



Clubs uniting to 'Kick Polio Out of Africa'

By Dan Nixon
Rotary International News
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In the months leading up to the FIFA World Cup in June, Rotary clubs across Africa have been gearing up for the final push to kick polio out of the continent.

On 23 February, Rotary's 105th anniversary, a Kick Polio Out of Africa campaign launched with the symbolic kicking of a soccer ball signed by Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu, a polio survivor.

The journey began in Cape Town, South Africa, one of the host cities for the 2010 World Cup. The ball will travel through 22 polio-affected countries en route to the RI Convention in Montréal, Québec, Canada, in June. The primary sponsor of the campaign is DHL Express.

During the ball's four-month journey, Rotary clubs in the polio-affected countries will hold soccer-related polio awareness events to mobilize public support for immunization activities. Along the way, the ball will be signed by each national PolioPlus committee



chair. Follow the ball's journey on the Kick Polio Out of Africa blog (<http://kickpoliooutofafrica.wordpress.com>). An interactive map shows African countries' efforts to end the disease. Synchronized immunization activities took place in 19 Central and West

African countries 6-8 March, with more than 400,000 health workers and volunteers reaching over 85 million children. The initiative was made possible largely by US\$30 million in funding from Rotary International.

The synchronized immunizations were part of an ongoing response to the epidemic that spread in 2008 from polio-endemic Nigeria to neighboring countries that had been polio-free. The effort will be repeated in the same countries on 24 April.

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Clinton calls for us all to make a difference

Former US President Bill Clinton spoke to a crowd of close to 4,000 Enviro Expo 2010 participants at Caesars Windsor last month- many of them Rotarians.

He was here to give the keynote address for The Essex Region Conservation Foundation at Enviro Expo.

Clinton spoke about the 'everyday differences we can make in our lives' to improve the earth, including small steps toward more energy efficient buildings, schools and public spaces.

He also explained how a ripple effect, much like dropping a pebble in the water, can create change. And this can be achieved by individuals and governments alike to improve our environments.

A portion of the event proceeds went to the Rotary International ShelterBox initiative in Haiti.



Photo: Owen Wolter

COMING EVENTS

- May 3** *Bingo Training (see page 3)*
- May 6** *Bingo*
- May 10** *Bingo Training (see page 3)*
- May 13-16** *District Conference*
Grand Hotel, Mackinac
- May 15** *Ganatchio Trail Clean-Up/*
Shanfield Shores planting
- May 15** *Bingo*
- May 29** *Pedal for Polio*

Windsor St. Clair Rotary Club Member Initiative

Members are the lifeblood of any organization – and it's no different for the Rotary Club of Windsor St. Clair. For the past several months, the Membership Committee has been hard at work devising a new initiative to attract new members to our club. Subsequently, it was discussed at the Board level and for those members in attendance at the April 29 meeting, Membership Committee Director Nick Krayacich outlined the plan and answered questions.

The plan asks members to think of at least three people they know that could be prospective members. These names are passed to the committee, the names logged and a letter and information package prepared for all prospective members. The packages are mailed to the prospective



Rotarians.

After three weeks the Chair asks the sponsoring member to make contact with the invitee to ensure the information was received and answer questions that may be forthcoming. Twice a month names are reviewed at the meeting and members are asked to give the status of their invitee.

Invitees who show an interest in Rotary are invited to attend three meetings as our guest, then, if they are

interested they are welcomed into the club.

New members will be assigned to a seasoned member (usually their sponsor); the mentor will be given a checklist of items to cover with the new member. This list has already been developed. Additionally, the letter and a Q & A document which will comprise the package are available on the web site in the documents section.

The mentorship will be ended at the discretion of the members involved when the new member feels comfortable.

So, over the next several months, please forward a list of names to Nick Krayacich and come July 1, Ruth Coursey. They will then put the plan into action.

It is our hope that we can gain new members who epitomize **Service above Self** and contribute positively to our club.

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"We at Rotary are proud to have provided the necessary funding for the March rounds, and we call on others to play their part in making Africa polio-free by providing funding necessary for more high-coverage campaigns," says African Regional PolioPlus Committee Chair Ambroise Tshimbalanga Kasongo.

The synchronized immunization strategy has proved effective. The first wave of infected countries -- Benin, Central African Republic, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Niger, and Togo -- stopped the outbreak in 2009. In addition, this year the number of cases in Nigeria has plummeted to just one as of 23 March, compared with 90 for the same period in 2009. However, the outbreak is still active in nine other countries.

"What this means in very simple terms is that we are now reaching more children. Ending polio in Nigeria is now more than ever before seen as realistic, clearly achievable," says Nigeria PolioPlus Committee Chair Busuyi Onabolu. "And Rotary International, as catalyst for the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, is determined to mobilize the citizenry toward ensuring that every child is immunized."

May To-Do List

1. Attend the May 10 Bingo Training if you haven't already
2. Plan on attending the May 15 Shanfield Shores planting/Ganatchio clean-up
3. Start thinking about Auction Gifts and Sponsorships
4. Get a team together for the Nijola Memorial Golf Tournament

CELEBRATIONS

Happy Birthday...

May 1	Carlo Abati
May 2	Karen Cichon
May 7	Gary McNamara
May 8	Ann Fama
May 15	Diane McKinley
May 25	Steve Daley
May 25	Phyllis Charbonneau
May 28	Bill Carey

Happy Anniversary...

May 5	Chris and Teri Woodrow
May 13	Mike and Bonnie Browne

Club Anniversary...

May 1	Ilias Kiritsis (16 Years)
May 2	Shelly Duben (6 Years)
May 5	Lea-Ann Suzor (5 Years)
May 22	Terry Cloutier (2 Years)

Windsor & Essex County pedal power to fight polio

Mark Saturday, May 29 on your calendars and be sure to join the **PEDAL FOR POLIO** initiative to eradicate the disease. Organized by the Windsor St. Clair and Roseland rotary clubs, the event is comprised of a **Family Ride for Polio** and a **Wine Trails Ride for Polio**. No matter which you choose, you'll be joining the global campaign to eradicate polio, you'll experience the beauty of Essex County ... and in the process enjoy some exercise. After 20 years of hard work, Rotary

International and its partners are on the brink of wiping out polio, but a strong push is needed now to root it out once and for all. Join either of these **PEDAL FOR POLIO** events and help us make polio history! Check in for both events is Noon at the Chrysler Greenway in Oldcastle.

The Family Ride...

Enjoy a leisurely cycle on the Greenway, take in some special events along the trail and support polio efforts at the same time. Special

events include animals from the Ojibway Nature Centre, Face Painting, an appearance from CLarOL the Clown and bicycle helmet fittings. All participants will receive a free **End Polio Now** water bottle. Registration is \$25 per person or \$50 per family – or you can collect \$100 of pledges and participate free of charge. The top fund raisers will receive prizes from the XS Family Fun Centre.



The Wine Trail Ride...

This Wine Trail Ride includes a guided tour to three wineries organized by **Windsor Eats.Com**, all tastings, and a meal which celebrates the region and the season, prepared by Mark Muzzin of County Connect. The cost is \$75 per person. Check in is at Noon and the ride begins at 1 p.m. Participating wineries include Pelee Island, Aleksander, Mastronardi and Black Bear Farms.

Bingo Training

If you haven't already completed the Bingo training, two opportunities are available this month: May 3, 6:50 pm - 8:30 pm at the Moose Lodge, 777 Tecumseh Rd West; and May 10, 6:50 pm - 8:30 pm at Riverside Public Library, 6305 Wyandotte Street East. Please sign up on the club web site.

Nijola Memorial Golf Tournament

Thursday June 3rd, 2010 *Shot Gun Start*

at

Sutton Creek Golf & Country Club (Gesto at Walker Rd. RR2 Essex)

\$120 per golfer

(includes golf, cart, chicken & rib dinner and prizes)

Best Ball Scramble • Shotgun start at 1:00pm • Putting contest

Additional Dinner Tickets for only \$40

The Nijola Memorial Golf Tournament honours the memory of Nijola Giedriunas, the 2002 - 2003 President of the Rotary Club of Windsor-St. Clair. A champion for the Windsor & Essex County Cancer Centre Foundation.

NIJOLA GIEDRIUNAS

In September of 2002, Nijola had just presented the final portion of a \$100,000 donation from the Rotary Club of Windsor-St. Clair when she was diagnosed with cancer. Sadly, she passed away just weeks later on November 9.

Nijola lived and embraced the Rotary motto of 'SERVICE ABOVE SELF'. She would be proud to know that the funds raised through this tournament honouring her life and memory are used for the betterment of our local and global community.

Funds raised will be used for the projects of the Rotary Club of Windsor St. Clair



**Windsor - St. Clair
Rotary Club**

To Book Your Foursome Please Contact:
Dick Marentette: 519-727-5676 • rmarentette1@cogeco.ca
Todd Grondin: 519-979-6261 • todd@bogeygolftr.com

FOUR WAY TEST: Will it build goodwill and better friendships?



Rotary Auction on TVCOGECO 2 K 1 0 ... Watch for details

Program Schedule MAY 2010

SPEAKER & TOPIC

- 6 Mike Bates/Refine Fitness
- 13 Peter Berry/Windsor Harbour Commission
- 20 District Governor Neil McBeth/
Impact of RI's Future Vision Plan
- 27 TV Auction Team/
2010 Rotary Auction on
TV Cogeco

INTRODUCER

- 6 Chris Woodrow
- 13 Alynn Anglin
- 20 Phyllis Charbonneau
- 27 Club Celebration

THANKER

- 6 Dennis Arrand
- 13 Mike Browne
- 20 Paul Charbonneau
- 27 Club Celebration

GREETERS

- 6 Bruce Taylor
Hardy Wheeler
- 13 Carlo Abati
Vinnie Brignol
- 20 Arnie Charlton
Karen Cichon
- 27 Terry Cloutier
Ruth Coursey

Rotarians assigned duties of introducer, thanker and greeter are responsible for finding a replacement if unable to fulfill the duties.



RI District 6400 GSE Team 2010: On April 26 the team visited the Charles De Gaulle pediatric hospital, the largest in Burkina Faso. Following a very formal gathering with many speeches thanking Rotary for all of the help provided, the team distributed the first 250 nets delivered to the hospital. In total the \$2,400 provided by the clubs of D6400 will enable the local Rotary club to deliver more than 400 nets. This will save the lives of over 400 children who would otherwise succumb to malaria. Pictured above (Left to Right): Team Leader Derek Locke (seated); Athena Colby; Paul Mourad and Andrew Dowie (sponsored by Windsor St. Clair Rotary Club); an unidentified local Rotarian; and Kathleen Bush.

BOARD NEWS

- ◆ Attendance for March was 82.5%. Membership stands at 50.

COMMITTEE NEWS

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- ▶ Committee voted to donate \$500 to Mark Hunt and \$300 to the Autism Society.

YOUTH SERVICE

- ▶ Committee discussed ways to involve club members in assisting with Exchange Student activities. More details to follow.
- ▶ High School bursary applications will be distributed to those schools in the Windsor St. Clair registration area.

INTERNATIONAL

- ▶ The International Service meeting was cancelled but members did deal with a request to support the

incoming GSE team from Ghana and Burkina Faso. This request was circulated to all committee members by e-mail to contribute a sum \$300 to support the GSE team's costs for their trip to Niagara Falls. Several other clubs have also been approached to defray some of these costs. An e-mail vote was held and a motion duly made, seconded and carried to contribute the sum of \$300 towards the expenses of the GSE Team visiting from Africa.

Service Above Self



The Rotary Club of Windsor-St. Clair was founded November 20, 1975. Regular meetings are every Thursday at 7:15 a.m., at the Windsor Yacht Club, 9000 Riverside Drive, Windsor, Ontario. For more information visit www.rotarywindsorstclair.com.