conference

The **District Assembly** is the training sessions for Presidents-Elect and their team of officers & club members.

The **District Conference** is the celebration of the year that’s coming to an end.

by DG Bill Nathan

100th Toolbox Edition

Greetings Toolbox Readers,

It has been an absolute delight editing *The Toolbox* for you these past 3 years...37 of the 100 editions.

I particularly enjoy the consistency that many clubs have built over the years with their regularly offered events along with the introduction of new ideas and offerings. It has been rewarding to watch as the smaller clubs have repeatedly taken on huge projects successfully, and how the individual clubs in District 7190 have grown. It has been incredible to watch as the District has grown from coming dangerously close to losing its identity, to rising up and not only maintaining it, but growing it! *Congratulations* to each and every one of you! This is indeed a team undertaking.

Here's to the *next 100* Toolbox editions celebrating life, liberty and the pursuit of that which is fair and beneficial to all concerned.

Go Rotary!!!!

Barb Wyllie, *Editor*

President, Glenville Rotary

Vice President, Gift of Life 7190

~ ~ ~

Seven New Rotarians Inducted in Northville - April 26th



(From left) Six of their new members: Sandy Eipp, Marianne Edwards, Randy Downs, Jim Conkling, Brad Buyce, Dan Case with President Jim Casey, District Governor Bill Nathan and Andy Oiested

~ ~ ~

The District Governor visits are scheduled as follows:

- **July 12** – 12:00 pm Stockade Inn: Schenectady Club
- **July 16** - 6:15 pm Ballston Town Hall Burnt Hills: All Area 5 clubs - Ballston Spa, Burnt Hills/Ballston Lake, Malta Sunrise, Mechanicville, Shenendehowa, Twin Bridges
- **July 19** - Sharon Springs
- **July 25** - 7:15 am Hibernian Hall, Schenectady: **Schenectady East, Colonie-Guilderland, Niskayuna**
- **July 25** - 7:15am Mc Lane's Restaurant: **Rotterdam Sunrise**
- 12:15pm Century House Latham: **Albany, Cohoes, Latham**
- **July 31** – 6pm, Saratoga Brew Pub: **Wilton, Turning Stone**
- **August 2** – 6:15 pm Country Meadows Fort Ann: All Area 4 clubs - **Fort Anne, Granville, Hudson Falls, Salem**
- **Sept 28** - 5:30pm, Holiday Inn Lake George Dinner Theatre, Lake George: **All Area 1 clubs** – Chestertown, Glens Falls, Lake George, North Creek, Northern Lake George
- **Oct 18** – Northville

If you don't see your club listed, then please contact Melissa (Melissa@rotary7190.org) to set up a visit. If you want to hold a Multi-Club visit, please coordinate with your Presidents / President-Elects and Assistant Governor.

Yours in Rotary,

DGE Melissa Ward

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Northville Rotary and Fulmont Community Action Agency Garage Sale A Success!!

As a result of the efforts of Northville Rotarians and the Advisory Council members of the Fulmont Community Action Agency here on Third Street, over \$1700 was collected for the food pantry at the town wide garage sale on Friday May 4th and Saturday May 5th! Our previous high was \$400! We would like to thank members of the community who donated items for the sale and the workers who sorted, sold, and packed up all the items. Anne Krauth organized the bake sale with the help of Ingrid Hill and Ginger Driscoll and worked both days selling coffee, baked goods and soda. Rotarians Susan and Chas Owens, Linda Kinum, Janet and Jeff Meuwissen, and Carol Smith worked tirelessly selling items from furniture to toys. Theo Horesco sold tickets for a bike and kayak that will be raffled at the end of our Woodworking and Fine Arts Show July 22. Ask any Rotarian about buying a ticket. A special thanks to the Village for allowing us to use the space for the sale. If you would like to know more about the work of Fulmont or Rotary stop by the Fulmont office on Division and Third St. or join us at a Rotary meeting Thursdays, 5:30 at the Sport Island Pub.



Rotarians Linda Kinum, Sue Owens, Janet Meuwissen, Jeff Meuwissen, Theo Horesco, Chas Owens(seated)



BH-BL Central School Interact Club Activities



Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake Interact Club

During the summer of 2011, floods caused by Hurricanes Irene and Lee devastated communities along the Mohawk River and in the Schoharie Valley. Many groups have given a great deal of their time assisting the victims of these storms. One such group was the BH-BL High School Interact Club, who cheerfully helped where help was needed.

In Middleburg, the students, with adult help, cleaned out homes, helped restock a local hardware store, cleaned and restocked a warehouse, and painted homes. In Schoharie, the students raked lawns to remove debris and helped people pack up belongings. In Esperance, they helped rebuild two former BH-BL students' home on several different trips building steps, pouring concrete footings, securing subflooring, building out walls, putting in new doors, cleaning up debris in a yard, and more.

It is heartening to see high school students use their talents to help people that have lived through a calamity. They learned a lot through their service, and the people really appreciated all that they did. It was sincerely "Service Above Self".

Bob Youmans
Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake Rotary Club

Middleburgh Interact Club

The Middleburgh Interact Club is comprised of thirty seven high school students who are very active within their community. In the aftermath of the devastating flood, Interact Club members worked alongside local volunteers to begin the rebuilding process. As the flood occurred before the beginning of the school year, the Interact Club had not officially met. Yet several members, unprompted but motivated by the Rotarian ideal of “Service Above Self,” rose to the occasion. Club members volunteered not only at the high school but also at local businesses and homes. These members, as well as many others, demonstrated the true quality of their character with their diligence and hard work.

Additionally, Interact members have participated in a wide variety of other activities. The club has donated food to the Lutheran Church food pantry and Christmas gifts to the Schoharie County Community Action Program (SCCAP). Interact Club members have supported the American Cancer Society by selling daffodils during the Daffodil Days fundraiser and the less fortunate by donating jeans during Gap’s “Jeans for Teens” drive. Currently, the Club members are circulating the polio piggy bank in an effort to raise awareness and money to help eradicate polio. Finally, Interact Club members are raising money to support two \$250 scholarships for graduating seniors this June.

Bill Morton
Middleburgh Rotary Club

~ ~ ~ Clothing Bins

to benefit *Gift of Life*.

If you have a place of business (or know of one) that would be willing to place a Clothing Bin to benefit the Gift of Life, please contact GoL president Tom Burdick at Thomas.Burdick@AXA-Advisors.com or call him at 373-7314.

These bins are very well maintained, and can be removed during the winter if snow accumulation is an issue. Thank you.

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Youth Exchange



Inbound students at the recent District Conference

District 7190 has been involved in the Rotary International Youth Exchange program for decades. Many clubs participate in sending and / or hosting students. Inbound students ages 16 to 18 from all over the globe spend an academic year in upstate New York. Their primary focus is on learning about American culture and improving their English language skills. Outbound students from our region travel abroad and attend school for one year in a foreign country. When they start dreaming in their second language, they know they have achieved a great milestone. The students return with a phenomenal understanding of another culture. With today’s technology, this understanding frequently “goes viral”, promoting world peace and understanding among their friends and family and subsequently their circle of contacts. If you would like to learn more about the Youth Exchange Program, please contact District Chair Suzanna Bernd at sbernd@arrownbank.com

~ ~ ~ ProjectLINK

A link from Rotary.org submitted by Tom Duffy for any Club that hasn’t found a WCC project they would participate in here is one helping children.

Search ProjectLINK, a global database of Rotary club projects and current service projects in need of support. Find model projects and browse completed projects that illustrate best practices. <http://www.rotary.org/en/ServiceAnd Fellowship/MakeConnections/ProjectLINK/Pages/ridefault.aspx>. Visit <http://www.rotary.org>.

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Coach Kalekeni Banda Changes Lives in Malawi

Glenville Rotary's new member, Coach Kalekeni (Keni) Banda, brings equality to Malawi. Below is a reprint of the recent Times Union article on Keni Banda's mission.

Catch Keni Banda's interview on Cable TV on Wednesday, July 24th broadcast from Proctor's Theater in Schenectady, NY.



The girls played netball.

Kalekeni Banda evaluated it with the mind of someone who has coached athletes for decades. While the boys in Banda's native village of Chituka, located in northern Malawi, played his beloved game of soccer, the girls played a game he considered sexist and inferior.

The girls were soft and curvy, not trim like athletes, and it wasn't surprising given the sport, which requires players to stop when they catch the ball and look to pass or shoot.

Boys darted around dribbling soccer balls, but for the netball girls, there was no chance to move forward.

Banda hadn't made a trip to Malawi since 2008, and he hasn't lived there in more than 40 years, though his accent still places him there. But the nation — where his aunt Joyce Banda became president last month — has remained in his heart. The former UAlbany women's soccer coach started his Guilderland-based [Banda Bola Sports Foundation](#) in 2009. He provides school supplies, clothing and sports equipment and offers an afterschool sports and education mentoring program in Chituka, a place he grew up using mangoes and grapefruits as soccer balls.

When Banda returned to Chituka for a four-month stay in November, he expected things to have improved. Instead he saw a rural eighth-grade classroom packed with 240 students and two teachers. He saw fifth- through eighth-graders reading "Curious George." And he saw the schools were using his soccer equipment for netball.

Girls playing the wrong sport seems like a small thing to get hung up on when a nation is plagued by HIV/AIDS, poverty and a lack of education. But Banda started his coaching career in the United States shortly after the advent of Title IX. He was laughed at for coaching women. His players were stunned when he asked them to lift weights, saying it was gross and something only men did. They didn't believe women could run five miles. But he saw those women grow to be competitors and find their voices, not only on the playing field but in the classroom.

And so Banda went to the chiefs in Chituka and reminded them that he was a soccer foundation, not a netball one. If they wanted his equipment, they would need to have

as many girls' teams as boys' teams in their school. He looked the leaders in the eyes and spoke their language.

Maybe he hadn't lived there in four decades, but he understood the situation.

The village kids gathered at the warehouse where he stores uniforms, shoes and soccer balls. And the boys walked away disappointed when he told them they'd have to wait a day to get their equipment because the girls were being supplied first.

"The first thing was the equipment — 'This soccer ball was your ball' — and they couldn't understand it, so I said, 'What are you going to do with it? Are you going to give it to your brother or are you going to play with it?'"

They were afraid to sit down on the soccer field carved out of the wild grass and dirt of some farmland because they didn't want to get their uniforms dirty.

He showed them how to dribble the ball, how to pass, how to go to goal.

"One of the chiefs came up and said, 'Who are those boys?' And I said, 'Those are not boys, those are girls.' I told him, 'That is your granddaughter over there,'" Banda says. "They would never envision that they would see girls in that soccer gear, kicking the ball and running hard. We're changing the culture.

"Even the girls themselves, they didn't believe they could do it, but once I started doing things with the girls, they believed they could. Before you knew it, they were smiling, laughing. When I taught the girls you can dream to be doctors and lawyers, they didn't even know what that means. They think they're meant to be baby-making machines — that's the first priority for girls. They think how many babies they can have compared to the other girls. That's what I want to do with these girls, teach them their bodies are there for more than just carrying water on their heads or digging soil or having babies at age 12."

Maybe, after learning to play soccer, they'll dream of all those other things they can do.

Joyce Banda, known for her education efforts and women's rights activism, served as vice president of Malawi for about three years until the president died and she was installed as his replacement in April. Becoming Malawi's first female president wasn't smooth — opposition tried to change the laws to block her from being the successor.

Kalekeni Banda returned to the Capital Region a couple of weeks before she became president. When he heard the news, he called his brother, a chief, to ask how the girls in the village, his soccer players, were reacting.

"I wondered what those girls were thinking about how I told them they could be whatever they wanted to be," Banda says. "He said, 'These girls are dancing now.'"

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Gift of Life Child Arrives

Below is a picture of Nabindra Adhikari, a 1 1/2 year old boy from Nepal who was born with Tetralogy of Fallot. This heart condition causes low levels of oxygen in the blood so it is difficult for children to grow appropriately or play with their friends without becoming very short of breath. If it is not repaired, most children will die by the age of 20. Luckily, Nabindra's uncle is a pediatric resident at Albany Medical Center (who is going to become a pediatric cardiologist and help other children like Nabindra by the way!) Since there are no pediatric heart surgeons in Nepal, Gift of Life was able to sponsor Nabindra and bring him here for his life-saving surgery. The operation occurred on Wednesday, April 25th, and he recovered so quickly that he was discharged from the hospital four days later. He is recovering quickly at his uncle's house, and the family hopes to bring him home to Nepal in June.



Winery & Brewery Tour



Wine tasting at Millbrook Winery's private tasting room

Glenville Rotary's 4th Annual **Winery, Brewery & Indulgences Tour** was a success once again. This year the tour covered select wineries and breweries in the **Hudson Valley Region of NYS**.

A unique selection of wines and brews were offered for tasting, as was select liquors and farm fresh cheese.

The mystery stop this year was at the **Old Rhinebeck Aerodrome** with our own tour guide complete in period dress. Replicas of historic, working planes were plentiful.

A good time was had by all. Next year's tour is once again planned for the first Saturday following Memorial Day. (The first Saturday in June) Save the date.



FOUR VERY SPECIAL AWARDS WERE PRESENTED:

I. FOR DISTRICT STUDENT OF THE YEAR:

DISTRICT 7190 STUDENT OF THE YEAR 2011-2012

PRESENTED TO SCOTT FERRON BALLSTON SPA HIGH SCHOOL

IN RECOGNITION OF ACADEMIC ACCOMPLISHMENT AND COMMITMENT TO THE ROTARY IDEAL,
"SERVICE ABOVE SELF"

BY: WILLIAM J. NATHAN, DISTRICT GOVERNOR
MAY 19, 2012

SCOTT WAS NOMINATED BY THE BALLSTON SPA CLUB.
A CHECK FOR \$500 ACCOMPANIED THE CERTIFICATE.

II. SPECIAL CERTIFICATES WERE PRESENTED TO LONGTIME YOUTH EXCHANGE CO-CHAIRS BLAIR HARTMAN AND TOM DWYER WHICH READ AS FOLLOWS:

A. DISTRICT 7190 SPECIAL CITATION

PRESENTED TO C. BLAIR HARTMAN

FOR YEARS OF DEVOTED SERVICE AS DISTRICT CO-CHAIR, ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAM "PLANTING THE SEEDS FOR A LIFETIME OF INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING"

BY: WILLIAM J. NATHAN, DISTRICT GOVERNOR
MAY 19, 2012

B. DISTRICT 7190 SPECIAL CITATION

PRESENTED TO TOM DWYER

FOR YEARS OF DEVOTED SERVICE AS DISTRICT CO-CHAIR, ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAM "PLANTING THE SEEDS FOR A LIFETIME OF INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING"

BY: WILLIAM J. NATHAN, DISTRICT GOVERNOR
MAY 19, 2012

TOM DWYER'S DAUGHTER, MELISSA LESCAULT OF THE GLENS FALLS CLUB, ACCEPTED THE CERTIFICATE ON HIS BEHALF.

III. FOR DISTRICT ROTARIAN OF THE YEAR:

DISTRICT 7190 ROTARIAN OF THE YEAR 2011-2012

PRESENTED TO GARRY WILKENS

- FOR HIS DEDICATION TO ROTARY PROVIDING DISASTER RELIEF AT A TIME OF UNPRECEDENTED COMMUNITY NEED
- BEING A MODEL ASSISTANT GOVERNOR IN REACHING OUT TO THE CLUBS AND COMMUNITY
- GIVING UNWAVERING SUPPORT TO ROTARY AND ALL IT DOES

BY: WILLIAM J. NATHAN, DISTRICT GOVERNOR
MAY 19, 2012

~ ~ ~

Celebration of Heroes Registration:

Make checks payable to Rotary District 7190

Friday July 13, 2012 6 pm – 10pm
Saratoga Hilton on Broadway in Saratoga Springs

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone # & Email: _____

Club: _____

\$45 per person: _____ Number of attendees: _____ Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Please complete and mail to:

Celebration of Heroes
 c/o Melissa Ward
 280 Thimbleberry Road
 Ballston Spa, NY 12020

Any questions please email Melissa@Rotary7190.org
 Cocktail Attire is suggested

You can also register online at: www.celebrationofheroes.org

Program Sponsor: This event is open to the public.

Advertise your business to over 300 local business owners and not for profit organizations for \$250.

You will receive a business card size ad in the event program and 2 tickets to the event

I have enclosed my business card and a check for \$250 payable to **Rotary District 7190** for program sponsorship. The names of the 2 attendees is above.

District 7190 Conference 2012



DG Bill Nathan with Rotarian of the Year, Garry Wilkins.



Interact Change-Maker award recipients with DG Bill Nathan.

Related story on page 1

16 Pine Hollow Road
Slingerlands, NY 12159