



Rotary Club of Bullhead City eBulletin

Thursday, July 24, 2008

 [Club Web Site](#)

Editor: Art Harrington
If you have any comments or questions, email the editor.

Club forum is Thursday
by Art Harrington

Future Speakers

Jul 31 2008

Ed Marin; Dana Rice
"Vocational Talks"

Aug 7 2008

Mike Byrd; Crystal Wynkoop
"Vocational Talks"

Upcoming Events

Club Board Mtg

Aug 6 2008

Backpack Program in Schools

Aug 11 2008

Interact Mtg 7:30am MHS T-124

Aug 13 2008

Club Forum

Aug 14 2008

Club Christmas Party

Dec 18 2008

Burro BBQ

Apr 17 2009 - Apr 18 2009

Installation Dinner 09-10

Jun 11 2009

News

[Quote of the Week - Who Said It?](#)

[Thought for the Week - Who Said It?](#)

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What is a club forum?

The purpose of a Club Forum is to discuss club business and gain input from the members.

Consequently, we do not have a speaker, and the meeting is primarily for members, rather than for visitors and guests.



We are beginning a new Rotary year this month. Our club board feels it is important for the club to have a time when members can express themselves, and when we can agree together on the direction and the rules under which we will operate as a service club this year.

Every member should have received in the mail a copy of the proposed club **bylaws** and the proposed **budget**. It is hoped that members will review these before coming to the meeting.

In addition to discussing these agenda items, members will also be encouraged to share your input regarding possible additional fundraising ideas for our club, along with goals you would like to have considered as part of our club's strategic plan. Dr. Tom Dallman is chairing our new Strategic Planning Committee this year. That committee will be developing and recommending to us a 5-year long-range plan for our club.

Please come prepared to participate. This meeting is for you.

Update on exchange student
by Art Harrington



Good news about Lydia Cheng!

Lydia Cheng, the Taiwanese Rotary Youth Exchange student that was being hosted in Lake Havasu City, has shown signs of improvement. The doctors were able to remove the ventilator last Wednesday, and Lydia is now breathing on her own. She has been moved from the Pediatric ICU into a regular hospital room, and it is hoped that she will be ready for medical transport back to Taiwan within a few more



days.

Lydia's parents wish to thank all Rotarians for your prayers, love, cards and support. Continued prayers and cards are appreciated.

Our Rotary district is encouraging donations to help support medical transport costs, medical costs incurred that may exceed the insurance maximums, and the on-going medical needs the family will have for her care.

Donations can be made through:

<http://youthexchange.eventbrite.com>

River fun in the sun
by Art Harrington

BC River Regatta is coming



The second annual Bullhead City River Regatta is slated for **Saturday, August 16**. The theme this year is "**Pirates of the Colorado**." The float event on the Colorado River was a big hit last year, and it is expected that it will grow exponentially in each successive year.

A "Ye Gotta Regatta" pre-registration party is planned for Friday night, from 5:00 - 10:00 p.m. at Community Park. Then on Saturday check-in begins at 7:00 a.m., with the floats being launched by 9:00. The entries will float from Community Park down to Rotary Park.

The rules for entries in this year's competition include the requirement that teams and groups must have their tubes tied together, regulation life jackets must be worn, floats must be supported by a base of inner tubes, and they cannot be towed. Children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. No mechanical propellants are allowed, and all entries must cross the finish line by 2:30 p.m. to be eligible for the prizes.

Rotary puts Gates \$\$ to work



Gates Foundation grant money goes to work

Nine countries and two World Health Organization regions have received The Rotary Foundation's first distribution from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's US\$100 million challenge grant for

polio eradication.

WHO and UNICEF are using the funds, disbursed in January, to carry out immunization activities in the four polioendemic countries - Afghanistan, India, Nigeria, and Pakistan - plus five others where "imported" polio cases have been reported. WHO is also funding surveillance and technical support in its African and Eastern Mediterranean regions.

Following the grant distribution, a team of 54 Rotarians and friends from Australia, Canada, France, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and the United States helped carry out India's National Immunization Days, reaching more than 170 million children in February. RI Director Kjell-ke kesson of Sweden participated in the NIDs, as did Rotary Foundation Trustee Carolyn Jones.

Joined by members of the Rotary Club of Delhi-West and almost 100 PolioPlus cap-wearing students from a local Rotary club-sponsored school, the team took part in a rally in Sohna to promote the NIDs. Many of the students, and one of the Delhi-West Rotarians, are themselves polio victims.

"It is the most amazingly exhilarating and dramatically humbling experience," reported Mark Brown, a member of the Rotary Club of St. John's Northwest, Newfoundland, Canada, on the team's blog (rotarydreamteam-india2008.blogspot.com). "Immediately, we were poured on by people wanting their children vaccinated.

No time to ponder. Just two drops in each child's mouth and a permanent marker on the finger to show they'd been done."

"Now is the time to step up the momentum to get polio out of India forever," says Deepak Kapur, chair of India's PolioPlus committee.

[Haiti gets clean water](#)

In Haiti, clean water well benefits all



Two years ago, the village of Nan Sema on the island of La Gonve, Haiti, had few sources of fresh water other than rain. Villagers - many of them school age children - had to walk for more than four hours to find clean water.

Today, some 5,000 people from Nan Sema and surrounding communities are enjoying a clean water system that includes a 200-foot-deep well, a 25,000-gallon cistern, and a drinking fountain funded in part through a Rotary Foundation Matching Grant.

"The Nan Sema kids told us the well would make their lives better because now they could go to school instead of looking for water all day," says District

Governor George Solomon, whose Rotary Club of Riverhead, New York, USA, took on the project as its first water initiative. "Now the drinking fountain has become the kids' meeting place."

In addition, without the need to search for water, women can better care for families, and farmers can dedicate more time to their livelihood. Everyone benefits from reduced water-borne disease.

Having learned about the need on the underdeveloped island through his church, Solomon galvanized the support of four clubs in District 7260; the Rotary Club of Saint Michel de L'Attalaye, Haiti; and Service Christian Haiti, a partner organization that provided critical logistical support and sanitation education and technical training for the community.

PHOTO: *Villagers in Nan Sema, Haiti, now spend considerably less time searching for fresh water - a boon to families and children.*

Rotary peace builder in Kyrgyzstan



Building peace through economic development

Colin Spurway of Scotland had been teaching and managing international development and conflict prevention programs in Central and South Asia for four years when he realized something was missing.

"I had limitations in my knowledge of the theories of development in conflict resolution," Spurway says. "I was concerned that maybe the theories underlying the practical work were naive and simplistic."

A 2003-05 Rotary World Peace Fellowship to study at the University of Queensland in Australia helped him step up to a whole new level of work in the field.

"It was an investment in me that I genuinely appreciate. I'm now running a very complicated, multiheaded project in southern Kyrgyzstan for an organization called Mercy Corps," says Spurway, who manages a staff of 40.

Funded by USAID and Mercy Corps, and locally in the region, the project is building peace through economic development in 47 communities. A major focus is placing young apprentices with master tradespeople and craftspeople for intensive on-the-job training.

"One of the elements that is most likely to fuel conflict is unemployment and the limited decision-making role young people have in their communities," Spurway says, "which is why [the project] is funded by USAID's Conflict Mitigation office, rather than its Economic Development office."

"I love this part of the world and am pleased to work with a good organization dedicated to peaceful community development," Spurway says.

PHOTO: Spurway (left) visits a demonstration field where farmers and agronomists planted vegetables to learn about diversifying crops and assessing their market value.