

Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club News

Rotary Club Calendar

August is Rotary Membership Month

August 11 - 6:30pm - Meeting - Normandie Farm

Rotary District Governor Claude Morissette



Claude was born in St-Georges, Quebec Canada and migrated to the US in January 1970 when he was 17 years old to work in construction. After 7 years working for a few contractors, he started Kanuck Construction Inc. in 1978 performing drywall work in the Maryland, Northern Virginia and DC areas. He has enjoyed the ups and down of the business for the last 32 years.

The day after coming into the US, he met his wife Suzanne who was working for the same company.

Although they both came from the same town, 2 blocks away, they met in Rockville and started dating 6 months later. They were married in 1972, have 2 lovely daughters, Nancy married to Timmy Jones and Kim married to Erick Graves, two beautiful granddaughters, Jordan 3 and Stephanie 1. They enjoy traveling, dancing and golfing together. He loves hunting, fishing, boating, and ice hockey. They spend all their summer weekends at their lake house in Virginia where their children and granddaughters join them almost every week.

Growing up in a Rotary family, his dad, Marcel, joined Rotary in 1957 and has 45+ years of perfect attendance. Marcel is District 779 PDG 84-85. Claude joined the Rotary Club of Potomac in 1989. He served his Club as Interact Liaison, Bulletin Editor, Service Chair, Secretary, Vice-President, President Elect, President in 1995-1996, Club Foundation Chair for 10 years, and Charter Night Chair for 6 years. He has over 20 years of perfect attendance and has received many Club Awards such as Rotarian of the Year, Service Above Self and his Club's highest award, each more than one occasion. On the District level, he helped many District Governors at District Assemblies, as Installation Committee Chair and DG Personal Driver, Assistant DG, District Conference Golf Tournament Chair, Foundation Coordinator, DGND, DGN & Foundation Matching Point Program Chair.

He and Suzanne have attended 18 District Conferences and 10 International Conventions where they both always serve as Sergeant at Arms. They are 3rd level Major Donors, Benefactors and Paul Harris Society members.

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



Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club has been packing food boxes at the Manna Food Center for over 25 years.

Above on August 9 is the crew finishing the packing and stacking of 200 boxes on pallets. Each box feeds a family of four for a week. Recently added is food sorting (see below) on the first Thursday of each month. (Photos by Bob Nelson)



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Unprecedented Need and Grateful Responses: The Spring Season at Manna

From the June Manna Food Center Newsletter

This spring Manna has served an unprecedented number of families. The high numbers of winter have lingered long after the last snowfall and the need for food assistance remains. Our Smart Sacks program has seen increased demand as well, providing close to 1,600 elementary school students with weekend meals each week, the highest numbers in Manna history.

It is only with the ongoing help of our community that Manna will be able to feed every person and family who comes through our doors in need of food assistance this summer.

If you have ever wondered if the bag of food you donated is helping, or the check you mailed in is making a difference, the answer is a resounding "Yes." Our clients speak for us best in confirming this conclusion.

Client Beth Lynn writes: "Two weeks ago I was hungry and hopeless. Now I'm neither. Thank you! You were my first step in asking for help and now I am getting back on my feet."

Joan writes, "I want to tell you how much I appreciate your food service. I am handicapped and a 78 year old woman. I live on Social Security and it's like having a surprise once a month. The workers are helpful and courteous. Your food helps me to eat each month. Thank you so much."

A school counselor's report that because of Smart Sacks program, "The students are proud that they are able to help their families in some small way and don't have to feel guilty about eating when the food supply at home might be somewhat limited. They have reported that they've learned to like and try different foods because of what is supplied in the Smart Sacks."

Your contribution turns the hopeless into the hopeful, feeds the handicapped and elderly dependent on Social Security, and invokes pride in the most vulnerable residents in our community.

Please help Manna continue to keep our shelves stocked this summer by participating in the fight against hunger through your donation of food, funds, and time. Thank you for all that you do.

Manna Food Center

Resourceful Fundraisers Fuel Rotary's US\$200 Million Challenge

By Dan Nixon RI News – 5 August 2011



Past District Governor Jeff Coup and Eric McDowell, both members of the Rotary Club of Milton, Pennsylvania, USA, join Rotary Pedals Out Polio riders at a stop in

Milton to receive a contribution for the polio eradication campaign. Photo courtesy of the Rotary Club of Milton

Rotarians have raised US\$185 million for Rotary's US\$200 Million Challenge to help underwrite the cost of ending polio around the world. Although the challenge runs through 30 June, it is vital that fundraising efforts continue until the disease is finished.

Many clubs are enlisting the support of their communities. Rotarians in Australia and New Zealand, in cooperation with 20th Century Fox, held a benefit screening of the movie *Conviction* at 36 theaters in February, netting \$54,000 for Rotary's challenge. A fashion show sponsored by the Rotary Club of Fremont Warm Springs Sunrise, California, USA, garnered more than \$52,000 in March. And in a weeklong project organized by the Rotary Club of Pondicherry-Cosmos, Pondicherry, India, 3,000 students at Petit Seminaire Higher Secondary School raised \$25,000.

Walking in Tanzania to end polio

More than 320 Rotarians and friends of Rotary walked through Moshi, Kilimanjaro, Tanzania, in June, raising about \$38,000 and boosting awareness of the disease. A marching band, polio survivors, and Rotarians wearing red End Polio Now T-shirts led the walk, organized by the Rotary Club of Moshi and several others.

Reginald Mengi, founder and executive chair of IPP Group, one of the largest conglomerates in East Africa, called on businesses to help eradicate polio. Leading by example, Mengi contributed \$32,000 to the event.

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"This is called corporate social responsibility," he said. "You must give back to the community."

Both Mengi and Stephen Mwanje, 2010-11 governor of District 9200, encouraged parents to have their children immunized against polio.

"We must be aware and take all measures, since the disease can spread here within a short period of time," Mwanje said.

Rotarians ride in Pennsylvania

District 7370 (Pennsylvania, USA) sponsored a four-day, 330-mile bicycle tour of all 34 of its communities. Rotarians and friends donated at least \$25 each to ride in the June event, called Rotary Pedals Out Polio.

"Most people made donations online, as 'virtual' riders," said Past District Governor Jeff Coup, who came up with the idea for the tour and has served as the district's PolioPlus subcommittee chair since the program began in 1985. "We also had radio and a lot of newspaper coverage all through the district. Some clubs arranged for police escorts for us as we entered or left town. One arranged a PolioPlus billboard on our route."

The fundraiser netted more than \$21,000 for Rotary's challenge. Key to its success, said Coup, was "a great district committee that did the publicity, did a website with all the information, processed all the donations," and handled other tasks. "The event really reawakened awareness of the polio eradication cause in our district among Rotarians and the general public."

Plan for World Polio Day

It's not too early to plan for World Polio Day, 24 October, an excellent opportunity for your club and district to support the global effort to eradicate the disease.

Here are a few ideas to get you started:

- Create your own "This Close" ad and make it your Facebook profile photo.
- Host a walk, run, or bikeathon and send out a press release about the event.
- Make a donation for polio eradication.
- Place an op-ed about polio in your local newspaper.

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

Innovation & Flexibility Pilot Program Answers to Frequently Asked Questions

Potomac-Bethesda is the only club in the Rotary District that was selected for this Three-Year Pilot Program

Below are some answers to commonly asked questions about the Innovation and Flexibility Pilot Program.

What are some examples of changes clubs are considering?

Q1) Attendance requirements?

A1) Yes, clubs are permitted to establish different attendance requirements.

Q2) Membership types?

A2a) Yes, clubs are permitted to establish Corporate Partnership or other types of sponsored membership programs.

A2b) Yes, clubs are permitted to establish Associate Member-type memberships where the person is essentially having a trial-run of RI membership. The person does not have full RI benefits rights and does not pay RI annual dues.

A2c) Yes, clubs are permitted to establish other membership types that are not listed above. Please note that any official, active members (members with full RI member benefits) require, at a minimum, the full RI annual dues. For example, if a Corporate Partner sponsored four designees, 4x RI annual dues would be required.

Q3) Club leadership changes?

A3) Yes, clubs are permitted to make changes in club leadership structure. For example, one pilot club is introducing a "shared presidency" where two club members will share the responsibilities of club president.

Q4) Flexible meetings?

A4a) Yes, clubs can modify their meeting schedule. For example, some clubs may decide to have a meeting hiatus during the most popular holiday/vacation time. Other clubs may decide to have three meetings instead of four during a month.

A4b) Yes, clubs can alternate their meeting locations. Some clubs may rotate their meeting location.

A4c) Yes, clubs are permitted to establish alternate ways of meeting including e-meetings.

Q5) Making changes to club innovations?

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A5) Yes, pilot clubs can test out new innovations and if the policy innovation is having a harmful impact on the club, the club can (and should) revise or revoke the policy.

What can't we do? What bylaws and constitutional rules do we need to continue to follow?

Q6) Clubs must continue to function according to the 12 guidelines that define a functioning club.

A6) Clubs are not permitted to make any changes that contraindicate the 12 guidelines of a functioning club. Each pilot club must:

- Pay its per capita dues to RI
- Meet regularly
- Ensure its members subscribe to a certified Rotary World Magazine Press publication (*The Rotarian* or Rotary regional magazine)
- Implement service projects that address the needs in the local community and/or in communities in other countries
- Receive the visit of the governor, assistant governor, or an officer of RI.
- Maintain appropriate liability insurance as provided in Rotary Code of Policies section 71.080.
- Act in a manner consistent with the RI Constitution, RI Bylaws, and Rotary Code of Policies
- Pay its RI membership and district dues without outside assistance
- Provide accurate membership lists to the general secretary on time
- Resolve club disputes in an amicable manner
- Maintain cooperative relations with the district
- Cooperate with RI by not initiating or maintaining litigation against Rotary International, The Rotary Foundation, the associate foundations, and the international offices of the RI Secretariat (RCP 2.010.1.)

Q7) Reports, information requests, Member Access?

A7) Pilot clubs are to submit to RI any requested information or reports. Pilot clubs are also to maintain and update member information on a monthly basis.

Q8) Notify RI of members joining in newly created types of membership?

A8) Yes. If your club creates a new type of membership and you have new club members in that type of membership, pilot clubs are required to notify

RI of their these members in the new membership type by completing an online form. Depending upon the new membership type, these persons may be listed as members of the Rotary club on RI documents.

Q9) Club visits from governor, assistant governor, or other officers of RI?

A9) Pilot clubs must still accept visits from the governor, assistant governor, and other RI officers.

Q10) Financial matters?

A10a) Clubs must continue to remain in good financial standing with RI to remain in the pilot.

A10b) RI dues are payable for each active, official club member as stipulated in RI Bylaws 17.030.

A10c) District dues remain payable at the same rate – unless the pilot club and district come to an alternate agreement.

Q11) The Rotarian or Rotary regional magazine?

A11) Clubs are not permitted to cancel their relevant RI magazine subscriptions. Club members must continue to subscribe to the relevant RI magazine.

Q12) At the end of the pilot program, what happens with the club's innovative changes?

A12) If, at the end of the pilot project period, no changes are made to Rotary International's constitutional documents, the club must revert to RI's current constitutional documents.

You may also access the list of other participating pilot clubs on Rotary.org at

http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en_pdf/pilot_program_innovation_and_flexibility_clubs_en.pdf

Please contact ripilotprograms@rotary.org for more information on changes your club may be considering.

Ron Burton is Choice for 2013-14 RI President



By Ryan Hyland RI News – 8 August 2011

Ron D. Burton, a member of the Rotary Club of Norman, Oklahoma, USA, is the selection of the Nominating Committee for President of Rotary International in 2013-14.