

Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club News

Rotary Club Calendar

December 11 – 6:30pm Meeting–Hunters Inn

December 14 – 10am to 5pm Food Drive

Manna Food Truck near Safeway in Potomac Village

December 18 – 6:30pm Meeting–Hunters Inn

Rotary Ambassador Scholar Mariko Yamaguchi

Mariko Yamaguchi graduated from Waseda University with BA in English in 2007. She is currently pursuing an MA in International Development with the concentration on post-conflict reconstruction and conflict resolution at the George Washington University. She did volunteer work in Cambodia in 2006 working with the Cambodia Village Support Group, Japan that empowers land mine victims and their families through education and agriculture. From 2007 to 2008, she interned at the Washington Peace Center assisting the Center's participation in the Global Article 9 Conference held in May 2008 in Chiba, Japan. During the summer 2008, she did an internship at the United Nations University in Tokyo working as a research assistant in the areas of peace building and Right to Protect. Her career goal is to work for international organizations in the area of conflict resolution and mediation in Africa.

December 21 – 4pm Holiday Party at President Todd Nitkins' Home, 15008 Whitetail Way, N.Potomac

December 25 and January 1– No Meetings

December 4 Meeting Notes

Jon Van Winkle led the club in the pledge of allegiance and our Rotarians were delighted when **President Todd Nitkin** noted that the menu had changed to a full dinner



including wine. **Klaus Ordemann** introduced his brother **Reiner** from Germany who is a doctor and is visiting the US to attend a conference in San Francisco.

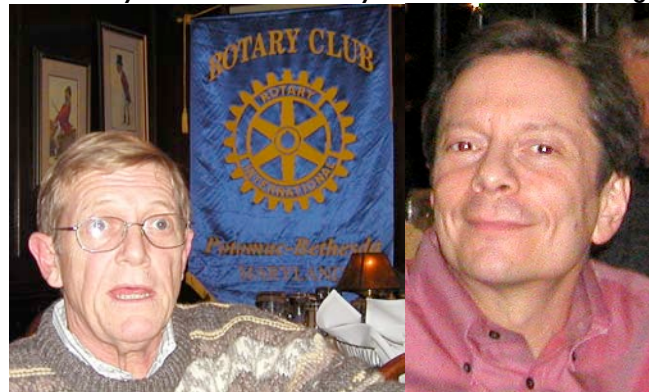


Embassy Selected for International Night

At the club meeting on December 4, various options were discussed for next year's International Night and the decision was made to select the Austrian Embassy.



The Austrian Embassy offers a very large venue, twice as large as in earlier years. This larger venue affords the accommodation of many more Rotarians from area clubs and a large number of guests. Bernard Henry has already visited the embassy to coordinate catering



plans and has provided a budget estimate. Let's begin extending invitations and give many more people the opportunity to experience the 29th Annual Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club International Night.

Photos above by Bob Nelson; photo below courtesy of Steve Naron.

Death of Steve Naron's Father, Sylvan Jacob Naron, Age 88, on Dec. 8

Sylvan J. Naron, a retired CPA, practiced accounting from 1945 until 1990. He was president of the accounting firm of Naron and Wagner Chartered with offices in Baltimore, Hagerstown, Annapolis, and Washington, D.C. Born and raised in Baltimore, Mr. Naron attended City College. In 1940, Mr. Naron graduated from



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

December 11, 2008 - Page 1

Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club News

Johns Hopkins University and then worked at the Glen L. Martin Company. He joined the army in 1944 with the First Infantry Division in Europe as a replacement during the Battle of the Bulge. While in the army, Sylvan was assigned to an anti-tank squad attached to the infantry company that set mines to blow German tanks. The mines were mostly deposited about 3 A.M. Sylvan said he rode in a truck out to the fields sitting on the mines. He found it unbelievable that he made it through this period of time. As a result of his Army service, he received a Bronze Star and three Battle Stars. After the war, he served in Nuremberg during the Nuremberg Trials.

His wife of 62 years, Doris Hament, passed away in early 2007. She was a retired elementary teacher.

He was an avid golfer, who enjoyed golf all his life as a life-long member of the Woodholme Country Club in Baltimore County and many years with the Summit Golf Group in Hollywood, Florida during winter seasons. His father, Louis Naron, sister Mildred Ross Rachlin, and brother Gerald Naron were all talented golfers.

Mr. Naron was extremely well regarded by clients and colleagues in the accounting profession. He had the respect of the Internal Revenue Service because it was known that he dealt honestly with all. Likewise he guided his clients to always be honest with him.

Mr. Naron loved traveling, touring Mexico, Europe, the Orient, Alaska, and throughout the United States with his wife. When 9/11 occurred Sylvan and Doris were in Budapest ending a tour of the Holocaust camps and memorials in Poland, Lithuania, the Czech Republic, and Hungary. Stunned, they had to remain an extra week at their hotel on the Danube until they were able to get the first plane out of Budapest to New York. Two days after 9/11, they were downtown in Budapest when at noon everyone on the street halted and stood solemnly as the Star Spangled Banner was played.

In early 2007, after his wife passed away, Mr. Naron, was very close to death due to an almost completely calcified and closed heart valve. Due to his advanced state of congestive heart failure, no surgeon was even willing to consider operating. Then two surgeons at the University of Maryland, Dr. James Gammie and Dr. David Zimrin, offered a breakthrough minimally

invasive two-operation heart valve procedure that led to an amazing quick improvement. Mr. Naron has since provided major contributions to continue Dr. Gammie's research. He also established scholarship endowments at the Johns Hopkins University and Towson University.

Mr. Naron was a member of the Temple Oheb Shalom in Baltimore, but in recent years spent most of his year at his residence in Hollywood, Florida. Starting in 2007 he moved his northern residence to North Oaks in Pikesville, Maryland. He is survived by two sons, Paul of Coconut Grove, Florida and Steve of Potomac, Maryland. Daughter-in-laws Laura Naron and Teresa Rodriguez and six grandchildren William, Alex, Cecily, Meredith, Drew, and Jack Naron.

Funeral: Thursday, December 11, 2008, 12 Noon, Levinson Chapel, 8900 Reisterstown Road, Pikesville, Maryland, 21208; Cemetery: Maryland Veterans Cemetery - Garrison Forest Road; House of Mourning Address: 725 Mount Wilson Lane (North Oaks), Pikesville, MD 21208

Let us express our sympathies to the Naron Family.

RI President Elect John Kenny Interview by RI Director Ashok Mahajan

Rotary Today December 2008 [A Publication of RIBI]



Q. Membership is a major problem now in most parts of the world, where do we go from here?

A. Well Rotary can do nothing but Rotarians can do everything. It is up to us to invite worthy members into our organization. We must do this or run the risk of losing our ability to provide humanitarian

service in our communities and abroad. We will no longer be the Rotary that we are proud of. In some parts of the world, Rotarians have become complacent, sitting in their comfort zone. They are not inviting new members into their clubs, and they are not initiating any new projects. Where Rotary is expanding is where Rotarians are seen to be working in and for their communities, delivering service and connecting with the community. A busy Rotary club is

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

December 11, 2008 - Page 2

Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club News

a thriving Rotary club. We must also recruit younger professionals as members, while making our clubs so attractive that they will want to join.

Q. What are the major challenges Rotarians will have to face in the coming years?

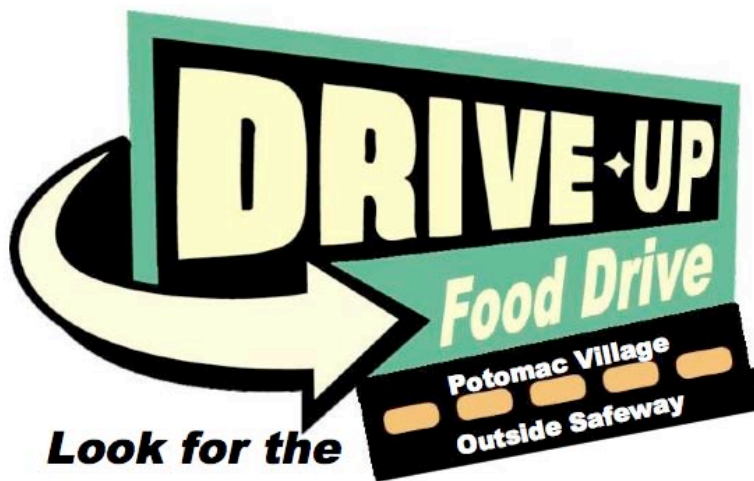
A. To deal with world poverty. The current food shortage crisis in many countries provides a stark reminder that although there is an abundance of food in our world, too many people are still dying of starvation. As Rotarians, we must try to ensure that no one tries to sleep at night without having eaten during the day and that everyone has a supply of drinking water readily accessible. There is still much to be done in our world, and it is up to Rotarians to alleviate the plight of those less fortunate than ourselves. Other major problems are increasing populations in some places and the spread of AIDS. I also believe that water is going to be one of the major issues of the 21st century.

Rotary offers us the resources to address all of these issues. International partnerships and Rotary Foundation grants make it easier for us to provide food and clean water where they are most needed. Working together, we can give people access

to medical care and education, which will help to break the cycle of poverty in which so many are trapped from birth.

Q. In 2005 we celebrated 100 years of Rotary, now where is Rotary going in this century? Your thoughts on change.

A. None of us have the privilege to see into the future 100 years from now, but I have little doubt that there will still be a place for those who 'do good in the world', which I believe Rotarians are achieving with the service of their commitment. Provided Rotarians continue to conduct projects that are relevant and continue to recruit members who want to serve. Rotary will be active and strong at the end of the 21st century. To support these efforts, Rotary International has developed a strategic plan that considers long-term goals. The plan has seven priorities: eradicate polio, advance the internal and external recognition and public image of RI, increase Rotary's capacity to provide service to others, expand membership globally in both numbers and quality, emphasize Rotary's unique vocational service commitment, optimize the use and development of leadership talents within RI, and fully implement the strategic planning process to ensure continuity and consistency throughout the organization.



**Look for the
Manna Food Center Truck
December 14 - 10am to 5pm**



*Sponsored by the
Potomac-Bethesda
Rotary Club*



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

Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club News

By focusing on these priorities, Rotarians can accomplish so much more.

Q. Like most things these days, Rotary is not cheap. Can you suggest any way the cost can be reduced? This may be the way to attract new younger members.

A. Very good question. We must remember that all Rotarians are volunteers. They have a choice as to how they spend their time and talents. We must therefore make our meetings meaningful and not have a proliferation of unnecessary meetings. Rotarians must feel that time spent at a Rotary meeting is time well spent. It is important that you get the balance right and do not feel stretched in terms of money and time by Rotary demands. In a recent RI survey on the cost of membership, India came out very well with different figures coming out from RIBI. Some clubs ask Rotarians to bring their own meal or serve only snacks. This cuts the cost of the meal but maintains the convivial spirit of eating together.

Q. Has the Four-Way Test become redundant? Why is it displayed with vigor but practiced so seldom?

A. The Four-Way Test is as important today as it was when created in 1932 by Rotarian Herbert J. Taylor, who later became President of Rotary International, and was adopted by RI in 1934. It is important that Rotarians are reminded that one of the pillars of Rotary is the importance of business and professional ethics. This is why we must never neglect the avenue of Vocational Service in our activities.

Q. What message would you like to give to Rotarians as we conclude this interview?

AJ would like to thank all Rotarians for giving service to their communities and for those in need throughout the world. I never forget that this is a voluntary organization. I have always considered that the real work of Rotary is carried out in each Rotary club by members helping those in need and doing so without the thought of reward, other than the satisfaction of seeing a job well done.

We congratulate John on becoming our next Rotary world leader. He is the first Rotarian from Scotland to hold this exalted post and we wish him well in his term of office when he takes over from DK Lee next July.

Score A Winning Touchdown

Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club and Melwood Vehicle Donation Program

The Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club has an established relationship with Melwood Vehicle Donation program.

Just call Melwood Vehicle Donation program; ask for proceeds of your car sale to be donated to the Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club. Melwood will pick up the car from your home or business and YOU HAVE SCORED A TOUCHDOWN!!!!

Our Rotary Foundation will receive a check for 50% of the proceeds from the car sale up to the applicable regulations of the Internal Revenue Service.

Within a few weeks, the foundation will receive the proceeds from the vehicle sale and you get a charitable contribution for the value of your auto.



Please notify Jerry Gross of your vehicle donation so we can make sure our Foundation receives the proper proceeds.

Thank you to the following Rotarians who have scored TOUCHDOWNS through our vehicle donation program

- Bob Nelson
- Steve Naron
- Phil Meade
- Mon Dickinson

Please spread the word; ask your friends, neighbors and business associates to Join the Winning Team!!!!

Jerry F. Gross, CPA, PFS

**Please send news articles and photos to
Bob.Nelson@NASA.gov
for inclusion in the newsletter**

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

December 11, 2008 - Page 4

Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club News

Rotarians Offer Support In Wake Of Mumbai Tragedy

By Ryan Hyland RI News - 5 December 2008

A participant in a candle light vigil in New Delhi, India, 2 December places a candle to express solidarity with the victims of the Mumbai terror attacks. Photo by AP Photo/Gurinder Osan

Rotary leaders and Indian Rotarians are expressing sadness and offering support for survivors following last week's terrorist attacks in Mumbai, India, that killed more than 170 people.

More than 300 Mumbai Rotarians joined tens of thousands of city residents on 3 December in a peace march to mourn the dead and protest the violence. Participants gathered in the streets surrounding the Taj Mahal Palace and Tower hotel, one of several locations stormed by armed gunmen on 26 November. In a show of unity and peace, Rotarians carried Rotary flags and banners.

"It is a terrible situation. But Rotary is ready to help those who have suffered," says Past RI President Rajendra Saboo. "Rotary will be most needed when the painful happening recedes in the memory."

Rotarians and their families stood in long lines to donate blood. Saboo also said Mumbai clubs are in contact with hospitals, offering support and comfort to victims.

"This is a time when those who have suffered the most may find themselves lonely and in need," says Saboo, a resident of the Union Territory of Chandigarh. "Rotary will not only be there to heal the immediate wounds but to care for them long term."

Calling the attacks in Mumbai "a catastrophe," RI President Dung Kurn Lee says the recovery process will take many months and that Rotary will provide support for victims and their families.

"Rotary is the organization that helps people make the transition from day-to-day survival to a return to a normal life," says Lee.

Local clubs are also struggling with the senseless violence.



"It is very tragic that so many innocent people were killed or injured," says Prabha Mathur, past president of the Rotary Club of Bombay Airport in Mumbai. "We are all trying to find peaceful ways of addressing the situation."

RI Director Ashok Mahajan says now is the time to spread Rotary's message of peace.

"I'm deeply saddened by what happened. People here are extremely angry," says Mahajan, a Mumbai resident. "But I don't want to see the situation worsen. It's time for Rotary to unite and help achieve world peace."

Mahajan expresses gratitude for the many condolences he's received from Rotarians worldwide, and says he especially

appreciates the e-mails and phone calls from Pakistani Rotarians.

"Clubs in Pakistan showed great concern about our health and well-being," Mahajan says.

The Rotary Club of Bombay has been left without a home, owing to the extensive fire damage at the Taj Mahal hotel. Since its founding in 1929, the club has met in the hotel's ballroom.

"There was so much Rotary history in that room, and I have fond memories of attending meetings there," says Saboo, who is working with club leaders to find a temporary meeting place. "Our hearts go out to the members. I'm hopeful . . . they'll be back at the Taj soon."

Sydney Rotarian Killed In Mumbai Attacks

By Ryan Hyland RI News -- 3 December 2008

Sydney Rotarian Doug Markell was among those killed in the terrorist attacks in Mumbai, India. Photo courtesy of Rotary Club of Sydney

Rotarians in Sydney, Australia, are mourning the tragic loss of Doug Markell, 71, who was among more than 170 people killed in the terrorist attacks in and around Mumbai, India, on 26 November.

Markell, who was a member of the Rotary Club of Sydney, New South Wales, was vacationing in India with his wife, Alison, when attackers laid siege to the Taj Mahal hotel where they were staying. Markell was fatally shot by gunmen as he attempted to escape the hotel with his wife, who was injured by the gunfire. She



Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club News

is reported to be recovering at the Australian Embassy in Mumbai.

In a solemn and emotional meeting on 2 December, Patricia Harrison, president of the Sydney club, read condolences from other Rotarians and a letter from his family to grief-stricken club members.

"We're deeply hurt and shocked that such a wonderful man was taken from us in such a dreadful way," Harrison says. "Doug was such a kind and generous man. He always had a smile on his face. We are going to miss him greatly."

Markell, a Rotarian since 1983, was the managing director and owner of Zions Systems, an office supply company. A merchant banker and successful businessman, he was nearing retirement. He was also a committed community activist and served as councilor for Woollahra, an eastern suburb of Sydney from 1991 to 1995. His service included a year as deputy mayor.

Harrison said Markell will be remembered for his unwavering commitment to helping others.

"He was the epitome of Service Above Self," says Harrison. "There aren't enough people like him around."

Harrison said the Sydney club will initiate an ongoing project named in Markell's honor.

The club has received many e-mails from Rotarians worldwide expressing their condolences.

"Doug was the man who ensured that my engagement with members was efficient and consistent," says Chris Joscelyne, a past president of the club, in an e-mail to club members. "He was a dedicated Rotarian who worked behind the scenes to ensure the success of community service projects, never seeking any kind of acknowledgment from his peers, while making practical and generous contributions of his time and money."

Manjit S. Sawhney, a past district governor from New Delhi, says Markell was "a hallmark of a true Rotarian."

"Our heart goes out to all the families who have lost their near and dear ones," Sawhney says in an e-mail to the club. "We, from the Rotary Club of Delhi South Metropolitan and District 3010, are with you in this hour of grief."

Father-Daughter Team Makes Peace A Family Affair

Rotary International News – 5 December 2008

Photo courtesy of Brian Farr



Brian Farr expected to hear inspiring speakers at the Rotary World Peace Symposium last year in Salt Lake City, Utah, USA – among them, his daughter Jana, a Rotary World Peace Fellow, who was delivering the invocation.

What he didn't expect was to be so motivated by what he heard that he would enroll in a peace studies program himself.

In April, Farr, assistant attorney general for the State of Utah, graduated from the three-month peace and conflict studies program at the Rotary Center at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok, Thailand.

He credits Past RI President Charles C. Keller's "visionary" speech for providing the key inspiration. Keller talked of the need to seek more peaceful means of conflict resolution and "emphasized that peace-building is not a spectator sport," Farr says.

Neither he nor his daughter could be accused of standing on the sidelines as far as peace is concerned. They helped build international goodwill before the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City and worked on developing the Global Mediation Project, a component of the city's future vision.

"It's been fun to see how our lives continue to cross paths in our work," says Jana, who will graduate from the University of Bradford in December. "Our conversations have become richer during my study in England and his in Thailand. We enjoyed bouncing ideas off each other."

Spending time with Rotarians has been a highlight of Jana's experience, just as it was for her father during the 2007 RI Convention. "It was that international spirit of Rotary that pulled me toward Chulalongkorn nearly as much as Keller's speech," he says.

The father-daughter team is exploring how best to use a combined body of knowledge and passion to meaningfully contribute to building peace. "And we're also looking forward to continued interactions with Rotary," Jana says.

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

December 11, 2008 - Page 6