

Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club News

Rotary Club Calendar

July 28 – 6:30pm - Social - Normandie Farm
 July 28 - 8pm – Board of Directors Meeting
 July 30 – 7pm – Nationals vs Mets Baseball



2011
 WASHINGTON NATIONALS

ROTARY'S END POLIO NOW
 JULY 30, 2011 • 7:05 p.m.
METS vs. NATIONALS

\$45 Lower Level Ticket Package Includes:
 * \$50 Face Value Seat with \$5 Donated to Polio Eradication
\$30 Upper Level Ticket Package Includes:
 * \$33 Face Value Seat with \$5 Donated to Polio Eradication

All orders must be received by June 30
 Jayson Werth Bobblehead Giveaway (only 15,000)

For more information, contact:
Vance Zavela (Rotary District 7610)
 703.749.7679
 vance.zavela@verizon.net



August is Rotary Membership and Extension Month
 August 4 - 6:30pm – Service Project at Manna Food
 August 11 - 6:30pm – Meeting - Normandie Farm
 Rotary District Governor Claude Morissette
 August 18 - 6:30pm – Meeting - Normandie Farm
 Yesenia Diaz, National Alliance on Mental Illness,
 Montgomery County
 August 18 - 8pm – Board of Directors Meeting
 August 25 – 6:30pm - Social - Normandie Farm
 September is New Generations Month
 September 1 - 6:30pm – Service Project at Manna
 September 8 - 6:30pm – Meeting - Normandie Farm
 Greg Bland, CEO, "Things to Do in DC"
 September 15 - 6:30pm – Meeting - Normandie Farm
 James Offord, Black History in Montgomery County
 September 15 - 8pm – Board of Directors Meeting
 September 22 – 6:30pm - Social - Normandie Farm
 September 29 - 6:30pm – Club Assembly - Normandie Farm

July 21 Meeting Report

Shelley Block of the Literacy Council of Montgomery County told about their mission to assist adults to read, write and speak English. Since their inception, they have taught more than 12,000 native and foreign-born students with the aid of over 8,000 volunteers. The 501c3 organization receives partial funding through a



contract with Montgomery County Government and the US Department of Education as well as private donations. If you use Amazon, you can access it through the literacycouncilmcmd.org web site and when you make a purchase, the Literacy Council receives a percentage of the sale. Shelley also encouraged anyone to volunteer as a tutor. Guests were Area Governor Greg Wims, Rotarian Jon Van Winkle, Hari Viswanathan and Nihad Kaibni. Todd Nitkin is on a medical mission in Guatemala.



We welcomed Rotary Area Governor Greg Wims (above, standing on left) and Nihad Kaibni (above, seated on left) on their first visits to Potomac-Bethesda Rotary. Also pictured are President Chinyere Amaefule, Vice President Caesar Kavadoy and Bob Nelson. Also visiting from Wheaton-Kensington Rotary was Jon Van Winkle.



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

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The Doctor Is In

By Ryan Hyland *The Rotarian* – August 2011



Hours after a massive earthquake hit Haiti in January 2010, Claude Surena, a physician, turned his home into a makeshift triage center, sheltering more than 100 injured people.

Using the limited supplies of medicine and food that Rotarians had managed to collect, Surena, his wife, and other volunteers cared for victims, many of whom were in critical condition. The capital city of Port-au-Prince was damaged extensively, making communication almost impossible and resources scarce.

“It was difficult to witness so many people suffering and not have the capacity to give them the help they needed,” says Surena, president of the Haitian Medical Association. “I wanted to give as many people as I could some level of comfort.”

Three days after the quake, Haitian President René Prével appointed Surena the country’s coordinator of earthquake response, in charge of overseeing the recovery and redevelopment of the public and private health sectors.

A Rotarian since 1983, Surena is also head of District 7020’s Haiti Task Force, which works with local clubs on long-term recovery projects.

“Haitian Rotarians lost family and friends,” he says. “To see them still able to serve their neighbors and communities under those circumstances made me feel proud to be a Rotarian.”

[Dr. Surena spoke to our club in September 2009]

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

Rotarians Play Key Role In Pakistan’s Strategy To End Polio

By Dan Nixon *RI News* – 21 July 2011



Islamic community leaders and Rotarians in Quetta, Balochistan, Pakistan, administer the polio vaccine to children during National Immunization Days (NIDs) in May. Photo courtesy of Mohammad Hanif Khilji

Rotarians are in the forefront of the drive to implement Pakistan’s National Emergency Action Plan for Polio Eradication 2011. The government launched the plan in January, in response to a sharp increase in polio cases in the country in 2010.

Turning the tide against the disease in Pakistan is pivotal to the success of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative. Pakistan was the only one of the world’s four polio-endemic countries – the others are Afghanistan, India, and Nigeria – to see an increase in cases last year: 144 compared with 89 in 2009.

Rotarians assigned by the Pakistan PolioPlus Committee are mobilizing Rotary clubs to provide support in the country’s four provinces. Rotarians are helping to immunize children against polio and to raise public awareness of the disease.

Club members are working “to cover every nook and corner of the country,” says Aziz Memon, chair of the committee. “We are committed to a polio-free Pakistan.”

Rotarians are also advocating for polio eradication among officials at all levels of government, as well as religious leaders and others.

“Aziz Memon is a participant in meetings with the president, regional governors, and health advisers,”

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said Bill Gates at the 2011 RI Convention in May. "Rotary's in the room when decisions are made in Pakistan." Gates is cochair of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, which has awarded US\$355 million in challenge grants to Rotary for polio eradication efforts.

Global Grant Scholar Focuses

On Human Rights

By Dan Nixon RI News – 27 July 2011

Global grant scholar Claire Achmad visits the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Geneva. Photo courtesy of Claire Achmad

Claire Achmad of New Zealand is passionate about improving the quality of people's lives by working as an advocate for human rights.

Achmad is studying international public law as a 2010-11 Rotary Foundation Global Grant scholar at the University of Leiden in the Netherlands. She is also interning with UNICEF's Child Advocacy and Rights Unit in the Netherlands and helping organize a juvenile justice course at the university. Her scholarship is aligned with Rotary's peace and conflict prevention/resolution area of focus.

"My mind has been stretched, challenged, expanded, and enriched in many ways, and I have had the privilege to be taught by some fantastic teachers and experts in the field of peace, justice, and development," says Achmad, whose scholarship is sponsored by District 9940 (New Zealand) and the Rotary Club of De Rottemeren in District 1600 (The Netherlands). "I am not only learning a lot and reaping a lot of knowledge through my study, but I am giving back through my other commitments in the community."

Before her scholarship, Achmad worked as an attorney with the Ministry of Social Development in Wellington. She was also honored as young corporate lawyer of the year in 2010 by the Corporate Lawyers Association of New Zealand.

District 9940 and host District 1600, both Future Vision pilot districts, have brought together considerable

experience to help ensure Achmad's scholarship works smoothly. District 1600 has hosted several Rotary Scholars from District 9940. In addition, District 9940 has sponsored five Rotary Peace Fellows.

To overcome an initial lack of awareness about global grant scholarships among its member clubs, District 9940 featured the scholarships in Future Vision pilot workshops and at the district assembly, presidents-elect training seminars, and the district conference, says Past District Governor Antony Fryer.

"To ensure continuity in the district's scholarship program, the membership of the previous Ambassadorial Scholarships committee continued into the Future Vision pilot scholarships committee, in addition to the appointment of new members," Fryer says.

In May, Achmad addressed a UNESCO European regional forum in Tuscany, Italy, on the topic of children's rights. After her scholarship, she would like to work with a nongovernmental or intergovernmental organization and eventually with a United Nations agency.

"My education at Leiden will be a crucial stepping stone to developing my career, allowing me to make the contribution I aspire to, addressing [humanitarian] needs on a long-term basis through sustained work," she says. "I feel a sense of deep gratitude towards Rotary and the support of The Rotary Foundation, District 9940, and Harbour City [Wellington] Rotary Club."



Passing of PDG Roland Cumberland

By Sherry Whitworth, District Executive Secretary

We regret to inform you of the passing of PDG Roland Cumberland, age 91, on July 21st, after a brief illness in Arundel Medical Center.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Southern Prince Georges Rotary Foundation, Inc., PO Box 345, Upper Marlboro, MD 20773, or to the Salvation Army Prince Georges Corps, 4825 Edmonston Road, Hyattsville, MD 20781.

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Innovation & Flexibility Pilot Program

By Bharat Mani Pradhan

Rotary Club of Kalimpong of RI District 3240, chartered 1993, as a part of its Innovation & Flexibility Pilot Program, has resolved the following, with an eye for making the club more effective :

(2.1) Shift focus from meeting attendance to member engagement.

A Questionnaire would be sent to each member, the contents of which would be stored in a data bank. Strengths and weaknesses of members would be assessed and their interests and talents channeled in the right direction.

(2.2) Update Rotary terminology to current language.

Acronyms and abbreviations would be discouraged and Rotary jargon kept to a bare minimum.

(2.3) Use social media to engage and involve members.

Rotarians would be encouraged to use social networking sites like Face book for group discussions, taking cue from e-clubs. Administrators of such sites would ensure secrecy and take cognizance of any unethical practices. Rotarians not familiar with Internet and online processes would be partnered with Internet savvy Rotarians to learn the system. 90% of our membership already use the Internet regularly.

(2.4) Try out different meeting logistics (time, date, location, use of social media, club event or social activity, etc).

To change Weekly Regular Meeting schedule to Fortnightly Regular Meetings (every 2nd and 4th. Thursday of the month). Members on various Committees to meet on 1st and 3rd and 5th, Thursdays (when a month had 5 Thursdays), to maintain regular housekeeping of the club. All members are encouraged to attend such committee meetings regardless of their being members of such committees or not and also to make-up through the social media set-up.

(2.5) Make Subscription of "Rotary News" optional.

Except for new members who would be required to take a one year subscription. One or two copies would be ordered for the Rotary Club of Kalimpong library. Members would be encouraged to read the magazine online to avoid unnecessary use of paper, thereby demonstrating environmental conservation to the new generation.

(2.6) Declare additional Holidays.

Based on membership representation of different religious and ethnic communities in our club, additional holidays shall be declared to facilitate members to celebrate their religious and ethnic festivals. Holiday dates to be decided and published at the beginning of every new Rotary year. Committee meetings would, however, be held as scheduled to carry on smooth functioning of club activities.

(2.7) Have Board Meetings continue as at present.

Note from Bharat Mani Pradhan:

In response to our Resolution 2.5 above, we've received an email dated 23rd July 2011:

"Through a review of pilot program rules, Rotary's constitution and bylaws, it has been determined that it is not permitted to opt out of the Rotary News subscription."-Rotary International

While we agree with RI's decision, our club would like to suggest that our India's regional rotary magazine *Rotary News* also be made optionally available on-line in digital format at a nominal price as has been done for *The Rotarian* which has been made available @ \$12 per year starting from July 2011 issue. This format is far more convenient, futuristic AND will go a long way to saving the fast dwindling forests worldwide.

Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club is one of the 200 worldwide clubs participating in Rotary's Innovation & Flexibility Three-Year Pilot Program that began this month.