

Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club News

Rotary Club Calendar

February 19 – 6:30pm Meeting–Hunters Inn

District Governor Elect Paul Frey



Paul has been a member of the Rotary Club of Carroll Creek since December 2000. During Paul's year as club president he was recognized as Best Large Club President by the District. The club was chosen as Best Overall Club in the District and received the Presidential Citation. The club also was recognized as having the Best International Service Committee, having added over 50 new Paul Harris Fellows that year. At the District level Paul served as the Rotary Leadership Institute Co-Chair and District Strategic Planning Committee

Chair. Paul earned his MBA from Mount Saint Mary's University and his MS in Organization Development and Human Resources from The Johns Hopkins University. He and his wife, Laurie, founded their business and management consulting firm, Clear Path Organization Consulting, in July 2001. In 2003, Paul left his 26-year career as a manager and executive in the restaurant industry to work full-time in his consulting practice. Paul is also a published author. He co-authored a book with Michael Boyd titled *Dump the Incumbents! 26 reasons from A – Z*. It is a non-partisan book about political incumbency and why Paul and Michael believe that career and professional politicians, of any party, are not good for our country. Paul's community service work includes being a past board member for the American Red Cross and the Workforce Development Board. He also served as Chairman for the Penn Laurel Girl Scout Council Capital Campaign and as a volunteer for the Frederick County Crisis Hotline. He is a member of the Frederick County Chamber of Commerce and he is a graduate of Leadership Frederick County, class of 1994. Paul was born in Eugene, Oregon, attended kindergarten in Berlin, Germany, and was raised in Frederick, Maryland. Paul has been married to his wife, Laurie, for 25 years. They reside in Frederick and have three daughters and one grandchild.

February 23 – Rotary's 104th Anniversary

February 26 – 6:30pm Meeting–Hunters Inn

Guido Adelfio, Bethesda Travel Center

March 5 – 6:30pm Meeting–Hunters Inn

Navy Pilot Trevor Estes

March 12 – 6:30pm Meeting–Hunters Inn

Haitian Ambassador Raymond Joseph

March 14 – 8am Literacy Mini-Summit - Rockville

March 19 – 6:30pm Meeting–Hunters Inn

March 25 – 11:30am - Rotary Day at Gallaudet Univ.

March 26 – 6:30pm Meeting–Hunters Inn

March 27-28 – RI President's Conference, Greenbelt

March 30 – Rotary Foundation Dinner – Greenbelt

April 18 – 8am District Assembly - Holiday Inn, Laurel

April 25 – International Night at the Austrian Embassy

February 11 Meeting Report

President Todd Nitkin described the Child Survival Project that he is working on in Liberia with Medical Teams International. The Republic of Liberia is a country on the west coast of Africa, bordered by Sierra



Leone, Guinea, Côte d'Ivoire, and the Atlantic Ocean. Founded as a colony in 1822 by freed slaves from the United States, the area was already inhabited by various indigenous ethnic groups who had occupied the region

for centuries. Until 1980, Liberia was governed by the small minority of African-American colonists and their offspring, together called Americo-Liberians, suppressing the large indigenous majority of 95% of the Liberian population. In 1980, the government was overturned in a military coup, and from 1989 to 2005 Liberia was in a state of flux, witnessing two civil wars that displaced hundreds of thousands of people and devastated the country's economy. With UN troops safeguarding the peace, Liberia conducted presidential elections

in 2005 that was won by Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, a Harvard-trained economist. The status of health



for the general and the under five population is in stark contrast to the statistics for the US:

Health Status of Population

General Population

- Maternal mortality: 994 / 100,000
- (12/100,000 in the USA)

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- Child mortality:
 - Infant: 157/1,000 (>15%)
 - (6.78/1,000 in the USA)
 - Under 5: 235/1,000
 - (7/1,000 in the USA)

Under 5 population

- Death by Malaria 36%
- Death by Diarrhea 19%
- Malnutrition
 - Stunting 39%
 - Wasting 5.9%
 - Underweight 26.4%

Interventions and Level of effort

Nutrition	30%
Pneumonia Case Management	20%
Control of Diarrheal Disease	20%
Malaria	20%
Immunizations	10%

Todd's goal was to reduce morbidity and mortality of children under five and improve the health of pregnant women within Grand Cape Mount County. The following chart shows more details of the assessments of health facilities and levels of patient care.

Indicators: Baseline and Targets

Indicator	Baseline	Target
% communities use information from HIS for decision making	0%	40%
% communities with an emergency transport plan	0%	65%
% HF that offer growth monitoring	0%	85%
% HF clinical encounters all assessment tasks made by HW for sick child	9%	85%
% HF clinical encounters treatment is appropriate to diagnosis for malaria, pneumonia and diarrhea	46%	85%
% HF clinical encounters the caretaker whose child prescribed antibiotic antimalarial or ORS correctly describe correct administration all drugs	49%	75%
% HF that received external supervision at least once in last 6m	5%	75%

Indicator	Baseline	Target
% HF utilizing information from the HMIS for decision making	NA	75%
% partner organizations using information from HMIS for decision making	0%	100%
Lessons learned and best practices are disseminated utilizing at least three different media.	No	Yes
% newborns breastfed w/in 1 hour of delivery	34% (28.3-39.3)	50%
% of infants 6-9m receiving breastmilk and complementary foods	38% (22.7-54.2)	65%
% children 6-23m received Vitamin A in the last 6 months	76% (67.8-83.3)	85%
% children aged 12-23m who are fully vaccinated by 12 months	19% (12.1-27.5)	40%
% mothers protected against Tetanus before birth of youngest child	61% (55.6-66.9)	80%
% children 0-23m w/diarrhea last 2 weeks receive ORS or fluids	74% (63.8-82.9)	85%
% children 0-23m w/diarrhea last 2 weeks offered more fluids while ill	52% (40.8-62.4)	70%
% children age 0-23m w/chest cough and fast/difficult breathing in last 2 weeks who were taken to a health provider	43% (35.3-51.4)	65%
% children 0-23m slept w/insecticide-treated bed net previous night	18% (13.5-22.5)	35%
% children 0-23m w/a febrile episode ended in last 2 weeks who were treated w/effective anti-malarial drug w/in 24 hours	4% (1.0-8.9)	25%
% HHPs referring patients to clinic	0	75%
% HHPs who received a supervisory visit during the last 3 months	0	75%

Thanks so much, Todd, for your excellent presentation!

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Cambodian, Taiwanese Clubs Team Up For Clean Water

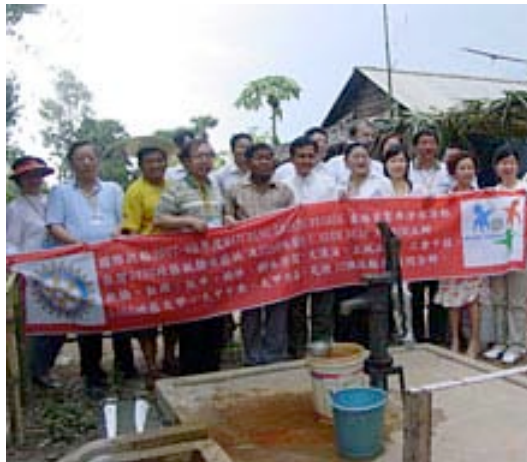
By Peter Schmidtke RI News – 5 February 2009

Rotarians from Cambodia and Taiwan, including Chin-Hsien Lee and Bunthai Prom (front row, fourth and sixth from left), celebrate a Matching Grant water project in Cambodia. Photo courtesy of the Rotary Club of Panchiao North, Taiwan

A US\$22,700 water project is giving more than 350 households in northwestern Cambodia clean water from 80 hand-operated pump wells. Fourteen clubs in districts 3350, 3460, and 3490, which cover parts of Cambodia, Taiwan, and Thailand, and a Rotary Foundation Matching Grant have supported the effort. Villagers using the wells, the last of which were drilled in December, previously obtained water from rivers and ponds. Less than 40 percent of rural Cambodians – and less than 10 percent of the poorest half of the country's rural population – have access to clean, potable water, according to the Cambodian Ministry of Planning.

Bunthai Prom, past president of the Rotary Club of Siem Reap Angkor, Siem Reap, Cambodia, which led the project, says villagers use the well water for vegetable gardening, drinking, and cooking. Households without well access received 80 water filters through the effort.

The project also taught villagers how to maintain the wells and educated them about the health benefits of clean water. The Siem Reap Angkor club provided training through radio broadcasts and direct visits. This month, the international sponsor clubs are holding a free medical service camp, which means that District Governor-elect Chin-Hsien Lee, of the Rotary Club of Panchiao North, Taiwan, and other Rotarians will spend a long day bouncing along remote roads to reach a dozen wells built through the project. When the driving becomes too rough, they will hike.



For the two-year-old Siem Reap Angkor club, which supervised a local drilling company's work during construction, the effort brought both challenges and rewards. "During the rainy season, we had difficulty

transporting equipment to villages, but we all did our best," Prom says. "Our members are very committed."

The connection between clean water and child survival

- Unsafe water and poor sanitation and hygiene kill 5,000 children under age five around the world every day, or more than 1.8 million each year. Eighty-eight percent of diarrheal disease is caused by

contaminated water and inadequate sanitation and hygiene.

- Globally, diarrhea kills more people than tuberculosis or malaria. Five times as many children die of diarrhea than HIV/AIDS.
- The number of children who die around the world every year from diarrhea is equivalent to the number of children under age five living in London and New York combined.
- For every US\$1 contributed to water and sanitation projects, the expected return is between \$3 and \$34.

Sources: UNICEF, World Health Organization

This article appeared in the January issue of Rotary World.

Hat Auction Nets US\$17,600

By Antoinette Tuscano RI News 13 February 2009

A winning bid of US\$17,600 was received for the hat that Bill Gates wore and autographed at Rotary's 2009 International Assembly.

The signed baseball cap was sold on eBay through an auction that ended 12 February, with proceeds going to help support Rotary's US\$200 Million Challenge for polio eradication.

Gates also wore the hat in India while he was immunizing children against polio.

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Matching Grant Helps Leprosy Patients In India

By Peter Schmidtke RI News – 3 February 2009

Leprosy patient Phool Kumari (right) consults with a physical therapist prior to receiving surgery to repair her foot. Photo courtesy of Rotary club of Lucknow, India.



Leprosy patients in India have regained the use of previously paralyzed eyelids, fingers, wrists, and ankles through a project funded in part by a US\$21,000 Matching Grant from The Rotary Foundation.

The Rotary clubs of the Hague-Metropolitan, The Netherlands, and Lucknow, India, partnered to provide reconstructive surgery to 106 leprosy patients in Uttar Pradesh, India.

The surgeries, completed in March, corrected conditions caused by leprosy, a bacterial disease that affects the skin, nerves, and mucous of the upper respiratory tract and eyes.

Although the disease had permanently damaged specific nerve fibers in some of the patients, doctors were able to restore movement by connecting tendons from muscles with healthy nerve tissue to joints in the affected areas.

One of the beneficiaries was 25-year-old Phool Kumari, who received physical therapy as well as surgery. Kumari had been losing the ability to lift her left foot or move her toes, which affected her ability to walk normally. Even though she had received drug treatment to cure the leprosy, she was still stigmatized by villagers. The surgery and therapy improved her situation considerably.

Dispelling myths about leprosy, such as how the disease spreads, was another goal of the project. According to the World Health Organization, leprosy is not highly contagious. The 137,000 new cases in India last year – more than half of the total global cases in 2007 – were transmitted through close and frequent contact.

Despite the project's benefits, Rotarians faced challenges finding patients. They worked with a state government health agency to contact leprosy patients and bring them in for surgical screenings hosted by local Rotarians.

Spreading the word

"Most of the leprosy-affected persons live in isolation," says Indian-born Dev Chadha, a member of the Dutch club and coordinator for Netherlands Leprosy Relief for Uttar Pradesh. "Convincing them to undergo surgery was a difficult task."

"Initially, the turnout at the camps was low," says

Chadha. "But word spread about the surgery from patients whose deformed limbs had become functional."

Lucknow Rotarians coordinated transportation for the patients and assisted with pre- and postoperative care, including providing all meals.

Government officials throughout India have praised the project.

"It's the first time I have seen Rotary rendering a service of a permanent nature for leprosy patients and enabling them to earn a livelihood – by correcting their deformed limbs," says Arun K. Mishra, national government planning commission adviser. "I want Rotary to continue this project."

In an earlier phase of the Matching Grant project, Lucknow Rotarians recruited 19 other clubs and numerous health workers in 2004 to distribute kitchen utensils with insulated handles to patients who had suffered irreversible sensory loss. Those who had developed ulcers from related injuries received ulcer care kits.

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

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Improving Sanitation In Madagascar

By Ryan Hyland RI News – 29 January 2009

A member of the Rotary Club of Tamatave, Madagascar, signs a document on a new septic tank and water filtration system. Photo courtesy of Charles Welch



To improve sanitation and fight waterborne disease, the Rotary clubs of Paris-Est, Val-de-Marne, France, and Tamatave, Madagascar, are teaming up to provide more than 900 septic tanks and water filtration systems to families in Tamatave's poorest areas, Mangarivotra and Mararano.

The project is supported by contributions totaling US\$100,000, including a \$42,000 Matching Grant from The Rotary Foundation. Other clubs and districts in France and the United States have also donated funds.

Charles de Talhouet, the project coordinator and a member of the Paris-Est club, says the new equipment will benefit more than 7,000 people in a place where a lack of sanitary latrine areas often exposes families to waterborne diseases such as cholera.

"With clean water as one of Rotary's big targets, projects like this will help achieve our goal," says de Talhouet, who lived in Madagascar for years and built close ties to Rotarians there.

Charles Welch, a member of the Rotary Club of Chapel Hill-Carrboro Sunrise, North Carolina, USA, lived in Madagascar for 15 years and was a former member of the Tamatave club. After hearing that his former club planned on a sanitation project, Welch asked his club to get involved. His club raised \$2,000 for the project, and Welch has been in frequent contact with Talhouet on the initiative's progress.

"There is a definite need for adequate sanitation in the poorer communities of Tamatave," says Welch. "Public and private latrines were in horrible condition. In most cases, they were just a dirty black hole. Rotary's response to this need will have an extraordinary impact."

The clubs also have partnered with Frères de Saint-Gabriel, a nonprofit that supports educational, social, and economic development in Madagascar, because of the group's track record in installing 2,500 filters and septic tanks in Tamatave.

The organization's staff will select recipients and instruct them how to use and care for the equipment. To foster a sense of ownership, families will pay a \$6 fee for the tanks and water filters and help build, transport, and install them.

Setting up the septic and water filtration units will take about 18 months. During this time, the Tamatave club will monitor the work and communicate with its partners.

In May, during the annual conference of District 9220, which includes Madagascar and six surrounding countries and geographical areas, 350 Rotarians met in Tamatave to ceremonially launch the project.

"Thanks to the family of Rotary, families in Tamatave will lead better lives," says de Talhouet.

Message from Treasurer Alan Cookson

Invoice for 1st Quarter (January - March), 2009

At the Board's directive and in accordance with By-Laws, we are billing for this quarter in advance.

Potomac Bethesda Club Dues	\$25.00
Rotary District Dues	\$15.00
Rotary International Dues	\$15.00
Rotary Foundation*	\$25.00
Meals: 12 @ \$25.00 each**	\$300.00
Grand Total:	\$380.00

Please make the payments ASAP, payable at the meeting or mail to address below. Checks should be made payable to Rotary Club of Potomac-Bethesda.

Alan H. Cookson

Treasurer, Rotary Club of Potomac-Bethesda,
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*Voluntary payment. No member is required to pay this amount as a condition to membership in this club

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