



**"Service Above Self"**

# THE SUN LIGHT

THE ROTARY CLUB OF GEORGETOWN - SUN CITY

District 5870 Tuesdays 12 noon

Cowan Creek Amenity Center, Cool Spring Way  
1530 Sun City Blvd., Suite 120, Box 441, Georgetown 78633

APRIL 1, 2014

*One of the most sincere forms of respect  
is actually listening to what another has to say.*

*Bryant H. McGill*

**To-Day:** Mr. Jim Gentil, "Mr. Positive"

**Next Week:** Ms. Alyssia Woods, Development Director, Annunciation Maternity Home

**Important Dates:**

April 12, 2014	District Assembly
May 16-18, 2014	District Conference Lake Conroe
June 1-4, 2014	RI Convention, Sydney, NSW, Australia

**Last Week:**

Presiding:	John Chenoweth
Invocation:	Gordon Bishop
Pledge:	Sharon Goudy
4-Way Test:	John Chenoweth
Members present:	44



## **Polio in Syria: An outbreak that threatens the Middle East**

By Tim Whewell, BBC News

As summer approaches, health agencies are warning of the risk of polio spreading across the Middle East from Syria - where now more than 100 children show symptoms of the disease - despite a massive campaign to vaccinate millions of children in surrounding countries.

Syria was declared free of polio in 1999. But the disease re-emerged last year, after two years of conflict. The World Health Organization (WHO) says there are now 25 laboratory-confirmed cases in the country, with another 13 confirmations pending. But Syrian doctors put the number of children with clinical symptoms of polio much higher, at at least 110. And for every victim, there are at least 200 people - some doctors say up to 1,000 - carrying and spreading the virus. "It's worse than shelling because it's a silent killer. It's not like an aeroplane overhead or an explosion you can avoid. It comes from the water."

Polio is endemic in Nigeria, Afghanistan and Pakistan - but there had been none in Syria for 15 years. Vaccination rates in Syria fell from 91% of children before the war to an estimated 68% in 2012. But those are national figures. In rebel-held territory, where all the polio cases so far have occurred, immunisation levels are much lower.

The Syrian government says it has continued to vaccinate across the country during the conflict - a claim supported by the WHO, but disputed by many Syrian doctors and foreign health experts. They believe the regime withheld vaccine from clinics in the rebel-held north as another means of waging war on civilians.

"Because of the large cohort of non-immune children in the Syrian Arab Republic and complex population movements, a very high risk of spread to further areas of the country and to neighbouring countries exists."

Now, since the outbreak, that task is being carried out by Turkish-based Syrian doctors, funded by the Turkish government. They have 8,500 volunteers, who aim to go door-to-door to vaccinate 1.5 million children. But it's dangerous work. Two vaccinators have been killed; another had her leg blown off. And there are 800,000 people living in areas cut off by fighting that the medical teams can't reach.

All round the borders of Syria, governments and UN agencies have now mounted a massive campaign to immunise 22 to 23 million children, in an attempt to prevent polio being spread by the flood of refugees from Syria. Lebanon, with more than a million refugees, many unregistered, and a creaking health system, is perhaps most at risk.

## **Is Rotary Terminally Ill?**

Is Rotary terminally ill? Rotary has a serious disease that could spell the end. Let me tell you why I worry about this. I joined The Dow Chemical Company fresh out of school. Dow's headquarters is in rural Michigan with nearly all of the corporate management in that little town of Midland served by only one airport. There were a couple of flights a day from Chicago and one a day from Detroit. In a severe blizzard, the flight from Chicago crashed in Lake Superior and all souls perished.

On board were a dozen top executives and half the Board of Directors. The plane went into a tailspin and sent the whole company into a tailspin. You cannot lose that many key people and still do business smoothly. The caskets were followed by long lines of middle managers that were pushing and shoving for the top positions that had opened up. Of course, their subordinates were trying to guess which horse to back and try to get in the right lines to fill those spots. Dow was in great turmoil that extended throughout the company from the loss of maybe 5% loss of the top management.

By those standards, Rotary has no chance to survive much beyond July 1, 2014. No 5% change, Rotary plans to change 95% or more of all levels of management. Surely Rotary is terminally ill.

How can Rotary survive this kind of change? Well, Rotary goes through it every year. How do we survive? I believe it is through training. Months ago, all the new district governors get together for a training meeting (that us old timers call the Anaheim Conference, although it is no longer held in Anaheim). They get their plans together for the coming year. Next each district holds a PETS meeting, or Presidents-Elect Training Seminar. The DG's then move their plans and programs down to the Presidents. They then hold the District Assembly to train the incoming officers and let the DG and Presidents-Elect move their plans and programs to the individual clubs. Training is the key to how Rotary survives and is the reason why Rotary is not terminally ill.

Why am I telling YOU about all of this? It is because Sun City Rotary left the door open for YOU to attend district conference. YOU can attend the meeting whether or not you are serving as an officer next year!

- YOU should not attend because of the benefit to our district, although the benefit to the district will be large.
- YOU should not attend because of the benefit to our club, although the club will be more successful in the coming year if you attend.
- Rather, YOU should attend because of the benefit to YOU personally.

If you are a new member, you will gain a greater understanding of how Rotary works and how you can benefit from being a member and meet a lot of great Rotarians. If you are a long time member and have never gone to District Assembly, you can come up to speed on the coming direction we will go. If you are a long time member who has already attended a District Assembly, you have probably already signed up to attend because you know the value it will bring to you.

... Bob Deffeyes

**District Assembly**  
**APRIL 12, 2014**

*The **district assembly** offers motivation, inspiration, Rotary information and new ideas for club officers, directors and key committee chairpersons of each club. Some of the most experienced district leaders conduct informative discussions on all phases of Rotary administration and service projects. The assembly gives all participants valuable new ideas to make their club more effective and interesting. Usually eight to ten delegates from each club are invited to attend the training session.*

*Another important feature of a district assembly is a review by the incoming district governor of the program theme and emphasis of the new RI president for the coming year. District goals and objects are also described and plans are developed for their implementation. The success of each Rotary club is frequently determined by the club's full representation and participation in the annual district assembly.*

Man - a creature made at the end of the week's work when God was tired.

. . . Mark Twain

**Last Week: Biographies**      by Gordon Bishop

**JOEL WALKER**

Joel was born in Austin while his parents were students at UT. He grew up in the Fort Worth area. After a bit of a struggle Joe graduated from UT with a degree in finance and later an MBA. He worked as a stockbroker and VP for Meineke Corp. Recently he moved from being a franchisor to franchisee as he opened an Interstate All Battery franchise in Georgetown. Joel stated that he welcomed the concept of service at this stage of his life and felt that Rotary could provide him that opportunity.

**DAN KAMINKY**

Dan grew up in South side of Chicago and married his high school sweetheart. He is a proud Grandad who celebrated his 70th birthday by renting house in Hawaii for his entire extended family including 12 Grandkids . Dan attended college at Clemson University in South Carolina and noticed quite a culture shock from Chicago. His football scholarship ran out after two years so he joined the Marines and after 6 months became a reservist. After the service he had a interesting marketing and business development career which included bringing to market such products as Mr. Clean, Head and Shoulders, Gatorade and "Wheaties breakfast of Champions". Dan was a Rotary member in Naperville, ILL. for many years and was named Rotarian of the year in 2000.

I used to be Snow White, but I drifted.      . . . Mae West

**SUPERBUGS**

Cou

counterfeit drugs, self-medication, and limited access to medical care contribute to antibiotic resistance, as these factors may lead to incorrect dosages that do not kill all bacteria. Pediatricians wrote more than 10 million unnecessary antibiotic prescriptions each year from 2006 to 2008, for ailments such as the flu, bronchitis, asthma, and allergies, which are not caused by bacteria. Half of all antibiotic prescriptions are for broad-spectrum drugs that wipe out the body's good bacteria too. Scientists have not discovered any new classes of

antibiotics since 1987.

... the Rotarian 12/2013

### **Misc. etc:**

Happy 91<sup>st</sup> birthday to **Pete Snelson**; **Lou Gibson** advised us **Gary Sandercock** is standing for a place on the Sun City Board of Directors; **Harold Bergh** prescribed his "medicinal" M&Ms (membership matters) to our newest prospective members, **Michael Bell** and **John Miles**.

### **Some Rotary "Firsts":**

- The first Rotary club meeting was in Chicago, Illinois, on 23 February 1905. .
- The first regular luncheon meetings were in Oakland, California, chartered in 1909. .
- The first Rotary convention was in Chicago in 1910. .
- The first Rotary club outside of the USA was chartered in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, in 1910. .
- The first Rotary club outside of North America was chartered in Dublin, Ireland, in 1911. .
- The first Rotary club in a non-English-speaking country was in Havana, Cuba, in 1916. .
- The first Rotary club in South America was chartered in Montevideo, Uruguay, in 1918. .
- The first Rotary club in Asia was chartered in Manila, Philippines, in 1919. .
- The first Rotary club in Africa was chartered in Johannesburg, South Africa, in 1921. .
- The first Rotary club in Australia was chartered in Melbourne in 1921.

## *April is Rotary Magazine Month*

### ***Ideas About Science***

These beguiling ideas about science were gleaned from essays, exams, and classroom discussions. Most were from 5th and 6th graders.

You can listen to thunder after lightning and tell how close you came to getting hit. If you don't hear it, you got hit, so never mind.

The law of gravity says no fair jumping up without coming back down.

When people run around and around in circles we say they are crazy. When planets do it we say they are orbiting.

South America has cold summers and hot winters, but somehow they still manage.

Most books now say our sun is a star. But it still knows how to change back into a sun in the daytime.

A vibration is a motion that cannot make up its mind which way it wants to go.

There are 26 vitamins in all, but some of the letters are yet to be discovered. Finding them all means living forever.

Many dead animals in the past changed to fossils while others preferred to be oil.

Genetics explain why you look like your father and if you don't why you should.

Vacuums are nothings. We only mention them to let them know we know they're there.

Some oxygen molecules help fires burn while others help make water, so sometimes it's brother against brother.

Some people can tell what time it is by looking at the sun. But I have never been able to make out the numbers.

We say the cause of perfume disappearing is evaporation. Evaporation gets blamed for a lot of things people forget to put the top on.

Do not worry about avoiding temptation. As you grow older it will avoid you.