CLUB NEWS

DATE: January 2, 2018 NO MEETING

DATE: January 9, 2018

INVOCATION: Janet Soja **PROGRAM CHAIR: Jon Lumbra** PROGRAM SPEAKER: Ruth Bantar, Executive Director of Pathlight Group, will discuss Pathlight's Shepard Drive Project and other Holyoke programs.

DATE: January 16, 2018

INVOCATION: Jon Lumbra PROGRAM CHAIR: Rebecca MacGregor **PROGRAM SPEAKER: Select Board Member from** South Hadley with an update, including Ledges Gold Course.

DATE: January 23, 2018

INVOCATION: Peggy Woods **CLUB ASSEMBLY - Strategic Planning**

DATE: January 30, 2018

INVOCATION: Tom Accomando CLUB ASSEMBLY

Member Birthdays

Poe-Heineman, Marian	Jan 01
Leary, George	Jan 16
Kaplan, Steve	Jan 26
Eger, Carl	Jan 29

21 years

6 years

33 years

22 years

71 years

24 years

43 years

49 years

6 years

7 years

Rotary Anniversaries

Accomando, Tom
Desnoyers, Bob
Fowler, Bob
Kagan Levine, Joan
Oldershaw, Louis
Robinson, Venus
Seyffer, Kenneth
Woodill, Bob
McAndrew, John
Viens, Kathy

UPCOMING PROGRAM ASSIGNMENTS

06-February-2018 Ed McCarron 13-February-2018 John McAndrew 20-February-2018 Michael Moriarty 27-February-2018 Eileen O'Leary Sullivan



Toy Drive to Benefit the

Families of Homework House

The Holyoke Rotary Club offered a helping hand to Santa this year. We donated 103 wrapped toys to our friends at Homework House for the families they serve. Pictured here is Virginia Dillon, Executive Director of Homework House with Rotarian, Maureen Ross O'Connell.



New shoes delight children in Uganda

December 12, 2017 - By Immy Julie Musoke Nakyeyune, president of the Rotaract Club of Kampala South, Uganda

A mist was rising over the meadow when I arrived early in the morning at Nyakishumba with members of my Rotaract club, brimming with excitement for the day

ahead. Located in the hilly Kabale District of western Uganda, Nyakishumba is colder than most of the surrounding region. So we were bundled in our heavy coats this September day as we hurried to set up the medical camp in time; coordinating with the health care workers, arranging the necessary medicines, and establishing diagnostic stations and areas for HIV testing.

It has been almost three years since we first visited the community to do our needs assessment, discovering their unique concerns and needs. The first phase of our project in 2016 had focused on supporting education at the primary school. Now, we were addressing disease prevention, maternal and child health, education, and economic and community development. We were all excited at the opportunity Rotaract was providing us to work with members of other clubs to help this community.

Rotaractors collaborating on the project with the club's logo in the background.

The Rotaract Club of Kabale and the Health Sciences unit at Mbarara University helped us organize a free medical camp at the school. We provided physicals along with testing for HIV and malaria for 247 members of the Nyakishumba community, with close to a third being elderly. We diagnosed and dispensed medication for a number of malaria cases.

Smiles and jubilation

But the most meaningful moment of the day for me came after the medical camp when we provided school supplies for children at the primary school. The smiles and jubilation as each child received a new pair of shoes were remarkable.

"You've given him his first pair of shoes," I heard a school teacher say. I was astounded by how much we take for granted. By early afternoon, a donation of 10 classroom desks arrived. I loved watching the children run to help unload the desks from the pickup truck. We also renovated the classroom floor and blackboards to give the school a fresh look.

Through the #iamforagirl campaign initiative, we handed out sanitary pads to girls in the community. Our day ended by distributing maize seeds and planting an assortment of fruit trees in the school compound, including mango, guava, and orange, for the benefit of the entire community.

