

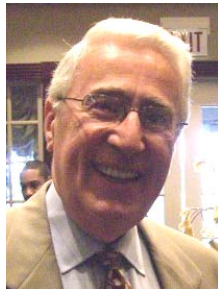
# Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club News

## Rotary Club Calendar

August 23 - 6:30pm Meeting at Hunters Inn

Speaker: Ed Underriner

### Rotary Update



Ed has served as Rotary District Executive Secretary for the past ten years. He is very knowledgeable on the Rotary District and will provide the latest updated information. There will also be a vote on the Club Bylaws Revision.

August 23 - 8pm Board of Directors Meeting

August 30 - 6:30pm Picnic at Great Falls Park

Featuring Reed Martin, legend on the banjo.

He recently appeared at the Birchmere.

Families welcome! (no charge)

September 6 - 6:30pm Meeting-Hunters Inn

Jan Potker, Author

Sara and Eleanor: The Story of Sara Delano Roosevelt and Her Daughter-in-Law, Eleanor Roosevelt; and Janet and Jackie: The Story of a Mother and Her Daughter Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis.

September 11 - 7pm Manna Food Center

September 13 - 6:30pm Meeting-Hunters Inn

Dr. Elizabeth Fihe and Dr. James Marinucci

AIDS Orphans in Africa

September 17 - 6pm Sophia House

Feed the Homeless in Rockville

September 20 - 6:30pm Meeting-Hunters Inn

Rotary District Governor Rich Carson

October 4 - No Meeting

October 6 - Annual Chartering Celebration

Picnic at Dick and Jane Gordon's Home

### Inside This Issue:

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## Manna Center Food Boxes Packing Continues Through the Summer



**Over 30,000 boxes of food have been packed by our Rotary Club at the Manna Food Center in Rockville!**

Thanks so much to the August packers Alex, Alexandra, Bernard, Bob, Cecilia, Evan, Kathy, Laura, Lucy, Mark, Mike, Nabil, Rita, Steve and Yasi for their service. [Photos by Steve Naron]



**Steve Naron** continues to serve as a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar Counselor. **So Rie Lee** (to left of Steve) completed her MS in International Development at GWU and recently returned to Korea. **Kanae Tsutsumi** has just arrived from Japan (to right of Steve) and has taken over So Rie's apartment. She is studying travel at GWU and was a guest at the club meeting on August 16. Welcome, Kanae, to our Rotary Club family!

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The Summer Rotary Social on August 16 featured wine, cheese and fine fellowship. Special guests were Kevin Brandt, National Park Service, and Matt Logan, C&O Canal Trust.



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## **Group Study Exchange Team Leader Competition: 2008 Group Study Exchange with District 1600, Southwest Netherlands**

**Dates:** Leave for the Netherlands on April 26, 2008; Return on May 24, 2008

**Team Leader:** Applications for the Rotarian GSE team leader will be accepted until September 15, 2007.

**Selection will be made in late September.**

The selected team leader and alternate will be expected to participate in selecting team members in early November, preparing the team for the exchange during December through April, accompanying the team to the Netherlands, making presentations to Rotary clubs about the exchange after returning, and in helping administer future GSEs.

**Team leader application forms** are available on the RI web site. Go to the GSE section under The Rotary Foundation and download.

**Mail applications to the District Office** or to:

G. S.(Stovy) Brown, 10375 Mackall Road, St. Leonard, MD 20685

### **Selection Criteria:**

The GSE committee will use the following factors in selecting this year's team leader. These are considered guidelines only.

- Age: 45 - 65 years old
- Successful career
- Enthusiastic about profession
- Proven ambassador
- Experienced Rotarian



- Free for the time of the exchange
- Broad background and interests
- Team leading successes
- General knowledge of District 7620
  - Outstanding communication skills
- In good health and active
- Wide experience abroad
- Mature and emotionally independent

GSE Committee Chair, Stovy Brown  
[stovy@chesapeake.net](mailto:stovy@chesapeake.net)

## **Rotary clubs step up to assist victims of severe floods in South Asia**

(New Delhi, 10 August 2007) – As monsoon-driven floodwaters threaten nearly 22 million people in northern India, Bangladesh and Nepal, Rotary clubs have stepped up relief efforts to deliver food, medicines and clothing to marooned villages.

In the Maharajganj, Gorakhpur and Bara Banki districts of India's northern Uttar Pradesh state, where more than two million people are affected, Rotarians are helping government aid workers distribute water purification tablets in flood-ravaged villages. Rotary-supported mobile medical teams have been dispatched to combat expected outbreaks of gastroenteritis, dengue fever and

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malaria.

Shaikh Abdul Hadi, a member of the Rotary Club of Khulna North in Bangladesh, said his club is distributing food, "although it is very little" compared with the overwhelming need. "Large portions of Bangladesh are under floodwater," he said. "Sixty percent of the people in the country are homeless. Every one of us somehow affected."

From the United Kingdom, the Rotary club-supported charity, ShelterBox, has sent 200 ShelterBox containers to flooded communities in Nepal. Each container provides tents and other necessities to help 10 people survive for up to six months.

"Rotarians who volunteered as relief workers in the affected areas are asking fellow Rotarians worldwide for more help and aid for the flood victims who have been suffering for days," says A.C. Peter, a member of the Rotary Club of Delhi East End, India. "Children are especially vulnerable to water-borne diseases. The UN has described the flooding as the worst in living memory."

The region's Rotary clubs are also looking for long-term solutions to the flooding problem. For example, the Rotary India Water Conservation Trust seeks to reduce flooding by improving the forest cover in the Gangotri basin and encourage sound management of water resources. Said trust Chairman Sushil Gupta, "Much more needs to be done by Rotary to address recurrence of flood every year by jointly addressing the problem along with South Asian governments."

Meanwhile, Rotary clubs in Pakistan and

Afghanistan are seeking additional aid for victims of a 26 June cyclone that killed 324 people and left 224 missing and more than 377,000 homeless in the Balochistan and Sindh provinces of Pakistan.

## ***Polio just a 'plane ride away'***

By Vanessa N. Glavinskas RI News 13 August 2007

A 22-year-old Pakistani student was released from an Australian hospital on 9 August, after recovering from the polio virus. A national health alert was issued in Australia on 13 July after the student was diagnosed with polio, the first case of the virus in the country in 21 years.

Another case of polio was also detected in Chad last month. Rotary's [PolioPlus Partners](#) program quickly released US\$241,000 to support urgent preventive immunization activities in neighboring Sudan, amid continued political unrest in the country.

International PolioPlus Committee Chair Bob Scott calls the outbreaks a "wake-up call."

"It prove[s] beyond a doubt that polio in your polio-free country is just a plane ride away," Scott says. "It's essential to continue with the PolioPlus program."

The student contracted the disease while visiting his native Pakistan, one of the four remaining polio-endemic countries. He experienced symptoms, including initial paralysis, and recovered at Melbourne's Box Hill Hospital. He was isolated from the community until he tested negative for the virus.

After learning about the case from Jenny

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Horton, a Rotary club member who consults for the World Health Organization on the [Global Polio Eradication Initiative](#) in Pakistan, Melbourne-area Rotarians reacted quickly to support the student's recovery.

Arrangements were made to provide the student with new clothes, since his clothing had been confiscated in case it carried the virus. Jennifer Coburn, of the Rotary Club of Mont Albert & Surrey Hills, Victoria, went to visit the patient in isolation, lifting his spirits by bringing him books, puzzles, and the daily newspaper.

"This is a definite and very easy way to assist a person in need of support," says Coburn, noting how far the student is from his family, and the intense media scrutiny he had been under after the alert was issued. "He is really delighted that he is receiving support from Rotary. The need for human interaction is so important."

## **Polio exhibit opens in its new home**

RI News 9 August 2007

The exhibit, *Whatever Happened to Polio?* opened in its new home at the Roosevelt Warm Springs Institute for Rehabilitation in Georgia, USA. on 15 August.

The exhibit was transferred from the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History to be permanently displayed at the Warm Springs Institute, where former U.S. President Franklin Delano Roosevelt sought treatment for polio.

If you've ever traveled for a National Immunization Day or donated to PolioPlus, this is another chance to get involved in the

eradication effort. Call the Warm Springs Institute at 706-655-5666 for more information.

## **European Rotarians are cycling to serve 23rd Rotary World Cycling Championship coming up at Lake Orta in Northern Italy**

(Evanston, Ill. - Aug. 10 2007) Cycling enthusiasts around Europe are shifting gears in anticipation of the 23rd Annual Rotary World Championship, set for Sept. 7-9 in Mottarone in Italy's Piedmont region.

Organized by Rotary clubs throughout Europe, the championship is held every year in a different European country, attracting up to 300 Rotarian racers competing in four age classes. The entrance fees are distributed as prize money to the winners, who use the funds to support their Rotary clubs' community service projects.

"This gives us an opportunity to share our passion and do something good," says Franco Piola, president of the event's organizing committee and a member of the Rotary Club Orta San Giulio. "The magic of our enchanting Lake Orta will be the ideal setting for a weekend of sport and friendship."

The first Rotary World Cycling Championship was organized in 1984 by the Rotary Club of Herentals in Belgium as a fundraising activity. After three years the club decided that an annual event of this size was too much burden for a single club. A number of Belgian and Dutch race participants came together to establish the fellowship which allows

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Rotarians to share their cycling passion and demonstrate their (strictly non-professional) talents in different locations. Since then the championship has taken place in France, England, Belgium, Germany, the Netherlands, Spain, Turkey and this year for the second time in Italy.

Piola says visiting tourists and local friends will have the opportunity to meet with famous champs of the past – Francesco Moser, Imerio Massignan, Gianni Motta and Michele Dancelli among others— who will compete in a Champions' Race on Sept. 8.

"Faustino Coppi, the son of the biggest champion of all (Fausto Coppi) has also guaranteed his presence," he adds. A former motor-cross pro turned amateur cyclist, Piola competed along with members of his club in last year's championship on the famous race circuit in Zolder, Belgium.

The Rotary Club of San Giulio also invites bike enthusiasts of all ages to participate in the non-competitive "Tour around the Lake" on Sunday. The tour will have a refreshment stop at Cesera, where riders can sample the region's gastronomic specialties.

All proceeds of this fun race will go to help build a much needed extension of the Health Center at Masango in Burundi, a hospital supported by the Rotary Club of San Giulio that provides free medical care to children and adults, including malaria and aids patients.

"Following this year's motto 'Feel Your Passion – Italy 2007', we want to organize a big cycling party where we can combine our

sporting passion with our humanitarian passion," Piola says.

Cultural highlights of three-day event are the "My Doping" show of the theatrical company Casa degli Alfieri on the Piazza Motta on Friday evening (admission is free) and a benefit concert ("Concerto for Organs") with music by J.S. Bach at the Church of San Nicolao, which is included on UNESCO's World Heritage List.

For more information about the cycling championship go to [www.cyclingtoserve.it](http://www.cyclingtoserve.it)

## **August is Rotary Membership Month! Bring a Guest to Each of the Five Meetings This Month!**

**We are looking for men/women in a variety of professions – just a few vocations are listed below:**

**Small Business Owner  
Physician  
Insurance brokers/agent  
Pharmacist  
Banking and Wealth Management  
Journalist/writers  
Architect  
Automotive  
Grocery Store Management  
Rotary Shares by  
Growing Rotary Membership!**

**Please send news articles and photos  
to [Bob.Nelson@NASA.gov](mailto:Bob.Nelson@NASA.gov)  
for inclusion in the newsletter.**

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