

Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club News

Rotary Calendar

September 4 - 6:30pm Meeting – Hunters Inn
Gerald Aldridge and Bob Pelletier
Montgomery Works Business Services



MontgomeryWorks' mission is twofold: to help Montgomery County residents prepare to enter or re-enter the workforce, and meet the current and future workforce needs of local employers. Funded by federal and county workforce investment funds, their one-stop workforce centers in Gaithersburg and Wheaton serve over 10,000 job seekers and employers each year. Gerald Aldridge is the Manager of Business Services. Gerald's team focuses on connecting employers and jobs with qualified candidates in Montgomery County. Gerald's career has included local, regional and national sales and marketing positions in health care and research fields. Bob Pelletier is the Local Veterans Employment Representative for MontgomeryWorks. His Veterans' Unit offers employment and training services, vocational guidance, referrals to supportive services and career coaching assistance to honorably discharged veterans. Bob is a retired U.S. Air Force officer, is a Vietnam and Desert Shield/Desert Storm veteran, and has been a Rotarian for over 20 years.

September 9 – 7pm Manna Food Center
September 11 – 6:30pm Meeting & Board

Normandie Farm Restaurant

Winnie Yirga-Keefe and Rahel M. Beyene
EthioGrean Management

September 13 – Membership Development
Seminar, BWI Ramada

September 18 – 6:30pm Meeting – Hunters Inn
Amy Jo O'Hearn on Leukemia & Lymphoma
Society's "Light The Night"

September 25 – 6:30pm Meeting – Hunters Inn
Tom Leitzer on Maryland Initiative To Provide
Health Care For The Uninsured

October 2 - 6:30pm Meeting – Hunters Inn
Steve Naron on Biking the Entire C&O Canal

August 28 Meeting Report

President Todd Nitkin opened the social evening with each Rotarian having the opportunity to express what they were thankful for. Unfortunately



we won't be seeing some of our Rotarians for a while. President Todd will be traveling to Liberia for two weeks, George Mattamal is heading to India for three weeks and Bernard Henry will be teaching on Thursday nights for the next four months at L'Academie de Cuisine. There will be a board meeting on September 11 to go over plans for International Night that may feature a fundraiser for the Ethiopian Orphanage. The photos show that it was a fun evening of fellowship.



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Lucy Bedewi is the water girl for the Georgetown women volleyball team. Here is the schedule of the free games and parking on campus in a garage close to the gym is free on weekends. It would be a great family outing for parents/grandparents and the kids get to meet the coaches and players afterwards.



Georgetown Womens' Volleyball Games in McDonough Gym

Date	Opponent	Time
09/12/08	St. Francis (NY)	7:00 p.m.
09/13/08	Morgan State	1:00 p.m.
09/13/08	Brown	7:30 p.m.
09/22/08	Howard	7:00 p.m.
09/26/08	DePaul	7:00 p.m.
09/28/08	Notre Dame	2:00 p.m.
10/10/08	Syracuse	7:00 p.m.
10/12/08	Marquette	2:00 p.m.
10/26/08	Rutgers	2:00 p.m.
11/14/08	Villanova	8:00 p.m.
11/16/08	Seton Hall	2:00 p.m.

Thanks so much for sharing your photos and news! You are invited to submit articles and photos to BobNelson20854@yahoo.com.

Rotary Maternal Health Project Receives Royal Recognition

By Matthias Schütt
RI News - 29 August 2008

Nigerian Emir Shehu Idris of Zazzau (right) congratulates PDG Robert Zinser during a Turbanning Ceremony at the emir's palace in Zaria 8 August. Photo by Matthias Schütt



In appreciation for his work in improving maternal health care in northern Nigeria, Past Governor Robert Zinser of District 1860 (Germany) was initiated into the inner circle of the Emir of Zazzau, 1 of 10 powerful traditional leaders in northern Nigeria.

Emir Shehu Idris awarded Zinser the traditional title of Shahon Zazzau (Eagle of Zazzau) during a special ceremony 8 August at the emir's palace in Zaria.

Zinser is the project coordinator of a joint Nigerian-Austrian-German Rotary project to treat and prevent obstetric fistula, a painful birth injury that often results in a stillborn child and leaves the woman with chronic incontinence.

"The treatment of fistula patients," says Zinser, "is a humanitarian commitment to help the weakest in Nigeria's society. But this can only be the first step. What we actually pursue is a

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comprehensive approach to raise awareness for medical care for women and rather prevent obstetric fistula."

Reducing child mortality

As vice chair of the Rotary Action Group for Population and Development, Zinser, a member of the Rotary Club of Ludwigshafen-Rheinschanze, has been involved in three projects in Nigeria since 1995, including conducting advocacy and awareness campaigns on child spacing and the risks of early marriage, training health personnel, and delivering quality equipment to hospitals, with the goal of reducing maternal and child mortality.

In 2005 the current €1 million (US\$1.46 million) project was started in the two states of Kano and Kaduna with a target population of 5 million women. The elements of this approach include radio serials, training of health personnel, delivery of medical equipment, and quality improvement of structure, process, and outcome.

Zinser is now the only non-Nigerian on the Emirate Council. During the turbaning ceremony, a white turban was placed on his head. Zinser thanked the emir by handing over one of the 3,000 mosquito nets donated for distribution to families during recent polio vaccination efforts, one of several projects directed at reducing mother and child mortality in Nigeria.

The support of Nigeria's emirs, traditional religious leaders who work in close cooperation with the Nigerian administration, is critical to the continued success of Zinser's work.

Ecostove Project Reduces Indoor Air Pollution

By Diana Schoberg RI News – 28 August 2008



Members of the Rotary Club of Madison, Alabama, USA, help residents of Jayacayan, Honduras, build ecostoves during a recent service project. The stoves burn less wood and vent smoke outside.

Photo courtesy Craig Brennan/Madison Rotary club

Residents of a rural community in Honduras have Rotarians to thank for more efficient stoves that burn less wood and reduce their exposure to indoor air pollution.

The Rotary Club of Madison, Alabama, USA, helped install ecostoves in all 47 homes in Jayacayan, Honduras, earlier this year as part of an ongoing service project. The club got the idea after taking part in a larger service project with other Rotarians in Honduras last year.

The ecostoves vent smoke outside the home, unlike the mud stoves the villagers were using before. Use of those stoves increased the villagers' exposure to indoor air pollution, up to 20 times the acceptable limits, according to the World Health Organization.

The new stoves also use 80 percent less firewood, because the heat is concentrated in a specially designed firebox.

Steve Baum, a Rotarian who helped organize the project, said one woman told him she only

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needs scraps of wood and woodchips to cook.

"We were so rewarded," Baum said. "It made such a difference in these people's lives."

Project roots

Club members decided to take on the project when they went to Honduras in 2007 on a service project with a larger group of Rotarians from the Southern United States.

They researched several designs before settling on this one, in part because all the materials could be purchased in Honduras, helping the local economy. A contact in Honduras worked with people in the community to sell them on the idea for this stove design before the Rotarians started a pilot program. The Rotary Club of Choluteca also helped coordinate between Rotarians and community members.

Early in 2008, several local residents were trained in stove construction. The Madison club paid for the more expensive items for the stoves such as the steel *plancha*, or cooking surface, which cost US\$60 per stove, while community members provided sand, cement, mud blocks, and other materials used to install the stoves.

"That was very important," Baum says. "They had taken ownership of these stoves. It wasn't somebody giving them something ... they contributed to [it] themselves, and they got to see the benefit of it."

The club has set up pilot projects in two more communities in the area in hopes of continuing the project there next year.

Pakistan Reaffirms Support For Ending Polio

By Dan Nixon RI News – 28 August 2008



A Pakistani child receives oral polio vaccine. Photo courtesy of World Health Organization

"We all have to play our full role to turn the dream of a polio-free Pakistan into reality," declared Pakistani Prime Minister Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani on the first day of the country's 19-21 August National Immunization Days. Gilani launched the NIDs by administering drops of polio vaccine to a child in Islamabad.

Before the NIDs, the prime minister had expressed concern over the increase in polio cases in Pakistan. As of 12 August, 27 cases have occurred in 2008, compared to 32 cases in all of 2007. He directed the national health ministry and provincial health departments to ensure that no child would be left unimmunized during the NIDs.

Gilani also called the Global Polio Eradication Initiative a great combined effort and lauded the work of provincial health departments, undertaken in collaboration with the World Health Organization, Rotary International, UNICEF, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and nongovernmental organizations.

The primary areas of indigenous poliovirus transmission in Pakistan are the provinces of North-West Frontier, Balochistan, and Sindh,

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which includes Karachi. Transmission in North-West Frontier and Balochistan is mostly due to the highly mobile population and people living in areas of insecurity.

The resurgence of polio cases in Sindh is mainly the result of operational challenges. In response, Federal Minister for Health Sherry Rehman has directed the ministry to strengthen dialogue with provincial and district level authorities and more effectively coordinate polio immunization efforts with the health, education, and family welfare departments.

In addition, the Sindh government is taking several steps to make the province polio-free, including

- Conducting Subnational Immunization Days every month
- Involving religious leaders in social mobilization efforts to persuade families to have their children immunized
- Promoting the importance of child immunization in the news media
- Carrying out mop-up campaigns to immunize children previously missed

In June, The Rotary Foundation awarded US\$5.9 million to the World Health Organization and UNICEF for social mobilization activities and operational support in Pakistan.

Rotary clubs are also increasing their participation in Pakistan's effort to end polio. "All [Rotarian] volunteers have been instructed to personally join the polio vaccinating teams, especially in remote areas of the country, to make sure that no children remain unattended by the teams," said Almas Ali Jovinda, of the Rotary Club of Lahore Mozang.

District 7620 Statement Of Goals

The Rotary International Three Year Strategic Plan has set seven priorities. Governor Bette Lewis' goals have been established to support those priorities with specificity to District 7620.

1. Eradicate Polio

Goal: Challenge clubs in the district to raise a minimum of \$72,000 to help eradicate polio while maintaining or surpassing 2007-08 Annual Giving level.

2. Advance the Recognition And Public Image of RI

Goal: Obtain a minimum of five public venues to present video clips of "Humanity in Motion" and other promotional videos. Possible sites would include professional ball parks and internet sites.

3. Increase Rotary's Capacity to Provide Service

Goals: Conduct a series of mini-summits each with a specific focus area to showcase opportunities to reduce child mortality.

4. Expand Membership Globally in Both Numbers and Quality

Goal: Increase membership by a net gain of 10% district wide. Hold a membership development seminar to stimulate ideas and motivation for membership development. Charter a minimum of two new clubs.

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5. Emphasize Rotary's Unique Vocational Service Commitment

Goal: Promote ways to develop vocational skills of people without jobs. Expand literacy using a variety of initiatives (books, dictionaries, tutoring, schools and supplies).

6. Optimize Leadership Talents Within RI

Goals: Cultivate leadership opportunities amongst new members by holding new member seminars. Encourage every club to send potential leaders to one or more of the Rotary Leadership Institutes within the district. Expand chairmanships to include interested Rotarians on district committees.

7. Fully Implement The Strategic Planning Process To Ensure Continuity

Goal: Initiate the District Leadership Plan as an exemplar for clubs to develop their own Club Leadership Plan. Continue three year strategic planning process at district level.

Rotary Web Site Outages

Rotary International News – 3 September 2008

Rotary International's Web site, www.rotary.org, is undergoing emergency upgrades to address service issues. The Web site may be periodically unavailable at times this week while upgrades are being installed to solve ongoing performance issues. Rotary International apologizes for the inconvenience.

District 7620 of Rotary International Dictionary Project Grant Available

There is a limited amount of money available to assist clubs with funding the Dictionary Project. Funds have been made possible from a surplus in the Operating Budget for 2006-07 and contributions from the Direct Selling Foundation. Clubs requesting financial assistance for the purchase of dictionaries must complete the entire application and submit it before November 15, 2008. Submissions will be awarded at the discretion of the Dictionary Committee. Maximum funding will be limited to \$2000 per club and funding must be matched by the requesting club. A copy of the application may be downloaded from the district website.

Are Your Medical Records In Order?

Rotary International News – 25 August 2008

It's easy to think it's the doctor's job to keep all of our medical records in order. But we are living longer, and most of us are also leaving longer paper (or electronic) trails of our medications, tests, and treatments. Are your medical records in order? What about records for relatives and friends—if you needed access to their medical information in an emergency, would you be able to get it? *The Rotarian* is planning an article on keeping medical records. If you have a story about how you keep your own records, have helped family or friends get their own records in order, or needed medical information for yourself or a loved one and couldn't access it, we want to hear from you. Send your story to rotarian@rotary.org with the subject line "Medical Records."

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