

# Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club News

## Rotary Club Calendar

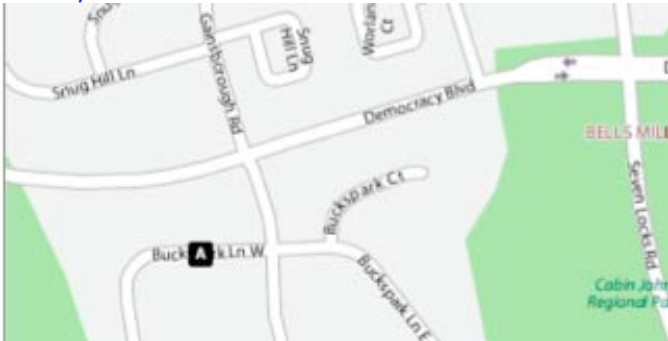
**June 25 – No Meeting**

**June 27 – 5pm Installation of 2009-2010 Club Officers**

**Home of President Elect Noel and Gladys Howard  
8212 Buckspark Lane, West, Potomac 20854-4269**

The Howards are located in the Ridgeleigh subdivision, just off (south) of Democracy Blvd, 1.3 miles West of Westfield Shopping Town, Montgomery Mall. Please RSVP to President Elect Noel at 301-983-1977 so they can better plan for food and refreshments.

Directions: Exit I-270 to West-bound Democracy Blvd; Pass Montgomery Mall on your Right and WestLake Blvd traffic light. Gravitare to the middle lane of Democracy—the only lane that continues beyond Seven Locks Road traffic signal; Turn left at Gainsborough Road—The next traffic signal following Seven Locks Road intersection; Turn Right—onto Buckspark Lane, WEST; 8212 is the 4th home on your left.



**June 29 – 6pm**

**- District Governor Installation  
Elks Lodge, Frederick**

**July 2 – 6:30pm Meeting**

**–Normandie Farm**

**Jason Hamel: Big City Mountaineers  
and Climbing Mount Rainier**

**July 9 – 6:30pm Meeting**

**–Normandie Farm**

**July 14 – 7pm Manna Food Center**



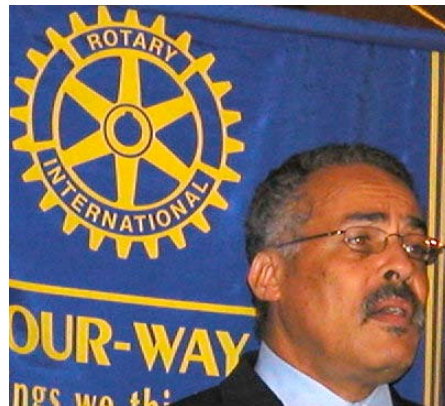
## June 18 Meeting Report

**President Elect Noel Howard** presided and introduced several guests: his wife **Gladys**; Bethesda-Chevy Chase Rotarian **Michael Zhang**; **Dr. Ketty Philogene**; and **Robert Nicolas**, Executive Director, African Methodist Episcopal Service and Development Agency. **Dick Gordon** announced that he will be moving on Sunday and will be staying with his son for a few days until he can move into his new home only two miles from his old house (his telephone remains the same and his new

address is on page 2). **Alan Grant** reported that **Jack Call** was suffering with shingles and will be recovering for a few more weeks. **Alan Cookson** is doing better after back surgery and should be attending meetings in a couple weeks. **Steve Naron** announced a dramatic increase from 3 to 8 in the number of Rotary Ambassadorial Scholars studying in our district for the 2009-2010 academic year. **Jerry Gross** is a scholar counselor. Steve is planning a regional orientation program for the scholars in the DC area. **President Elect Noel** announced that the Annual Inauguration



Dinner Celebration for the 2009-10 Rotary Club officers will take place at his home on Saturday, June 27, at 5pm (address and directions are included in the calendar section of the newsletter). **Steve Naron** is off for a long-distance bike ride this weekend from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, to Cumberland, Maryland. **Don Smith** had just returned from a trip to British Columbia and **Art Blitz** reported on his weekend in



Portland, Maine. \$61 in happy dollars was collected.

Our Guest Speaker was **Robert Nicolas**, Executive Director of The African Methodist Episcopal Church Service and

Development Agency, Inc., (AME-SADA). AME-SADA is committed to its mission of "Helping People Help Themselves." AME-SADA is the international humanitarian relief and development agency of the African Methodist Episcopal Church and currently

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works in Africa and the Caribbean. Founded in 1977, AME-SADA was created to coordinate and administer international development and relief projects outside of the United States. AME-SADA works in collaboration with grassroots communities to institute programs in education, health care, and economic development to encourage people in Africa and the Caribbean to actively participate in the economic life and development of their communities and nations. Responding to local conditions and needs, AME-SADA seeks to enhance the activities of the local population and provide appropriate additional assistance and resources in the areas of health, education, and micro-credit. AME-SADA uses both formal and informal methods to encourage people to review the manner in which they lead their lives and make the best possible decisions for their own futures. AME-SADA seeks to work in partnership with individuals and communities to identify and address basic needs in the sectors of Health, Education and Micro-Finance. Since starting with a life saving vaccination program in the Arcahaie and Cabaret regions of Haiti in 1987, AME-SADA has developed a comprehensive program of activities that moves beyond relief efforts and address the fundamental impediments to self-improvement. In Haiti, with funding from the AME Church, USAID, UNICEF, Plan International and private donations, AME-SADA's program includes the following:

1) A comprehensive Child Survival Program including vaccination of children less than 5 years of age against infectious diseases and pre/postnatal health care to women aged 15 - 49 years old, newborn care, comprehensive treatment of diarrhea, family planning and counseling, nutritional recuperation for malnourished children, treatment of upper respiratory infections for children, home/community visits by health workers and traditional birth attendants through 9 fixed site clinics, HIV/AIDS and STD education, counseling and treatment. Each year, over 150,000 women and children receive these services and communities populated by more than 400,000 people benefit from these services;

2) SADA-Kredi, a micro-credit program, covers both rural and urban income generating activities and provides micro-loans to 2500 participants;

3) School Health Pilot Program providing health services and education to 6000 elementary school children from some of the poorest neighborhoods in the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area.

In South Africa, AME-SADA has reinforced the strong presence of the AME Church and upheld its tradition of serving the educational needs of South Africans through the re-establishment of Wilberforce Institute as Wilberforce Community College. With financing provided primarily through a series of large construction grants from the United States Agency for International Development Office of American Schools and Hospitals Abroad (USAID/ASHA), the Wilberforce Community College campus consists of a multi-purpose administration building and a state of the art Distance Learning Center. Dormitories are due to be completed in 2008 and a community center and dining hall are under construction. In addition, a locally funded pilot "job-creation" project for adults was recently started on campus and training facilities are under construction for this endeavor. AME-SADA supports several projects in South Africa and Haiti serving close to a half million people. These projects range in budget from a few dollars to millions of dollars. Although AME-SADA's work has concentrated on the coordination and administration of international development and relief projects, the organization is not limited to work abroad. AME-SADA has been involved in grassroots projects in the United States as well as in the developing world. AME-SADA has its headquarters in Washington, DC with field offices in Haiti and in South Africa. Support comes from the AME Church, charitable foundations, Corporations, other private Organizations, the U. S. Government, international agencies, foreign institutions and thousands of persons committed to AME-SADA's vision for a better World. The AME-SADA website is [www.ame-sada.org](http://www.ame-sada.org).

***Dick and Jane Gordon's new address:***

14900 Kelley Farm Drive  
Darnestown, MD 20874

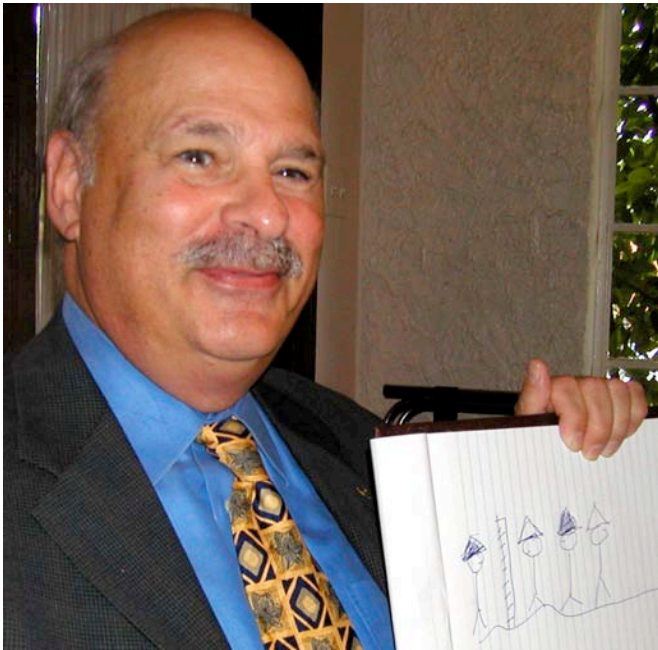
*Please send news articles and photos  
to [Bob.Nelson@NASA.gov](mailto:Bob.Nelson@NASA.gov)  
for inclusion in the newsletter*

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## A Riddle From Art Blitz



Four prisoners are about to be executed. Two are wearing white hats, and two are wearing black ones. No one knows which hat he is wearing. One of the prisoners is standing alone in a separate room. The other three are standing in line in another room: The first of them is facing the wall, the second is facing the back of the first one (so he can see his hat), and the third one is facing the back of the second (so he can see both the first's and the second's hat).

The guards tell all four prisoners that if they can guess their hat's color, they'll be free, but if they guess wrong they will go through horrible tortures before death. One of the prisoners will walk free for sure - who is it and why?

*[If you were sitting at Art's table last week, you already know the answer; otherwise you can find the answer on page 5.]*



June 4, 2009 Set America Free Newsletter article contributed by Jerry Gross

### Back To The Future

Now, when the first signs of economic recovery may be in sight, it's time to ponder what kind of recovery we

are likely to witness. Will it be the traditional V-shaped recovery in which economic growth bounces back from a slump, or will it be a W-shaped, double-dipped one in which one crisis follows the other for several years to come? "Much of this depends on the price of oil," writes Gal Luft. If one is to listen to the OPEC cartel (we've chosen to ignore the Saudi Oil Minister, who doesn't want OPEC described as a cartel; Newspeak rears its head again) oil prices will climb to \$75 a barrel and within 2-3 years they could again reach \$150 a barrel. Feels like *deja vu*?

But Congress apparently has other worries. What seems to be the signature energy legislation of the 111th Congress, the American Clean Energy and Security Act, (also known as the Waxman-Markey cap and trade bill) which recently emerged from the Energy & Commerce Committee of the House of Representatives, does virtually nothing to shield the economy from the devastation the coming oil crisis would no doubt cause. The bill's renewable electricity mandate which requires utilities to get 20 percent of their electricity from renewable sources by 2020 would discourage the use of coal and natural gas, but since only 2% of U.S. electricity is made from petroleum it will do nothing to address our oil dependence problem. The bill's "cash for clunkers" program which gives consumers credit for purchasing an oh-so-slightly more fuel-efficient car - for example \$3,500 for replacing a SUV or pickup truck with a model just one mile per gallon more efficient - may help drive stockpiles of unsold Detroit cars off the lots but in terms of oil dependence it is equally meaningless. Even the provisions to encourage deployment of electric vehicles and plug-in hybrids, while important and useful, will not affect our near-term energy security, at least until battery costs are significantly reduced.

Sadly, the one provision that could have made a difference, an Open Fuel Standard to ensure most new cars are flexible-fueled - capable of running on a variety of alcohol fuels in addition to gasoline - was watered down to meaninglessness by the Committee. Such a standard, which would add less than \$100 to the cost of a new car, could have enabled drivers to choose a fuel alternative at the pump if and when gasoline prices rise to \$5 a gallon.

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## Desmond Tutu Encourages Working For Peace

By Arnold R. Grahl RI News – 18 June 2009

*During a press conference in Birmingham, England, on 18 June, (from left) Rotary Foundation Trustee Chair Jonathan B. Majiyagbe, Past RI President Chuck Keller, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, and Arnoldas Pranckevicius, a 2002-04 peace fellow, speak about the challenges of world peace. Rotary Images/Monika Lozinska-Lee*



Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu encouraged Rotary World Peace Fellows and young Rotarians to "go for it" in working for world peace.

"I have a high admiration for young people. I believe very strongly in the fact that they are dreamers," Tutu said during a press conference at the Hilton Birmingham Metropole in Birmingham, England, before his keynote address at the Rotary World Peace Symposium 18 June at the National Exhibition Centre.

"This is why I accepted the invitation to come to the peace symposium. Rotary peace fellows are a fantastic bunch of human beings. They believe, and I believe, it is possible to have a world without war. It is possible to have a world without hunger."

Tutu cited Rotary's efforts to eradicate polio as an example of what the organization can do.

"Look at polio. When they started out saying they wanted to eradicate polio, a lot of people said you ought to have your head read," he said. "Now there are only four countries where polio is endemic. This is fantastic. It is going to happen, and it is fantastic."

Hundreds of peace fellows, Rotary International and Rotary Foundation program alumni, and Rotarians are convening in Birmingham to attend the Rotary World Peace Symposium and Rotary Alumni Celebration 18-20 June. In addition to Tutu, other major speakers include Jan Egeland, director of the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs, and Jean-François Rischard, an international consultant and former vice president of the World Bank.

## Club Presidents Critical To Rotary

By Arnold R. Grahl RI News – 23 June 2009

Rotary leaders asked club presidents to work hard to make the next year the best in the life of their club – and, as a result, one of the best years of their lives as well.

At a special summit for club presidents and presidents-elect, held 22 June during the 2009 RI Convention in Birmingham, England, both RI President Dong Kurn Lee and President-elect John Kenny stressed the vital role that club presidents play in the life of the organization. They encouraged attendees to push their clubs to be active in service as a means of achieving membership growth and retention.

"If the president is organized and enthusiastic, then the club will succeed," said Lee. "A successful club can do so much more to Make Dreams Real. It is important not just to have members in our club, but members who are qualified, skilled, and motivated."

"I firmly believe," said Kenny, "that the club president is the most important person in Rotary." He asked presidents-elect to have their clubs take on at least one service project related to one of next year's three presidential emphases of water, health and hunger, and literacy. "When Rotary clubs are seen to be active, membership is strong," he explained.

Kenny also stressed that member retention is as important as recruitment.

"It does no good to have an influx one year and an exodus the next," he said. "We don't just want numbers, we want true Rotarians."

Eleanor MacAlister, president of the Rotary Club of Ellon, Grampian, Scotland, shared the success of her club's Step One program, which makes it the responsibility of every member to come up with names of people to invite into the club. Of the 15 candidates who were named in the first three-month period, seven became members. A club member also attends every local chamber of commerce meeting.

"Take risks with membership initiatives," she told the summit attendees.

Other club presidents also shared success stories, and directed feedback to the leaders during a question-and-answer session. A few Rotarians insisted that more still needs to be done to open up some clubs to women.

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## **Hunger in Montgomery County**

**From the Manna Food Center Newsletter June 2009**

Montgomery County is one of the wealthiest counties in the nation, and it can be extremely difficult to live in poverty and struggle against hunger in our community. Families are struggling to pay their housing costs, put gas in their cars, pay their heating and air conditioning bills, and put food on their table. The number of families applying for food assistance through the SNAP Food Stamp program is on the rise. Montgomery County received a total of 33,917 applications in March of 2009 compared to 26,365 applications the previous March. This is a sizeable 28.6% increase and another indication that hunger is a reality for more and more families in our community. With the cost of living as high as it is in our area, it is no surprise that many Montgomery County families are having to make choices that result in hunger and poor nutrition. Many children go without meals. Adults struggling with low wages wonder if they have enough food to last the week. Seniors must choose between paying for food or for medicine. Most families require two incomes to get by in Montgomery County. When a wage earner loses a job or experiences a health crisis which limits their ability to work, it is easy to understand why there are so many families in need in our community.

## **Answer to Art's Riddle on p. 3:**

Second prisoner in the group of three.

## **To Kill an American:**

**Contributed by Art Blitz**



*You probably missed this in the rush of news, but there was actually a report that someone in Pakistan had published in a newspaper, an offer of a reward to anyone who killed an American, any American.*

*So an Australian dentist wrote an editorial the following day to let everyone know what an American is. So they would know when they found one. (Good one, mate!!!!)*

An American is English, or French, or Italian, Irish, German, Spanish, Polish, Russian or Greek. An American may also be Canadian, Mexican, African, Indian, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Australian, Iranian, Asian, or Arab, or Pakistani or Afghan. An American may also be a Comanche, Cherokee, Osage, Blackfoot, Navaho, Apache, Seminole or one of the many other tribes known as native Americans.

An American is Christian, or he could be Jewish, or Buddhist, or Muslim. In fact, there are more Muslims in America than in Afghanistan. The only difference is that in America they are free to worship as each of them chooses.

An American is also free to believe in no religion... For that he will answer only to God, not to the Government, or to armed thugs claiming to speak for the Government and for God.

An American lives in the most prosperous land in the history of the world. The root of that prosperity can be found in the Declaration of Independence, which recognizes the God given right of each person to the pursuit of happiness.

An American is generous. Americans have helped out just about every other nation in the world in their time of need, never asking a thing in return...

When Afghanistan was over-run by the Soviet army 20 years ago, Americans came with arms and supplies to enable the people to win back their country!

As of the morning of September 11, Americans had given more than any other Nation to the poor in Afghanistan ....

The National symbol of America, The Statue of Liberty, welcomes your tired and your poor, the wretched refuse of your teeming shores, the homeless, tempest tossed. These in fact are the people who built America. Some of them were working in the Twin Towers the morning of September 11, 2001, earning a better life for their families. It's been told that the World Trade Center victims were from at least 30 different Countries, Cultures, and first languages, including those that aided and abetted the terrorists.

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