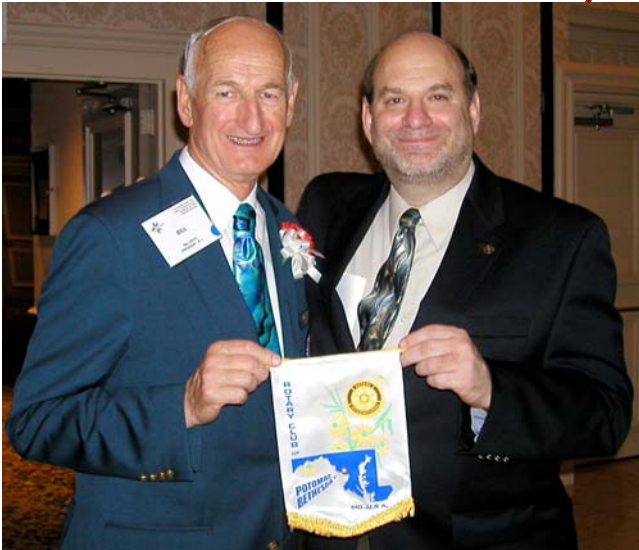


# Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club News

## Presidents Meet to "Lead the Way"



President Jerry gives Rotary International President Bill Boyd a Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club banner at a Rotary Foundation dinner in Greenbelt on September 26. President Bill gave a great talk on the history of the Rotary Foundation and several examples of effective projects. Also joining Jerry were wife Shelley, Phil and Linda Meade and Marilyn and Bob Nelson.

## Upcoming Events:

**September 28 – 6:30pm Montgomery County Chief Administrative Officer**

**Bruce Romer** (see biography on page 3)

**October 5 – 6:30pm Don Empie, Exxon-Mobil**

**October 8 – 12noon Great Falls Park Picnic and Canal Barge Trip**

**October 12 – 6:30pm State Delegate Jean Cryor**

**October 28 – Saturday - Potomac Day**

## Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Presents Big Check for Orphanage Project in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



Todd Nitkin, President Jerry and Hanfere Aligaze, Senior Pastor of the Ethiopian Evangelical Church, DC hold the first check for the project to outfit a school for orphans. The church was founded 24 years ago with 5 people and now has over 2500 members. Recognizing the extreme need of orphans (there are over eighty thousand in Addis Ababa), the church built an orphanage for 144 children and has recently constructed a school for 250 students. Todd gave a great PowerPoint presentation on the project. Welcome back Todd – we missed you!



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# Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club News

**Congratulations  
Dick Gordon on  
Your Birthday Celebration!**



President Jerry welcomed visiting Rotarian Helmut Bourzutschky from Winterthur Kyburg, Switzerland. Helmut presented an innovative banner made of plastic. The average age of his club is 46 years. He described a club project providing mini-credit to Jamaicans.



Congratulations to Steve Naron who has been named head of the Johns Hopkins University Washington DC Alumni Association with 6000 members.

Phil Meade drove his new Mercedes to the club meeting after picking it up in Cleveland. He bought it over the internet on Ebay.

Welcome back to Lou Fettig after touring on the west coast.

Thanks so much to Caesar Kavadoy for bringing guest Anil Alpay. Let's all bring guests so that the club always meets the dining minimums set by Hunter's Inn.



Happy Dollars totaled **\$202** thanks to matching dollars from our President who had just celebrated his wedding anniversary. Congratulations to Shelley and Jerry!

**Potomac-Bethesda International Rotary Club**



# Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club News



**Tonight's Speaker:**  
**Bruce Romer, Chief Administrative Officer, Montgomery County**

Bruce Romer serves as Chief Administrative Officer for Montgomery County, Maryland, a suburb of Washington, D.C. with a population of 950,000 and an annual operating budget of \$3.8 billion. Having served in this position since 1995, he manages the operations of 25 County government departments and agencies in Maryland's largest local government.

Bruce has served 39 years in local government management as City Manager of Rockville, Maryland; Davenport, Iowa; Sidney, Ohio; Brighton, Michigan; and as Assistant Manager in suburban Philadelphia.

Mr. Romer has served as President of the International City/County Management Association which is the professional and educational association representing appointed administrators serving cities, counties and other local governments around the world.

Bruce is on the Board of Directors and a Past-President of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments. He serves on the

Board of Directors of the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority and is on the Board of Directors of the Public Technology Institute.

He is a Fellow in the National Academy of Public Administration.

Mr. Romer holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and Business Administration from Wittenberg University and a Masters degree in Government Administration from the Wharton Graduate School at the University of Pennsylvania.

**It's a Rotarian's Privilege and Responsibility to help grow club membership.**

## **Ukrainian Interactors honored for work with orphans**

By Maureen Vaught *Rotary World*  
21 September 2006

For the past three years, members of the [Interact](#) Club of Cherkasy-Centre have spent every Friday and Sunday reading, drawing, and playing games with the children at the Warm House orphanage in Cherkasy, Ukraine. They were recognized for their dedication in October with the Service for the Sake of Peace award.

The Ukrainian Peace Council, along with 10 national and international organizations, created the award to encourage service that promotes peace, charity, social action, and tolerance. Like the country's Service for Peace contest, this student competition seeks to

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# Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club News

advance the United Nations' International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Nonviolence for the Children of the World (2001-10).

Representatives of more than 30 youth groups entered the contest from countries around the world, including Italy, Japan, Poland, and Russia. Honored in the Charity toward Children category, the Cherkasy-Centre club was one of only seven groups to receive an award. This October, the winners will spend three days in Kiev, where they will participate in Service for the Sake of Peace programs, classes, and tours of Ukraine's capital.

Rotary International also recognized the club for its work with the orphanage during last year's World Interact Week celebrations. The Rotary Club of Cherkasy-Centre is a proud sponsor of the nearly three-year-old Interact club.

"In the Ukraine, Rotary is not well known," says Serhiy Sayenko, past president of the Cherkasy-Centre Rotary club. "The work of these active teenagers helps to demonstrate Rotary's goals and principles to our community."

Because of Interact, "we can share our love and heart with children who need so much," says Interactor Dasha Vakulenko. "It is great to have such a club in this world."

## California club helps students succeed

By Lisa Baker Rotary International News  
21 September 2006

Mentors recruited through a program of the Rotary Club of Los Altos, California, USA, have helped students improve their

attendance and grades.

In June, the program's success led to the Los Altos club receiving the Rotary International Significant Achievement Award for its Partners for New Generations (PNG) project.

The Los Altos club started PNG as a youth project in 1995 with the mission of recruiting elementary school tutors. Since then, it has grown to include high school mentors and youth advocates in the court system.

"We give the students pre- and post-mentoring tests, and their grades improved by almost one grade level. C students are now getting B's," says Bob Adams, past club president.

According to the PNG chair, Mona Armistead, many high school students participating in the program need help outside of the family and school institutions.

"Twice as many kids in PNG are at-risk kids who attend a continuation high school. Others are first generation in the U.S. The mentors allow them to see possibilities that they might not see at home, like applying and going to college."

PNG currently has 40 elementary school tutors and 120 high school mentors. Club president, Sam Pesner, says that they try to get other area clubs involved. They now work in conjunction with two other area Rotary clubs.

Armistead believes any club can be successful with a similar program. She offers these tips: "Make contact with school administrators. At first, you can make it a club project in order to find out how much interest there is from both mentors and students. If there isn't

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# Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club News

enough interest, then focusing on the tutoring part is much easier. Los Altos just facilitates the recruiting of tutors. We don't train them, the schools do."

According to Adams, the mentor-student relationship usually doesn't end at the end of the school year.

"Out of the 80 students we mentor in the continuation high school, 20 already graduated. Those 20 students continue to talk regularly to their mentors. Those relationships continue to grow."

PNG constantly recruits new volunteers. They make presentations to houses of worship, other service clubs, school staff, police and fire departments, and anywhere there is a community gathering. PNG also hangs posters in local stores and passes out fliers.

A Packard Foundation grant financed the program for many years. Those funds recently ran out. They are fundraising to keep the program alive.

***Please bring a guest!  
Let's share the fun  
of being a Rotarian!***

## **Deadline approaching for PR grant funds**

The deadline for applying for Rotary International's Public Relations Grant funds this year is 31 October.

Aimed at assisting Rotary clubs and districts in promoting Rotary's public image, the PR Grant program was started last year on a

pilot basis after approval by the RI Board of Directors.

All Rotary clubs are eligible to apply for a grant of up to US\$3,000 to help fund their media outreach efforts. Applications that include a well-developed PR plan stand a better chance of being approved.

Successful clubs are encouraged to use the funds to help place RI's global public image campaign materials in local media and in public areas. The campaign, also known as Humanity in Motion, offers professionally produced artwork and text for billboards, banners, and newspaper supplements, as well as radio and television public service announcements.

Last year, RI received more than 170 applications from 30 countries. Successful media outreach efforts included:

- The Rotary Club of Laurens, South Carolina, USA, placing a supplement in a local newspaper for four months; billboards to help raise disaster relief funds and educate the public about Rotary's mission; and 200 plays of the 60-second Humanity in Motion PSA on radio
- The Rotary Club of Marília de Dirceu, São Paulo, Brazil, placing billboards to promote Rotary's efforts to eradicate polio and provide clean water
- The Rotary Club of Jeonju, Korea, placing PSAs on television for 40 days

Encouraged by the overall success of the 2005-06 PR Grant program, the Board decided to give more clubs an opportunity to participate this year.

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# Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club News



**October 8 (Sunday) - 12 noon  
Rotary Club Picnic at Great Falls Park  
New Barge Trip at 1:15pm**

*Please invite spouses, children, grandchildren and friends.  
Let's experience the 1870's with an authentic canal ride.*

