

Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club News

Tonight's Program

May 3 - 6:30pm

Rotary Club Meeting at Hunter's Inn
Capt. Michael Rojas: "Salvation Army Services in Montgomery County."



Captain Michael Rojas grew up in Minnesota and lived in Florida for several years where he met his wife, Captain Christine Rojas. Captain Christine grew up in Iowa before moving to Florida. Captains Rojas come

to Montgomery County with their children Michael Jr. who is 10 and Savanna who is 9.

New Member Installation:
Klaus-Dieter Ordemann
Welcome!



Club Member News

Birthday wishes go to **Joe Jennette** who celebrated his 75th birthday on April 24.

Congratulations to **Alan Cookson** on his retirement from the National Institute for Standards and Technology. It is reported that **Elizabeth** has a honey-do list ready to go.

Anil Alpay is the new Manager of the Chevy Chase Bank near Montgomery Mall. Congratulations, **Anil**, on your new position!

Art Blitz was selected as one of the "Maryland Super Lawyers" and is included in the list published in the January 2007 edition of the magazine by the same name.

We were very pleased that **Neil Cohen** joined us at the last meeting after a long sabbatical.

April 26 Meeting Report:

The venue was the Kenwood Country Club for meeting the first ever Rotary Group Study Exchange Team from the new Rotary District 2220 located entirely within Russia. Several



neighboring Rotary clubs adjusted their regular meetings last week to have a joint meeting hosted by the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Rotary Club. The Rotary District crosses twelve time zones in Russia. Each member of the medically-oriented team described their home towns, families and vocations. Dmitry Vankov, an Anesthesiology and Intensive



Care Specialist, is from Cherepovets, a town of 360,000 people. Leyla Akhadova, a Pediatric Neurologist, came from the largest city, Moscow, with 11 million population. Larisa Miroshnikova is Vice President of a

Pharmaceutical Company in Ekaterinburg. Alexey Sergienko, is an Ophthalmologist from Krasnodar. Andrey Bashlachev is head of Surgery at a municipal hospital in Ivanovo. Team Leader Irina Zavolokina gave a wonderful travelogue of St. Petersburg (pop. 5M) where she is a member of the White Nights Rotary Club. Her club has 29 members including 6 women.

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Rotary Calendar

May 4-6 Rotary District Conference

May 5 – Rotary District Assembly

May 8 – 7pm Manna Center

May 10 - 6:30pm

Rotary Club Meeting at Hunter's Inn
Rotary Club Assembly

May 17 - 6:30pm

Rotary Club Meeting at Hunter's Inn
Klaus-Dieter Ordemann
Classification Talk

May 19 – Saturday

Renovation at Jewish Group Homes

May 24 - 6:30pm

Rotary Club Meeting at Hunter's Inn

May 31 - 6:30pm

Rotary Club Meeting at Hunter's Inn
Our Rotary Club Project in Ethiopia:
Orphanage for AIDS Orphans

June 21 – Lou Fetting's 90th Birthday

Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club

President's Membership Goal:

Two More Members and the Potomac Village barber at our evening meeting will shave Jerry's head, beard and mustache! Let's meet his challenge!

Please Pay Your Invoice

For The Second Quarter Of 2007

To President Elect Don Smith

10805 Admirals Way

Potomac, MD 20854

Rotarians Help Virginia Tech Heal

By Lisa Baker RI News Photo courtesy of Michael Kiernan/Virginia Tech 1 May 2007

Rotarians in Blacksburg, Virginia, joined their community in helping the victims of the 16 April shootings, where student Seung-Hui Cho killed 32 students and faculty and injured 25 others before taking his own life. The Rotary Club of Christiansburg-Blacksburg, Virginia, has made a substantial donation to the Hokie Spirit Memorial Fund. The fund was already set up through Virginia Tech and helps the victims and their families with grief counseling, memorials, and various other expenses. It is named after the Virginia Tech mascot, the HokieBird, which resembles a maroon cardinal. A Hokie is also considered a loyal Virginia Tech fan.

The club held their normal Monday night meeting on 16 April to decide how to help. According to the Rotary club president, Janet Johnson, "Supporting the Hokie Spirit fund was the best thing to do at the time because of the urgency of this situation."

The Rotarians offered their homes to all students who wanted to leave campus and couldn't get home, but they also offered to house and help the families of the victims. Many Rotarians work on campus, and have also spent hours consoling and helping all students and families, and they plan to continue to do so.

"If anything good has come from this tragedy – it's that it has united us. The entire community has become Hokies," said Johnson. "Everybody's wearing orange and maroon, hanging flags, door decorations and bows everywhere."

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Johnson says that Rotarian involvement does not end here. "We will re-evaluate what the needs are and do more in time. I think some time must go by before we have a clear picture," she says.

By focusing on youth programs, District Governor C. Ned Lester (District 7570, which is part of Tennessee and Virginia) believes Rotarians can help prevent other tragedies like this one.

"This is a time to evaluate and strengthen our Rotary youth programs. I really think RI's



youth committees need to look at the goals and objectives and see how our total youth programs can address the developmental needs of youth - including character and leadership development. We need to partner with the school system and other appropriate groups."

The Rotaract club at Virginia Tech also asks anyone interested to donate to the Hokie Spirit Memorial Fund. Because Rotaractors connect with each other regularly on a Yahoo! Group, as soon as the media began reporting the shootings, Rotaractors from all over the world flocked to this online group to offer help and send condolences. Numerous Rotaract clubs have already donated to the fund, as have many Rotary and Interact clubs.

An Ambassadorial Scholar from the Philippines, Joy Perez, is currently studying at Virginia Tech after being awarded the (Past RI President) William Skelton Endowed Scholarship. She was off-campus at the time of the shootings.

To learn how you can help the victims of the Virginia Tech shootings, visit the Hokie Spirit Memorial Fund's Web site at http://www.vt.edu/tragedy/memorial_fund.php

2007 Council On Legislation Shows Rotary's 'Democracy In Action'

By Tonya Weger and Joseph Derr RI News 1 May 2007

The democratic process shaped the 2007 Council on Legislation in Chicago. Perhaps no one was happier about that than Rotary's top leaders, many of whom were at the event, which ran from 23 to 27 April.

"It was very democratic," said Rotary International President William B. Boyd at the Council's close. "The Board tried not to intrude, and the trustees were there to hear what delegates had to say. It was the delegate's Council. I don't think anybody gets everything they want, but that's the beauty of democracy, isn't it?"

RI President-elect Wilfrid J. Wilkinson agreed. "This week was another example of the internationality of Rotary and a great example of democracy in action," said Wilkinson.

Overall, the Council had a busy week, addressing some 337 items that were brought forward by delegates coming from throughout Rotary's 530 districts worldwide.

The growth of Rotary

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Ways to bring new members into Rotary and keep the family of Rotary growing were key themes during the first two days of the meeting. Enactment 07-329, which passed with overwhelming support, adds a phrase to the RI constitution that says community leaders can join business and professional leaders in Rotary. (Read more in Monday's story.)

Boyd knows a perfect candidate for Rotary – a dedicated community leader – who meets the new criteria. "This [enactment] will improve Rotary," said Boyd. In fact, Boyd has already spoken about this potential member with the president of the Rotary club located in the area near the community leader.

The Council also sent resounding endorsements of two items related to key initiatives. Enactment 07-68 affirmed that the eradication of polio is a goal of the highest order of Rotary International, while 07-116 endorsed the mission, motto, and priorities of the Future Vision Plan for The Rotary Foundation.

Dues increase

In a move that will impact all Rotary clubs, delegates passed an enactment (07-283) to increase per capita dues beginning in 2008-09. It will effectively raise the dues Rotary club members pay by US\$1 per year through 2010-11. Delegates also voted to increase the contribution of Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland to the unrestricted net assets of RI (07-292).

The Council recognized that with increased dues comes increased fiscal responsibility. Delegates voted to enact items that revise the level of the general surplus fund (07-290), authorize the RI Board to suspend a club that

fails to pay its financial obligation to RI or the district fund (07-291), and revise district financial reporting requirements (07-158).

The Council also debated the need for more transparency in Rotary business matters. Enactment 07-357, to require the RI Board to announce the results of deliberations for adopted resolutions at the Council, was adopted.

By adopting item 07-228, the Council amended the rules for selecting the RI president-nominee. The enactment stressed that the best qualified Rotarian shall be selected for service and that campaigning and canvassing is forbidden. Boyd was impressed with the Council's treatment of this and related items.

"There was a recommendation (enactment 07-227) that a director would have to wait five years to be able to become president, which was rejected," said Boyd, supporting the Council's decision. "We don't want the oldest possible person or to limit the field."

Rezoning

Zoning issues also were hotly debated during the week. A proposed enactment (07-173), to increase the number of directors from 17 to 18 and revise the criteria for setting zone boundaries, failed.

"For the next two years, the big ongoing issue for the Board will be rezoning," Boyd said. "The key will be fairness, while not tearing up fellowship."

The Council also requested that the RI Board consider including Hindi (07-213) and Russian (07-219) as official languages. "This was a highlighted issue at the Council," Boyd said. "We are an international organization. How

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will we balance out translation needs versus costs?"

Council Casts Vote Of Confidence For Strengthening Membership: Results From 23 April

By Joseph Derr RI News 24 April 2007

CHICAGO – Ways to bring in new members to Rotary and keep the family of Rotary growing were key themes during the first full day of voting at the 2007 Council on Legislation in Chicago, where representatives from 530 Rotary districts around the world gathered to discuss and vote on more than 300 items that affect all Rotary clubs.

Despite some technical difficulties with voting equipment early on, Council members were able plough through some 60 items related to Rotary business matters – from meetings and attendance to club administration and membership. The final item of the day, proposed enactment 07-329, which says clubs can bring in community leaders who have “demonstrated personal involvement in community affairs and a commitment to service and the Object of Rotary,” generated overwhelming support and ended the day on a positive note as Rotarians looked toward the future.

“Today, we’ve added a comma here and an extra word there, but now’s the moment for Rotary to really move ahead,” said Past RI President Clifford L. Dochterman in support of the resolution.

The item, which passed 440 to 53, recognizes the importance of local volunteers who have “lifetimes of experience to offer Rotary,” said

Brad Howard, representing District 5170, which includes the Rotary Club of Cupertino, California, USA. That club had proposed a similarly worded enactment (07-328) about the role of community leaders who have demonstrated through their leadership they would make active Rotarians. The enactment was inspired in part by the Cupertino club’s successful New Models for Rotary Clubs pilot project, which used the criteria to bring in active new members.

Rotary e-clubs got a vote of confidence when a proposed resolution to request that the RI Board consider discontinuing e-clubs (07-36) failed. Numerous Rotarians argued that e-clubs continue to offer a way to attract younger members and flexibility for current members who have time constraints or live in remote rural areas.

Another item (07-42), which passed by a vote of 376 to 111, adds an incentive to Rotaractors who would like to join a Rotary club. Now, individuals who have been active in a Rotaract club within the last two years will be exempt from paying an admission fee to join a Rotary club. The Council also passed a resolution to request the RI Board to consider encouraging clubs to welcome Rotary Foundation alumni as guests at club meetings (07-39).

A resolution (07-35) to request the RI Board to terminate a club with fewer than 10 members failed. David Robinson, representing RI District 5050, spoke in opposition of the resolution, recounting the story of a club in that district that rose from just 11 to more than 25 active members.

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"That club went on to be the fifth largest per capita giver to The Rotary Foundation in the district," said Robinson. "When a club's membership dips to 10 or below, it's not the time to give up on the club, but to offer resources to help them grow."

Rotarians also lent their support to resolution 07-37 proposed by the RI Board of Directors, which authorizes the RI Board to suspend or terminate a club that fails to investigate an allegation that a member violated youth protection laws. Supporters of the measure said it will foster Rotary's commitment to protect children and encourage clubs to act swiftly to investigate allegations of any wrongdoing.

Other passed enactments or resolutions included amending the standard Rotary club constitution to include the Four Avenues of Service (07-29), requiring members to attend 50 percent of regular meetings in each half of the Rotary year (07-14), and clarifying the terms of the president-nominee and president-elect (07-44).

Council Strong On Polio Eradication: Results From 24 April

By Tonya Weger RI News 25 April 2007

CHICAGO – Rotary's parliament determined to hold fast with Rotary's commitment to eradicating polio in its second full day of voting at the 2007 Council on Legislation in Chicago, where representatives from 530 Rotary districts around the world gathered to discuss and vote on more than 300 items that affect all Rotary clubs.

RI Director Kwang Tae Kim proposed, on behalf of the Board of Trustees, to maintain

PolioPlus as Rotary's corporate program of the highest order. "Until it is eradicated, we should not select another corporate program," he told Council members. "So far we have 99 percent eradication. We have only one last percent."

Council members answered his call to action by passing the vote (07-68) 463 to 36. "I'm delighted! I think what it shows is there's a huge majority of Rotarians still supportive of the program," said Robert S. Scott, chair of the International PolioPlus Committee. Rotarian "representatives voted overwhelmingly to continue support until polio is eradicated – actually until certification of eradication is attained."

Due to this decision, the Council referred several items of consideration to the board. Other items, such as water projects, hunger and poverty initiatives, and combating the spread of tuberculosis, were deemed as worthy projects by the Council and forwarded on for review, as they could not be considered as corporate programs.

Council members addressed almost 60 votes Tuesday, taking the total items of consideration to 117.

Continuing Monday's theme, the Council discussed the key issues of how to bring in new members to Rotary and ways to keep the family of Rotary growing.

In an overwhelming majority, Council members voted to allow clubs to elect into active membership Rotary Foundation alumni, even if the classification of the alumnus is filled. According to Jeffrey Cadorette, who represented District 7450 (Pennsylvania, USA), Foundation alumni have the ability to

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"move Rotary forward – they are the shining jewels." The enactment (07-330) passed with a 414-81 vote.

Staying consistent, the Council determined to allow Rotary Foundation alumni to be active members with a vote of 407-84 on item 07-57.

Another item (07-331), which passed by a vote of 271-219, amended the Standard Rotary Club Constitution to clarify that when a member is terminated, a club may still elect a new member within the terminated member's classification during any appeal period. This could be done as long as the number of active members in such classification is within the provided limitations, even if the club board decision about termination is reversed.

Council Approves Dues Increase, Endorses Foundation's Plan: Results From 25 April

By Joseph Derr RI News 26 April 2007

CHICAGO – In a move that will impact all Rotary clubs, the 2007 Council on Legislation Wednesday passed an enactment to increase per capita dues beginning in 2008-09, with the increase going into effect July 2008. The enactment (07-283), proposed by the RI Board of Directors, effectively raises dues Rotary club members pay US\$1 per year through 2010-11.

The enactment pertains to Article 17.030 of the Bylaws of Rotary International, and maintains dues at \$23.50 per half year in 2007-08, increases to \$24.00 per half year in 2008-2009, \$24.50 per half year in 2009-10, and \$25.00 per half year in 2010-11.

Treasurer Frank N. Goldberg said the dues increase was necessary, citing costs of supporting an increased number of Rotary clubs and districts in recent years. The moderate increase will help maintain the worldwide operations and essential services of RI, including international meetings and communications, while helping to offset inflation.

After much debate on both sides, an enactment (07-173) proposed by the Board to increase the number of directors from 17 to 18 and revise the criteria for setting zone boundaries failed to get the two-thirds majority it needed to pass, being a proposed enactment to the RI constitution.

The assembly also tackled several items related to The Rotary Foundation. With a resounding vote of 437 to 38, the Council endorsed the mission, motto, and priorities of the Future Vision Plan for The Rotary Foundation. The plan aims to simplify and streamline the Foundation, while advocating proactive problem-solving, increased Rotarian involvement in district-level project administration, and planning for growth.

"The discussion was very interesting and fully supported by the Council, who supported not only the idea but also the activities of this plan," said Trustee Chair Luis Vicente Giay. "Rotarians on the floor have told me that simplicity is a good beginning for a new vision."

The Council also sent along several resolutions for the Trustees to consider, including reducing the minimum amount for Matching Grants from \$5,000 to \$2,500 and

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authorizing the construction of buildings using Matching Grants.

It was also a day in which the legislative body of Rotary passed measures about itself. The Council passed enactments encouraging a maximum of five legislative items per district (07-308), while revising both the procedure for selecting Council representatives and the timetable for submitting proposed legislation (07-304). These policies will take affect during the next Council on Legislation in 2010.

Other passed items included enactments amending the process of appealing RI Board actions (07-342), revising the appointment process (07-164) for RI committees, and revising district financial reporting requirements (07-158).

Council Wants More Democratic Processes And Transparency: Results From 26 April

By Tonya Weger RI News 27 April 2007

CHICAGO – The 2007 Council on Legislation debated enactment proposals Thursday, 26 April, changing several aspects of the organization's constitution.

Representatives from 530 Rotary districts around the world debated passionately about key issues, focusing both on present needs within Rotary, while taking into account what has worked during its solid century of service. Key issues revealed the need for more democratic processes and transparency in Rotary business matters.

For instance, Shigekazu Miyazaki proposed enactment 07-357 on behalf of District 2650 (Japan), saying, "Clubs and districts have a

right to know about deliberations of the Board." He said the RI Board should communicate results of considered resolutions with district governors and ensure the posting of determinations on the RI Web site.

While enactments change the RI Constitution, resolutions are sent to the board for further review upon recommendation of the Council. This shall take place within one year of the conclusion of the Council.

Additionally, the rules for selecting an RI president-nominee were amended in ruling 07-228. Driving this determination was the desire to ensure that the best qualified Rotarian would be selected for RI's elective offices. The item states that any effort to influence the selection process in a positive or negative manner by campaigning, canvassing, or electioneering would be prohibited.

This enactment also changes the deadlines for the election of members to the nominating committee for RI president. Furthermore, this enactment would also change the deadline for eligible Rotarians to notify the general secretary that they are willing to be considered for nomination for the office of RI president from 31 August to 30 June and provide that the nominating committee for RI president would meet no later than 15 August.

Enactment 07-269, which centers on provisions regarding election complaints and proposing challenging candidates for the office of RI director, failed. In debate, District 7490's (New Jersey, USA) William F. Rupp deemed the motion as "inappropriate," noting the need for democratic process.

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With enactment 07-357, the Council voted to require the RI Board to announce the results of deliberations for adopted resolutions. This item requires the RI Board to notify all governors of RI Board actions taken as a result of resolutions adopted at a Council on Legislation. This shall take place within one year of the conclusion of the Council.

On Friday, 27 April, the Council enters its fifth and final day of voting, with 65 resolutions and three motions of consideration remaining.

Zoning Issues Debated On Final Day Of Council: Results For 27 April

By Tonya Weger RI News 27 April 2007

CHICAGO – After covering all of the enactments from the previous days, Rotarian delegates worked through the remaining 65 resolutions at the 2007 Council on Legislation on Friday, 27 April. They also held firm to initial decisions in three highly debated motions that were presented for reconsideration.

Zoning issues, a hot topic throughout the week, resurfaced. Resolution 07-174 was referred to the RI Board for consideration of worldwide rezoning to give all zones an approximately equal number of Rotarians. Seunggi Paik, of District 3640 (Korea), told the Council, "I stand here to support this resolution to keep fairness for all." Echoes of the previous day's Council session resonated as he spoke of democracy and equality for all. "Some zones have population difficulties – fairness is a basic principle," he said.

The following resolution, 07-175, which requested the RI Board to consider realigning districts currently located in two zones so that

each district is located in only one zone, was approved. Additionally, with item 07-177 the Council requested the RI Board to consider reorganizing Zone 5 into three sections, instead of the present two sections. Zone 5 covers Nepal and parts of India.

Among other matters, the Council also requested that the RI Board consider including Hindi [07-213] and Russian [07-219] as official languages. Debates weighed need verses translation costs.

The Council also showed its desire for Rotary to be more cost effective by passing resolution 07-180, which requests the RI Board to consider finding more efficient and less expensive ways to communicate with Rotary clubs.

Three proposed enactments failed to be reconsidered by the Council. They were to increase the number of members on the nominating committee for RI president [07-231], to increase the number of directors from 17 to 18 and revise the criteria for setting zone boundaries [07-173], and to amend the definition of defective legislation to include resolutions that require or request an administrative act [07-311].

Overall, the Council addressed some 337 items that were brought forward by delegates coming from throughout Rotary's 530 districts worldwide.

"It was a busy and rewarding week and a productive Council on Legislation," said Council Chair John F. Germ in his closing comments. "I congratulate you on a great week of hard, dedicated work. What we have done here will have a great impact on Rotary."

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