

Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club News

Rotary Club Calendar

October is Rotary's Vocational Service Month

October 6 - 6:30pm - Childrens Inn at NIH



We will be joining author Corkey DeSimone Hay to deliver the "All About Me in DC" books that our club sponsored for the Children's Inn and we will have a tour of the Children's Inn. Parking is free and available at the Children's Inn but you need to go through security. Enter NIH campus on the Cedar Lane entrance. Tell them you have an appointment to see Bridgett Kuzma at the Children's Inn at

NIH. Give ten minutes to pass through security. You will need a photo ID, you will have to walk through a metal detector and have your car checked. The Inn is just past the gate to the right. When you get into the Inn I believe you may need to get a parking tag that will go on the front windshield of your car. The address for the inn is 7 West Drive Bethesda, MD 20814-1509.

<http://www.ors.od.nih.gov/maps/Pages/NIH-Visitor-Map.aspx> Link to campus map.

Our meeting will begin at 6:30 pm. The campus restaurants close at 7:30 pm so unfortunately dinner will not be provided at this meeting.

October 11 - 7pm Manna Food Center Box Packing
October 13 - 6:30pm - Indonesian Embassy

Georgetown Rotaract Club New Member Induction

October 16 - 12pm - World of Montgomery Festival

October 20 - 6:30pm - Meeting - Normandie Farm

Mamie Price, CHI Centers for the Disabled

October 22 - 10:30am - Potomac Day Parade

October 27 - 6:30pm - Meeting - Normandie Farm

States Attorney John McCarthy

October 27 - 8pm - Board of Directors Meeting

November 3 - 6:30pm - Service Project at Manna

November 5 - Rotary Leadership Institute - Frederick

November 8 - 7pm Manna Food Center Box Packing

November 10 - 6:30pm - Meeting - Normandie Farm

November 17 - 6:30pm - Meeting - Normandie Farm

November 24 - Thanksgiving Day - No Meeting

September 29 Meeting Report

New member Hari Viswanathan gave his classification talk. After finishing school in India, Hari moved to the

US ten years ago. The day after he graduated, his father gave him a ticket to the US and \$250 so he arrived with just a suitcase. He stayed with his brother who immediately took the \$250 to pay for his rent. While looking for a job that would utilize his training as an architect, he had to take on several other vocations. He sold high-end Kirby vacuum cleaners for a month that retailed for \$1200 each. The next month he obtained a learner's license and drove a truck across the country from California to Florida giving him a chance to see the country and build up his confidence. He had an unfortunate accident and



decided he really needed to get a job in architecture. He joined a firm in Stockton, California, and has been working there for ten years. In India one can sign off documents immediately, but in the US he had to work for five years to be able to approve the documents himself. He comes from an affluent family in India and

has two other brothers and a sister. He worked for a year at Jacobs Engineering in Oakland and when that closed, he had a couple of weeks to socialize. A friend of a friend introduced him to Swapna. After a year they quietly married and they have now been married for a year. The tradition of the ten thousand castes system in India is that upper castes could not marry lower castes, and although Hari comes from an upper caste, Swapna's family is even higher. Fortunately when he met Swapna's mother, she liked him and they were able to announce that they were married. His boss was in Rotary and urged Hari to join in Maryland. He wished he had joined Rotary last year, but had a stigma about Rotary that it was just for older people. He saw photos



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

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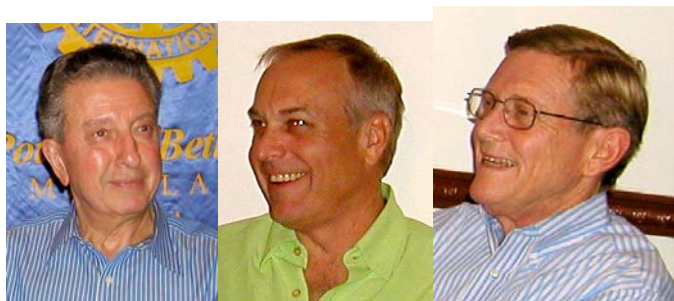
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Hari, Swapna and her mother at Manna Food Center of the clubs and there were a lot of older people. He then realized that everyone can join Rotary and at 30 years old, he is the youngest member in the Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club. He joined the right club since our leadership is also in their low 30s including President Chinyere and Immediate Past President



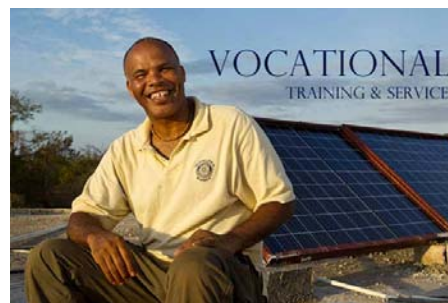
Jason. Professionally he is doing a lot of commercial and industrial projects in California. He is doing work remodeling several restaurants particularly where disabled persons need to be accommodated. His wife wanted him to come to Maryland from California and she works at NIH. Thanks, Hari, for a great classification talk!



Vocational Service Month Promotes Business Integrity, Professional Development

By Ryan Hyland, RI News, 3 October 2011

Through the Avenue of Vocational Service, Rotarians contribute their professional expertise and skills to address



societal problems and needs, promote high ethical standards in the workplace, support career planning and other vocational activities, and represent the dignity and value of their profession. Rotary Images/Alyce Henson

Carlos Früm, governor of District 6440 (Illinois, USA) and a member of the Rotary Club of Northbrook, teaches business principles and entrepreneurship to Maya high school students as part of his district's ongoing service project in Guatemala.

"Vocational service gives Rotarians the opportunity to help others escape poverty and gain a measure of self-respect," Früm says. "As business and professional leaders, we have a duty to lead and encourage good ethics through vocation."

Through vocational service, Rotarians contribute their professional expertise and skills to address societal problems and needs, and to promote high ethical standards in the workplace.

"Rotary's focus on ethical practices as part of vocational service has been a central part of my success in my business, professional, civic, and personal life since I became a Rotarian," says Paul A. Netzels, vice chair of the Vocational Service Promotion Committee and past RI director.

Rotarians have two benchmarks for promoting professional integrity: The Four-Way Test and the Declaration of Rotarians in Businesses and Professions.

"Rotary's Four-Way Test has served as an easy template for me in weighing the pros and cons of countless issues and decisions I've had to address over

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my career," Netzel says. "It has helped make me a better Rotarian."

Netzel says vocational service sets Rotary apart from other service and humanitarian organizations.

Rotarians can support vocational service by

- Strengthening the emphasis on professional diversity in member recruitment
- Identifying ways to emphasize professions in club activities
- Placing a stronger emphasis on business networking with integrity at the club and district level – which also is a means of attracting and mentoring the next generation
- Emphasizing the connection between The Four-Way Test and the Declaration of Rotarians in Businesses and Professions, and their importance to the values of Rotary.

Rotary's Support For Polio Eradication Making A Key Difference

By Dan Nixon RI News, 28 September 2011



Left: Ghulam Nabi Azad, India's minister of health and family welfare, discusses India's progress toward polio eradication with Rotary leaders and staff at RI headquarters. Right: International PolioPlus Committee Chair Robert Scott, RI President Kalyan Banerjee, Azad, and Rotary Foundation Trustee Chair William Boyd. Rotary Images/Alyce Henson

Rotary International has played a major role in helping the Global Polio Eradication Initiative make continued progress and overcome obstacles in the drive to rid the world of the disease.

Since October 2010, Rotary has provided almost US\$40 million for polio surveillance, immunization campaigns, and technical assistance in several

countries. In India, only one case of polio has been reported since January of this year.

"My country has benefited greatly from your support and I thank all of you," said Ghulam Nabi Azad, India's minister of health and family welfare, speaking to Rotary leaders and staff at RI headquarters in Evanston, Illinois, USA, on 23 September. He credited Rotary with "not only the mobilization of funds, but the active participation of Rotarians in the field with our operations" for helping his country near the goal of polio eradication.

"Rotary has invested heavily in surveillance in India over the last 12 months," said Bruce Aylward, the World Health Organization's assistant director-general for polio eradication and related areas, at a mid-September meeting of Rotary's International PolioPlus Committee. "That's the reason we can say with confidence that we think we're getting close to zero [cases] in India."

Endemic countries

The wild poliovirus (types 1 and 3) is endemic in only four countries: Afghanistan, India, Nigeria, and Pakistan. Nigeria has maintained a 95 percent drop in polio cases in the past 24 months. Even though the number of cases in Pakistan has increased by 70 percent in 2011 compared to last year, only one case of type 3 polio has been reported.

"[Rotary's] funding for Pakistan has helped us to bring type 3 to the verge of eradication in all of Asia," Aylward said.

After transmission of the wild poliovirus had been reestablished in Angola and Southern Sudan, Rotary's support for immunization campaigns made a critical difference in stopping them, he said.

Rotary helped stem the tide in the Republic of the Congo as well. Calling the spike in polio cases there "the worst, most fatal outbreak we had seen in years," Aylward said that Rotary's funding spurred both government action and substantial support from other donors.

Rotary is also funding research to evaluate new vaccine strategies and how they can enhance the quality of immunization campaigns.

Over the last 12 months, Rotary's investments in polio eradication "underpinned the largest coordinated

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public health operations in the world," Aylward said. "They leveraged the use of 1.7 billion doses of OPV [oral polio vaccine] to vaccinate 400 million kids in 183 campaigns in 47 countries. They were right on the mark, and all of them can be linked to real progress."

Rotary Partners With Mercy Ships

By Arnold R. Grahl RI News – 5 October 2011

Top: Each year, more than 1,200 surgeons, dentists, nurses, health care trainers, teachers, cooks, seamen, engineers, or agriculturalists volunteer their time and skills with Mercy Ships. Bottom: The Africa Mercy. Photos courtesy Mercy Ships

Rotarians will help improve the delivery of vital health care services to West Africa through a new strategic partnership between The Rotary Foundation and the global charity Mercy Ships.

Through the partnership, the Foundation will offer packaged global grants for Rotary clubs and districts to assemble vocational training teams of medical professionals. These teams will perform or assist in life-changing surgeries. The Rotarian volunteers will also work to enhance the skills of local health care professionals.

The initial projects will take place in West Africa, the area of operations for the charity's 16,500-ton state-of-the-art hospital ship, Africa Mercy, now based in Freetown, Sierra Leone.

"This strategic partnership with Mercy Ships enables Rotary to work with a globally recognized leader in the delivery of vital medical and surgical care to the world's most vulnerable populations," says Rotary Foundation Trustee Chair William B. Boyd. "It allows Rotary club members to directly contribute their valuable expertise and skills within the framework of a proven and highly successful health care program."

Founded in 1978, Mercy Ships uses its hospital ships to deliver free, world-class health care and assistance in capacity building and sustainable development to developing countries. The charity has worked in more

than 70 countries, performing services that have had an impact on more than 2.9 million people. Each year, more than 1,200 surgeons, dentists, nurses, health care trainers, teachers, cooks, seamen, engineers, or agriculturalists volunteer their time and skills.

"Mercy Ships is honored to be chosen by The Rotary Foundation as a strategic partner for disease prevention and treatment," says Don Stephens, president and founder of the charity. "The scope of Rotary's service to humanity is truly monumental, and it is my belief that the synergy of our organizations working together will be an even greater force to increase health care delivery systems in West Africa."

Previous projects

Rotarians have a record of working with Mercy Ships, carrying out projects in several countries. The Rotary clubs of Jacksonville, Florida, USA, and Tema, Accra, Ghana, helped equip the Africa

Mercy in 2007 to provide medical aid in Ghana. Jacksonville Rotarians also partnered with the Rotary Club of Monrovia, Liberia, to support eye and facial surgeries for more than 1,200 patients in Monrovia from 2008 to 2011.

Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland named Mercy Ships its Charity of Choice in 2005-06.

Rotary Foundation Global Grants support large, international projects with sustainable, high-impact outcomes in Rotary's areas of focus. Packaged global grants developed by the Foundation and Mercy Ships will directly support the disease prevention and treatment area of focus. Because the administrative work of designing the project and finding a partnering organization has already been done, Rotary clubs and districts can focus on identifying beneficiaries, providing technical expertise or direct service, and publicizing the effort.

One hundred districts are participating in the Future Vision pilot, a three-year test of the Foundation's



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streamlined grant structure, which began 1 July 2010. All districts will begin using the model on 1 July 2013. The Foundation also has approved strategic partnerships with Aga Khan University and Oikocredit International. Information on how pilot clubs and districts can apply for packaged global grants with Mercy Ships will be available soon at www.rotary.org.

Rotarian Circles Australia In A Dinghy For Polio Eradication

By Arnold R. Grahl, RI News, 30 September 2011

Top: Cameraman Zorro Gamarnik, Robert Pennicott and Mick Souter celebrate after completing the circumnavigation of Australia in two boats powered by outboard motors. Bottom: Pennicott and family on board the Polio I. Photo courtesy Robert Pennicott

Many Rotarians have gone to extremes to raise money for Rotary's US\$200 Million Challenge.

But Australian Rotarian Robert Pennicott set a record with his fundraising venture. Pennicott, fellow Tasmanian Mick Souter, and cameraman Zorro Gamarnik became the first people to circumnavigate Australia in boats powered by outboard motors.

Pennicott, a member of the Rotary Club of Kingston, and Souter piloted two 17-foot-long inflatable dinghies, propelled by twin 60-horsepower engines, on the 12,000-mile journey around the Australian continent (including the island state of Tasmania). They began in Sydney on 2 June and arrived back on 11 September.

"Rotarians have worked tirelessly toward eradicating polio for the past 25 years. With now just 1 percent to go, I decided to do something different and a bit 'out there' to try to raise a bit of money," Pennicott said. "I believe it's the weird and wacky ideas that get people talking, and I don't think they come much crazier than traveling around Australia in a rubber dinghy."

The effort, dubbed Follow the Yellow Boat Road, has raised more than \$250,000 to date, and fundraising will continue for several months. Rotary's challenge,

which seeks to match \$355 million in grants from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, will receive 92 percent of the proceeds; the remainder will support nature conservation projects through a foundation Pennicott established in May. Trip sponsors included National Geographic Traveler, Tourism Australia, branding firm Green Team, and communications company Telstra.

Video blog

Pennicott, a tourism entrepreneur who owns Pennicott Wilderness Journeys, began planning the adventure three years ago. He invested over \$100,000 of his own money, which covered the cost of the voyage itself.

The two bright-yellow dinghies, Polio I and Polio II, bore the Rotary emblem on their hulls; it also was emblazoned on the team's jackets and all promotional materials. Gamarnik shot footage of the entire journey, producing videos of each leg of the trip for a blog. Satellite tracking allowed visitors to follow the boats' daily progress.

Along the way, business colleagues, family members, and friends joined the team for legs of the trip. Rotarians from District 9830 (Tasmania) organized much of the land-side support, and Rotarians around the continent hosted the travelers at various ports of call. At each stop, Pennicott spoke to media and the general public about Rotary and polio eradication.

"A large part of this journey has been about raising awareness of Rotary's work with polio eradication," Pennicott said. "As we traveled around Australia, I presented to thousands and thousands of people. With polio no longer in the face of everyday Australians, it's been important to educate the public about the effects of the disease and why we need them to support our efforts to wipe it out completely.

"Ultimately, it's exciting to think that we could see polio wiped from the face of the planet in our lifetime," he added. "Bill Gates wouldn't have pledged \$355 million if he wasn't confident that the disease could be eradicated. We really are just this close."

