Dateline: Venice, Florida

From The Secretary's Corner-Did You Know?

That the original Rotary clubs formed almost 100 years ago only had to meet twice a month, and years later when Rotary changed to weekly meetings, these original clubs were "grandfathered" so members of these clubs could continue to meet twice a month. I sat beside a member of one of these clubs at a make up here in Venice last week. He's from Richmond, Virginia and he told me there are four such clubs in Virginia. The Rotarian on my left was from Ohio, and he was in the same category. You know, if Dick K., Warren, Dan G. and Dick Y. were 97 years old, our club would be "grandfathered," too.

<u>Raffle</u> - Tonight's raffle prize, a gift certificate to Joe's Boathouse donated by Frank Gemme, was won by Hendrik Fischer.

<u>Happy Dollars</u> - Dollars were donated tonight by Jeff Gabrielson, Dan Mooers, Adrienne Murphy, Laurenz Schmidt, Mariann Goff, Mac Sexton, Marcie Martelle, Frank Gemme, Jim Russell, Jack Kennealy, Jack Roberts, Hendrik Fischer, Matt McAleney, J.D. Dobson, David Lourie, Jack Cowie (Scarborough Club) and Rick Dobson.

<u>Soup Kitchen</u> - Our monthly Soup Kitchen obligation is this Tuesday, April 8 at 6:00pm. The dessert is brownies with no nuts. Our signup tonight was somewhat skimpy, so please consider helping out.

<u>Help Wanted!</u> Christian Smith is looking for some assistance for soliciting businesses for the 2003 United Way Campaign. This would involve a training session and going and meeting with a handful of businesses who have given in the past. Please contact him if you can help.

Golf Tournament - On Monday, June 16, the Casco Bay Sunrise Club is sponsoring a golf tournament at the Val Halla Country Club. A part of this tournament is the Rotary challenge pitting teams of 4 golfers from each club against each other. If you would like to participate, please see Rick Dobson or contact Jim Bouchard at 871-6111.

<u>Community Project</u> - Dan Davidson has taken charge of getting together a Rotary team to work on the Rebuilding Together workday - Saturday, April 26. Dan will be passing around a sign up sheet in the next couple weeks to work on this worthwhile project in either South Portland or Cape Elizabeth.

<u>District Assembly</u> - This year's assembly will be held on Tuesday, April 22 at 8:00am at the York County Technical College in Wells. All incoming officers to the district are encouraged to attend, as well as any other members of the club. Please see Rick Dobson to sign up.

<u>District Conference</u> - This year's District Conference is being held at the Grand Summit in Newry, Maine from May 22-25. The theme is "It's A Small World." They'll be many exciting speakers lined up, as well as interesting meal and breakout sessions. If you have any questions, please contact Marie Williams at (207) 439-3761 or see Rick Dobson who has registration forms.

Program - Tonight's speaker was Harold Pachios from the U.S. Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy. This Commission was started in 1948 to win the hearts and minds of people in Eastern Europe and the Third World during the Cold War. Primarily this involved student exchanges, Voice Of America and information services such as cultural exchanges. After the Cold War, the Commission has fallen out of favor and funding has dropped. The current world situation shows that public diplomacy is as important now as ever. Thank you, Jack Kennealy, for providing such a fascinating speaker.

<u>Editor's Note</u> - Next week's program features Wu Shumei a visiting teacher from China. She has requested that we not ask questions about the political system in China after she speaks.

Upcoming Club Events

- -April 8 Soup Kitchen, 6:00pm
- -April 9-Wu Shumei/ Chinese Visiting Teacher (Jack Roberts, Program Chair)
- -April 16 Club Assembly
- -April 22 District Assembly
- -April 26 Rebuilding Together

ASSIGNMENTS

April 9

Song Bagdasarian
Invocation Hewitt
Raffle Gift Hobbs
Conductor Gabrielson

<u>April 16</u>

Song Brainin
Invocation Hobbs
Raffle Gift Holt
Conductor Gacetta

April 23

Song Butler
Invocation Holt
Raffle Gift Ingraham
Conductor Gemme

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

Bhichai Rattakul

Rotary Club of Dhonburi, Thailand

DISTRICT 7780 GOVERNOR **Tim Placey**

Casco Bay Sunrise Rotary Club, Portland, Maine

ROTARY CLUB OF SOUTH PORTLAND/CAPE ELIZABETH, MAINE

www.sp-ce-rotary.org

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President-Elect - Jeff Gabrielson
Vice President - Frank Butterworth
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