

Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club News

Rotary Calendar

May 22 - 6:30pm Meeting - Hunters Inn

John M. Derrick, Jr. - Pepco CEO, Retired



John M. Derrick, Jr. is the retired chairman of the board of Pepco Holdings, Inc. He served the electric utility industry for more than 40 years, having joined the company in 1961 and then subsequently having been appointed vice president of customer services (1981), executive vice president and chief operating officer (1989), president (1992), chief executive officer (1997), and chairman (1999). He is past chairman of the United States Energy Association and is a member of numerous professional organizations,

including the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, the National Society of Professional Engineers, and the Washington Society of Engineers. Derrick chaired the Greater Washington Initiative and the Greater Washington Board of Trade. In 2003, the Board of Trade named him Leader of the Year. In addition, Derrick has chaired the Maryland Chamber of Commerce, the Metropolitan YMCA, and Junior Achievement of the National Capital Area. He was president of the Washington Building Congress and was an active member of the Federal City Council and the Economic Club of Washington. Derrick is a member of several boards including the University of Maryland University College, Wesley Theological Seminary, the University of Maryland Foundation, the Maryland/D.C. Nature Conservancy, Arena Stage, and the Washington Real Estate Investment Trust. Derrick earned his bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from Duke University in 1961 and has done graduate work in engineering administration at The George Washington University. He is a licensed professional engineer in the District of Columbia and Maryland.

May 22 - 8pm Board of Directors Meeting

May 29 - 6:30pm Meeting - Hunters Inn

Paul Samakow - "Identity Theft"

June 5 - 6:30pm Meeting - Hunters Inn

June 10 - 7pm Manna Food Center

Need volunteers for about one hour to pack food boxes at 614 Lofstrand Lane, Rockville

June 12 - 6:30pm Meeting - Hunters Inn

Eolia Sibila and Ann Dorough

"Improve Literacy in our Community."

June 19 - 6:30pm Meeting - Hunters Inn

June 26 - 6:30pm Meeting - Hunters Inn

Dr. Peter Rumm, "Rotary Involvement in Disaster Preparedness"

May 15 Meeting Report

George Mattamal gave a very interesting PowerPoint talk on the work he performs at the Division of General, Restorative, and Neurological Devices, Office of Device Evaluation, US Food and Drug Administration in Rockville. George is a world expert on tissue adhesives and glues being utilized as an alternate technology in clinical applications important to both the medical industry and surgical profession. Many of these emerging tissue adhesives could modify difficult surgical procedures by stabilizing tissue surfaces through hemostasis, sealing of wounds and fixation of tissue in areas inaccessible to staples, clips and suture placement. Currently, physicians have relied heavily on sutures, clips and staples which have an estimated annual worldwide market of US\$2.5B.



One of the adhesives for topical use, synthetic cyanoacrylate, is similar to a product you may have used at home, "Crazy Glue". George also discussed the process that FDA utilizes to approve these devices for medical use in three different classifications depending on its intended use and its indications for use. Classification is risk based with

class I including devices with lowest risk and class III those with the greatest risk. Class I includes liquid bandages, class II includes dental cements and class III includes cyanoacrylate devices such as Dermabond, Indermill® Tissue Adhesive, Histoacryl® and Histoacryl® Blue Topical Skin Adhesive and Trufill® n-Butyl Cyanoacrylate Embolic Agent. Thanks so much, George, for enthusiastically sharing your professional work with all of us!

President-Elect Todd Nitkin reported that **Noel Howard** was attending to a family emergency as his son-in-law was undergoing a twelve-hour cardiac surgery.

Phil Meade conducted a survey to determine what people remember from their childhood. There were discussions of the Old Maid card game, refreshments such as Nehi soda pop and Slush



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Puppy and a favorite snack, Jiffy Pop popcorn. Some of the highlights of the evening were stories from several Rotarians who got a bang out of their childhood by inventing explosive devices. One Rotarian confessed to a George Washington like incident when he participated in blowing up a prize cherry tree. Two Rotarians from the Philadelphia area also told some explosive stories yet still have all their fingers attached. \$53 happy dollars were collected.

Virtual Book Drive Lets Everyone Participate In World Record

RI News - 15 May 2008

Rotary's Wide World of Books aims to collect more than 250,000 children's books, a world record, during the 2008 RI Convention in Los Angeles. Photo courtesy of dpcs Marketing, Inc.



Rotarians heading to the 2008 RI Convention in Los Angeles next month are urged to bring one or several books in the language of their choice for Rotary's Wide World of Books, a commemorative project of the LA2008 Convention Host Organization aimed at boosting literacy among local schoolchildren. Those who want to be a part of this global literacy initiative but aren't able to attend the convention, can still help by making a virtual donation. Scholastic, the world's largest publisher and distributor of children's books, has partnered with Rotary's Wide World of Books and Reading by 9 to provide great books at low cost to Rotary clubs. Scholastic will ship the books free of charge to Los Angeles. Books must be ordered before 1 June to be included in the project. "Literacy is crucial in determining a person's overall academic, professional, and personal success," says Ingo Werk, chair of the initiative and past governor of District 5280. Werk hopes the initiative will set a Guinness World Record for the largest international book drive. A "mountain" of donated books will be on display in the atrium of the Los Angeles Convention Center. This achievement will be certified at the convention, says Werk. Since 2000, a number of Southern California clubs have participated in Reading by 9, a multiyear campaign established by the *Los Angeles Times* that helps students in kindergarten through third grade read at grade level by the age of nine. After the convention, the books will be distributed to schoolchildren living in the geographic area of the seven hosting Rotary districts, which cover parts of Southern California and Southern Nevada.

Family of Rotary

You're invited to celebrate...

UPPER MONTGOMERY COUNTY ROTARY CLUB
~GERMANTOWN

CHARTER NIGHT
with us!

WHEN: TUESDAY JUNE 10TH 2008
WHERE: CAFÉ MILETO
18056 MATENY ROAD, GERMANTOWN MD 20874
RSVP TO: ANILA PAHWA - 202-288-0854
OR EMAIL: ANILAPAHWA@COMCAST.NET
PAYMENT: CHECK OF \$33 PER PERSON
SHOULD BE MAILED BY JUNE 3RD TO
UPPER MONTGOMERY ROTARY CLUB
P.O. BOX 2, GERMANTOWN, MD 20874
www.UpperMontgomeryRotary.org

*Business Attire!
Reception: 6:30 p.m.
Dinner: 7:00 p.m.*

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Exciting Events Planned for 2008 Rotary International Convention

Thousands of Rotarians attending the 2008 RI Convention in Los Angeles will gather on the evening of 14 June for the California Experience, an extravaganza planned by the Host Organization Committee in the Nokia Plaza, next door to the convention center. The event will offer plenty of California wine to sample, a classic car show, and three outdoor stages featuring local talent – from hip-hop dancers to mariachi bands – followed by a concert in the brand-new Nokia Theatre LA Live. Internationally acclaimed R&B singer Natalie Cole will entertain the audience with music from her latest CD and from her breakthrough album, *Unforgettable: With Love*, which features songs written by her father, iconic crooner Nat King Cole. But that's not all that will make this year's convention unforgettable. Other highlights will include:

- The House of Friendship, where Rotarians can learn about Rotary club activities in different nations and visit countless booths offering international foods and products
 - Myriad host hospitality events in Rotarians' homes and at exciting venues across the city
 - A keynote address by Dr. Margaret Chan, director-general of the World Health Organization, on Rotary's role in combating disease
 - A keynote speech by Stephen Lewis, co-director of AIDSFree World and former UN special envoy for HIV/AIDS in Africa.
 - The Concert under the Stars at the world-famous Hollywood Bowl, where the Hollywood Bowl Orchestra will perform music from classic films as scenes from the movies play on a giant screen
- See you in Los Angeles!

**Let us know what's happening with you!
Send your article and photos to
Bob.Nelson@NASA.gov
for inclusion in the newsletter!**

Sustainable Prosperity Takes Root In Rural India

In a village north of Kolkata, India, Rita Baidya works at a Rotary-sponsored school where her son, Sayantan, 7, is a student. She has received a microcredit loan to pay for her training in Montessori teaching methods.



Another microcredit loan helped the Baidyas buy a calf. And every member of the family receives free health care. These benefits are all made possible by an integrated community development project carried out by the Rotary clubs of Calcutta Metropolitan, West Bengal, India, and Medicine Hat, Alberta, Canada, with a US\$300,000 Health, Hunger and Humanity (3-H) Grant from The Rotary Foundation. "The children are in school, which makes us happy," says Sayantan's grandfather, Upendra. "And we also have economic development." The Baidyas are among the more than 10,000 families in four villages who have seen their standard of living rise significantly since the ambitious project began in 2003. "We have a very strong team of workers who are quite knowledgeable, and they are willing to come out of their way to do everything which is possible," says project coordinator Krishna Dhandhanian of his 54-member Calcutta Metropolitan club. The project's success stories also include:

- 54,000 people who are receiving health care and have access to new tube wells and toilets
- 300 children who are studying in three schools
- 250 adults who have received microcredit loans

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- 150 adults who have received stipends for vocational training
- 50 adults who have received direct vocational training
- 50 adults who have attended literacy classes
- 10,000 trees that have been planted, 80 percent of them fruit bearing

"It's thrilling to see how our Rotary clubs, in partnership with The Rotary Foundation, are building a new India," says Krishnan Chari, regional Rotary Foundation coordinator. "We have also seen a dramatic rise in contributions to the Foundation from the Rotarians in India."

Rotarian Pledges \$2 Million To Help End Polio

Rotary's efforts to eradicate polio have gotten a US\$2 million boost from a Rotarian diamond and jewelry magnate. Harshad Mehta, a native of India who is a senior partner in the Belgium-based Rosy Blue diamond and jewelry company, has pledged to donate the money to Rotary's polio eradication efforts over the next three years. Mehta, the largest Indian donor to The Rotary Foundation, was inspired to make the commitment after



learning about the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's \$100 million challenge grant for polio eradication. Rotary must match the grant dollar for dollar over a three year period. Foundation Trustee Chair Robert S. Scott recalls a conversation in December, when Mehta suddenly said, "I will give \$2 million toward the match." It was "a very exciting development and an extremely generous" commitment, says Scott. Mehta, 60, joined the Rotary Club of Bombay Metropolitan in 1986 as a charter member. His previous contributions to The Rotary Foundation have totaled more than \$1 million. Some of the money has been used to endow an Ambassadorial Scholarship that finances recipients' studies at universities. Mehta serves as chair of the United Arab Emirates operations of Rosy Blue, a family

business that employs more than 15,000 people around the world. He's also Armenia's honorary consul in Mumbai and the vice chair of the Dubai Diamond Exchange. He is a past chair of the Gem and Jewelry Export Promotion Council and a past vice president of the Federation of Indian Export Organizations. In his spare time, he enjoys reading, listening to music, walking, swimming, playing cricket, and spending time with his wife, three children, and five grandchildren. In the final push to stop polio, Mehta urges Rotarians not to give up. "We must further strengthen our resolve as we are so close to the ultimate goal," he says. "Any slackening at this point will result in a total loss of all the time, effort, and money put in over the past years."

Photos from Grandma Smiljka

"This is my sunshine, my Matteo. He is doing well and he does not cry very much. His grandma will spoil him with love.

Best wishes to all, I miss the club."

Smiljka

