

Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club News

Rotary Club Calendar

- February 8- 6:30pm Rotary Club Meeting
Dick Alsmeyer and Vocational Speakers
Nabil Bedewi Classification Talk
Alan Cookson New Member Induction
- February 13 - 10:08am Richard Montgomery High School Vocational Day (Dick Alsmeyer)
- February 13 - 7pm Manna Center
- February 15 - 6:30pm Rotary Club Meeting
Carol S. Jordan Senior Health Care Administrator, Communicable Disease and Epidemiology in the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services.
"Avian Influenza and Pandemic Flu"
- March 1 - 6:30pm Rotary Meeting
Shana Newman, Communications Manager, Habitat for Humanity of Montgomery County
- March 15 - 6:30pm Rotary Meeting
Howard Friedman, wine specialist at Calvert Woodley Wine Store, will speak on "What You Need to Know About Wines."

Rotary Theme for 2007-08 Announced



(See article on page 3)

Meet New Member Nabil Bedewi

Dr. Nabil Bedewi is a Professor of Information Systems and Technology at Georgetown University. He has over twenty years of experience within the defense, telecommunications and education industries. His experience spans strategic planning, decision support systems and expert systems, organizational development, staffing and coaching, proposal and budget development/tracking, project management, software development (requirements to deployment), process re-engineering, workgroup automation, modeling and simulation, training & educating, and multiple hardware and software tools. Dr. Bedewi is also a published author of research papers in the fields of information technology & project management.



Dr. Bedewi has served as a visiting associate professor of MIS at George Mason University and at George Washington University where he taught MBA courses in Project

(Continued on page 2)

Save the Date
Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club
International Night
At the Embassy of Japan
Saturday April 14, 2007

www.pb-rotary.org www.rotary7620.org www.rotary.org

February 8, 2007 - Page 1

Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club News

Management, and Information Systems. He also taught the Decision Theory course in the Department of Defense's Leadership and Management Program. In the undergraduate program, he taught Information Systems, Database Management, and Decision Support Systems courses.

Dr. Bedewi holds a Doctor of Science degree in Engineering Management from George Washington University. He is also certified by the Project Management Institute as a Project Management Professional.

Potomac-Bethesda International Rotary Club

World Understanding Month

February is World Understanding Month, a time when Rotarians, clubs and districts think of international service projects. Rotarians' efforts demonstrate the power of cooperation that makes a positive difference in our communities and in our world. The size of your Rotary club, district or project does not matter when you reach out to other Rotarians beyond your own communities and countries. It is our motto of Service Above Self and our cooperation on service projects that make a difference in the world.

The Basra, Iraq Prosthetics Project

The Rotary Club of Montgomery Village has partnered with other Rotary clubs as well as with Physicians for Peace, Hanger Orthopedic Group, Inc., the Mosaic Foundation, Suburban Hospital in Bethesda, King Hussein Medical Center in Amman, Jordan, Amman Cosmopolitan Rotary Club, and the Ministry of Health in Iraq to bring aid to the amputees

of war-torn Basra, Iraq. The numbers of physically amputees in Iraq rise as innocent civilians fall victim to landmines, bombs, and insurgent attacks. It is estimated that there are in excess of 50,000 amputees in Iraq, many of which are women and children. Healthcare in the war-torn nation is barely accessible and of poor quality. Prosthetics are desperately needed to improve the prospects and quality of life for these. District 7620 partnering Rotary Clubs: Montgomery Village, Washington, D.C., Pikesville-Owings Mill, Bethesda-Chevy, Waldorf, Annapolis, Wheaton- Kensington, **Potomac-Bethesda**, College Park, and Prince Frederick. Other partnering Rotary Clubs: Amman Cosmopolitan Rotary Club, Amman Jordan, and Rotary Club of Coronado, California. For information contact Linda Smythe: Linda.A.Smythe@kp.org [from District Newsletter]

Clubs in District 7620 net \$23,100 of Public Relations Funding

In an effort to promote Rotary world-wide and at the community level, Rotary International provided an opportunity for local Rotary Clubs to compete for Public Relations funding. 23 Clubs in District 7620 submitted applications. Of them Gaithersburg, Damascus, Frederick, South Anne Arundel County, Prince Frederick, Carroll Creek, Bel Air, Beltsville, Washington D. C., Capital Hill, Lexington Park, Elkridge, Ellicott City, and Parole were awarded grants from \$600 to \$3000 dollars. Congratulations to everyone for their outstanding efforts. We look forward to seeing these monies making an impact in community awareness. [from District Newsletter]

www.pb-rotary.org www.rotary7620.org www.rotary.org

February 8, 2007 - Page 2

Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club News

Theme Announced For The 2007-08 Rotary Year

By Antoinette Tuscano Rotary International News
29 January 2007

The 2007-08 theme **Rotary Shares** will act as a daily reminder of what ordinary people can accomplish through the extraordinary work of Rotary, said RI President-elect Wilfrid J. Wilkinson at the 2007 International Assembly's opening session on January 29.

"What makes Rotary great is our expressing the love in our hearts through the work of our hands and our minds," said Wilkinson. "As Rotarians, we don't just sit back and talk about loving other human beings. As Rotarians, we demonstrate that love, and we share that love, through helping each other."

Almost everything Rotary does involves sharing, Wilkinson told the 532 district governors-elect gathered at the meeting in San Diego. "We share our time, we share our talents, and we share our money with others who need our help."

Furthermore, he said, "In Rotary, sharing doesn't mean giving away what you have to spare, what you don't need for yourself. Sharing means giving of yourself, selflessly, for the good of others."

And Rotarians don't need to do this alone. They know that when the need for service in their community can't be met by one club alone, they can call on Rotarians from around

the world to help, said Wilkinson.

More than a theme, *Rotary Shares* is a call to action. As the incoming governors begin preparing for the year ahead with the training and inspiration they receive at the International Assembly, Wilkinson asked them to focus on sharing their leadership, skills, and dedication to making clubs and districts stronger.



Sharing Rotary does more than strengthen Rotary; it ensures that Rotary continues a second century of service. *Rotary Shares* means inviting people to join their local Rotary clubs.

"Rotary will only be able to continue sharing if it continues to grow," said Wilkinson. To help Rotary grow, Wilkinson requested that all of the incoming

governors ask their club presidents to bring in one new club member during their year in office.

"Without new members, nothing else matters," he said. Without our youth and new members, "it will only take a few decades for Rotary to disappear, and we've already seen that happen in other service clubs."

In addition to the crucial job of welcoming new club members, the president-elect said Rotarians should not forget their past. He asked them to reach out to former club members, including club members' widows and widowers.

www.pb-rotary.org www.rotary7620.org www.rotary.org

February 8, 2007 - Page 3

Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club News

Wilkinson reminded the audience that the opportunities they'll have to help may not come their way again.

"This year is your chance to be a district governor, to help your clubs, to guide them, to share your strengths and your love."

In the year ahead, a great deal will be asked of Rotarians, said Wilkinson.

"I ask you all, this year, to share Rotary freely and fully. Work hard, and work with love. And remember that everything you do in service to others is part of the magic of Rotary, the magic that allows ordinary people, like you and me, do absolutely amazing things."



"In Rotary, sharing doesn't mean giving away what you have to spare – what you don't need for yourself. Sharing means giving of yourself, selflessly, for the good of others. In the coming year, I will ask you to focus on

what each of you has to share with Rotary: your leadership, your skills, and your dedication to making your clubs and your district better and stronger."

– Wilfrid Wilkinson, RI President, 2007-08

What does the 2007-08 theme, Rotary Shares, mean to you and your district? Here's what some participants at the International Assembly had to say:

Vinay Dattatray Kulkarni, District 3130's governor-elect from Pune, India

"It means we share our knowledge, and we share our resources with the needy people of the community."



Gwendolyn Ridgley, District 7330's governor-elect from Uniontown, Pennsylvania, USA

"Rotary Shares means we indeed can continue to make a difference, both on a broader and a smaller scale."

Dean L. Jackson, District 5420's governor-elect from Provo, Utah, USA

"It's the opportunity to take all of the dynamics of Rotary and share those in a tangible way, not only with our fellow members, but with the community at large. It also reminds us to reassess our resources and make them available to those less fortunate than us."

Past District Governor Bob J. Aitken, from Lapstone, New South Wales, Australia, an d editor of Rotary Down Under

"It's one of the most perfect themes of recent years. Like *Lead the Way*, it encourages all to be personally involved by example."

**Send your photos and articles to
Bob.Nelson@NASA.gov
for inclusion in the
Rotary Club newsletter.**

www.pb-rotary.org www.rotary7620.org www.rotary.org

February 8, 2007 - Page 4

Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club News

New World Health Organization Leader Announces Antipolio Action

By Vukoni Lupa-Lasaga Rotary International News
30 January 2007

World Health Organization Director-General Margaret Chan has begun to act on her pledge to press ahead with the goal of eradicating polio worldwide.

On 22 January at WHO headquarters in Geneva, Chan announced that she is convening an urgent consultation of major stakeholders on polio next month. Stakeholders include the four remaining polio-endemic countries – Afghanistan, India, Nigeria, and Pakistan – and donor countries that have traditionally supported polio eradication financially.

"The expected outcome is a set of milestones that must be met if transmission is to be interrupted in the four remaining endemic countries," Chan said at the opening of the twice-yearly session of the WHO Executive Board.

The director-general told the 34-member board that polio eradication represents a potentially huge gain for children. But she also noted that while "it is technically feasible to interrupt polio transmission worldwide," the world needs to overcome operational and financial obstacles.

"I believe we need to assess the country-level operations very carefully to ensure that we can indeed interrupt transmission globally," she said.

Scheduled for 27-28 February, the consultation comes at a time when the Global

Polio Eradication Initiative has launched new strategies to address delays in halting transmission of the poliovirus in the polio-endemic countries.

Chan, who took office on 4 January, said in several public statements since her appointment in November that polio will be one of WHO's priorities during her tenure. She has signaled that she will push hard to make available the resources needed to finish the job.

At her inauguration, she told WHO staff that polio eradication is one of the important commitments she has inherited. "Quite simply, we must succeed," she said. "This is not just about meeting a goal. It is about delivering a perpetual gift to every future generation of children to be born."

Soon after, at her first media briefing, the director-general called for renewed conviction and commitment to the goal of polio eradication. She promised frank discussions with stakeholders about a new course of action.

"I feel that the next few months is a very critical period for us to review what needs to be done in order to achieve polio eradication," she told journalists.

Less than a week after taking office, Chan met with RI President William B. Boyd and International PolioPlus Committee Chair Robert Scott.

"We were strongly encouraged by the personal commitment and organizational resources Dr. Chan clearly intends to devote to ensure we achieve our shared goal of a

Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club News

polio-free world," said Boyd. "It inspires us as Rotarians to maintain our efforts to overcome the final remaining challenges."

The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International Statistics

Total Program Awards and Expenses

\$128.3M including:

- \$24.9M for PolioPlus
- \$33.1M for Matching Grants
- \$ 5.2M for District Simplified Grants
- \$ 3.1M for Health, Hunger and Humanity (3-H) Grants
- \$14.8M for Ambassadorial Scholarships
- \$ 3.9M Group Study Exchange
- \$ 1.6M for Disaster Recovery
- \$16.9M for total program operation expenses
- \$13.7M fund development
- \$ 6.6M for general administration

Total Program Awards and Expenses

Since 1947 \$1.7 billion

Contributions to The Rotary Foundation

\$111.9M, including

- \$92.6M to the Annual Programs Fund
- \$ 12.1M to the Permanent Fund
- \$ 5.6M to the PolioPlus Fund
- \$ 1.6M to Temporarily Restricted

Paul Harris Fellows

1,011,551 fellows

First Paul Harris Fellow in 1957

70% of annual contributions are derived from Paul Harris Fellow recognitions

Rotary Foundation Benefactors

71,318 total Benefactors

Scholarships Program

47,000+ scholarships granted since 1947
In 2005-06, 731 scholars from 59 countries studied in 60 countries.

Group Study Exchange

2575 participants

Started in 1965

57,000+ participants

\$3.9M awarded in 2005-06

100+ countries involved

\$92.0M awarded to date

District Simplified Grants

396 grants were approved in 2005-06

57 countries received District Simplified Grants

\$5.2M awarded in 2005-06

Matching Grants

2,016 new grants approved

Started in 1965

167 project countries

\$33.1M awarded in 2005-06

Health, Hunger and Humanity (3-H) Program

In 2005-06, 11 new projects were approved.

Program awards were \$3.1M.

Since 1978, 287 projects in 75 countries have been funded at a cost of \$74.0M.

Individual Grants

191 grants approved in 2005-06

93 countries receiving individual grants

In October 2005, this program was retired and has been replaced by Volunteer Service Grants

PolioPlus

\$595+M committed to date

Started in 1985

\$24.9M awarded in 2005-06

** Rotary's fiscal year begins 1 July and ends 30 June*

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February 8, 2007 - Page 6