

# Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club News

## Rotary Club Calendar

March 18 - 6:30pm - Meeting - Normandie Farm Club Assembly

March 27 - 7:15 to Noon - Rotary District Assembly  
Register online at [rotary7620.org](http://rotary7620.org) by March 22.  
Location: Holiday Inn West, Laurel, MD

March 27 - 6:30pm - 30<sup>th</sup> Annual International Night  
University Club, 1135 Sixteenth Street N.W.,  
Washington, D.C. 20036

April 1 - 6:30pm - Meeting - Normandie Farm

April 8 - 6:30pm - Meeting - Normandie Farm  
Arthur Woods: Compass Partners

April 15 - 6:30pm - Meeting - Normandie Farm

April 22 - 25 - DisCon 2010 Gettysburg



President Elect Jason Hamel congratulates Lang Luu for his personal testimony of leaving Vietnam to seek freedom in the United States. President Noel Howard and wife Gladys were attending a fundraiser for Haiti at the Washington Hebrew Congregation featuring Sean Penn. Photos by Nabil Bedewi.

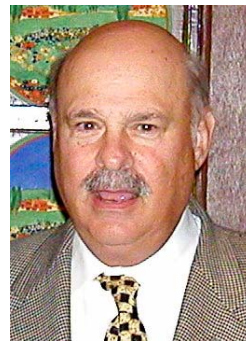


## Potomac-Bethesda International Night Features District Governor and Rotary Ambassadorial Scholars

The 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club's International Night will be held on Saturday, March 27, from 6:30pm to 9:30pm. Special invited guests include District Governor Paul Frey. The Rotary Ambassadorial Scholars attending are from France, Germany, Italy, Korea and Wales and are listed below:



- ⇒ Alice Alunni, Perugia, Italy, D2090, studying International Relations at JHU SAIS
- ⇒ Iwan Llewellyn Davies, Carditt Bay, Wales, D1150, studying International Relations at JHU SAIS DC
- ⇒ Seok Joon Kimm, Hanyang, Korea, D3650, GWU studying Political Science at GWU
- ⇒ Britta Nicolmann, Bielefeld, Germany D1900, studying International Relations at GTU
- ⇒ Donatello Osti, Bolognasud, Italy, D2070, studying International Relations at JHU SAIS
- ⇒ Damien Pastor, France, studying Medicine at JHU Baltimore



Art Blitz will be serving as the Master of Ceremonies. All dinner selections need to be finalized by Tuesday, March 23, so please don't delay in making your selection (oven

roasted breast of chicken, grilled filet of salmon or vegetarian meal). International Night is hosted by The University Club, 1135 Sixteenth Street N.W., D.C. 20036

(202) 862-8800

[universityclubdc.com](http://universityclubdc.com).



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## **Former Scholar Prosecutes War Crimes At The Hague**

By Joseph Derr, RI News, 16 March 2010

*Ryan Carrier at The Hague Photo courtesy of Ryan Carrier*

Rotary experiences twice helped Ryan Carrier discover new cultures and enrich his education in a journey that led him to become a war crimes prosecutor for the United Nations.

Since 2008, Carrier, 38, has worked as a legal officer for the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia in The Hague. This ad hoc UN tribunal deals with crimes against humanity and war crimes that happened in that region after 1991.

Carrier is currently prosecuting three Croatian army generals for crimes alleged to have been committed during Operation Storm in August 1995. Then, more than 100,000 ethnic Serbs were driven out of Croatia in what Carrier describes as the largest case of ethnic cleansing during the Balkan wars.

"Ethnic cleansing is not limited to entering a town and killing everyone; it also encompasses illegal acts whereby someone attempts to reconfigure the demographics of a certain area, driving out certain ethnicities in order to 'cleanse' the area," says Carrier, originally from White Rock, British Columbia, Canada.

"War crimes often affect hundreds of thousands of people. [The crimes] are incredibly serious and very upsetting, but you have to be able to distance yourself a little bit. At the end of the day, you have to do what is right."

Carrier's first Rotary experience was in 1989, when the Rotary Club of White Rock selected him as a Rotary Youth Exchange student. He lived for a year in Vetlanda, Sweden, where he attended high school, became fluent in Swedish, and grew close to his host family, a bond that continues to this day.

In 1996, Carrier studied criminology at the University of Cape Town in South Africa as a Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholar, sponsored by the Rotary Club of White Rock-Peace Arch. He had the opportunity to witness a society that was changing quickly, after decades of apartheid.



"I was working with a lot of former African National Congress members in black townships and advising on policing issues with my professor, so I kind of lived between these two divergent worlds coexisting in South Africa at the time," Carrier says. "It taught me how important it is to adapt and try to appreciate peoples' perspectives before pushing your own agenda or viewpoint."

Deciding that a legal career would be the best way for him to make an impact on the world, Carrier went on to earn a law degree at Cambridge University. He worked as a prosecutor, handling criminal cases emanating from one of Toronto's most crime-ridden neighborhoods before landing the job at the UN. His Rotary experiences significantly shaped his career and outlook

on life, he says.

"You can go on a trip somewhere, but that's not the same thing as living in a place and getting to know the people, seeing their perspectives, and gaining their trust and really being welcomed in a deeper way," Carrier explains. "It gave me a lot more confidence to do something bigger with my life. If I hadn't had both of those helping hands along the way from Rotary - the exchange program and the Ambassadorial Scholarship - I wouldn't have had the opportunities that I have now."

## **Progress for Rotary's US\$200 Million Challenge for Polio Eradication**

RI News, 8 March 2010

As of 28 February, Rotarians have raised about \$114.5 million for Rotary's US\$200 Million Challenge. These contributions will help Rotary raise \$200 million to match \$355 million in challenge grants received from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The resulting \$555 million will directly support immunization campaigns in developing countries, where polio continues to infect and paralyze children, robbing them of their futures and compounding the hardships faced by their families. As long as polio threatens even one child anywhere in the world, children everywhere remain at risk. The stakes are that high.

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## **Family of Rotary Supports Immunizations in India**

By Dan Nixon, RI News, 17 March 2010

From left (in caps): Usha Mittal, Lakshmi Mittal, Rajashree Birla, Binota Banerjee (wife of RI President-nominee Kalyan Banerjee), and Past RI President Rajendra K. Saboo inaugurate a health camp in New Delhi on 7 January that also promoted India's National Immunization Days. Photo courtesy of India PolioPlus Committee



Rotarians, Rotaractors, and friends of Rotary joined health workers in carrying out India's National Immunization Days (NIDs) in January and February, mobilizing public support, vaccinating children, and contributing additional funding to the global polio eradication effort.

The NIDs marked the first time the new bivalent oral polio vaccine was used in India, when the Dalai Lama administered the vaccine to children in Bihar in January.

The Rotary Club of Delhi South Metropolitan, Delhi, with support from the India PolioPlus Committee, organized a health camp on 7 January for underprivileged residents that also encouraged people to participate in polio immunization activities. Rajashree Birla, an honorary member of the Rotary clubs of Bombay and Mulund, Maharashtra, joined Lakshmi Mittal, who leads ArcelorMittal, the world's largest steelmaker, and his wife, Usha, at the inauguration of the health camp.

After the outreach effort, the Mittals pledged an additional US\$500,000 to The Rotary Foundation in support of Rotary's US\$200 Million Challenge for polio eradication. In 2008, they made a \$1 million contribution to the challenge.

"The new fervor created by this challenge amongst Rotarians has enthused people and helped generate a

great deal of awareness and interest about the polio campaign," says India PolioPlus Committee Chair Deepak Kapur.

During the launch of NIDs on 7 February in New Delhi, Ghulam Nabi Azad, India's minister of health and family welfare, was honored with Rotary International's Polio Eradication Champion Award for his leadership in directing the country's effort to end polio. At the event, Birla announced a contribution of Rs 50 million (about \$1.1 million) to Rotary's challenge. In 2008, she contributed \$2 million to the challenge.

"In the process of polio eradication there are many challenges, and we have to become more formidable to beat them," said Birla of the sustained commitment needed to eradicate the disease.

Acknowledging Birla's generous support for ending polio, Azad said, "Our heart should not just beat for self but for those who are deprived, underprivileged, and in need."

## **Four-Way Test Speech Contest**

Hi Fellow Rotarians,

I just wanted to inform you of the key dates for the 2010 Four-Way Test Speech Contest. The Semi-finals will be held on Saturday, April 10th at Glen Burnie High School. This will be an AM contest. The deadline for contestant submissions will be April 5th. The finals will be held at a luncheon at the District Conference on April 24th in Gettysburg. All needed forms and rules are posted on the District website.

If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mike Phennicie at 410-859-7987 (office) or 410-969-3866 (home) or email at [mphennicie@bwairport.com](mailto:mphennicie@bwairport.com).

*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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## **More Than 85 Million Children to be Immunized Against Polio in 19 Countries**

RI News, 10 March 2010

More than 85 million children under age five will be immunized against polio in 19 countries across West and Central Africa in a massive example of cross-border cooperation aimed at stopping a yearlong polio epidemic.

Nine of the countries – Burkina Faso, Cameroun, Chad, Guinea, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Senegal, and Sierra Leone – are considered to have active outbreaks of polio (i.e., cases within the last six months).

The campaign kicked off on 6 March in these countries as well as in Benin, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, and Nigeria. Cote d'Ivoire, Niger, and Togo will join at a later date due to political transitions or elections.

This complex logistical operation is largely made possible by US\$30 million in funding released by Rotary International.

The chair of Rotary's Africa Regional PolioPlus Committee, Ambroise Tshimbalanga-Kasongo, said: "We at Rotary are proud to have provided the funding necessary for the March rounds, and we call on others to play their part in making Africa polio-free by providing funding necessary for more high-coverage campaigns."

## **Help Rotary Grow And Create A Better Future**

RI News – 4 March 2010

During its June meeting, the Rotary International Board of Directors adopted a new membership slogan, "Each Rotarian: Reach One, Keep One." The slogan emphasizes the importance of both recruitment and retention in sustaining and increasing membership.

To support this strategy, RI administers a web-based program designed to assist clubs and districts with identifying prospective members and to place relocating or former Rotarians in new clubs. Every Rotarian can directly support Rotary's membership

growth and retention by using the membership referral and Rotarian relocation forms.

The membership referral form is for Rotarians wishing to recommend a qualified friend, family member, or business associate as a potential candidate for membership in a Rotary club other than their own.

Rotarians who are moving or have moved and can't remain in their current club can submit the relocation form to learn more about clubs in their new area. Club secretaries and other club members should remind relocating club members to complete the form to request assistance becoming acquainted with clubs in their destination city.

Once the forms are submitted, RI staff reviews them and sends valid, complete forms to district governors and/or district membership chairs for evaluation and further action. Potential members are either directly contacted by district governors or district membership chairs or referred to the appropriate club president for follow up. Rotarians have been enthusiastic about leads from the program.

"This is a wonderful membership recruitment tool," says Matthew J. Salatino, past president of the Rotary Club of Schaumburg A.M., Illinois, USA.

District Governor Georgia Medori, of the Rotary Club of Vestavia Hills, Alabama, USA, agrees. In one day, she received two prospective member inquiries through RI's membership program. "Outstanding! Keep those e-mails coming," Medori says.

Help Rotarians learn about RI's membership program by placing a banner ad on your club or district's website or blog. These ads direct prospective members, relocating Rotarians, and current members to the appropriate form on RI's website.

Don't let great candidates for membership pass you by. Encourage club members to become familiar with Rotary's membership program to enhance your club and district membership efforts. For more information, see *Your Club, the District, and Rotary International: Partners in Membership Development*.

**SHARE YOUR PASSION  
FOR ROTARY!  
REFER A MEMBER!**

Complete the Membership Referral Form at [www.rotary.org/membershipreferral](http://www.rotary.org/membershipreferral) to recommend a friend, family member, business associate, or other qualified individual for potential membership in a club other than your own.



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