

# Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club News

## Rotary Club Calendar

**June 16 - 6:30pm – Meeting - Normandie Farm**  
**Prasanna Joshi, Asia Pacific Regional Analyst,**  
**ExxonMobil Refining and Supply Company**  
**"The Outlook for Energy: A View of 2030"**



Prasanna Joshi is the Planning Advisor for ExxonMobil Research and Engineering Company. In this capacity, Prasanna supports and advises the President of ExxonMobil Research and Engineering (EMRE) headquartered in Fairfax, Va.

Prasanna received his PhD in chemical engineering from the University of Delaware in 1998. He began his career with heritage Exxon in Baton Rouge, La.,

that same year as a research engineer at ExxonMobil Research and Development Labs. After the ExxonMobil merger, Prasanna joined the Modeling Center of Excellence in Paulsboro, N.J., and was responsible for deploying compositional process models to the ExxonMobil refineries. In 2003, he moved back to Baton Rouge to lead the High Throughput Experimentation (HTE) joint project with Symyx. He was named as the Integrated Program Leader for HTE projects in 2005.

While in Baton Rouge, Prasanna received his MBA with a minor in finance from Tulane University in 2006. In May 2007, Prasanna was named as the section head of the Process Modeling section at ExxonMobil Process Research at Clinton, N.J.

Prasanna assumed his current position in December 2008. In addition to his role as planning advisor, Prasanna is responsible for coordinating the EMRE Leadership Team monthly meetings. He also serves as the single point of contact on downstream technology with the corporate office in Dallas, Texas.

Prasanna is active in the external scientific community and has published over a dozen papers in peer-reviewed journals. He has routinely chaired sessions at the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE), International Symposium on Chemical Reaction Engineering and American Chemical Society annual meetings. He is the author of 10 patent applications and has received the prestigious "ExxonMobil Innovator of the Year" award for his technical work. He has represented ExxonMobil at the AIChE award dinners and has received number of external awards for his community leadership.

**June 16 - 8pm – Board of Directors Meeting**

**June 23 – 6:30pm - Social - Normandie Farm**  
**Election of 2011-2012 Officers and Directors**

**June 25 – 6pm – Rotary Governor's Installation**  
**Manor Country Club, Rockville**

**June 30 - 6:30pm – Meeting - Normandie Farm**  
**2011-2012 Rotary Club Officers Installation**

**July 7 - 6:30pm – Service Project at Manna Food**

**July 14 - 6:30pm – Meeting - Normandie Farm**  
**Joy Hatchette, Maryland Insurance Administration**

**July 21 – 6:30pm – Meeting - Normandie Farm**

## June 9 Meeting Report SEEDS-Haiti



**President Jason Hamel presents the Rotary cup to Marie-Louise Jean, President and co-founder of the, SEEDS-Haiti Project along with Dr. Marc Christophe (right). \$1050 was committed by the Potomac-Bethesda Rotarians to be added to the \$4400 already available in the Jane Gordon Memorial Fund for Haiti.**



### SEEDS-Haiti Mission

Founded in 1986, SEEDS-HAITI, Inc. is a non-profit charitable organization whose mission is to provide assistance to the Haitian people in their rebuilding efforts.

### Objectives

As a charitable organization, SEEDS-HAITI, Inc. operates in the following areas:

- Assisting the people of Haiti, particularly the youth, in the area of education.

*(continued on page 2)*



*Gladys & Noel Howard, SEEDS-Haiti Board Members*

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Coordinating and/or sponsoring charitable activities.

- Providing relief whenever possible, in response to natural disasters and other critical needs.

## Resources

SEEDS-HAITI, Inc. projects are supported by community-oriented fundraising programs, member dues, and donations.

## Programs

Since its inception in 1986, SEEDS-HAITI, Inc. has been actively engaged in supporting charitable projects in Haiti. Below are some of the humanitarian organizations based in Haiti that have received assistance from SEEDS-HAITI, Inc.

**Caritas-** A charitable organization with service centers scattered throughout Haiti. Caritas provides needed educational, nutritional, and other social services to the population.

**Soeurs Salesiennes (The Salesian Sisters)-** Situated in Port-au-Prince, provides nutritional and survival know-how (sewing and cooking skills) to needy Haitian girls.

**Timkatec-"Ti Moun Kap Teke Chans"** (Kids Looking for a Second Chance) is a youth center located in Petionville that provides shelter and food to street children located in the area. At the center, the children learn basic functional skills such as carpentry, woodworking, and shoe making that would help them survive once they leave the center.

## The January 12, 2010 earthquake and its aftermath:

After enduring three successive and devastating hurricanes in 2008, Haiti had begun to slowly recover from its hardships. The stability provided by the United Nations forces appeared to announce an era of peace and economic improvement. Then on January 12, 2010, a terrible earthquake hit Port-au-Prince and dashed any hope of economic recovery. At this writing, the death toll has reached 200,000 and is still mounting. The people of Port-au-Prince have abandoned their homes for fear of new seismic tremors, and live in refugee camps, without food,

water, or electricity. Bands of orphaned children aimlessly roam the streets and are at risk of falling into a life of crime.

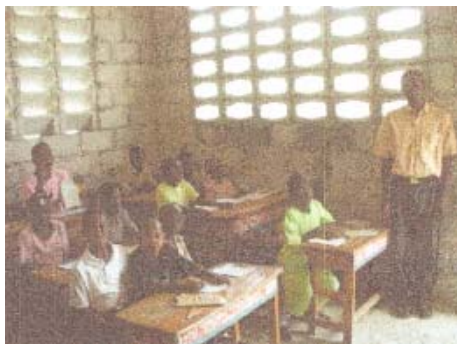
**SEEDS' Present Activities:** In response to the January 12, 2010 earthquake that devastated Haiti, SEEDS-HAITI, Inc. has adopted the Institution Mixte Emmanuel



Bon Samaritain de Digue Proby Primary School, located in Arcahaie, a small town situated north of Port-au-Prince. The earthquake had completely destroyed the school's building. Accordingly, in the summer of 2010, SEEDS-HAITI, Inc. built three new classrooms where the children can learn in a safe and healthy

environment. However, this new building is in dire need of a porch to protect it from the rainy season's torrential rain, and the classrooms could be better equipped with new black boards, benches, etc. In addition, SEEDS-HAITI, Inc. helps the school by providing teacher salaries and other immediate necessities.

Also, as part of the process of ensuring the school's long term survival and the education of its students, SEEDS-HAITI, Inc. has established a sponsorship program that aims at covering the yearly needs of a child in terms of food, tuition, school uniform and supplies, as well as other necessities.



Further information on SEEDS-HAITI,

Inc's programs and activities can be provided on request.

With your help, the children of the Institution Mixte Emmanuel Bon Samaritain de Digue Proby Primary School can continue to go to school and be assured of a better future.

**How You Can Help:** You can help SEEDS-HAITI, Inc. fulfill its mission by supporting its school building and development program, by sponsoring a child's education and welfare, and by participating in our fundraising activities. Your tax-deductible contributions will make a significant difference in the lives of many underprivileged children and their families in Haiti.

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**In Memoriam:  
Hazel Rahe  
Former Vice President,  
Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club,  
died June 12 in Huntsville, Alabama,  
after a long illness.  
We extend our sympathy to  
daughter Isabell and her family.**



Churchland-Portsmouth club, thousands of people attend the event, with each club netting about US\$10,000 to support local projects and programs.

The Rotary Club of Calcutta Uptown, West Bengal, India, is best known for helping provide eye care, computer centers for youth, and improved sanitation in rural areas of the Bengal region.

Many Rotary clubs are known in their communities for one big project or event that sets them apart from other groups. Whether it's an annual dinner that raises funds for polio eradication, or a park clean-up, your club's signature project or fundraiser can help promote Rotary's public image as an action-oriented service organization.

"Several small projects leave no mark, but one larger project leaves a signature," notes RI Vice President Thomas M. Thorfinnson. "A great way to promote Rotary's image is to have a significant project or a significant fundraiser that is a very public event in your community and to do that event or fundraiser consistently over the years."

The Rotary Club of Kenosha West, Wisconsin, USA, holds an annual sports tournament to raise money for the club's charities. This highly anticipated event involves youth from the entire community. The club promotes the tournament prominently on its website and includes videos from previous years. The club's online membership directory, which includes photos, shows many members in their tournament uniforms.

Here are a few tips on how to create a signature activity. Also check out what other Rotarians have had

to say on the topic in *Your Voice, Your Solution*.

**Identify.** Decide on a public event and its purpose, such as to raise funds for The Rotary Foundation or to involve members of the community in a local service project.

**Publicize.** Include your Rotary club or district in the name of the event, following the RI guidelines for using the Rotary Marks. Use social media and press releases to publicize your event and the work of Rotary and build interest and



*President Jason Hamel presents the Rotary Club banner to visiting Rotarian Dr. Okey Elisha-Wigwe from the Owerri, Nigeria, Rotary Club.*

## **Promote Rotary Through Signature Activities** RI News – 8 June 2011

*The Rotary clubs of Churchland-Portsmouth and Portsmouth, Virginia, USA, hold a barbecue-networking event each year as their signature event. Photo courtesy of Bill Pollard*

The Rotary clubs of Churchland-Portsmouth and Portsmouth, Virginia, USA, hold a barbecue-networking event every year, full of food, refreshments, and live entertainment.

According to Bill Pollard, a member of the



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excitement.

**Connect.** Assign club members to help answer questions about the Rotary club and its projects during the event to form connections with the general public. Distribute take-away information such as *What's Rotary?* as well as pamphlets or business cards linking to your club's website.

**Repeat.** Hold the event annually to build recognition. As awareness grows, more community members will participate and the event will become increasingly successful. You may even attract new members to your club.

24 Comments:

**Bill Pollard wrote:** On Wednesday June 15, 2011 the Rotary Clubs of Portsmouth and Churchland (VA) will hold their 29th Annual Rotary BBQ

**Rick Berchin wrote:** The Alamo Heights Rotary Club in San Antonio Texas just completed its 25th Annual Signature Event: Alamo Heights Night. The event started as a large block party for the neighborhood, with games, rides, food, and entertainment. This well known and respected family oriented event has grown over the years and now averages 9000-12,000 and has allowed the club to raise almost \$2,000,000 for scholarships, community service projects and charitable giving. See [www.alamoheightsnight.org](http://www.alamoheightsnight.org).

**Rtn Dr Sunil Richardson wrote:** RC of Nagercoil, a 62 year old club has been doing the signature project of cleft lip and palate for the last 6 years. Patients with this deformity have been located from various southern Indian districts for free treatment. More than 4000 surgeries have been performed so far and the project is still going on strong.

**PP Juzer Mohamedali wrote:** Rotary Club of Arusha Mt Meru raised over usd \$ 10000 on 12th Feb. 2011 for end polio now campaign its a great achievement as we are one of the poorest countries in the world

**PDG Bill Crawford wrote:** Our Rotary club has a Christmas Party each and every year, at which we provide a meal and Ice cream, a special visit from Santa Claus, and toys and winter clothing for children who might not receive any gifts or new clothing without the communities Rotarians.

**Jeremiah wrote:** Rotary is a platform for change in multi/dimensional ways

**AC Peter, National Coordinator India, Gift of Life program wrote:** Rotary Club of Delhi East End is known for its signature project "GIFT OF LIFE" - for saving lives, building peace and strengthening Rotary image. AC Peter, National Coordinator India, Gift of Life program

**Rtn Dr S R Singh, RC Lucknow, RID 3120 wrote:** RC Lucknow, Club no.15444, a 73 year old Club is one of the oldest Clubs of North India. The Club has been organising "Rotary Diwali Mela" for the last so many years for PR and Public Image. In Rotary Year 2009-2010 this programme was awarded for best PR in the RI Dist 3120. This year the "Rotary Diwali Mela" is going to be organised on 23rd and 24th October 2010. This is a most awaited event of the city. This is also a major Fund Raising Programme of the Club.

**Gaurav Ahuja wrote:** Rotary Club of Delhi VASANT VALLEY (Dist 3010) is always a synonym to HUMANITARIAN CONTRIBUTIONS. To date we were working on Blood Donation Programs with much efficiency and dedication but now we've added a VALUE STAR in this by starting ORGAN DONATION program in this year under the leadership of our President Rtn Rajesh Goyal ji. We will also move forward to other avenues of service and also try to make this club platform a best available resource for Professional networking along with the service to Society concept.

**Ric Salvador, Chair of Club Admin wrote:** We would like to think that our relatively new club, RC Holy Spirit of District 3780 in Quezon City Philippines, is viewed in its host community for its ability to partner with organizations such as the local government, homeowners' groups, volunteer & donor organizations, and other Rotary Clubs in the delivery of visible and highly appreciated service projects such as medical missions, anti-tuberculosis in children campaign, anti-rabies pet vaccinations, gift-giving, milk-feeding for malnourished pupils, and donation of school supplies. Though short-cycle in delivery, many of these projects leave long lasting benefits to the community where most residents are poor informal settlers.

**C RAY CARLSON wrote:** Altadena Calif. Rotary's signature activity for 20 years is Youth

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Entrepreneurship Education both locally and abroad, which involves teaching basic business principles and how to write business plans that can lead to small business start-ups and the creation of JOBS, of which there are very few these days. Business-savvy Rotarians can as Vocational Service easily teach New Generations youth or train teachers, using the many available curricula. Business-plan competitions excite the kids and motivate them to study harder and remain in school. Have done this in Armenia, Lebanon, Nazareth/Jerusalem, Uganda (with World Bank), Zimbabwe, Zambia (with US Dept of State), Nigeria, Mexico, Poland, Native Americans. Details <ray@rotapreneur.com>

**Ruteikara Sam (PP PHF) wrote:** The Rotary Club of Kampala East Uganda gives very interesting news stories known as "Kibooziboozi" - news told with humour. Many people both Rotarians and non-rotarians come to weekly meetings to listen.

**Rajeev Karnik wrote:** The oldest club in the city, the 53 year old RC Thane, Dist 3140 is known for District Bulletin competition and for "Van Vihaar", an annual one day outing & "Horizon", a drawing, painting and clay modelling competition for special children in Mumbai & Thane

**Sunita Gahotra wrote:** Rotary Club of Delhi East End is known for its GIFT OF LIFE program since 2005.

**Rotary Club of Kamuning wrote:** Every year for the past sixteen years, Rotary International District 3780, headed by the Rotary Club of Kamuning and the Division of City Schools of Quezon City have staged the Alay ng Rotary sa Araw ng Kabataan. This is a daylong youth activity which includes ten competition events participated in by most of the schools in the city. This year, the 17th season will be launched on November 6, 2010 at the Amoranto Memorial Sports Complex along Roces Avenue, Quezon City. The youth activities will start at 7:30 in the morning and end at 4:00 in the afternoon. The theme, "Kabataan, Kabalik sa Maayos na Kapaligiran" has been chosen to highlight the special role the youth of today will play in the protection and preservation of the environment. Rotary's dream of a beautiful world for the new generations puts a premium not only on the alleviation of poverty & hunger and the promotion of good health

and literacy but also on the preservation of the environment. Ours could be such a beautiful world if we keep it safe from environmental degeneration. This is the dream that we want our youth to share and the Araw ng Kabataan is one perfect way to create awareness among students in 143 public elementary and high schools within the city that will send more than 5,000 participants to the competitions.

**Nashik Ambad wrote:** Every year in Nov. or Dec. we conduct Mini Marathon and School Run in Nashik and thousands of citizens and school students participate in this event. Attractive prizes are distributed and with the help of local Athletic Association we adopt 2 athletes each year for their systematic training. - Rtn Sunil Deshpande

**Kathleen Salii wrote:** Rotary Club of Palau, D2750, has its premier fundraiser every November to celebrate its Charter Night Anniversary as well as to raise funds for a specific project each year. This year marks the 15th year.

**Smriti Gulwady wrote:** We at RC Thane Suburban D3140, Mumbai India hold a programme of Hindustani classical music, free of cost every year in January (Rotary awareness month) & talk about RI; TRF programmes & club projects to the audience present in large numbers

**PP Reynaldo Abellada wrote:** I belong to Rotary Club of Baguio Sunrise of D3790. For the past 6 years now, we choose and give recognitions to outstanding public school teachers from the public elementary schools and public high schools. This has inspired our public school teachers who had to deliver the desired educational instructions to our pupils and students mostly coming from the marginalized sectors of our society using minimal resources. We tag this annual search 'B.E.S.T. 2011" to mean Baguio's Exemplary School Teachers and this has been widely covered by local print and broadcast media to include television. We focus on the innovations introduced by the schoolteachers to impart teachings to their students. This has motivated the public school teachers and has greatly improved the ratings of public schools in Baguio versus national level ratings.

**Aldair Franco wrote:** The R.C. of Ituiutaba, Minas Gerais, Brazil made its XXI Feijoada, a typical and

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delicious dish of Brazilian culinary'. It has been made every year and the profits are for the Rotary Foundation. It is waited anxiously by all the citizens.

**Tony Quinn wrote:** My club Chelwood Bridge in D1200 is known for its production of Water Survival Boxes providing rapid aid and clean water filtration to people in disaster areas of the world. 800 already in Pakistan following the flood for more information see [www.worldwaterworks.org](http://www.worldwaterworks.org).

**Marvin Scruggs wrote:** Central Queens Rotary is known for its Christmas Gift Giving. Our Santa Claus excites the children and gets them in the spirit of the season. We also hold a Supermarket Sweep just before Thanksgiving. Last year's winner ran straight to the Meat section and loaded up her cart to the point where she could hardly push the cart

**Wally Brown wrote:** The Rotary Club of Sugar House in Salt Lake City, Utah 1) Is known as "The Sweetest Club in Rotary" 2) For 19 years has held the Chili Open. We play golf in the snow each January and serve "all you can eat Chili" We raise \$275,000 each year for eight small local charities 3) We annually distribute >3,500 Dictionaries to 3rd grade students in Utah 4) As we celebrate our 75th Anniversary this year we note that we were the first club in Rotary International to be a "second" club in a city of fewer than one Million population

## Help The Rotary Foundation Make A Lasting Difference

RI News - 13 June 2011



*Clorinda Palomina, 8, drinks from an outdoor sink in the village of Santa Rosa de Huacaria, Peru, built with the help of a District Simplified Grant. The Rotary Club of Vernon, California, USA, used grant funds to provide construction materials.*

During a trip to Niger on a Rotary Foundation grant, Ernie and Sally Montagne of Arizona, USA, saw firsthand how the Foundation's humanitarian efforts are helping to break the cycle of hunger and poverty.

"The Rotary Foundation is our vehicle of choice to enable ordinary Rotarians to make a lasting difference in the lives of thousands of villagers in Africa," says Ernie.

Contributions to the Annual Programs Fund through the Every Rotarian, Every Year (EREY) initiative are the primary source of funding for Foundation programs, including those that helped support efforts in Niger. These programs cover more than 160 countries and geographical areas on seven continents.

Here is a small sample of projects made possible through EREY:

In the aftermath of Hurricane Mitch, Rotary clubs helped create Nueva Esperanza, (New Hope), a sustainable community in Honduras for poor families devastated by the storm. Using a Health, Hunger and Humanity (3-H) Grant, Rotary clubs in Honduras and California, USA, provided books, computers, and medical equipment for Nueva Esperanza, helping families put their lives back together.

With the help of a Rotary Foundation District Simplified Grant, the Rotary Club of West Jacksonville, Florida, USA, built a baseball field designed for local children with disabilities. The unique turf allows players using wheelchairs, walkers, and crutches to easily maneuver across the field with the help of an on-field "buddy" - a volunteer, parent, or friend. (See this story in a clip from RVM: The Rotarian Video Magazine, volume 4, issue 1.)

A 3-H grant sponsored by the Rotary clubs of Calcutta Metropolitan, West Bengal, India, and Medicine Hat, Alberta, Canada, helped establish a half-mile concrete walkway in Nabapally, India, that serves as an escape route for villagers during annual monsoons.

**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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