

Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club News

Rotary Club Calendar

January 12 - 6:30pm - Meeting - Normandie Farm
Dr. Michelle Thaller, NASA Assistant Director of
Science for Communications

"The First Two NASA Nobel Prizes: Cosmic Microwaves and Dark Energy"



Dr. Michelle Thaller is the Assistant Director of Science for Communications at NASA's Goddard Spaceflight Center. Michelle obtained a Bachelor's degree in astrophysics from Harvard University, and a Ph.D. from Georgia State University. Specializing on the lifecycles of stars, she has been an observer on the Hubble Space Telescope, the Spitzer Space Telescope, the ROSAT X-ray satellite, and the International Ultraviolet Explorer, as well as many ground-based observatories such as Mount Palomar, Kitt Peak, and Mount Stromlo, Australia. After a post-doctoral research fellowship at Caltech, Michelle worked as one of the managers of the Spitzer Space Telescope at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory. Michelle is a nationally recognized spokesperson for science and astronomy. She has produced, written and starred in several podcasts available on iTunes and YouTube, and she has received the highest honors for on-line programming, including the Telly, Aegis, and CINE Golden Eagle awards. Michelle has also been one of the regular hosts of "The Universe," television series on the History Channel, National Geographic Channel's "the Known Universe" and Discovery Channel's "How the Universe Works." Behind the scenes, Michelle has led efforts to develop high-quality apps for smartphones and iPads, as well as involve NASA missions with social media such as Facebook, Twitter, and Second Life. In her current role, Michelle represents all of NASA's science themes, from Earth science, the Sun and space weather, solar system exploration, all the way out to cosmology and the deep universe. Michelle speaks to members of Congress and their staff regularly, as well as international embassy staff and internal NASA policy-makers. She continues to be inspired by the fact that NASA is a world treasure, and the universe belongs to everyone equally.

January 19 - 6:30pm - Meeting - Normandie Farm
Philip Tarnoff, "The Road Ahead"

January 26 - 6:30pm - Social - Normandie Farm
Eric Reid, Chocolatier

February 2 - 6:30pm - Service Project at Manna Food

February 9 - 6:30pm - Meeting - Normandie Farm
Bob Hester - Metro

February 14 - 7pm - Manna Food Center Packing

February 16 - 6:30pm - Meeting - Normandie Farm
Bob Pelletier, Jay Davies

Rotary World Curling Fellowship

February 23 - 6:30pm - Social - Normandie Farm
107th Anniversary Rotary Founding

December 15 and 22 Meeting Reports

The final Rotary Club meeting of the year was the festive annual holiday party attended by Rotarians, family and guests. President Chinyere Amaefule introduced her mother who resides in Ohio. President Elect Nabil Bedewi announced the officers for the 2012-2013 Rotary year: President Elect Tom Leuchtenburg, Vice President Caesar Kavadoy, Secretary Hari Viswanathan, and Treasurer Nihad Kaibni. Congratulations to the 2012-2013 Leadership Team! Two pages of photos from the party are included on pages 2 and 3.

The meeting on December 15 featured Rockville Rotarian and Past Rotary District Governor Bob Hanson. Bob has two sons, John and Tim who have served as presidents of their respective clubs, Bethesda-



Chevy Chase and Washington, DC. Octogenarian Bob never missed a Rotary meeting in 53 years until his wife became ill and he cared for her. He told of many major contributions to Montgomery County that he was involved with through Rotary including the founding of the YMCA in Bethesda, establishment of the Boy Scouts office on Wisconsin Avenue and the Rockville Civic Center. Bob was very active in the Boy Scouts and



described his trip to a scouting jamboree in Japan where a typhoon dumped 17 inches of rain over three days. He told of meeting Rotarians who held top positions in government and business, but because they were all Rotarians they were on the same level of friendship. He had assisted Past District

Governor Jim Buchanan in setting up a \$3M donation to the Rotary Foundation that avoided heavy capital gains taxes, provided yearly income and, through an insurance policy, the family inherited the same amount after his death. Thanks PDG Bob for an excellent presentation!

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Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club Holiday Party - December 22, 2011

Photos by Neil Cohen





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Seven Ways to Get More Out of Rotary In 2012

By Antoinette Tuscano, RI News – 3 January 2012

A teacher prepares a lesson for first graders at École Ste.-Famille in Les Cayes, Haiti. The school was rebuilt with support from a Rotary Foundation donor advised fund after the 2010 earthquake. Resolve to support the Foundation's work in the six areas of focus in 2012. Rotary Images/Alyce Henson



Try something different in 2012 to attract new members and keep existing ones. Here are a few ideas to help you do more with Rotary in the new year.

Be part of Rotary's efforts to End Polio Now

Consider planning a fundraiser for polio eradication, or having your club or district light up a landmark as part of Rotary's anniversary celebration on 23 February. Rotarians have made great progress in the push to end the disease, but the job isn't finished yet. As little as US\$0.60 can help immunize a child against the incurable disease. Contribute to PolioPlus, and learn more about Rotary's eradication efforts.

Think strategically and set club goals

A new online assessment tool will be launched in July to help clubs set goals and track their accomplishments, such as contributions to The Rotary Foundation. Available in Member Access, it will replace paper-based tracking methods and help RI measure Rotary's global impact. Help your club work more efficiently by using the tool to set and measure club goals.

Help the Foundation fulfill its mission

Make a resolution to donate to the Foundation's Annual Fund in 2012. Skip one latte a week, and you'd have US\$100 or more to contribute to your club's Every Rotarian, Every Year effort. You can make a one-time contribution or a recurring gift. Learn how

your club or district can make a difference in one of Rotary's six areas of focus with a Foundation grant.

Get inspired at the RI Convention

The 2012 RI Convention in Bangkok, Thailand, 6-9 May, will feature speakers including Nobel Peace Prize recipient Muhammad Yunus and Global Poverty Project CEO Hugh Evans. And, along with thousands of your fellow Rotarians from around the world, you'll be able to attend workshops on topics such as membership, leadership, and Future Vision. Register today.

Celebrate 50 years of Interact

Interact will celebrate its 50th year in 2012. Since the first club was established in 1962 at a high school in Melbourne, Florida, USA, thousands of communities worldwide have benefited from Interactors putting Service Above Self. The program has helped countless youth develop leadership skills, meet new friends, and become more familiar with Rotary. Rotary clubs that sponsor an Interact club gain fresh insight into service and help develop future Rotarians. If your club isn't already involved in Interact, consider sponsoring a club.

Publicize your good work

PR grants enable districts to raise Rotary's profile and promote the global and local work of Rotarians by placing public service announcements on television and radio, in print media and on billboards, and on the Web. Help your district apply for a grant by 4 March. To further promote your club's signature activities, be sure to update your website with information about your projects and meetings. Also, start a social media page, and follow what Rotary is doing on sites such as Facebook and LinkedIn.

Connect with alumni

Rotary Foundation alumni can be effective speakers at club meetings, and many are potential club members. Reach out to them.

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Mobile Health Clinic Aids Homeless Children in Indonesia

By Megan Ferringer, RI News – 5 January 2012

A physician examines a child in Yogyakarta, Java, as part of a mobile health care project made possible by support from Rotarians in England and Indonesia and The Rotary Foundation. Photo courtesy of District 1200

A Rotary Foundation Matching Grant project that grew out of a Group Study Exchange (GSE) has provided basic mobile medical and dental care to thousands of children who lost their families in the 2006 eruption of Mount Merapi in Indonesia.

During a District 1200 (England) GSE visit to District 3400 (Indonesia) in 2008, team leader Hugo Pike discovered that many homeless children living in Yogyakarta, Java, needed medical care. His district developed a plan to outfit a vehicle as a mobile clinic that would be staffed by medical teams from a major hospital in Yogyakarta.

"The plan was to have a mobile clinic to make regular visits to parts of the city where a significant number of homeless children were living," says Pike, a member of the Rotary Club of Chelwood Bridge, Avon. "The children would be given a medical and dental checkup and, when needed, basic treatment."

According to Elly Wisanti Utama, of the Rotary Club of Jogja Merapi, homeless children constitute a marginalized group in most parts of Indonesia, and their access to health care and other services is severely restricted.

Merapi erupts again

"There has always been a great concern to develop a project helping street children," Utama says. "We were lucky to meet Hugo Pike in 2008, and this health services project wouldn't have ever happened if he hadn't led the GSE team to visit Yogyakarta."

The US\$20,000 project got underway in September 2010, funded by clubs in both districts and a Rotary

Foundation Matching Grant. A month later, the project came to a sudden halt when Mount Merapi unexpectedly erupted again, killing more than 350 people and forcing the evacuation of nearly 350,000

residents. The medical teams assigned to the mobile health clinic were redirected to assist the hard-hit hospitals.

Last February, the medical teams were reassigned to the mobile clinic. With the relaunch of the project came an expansion; by partnering with various hospitals, the clinic was able to reach children at 22 locations.

By the time the project ended in June, it had provided health care to 3,636 children – more than three times the number originally envisioned.

"It was a great honor for Nur Hidayat

Hospital to join with Rotary and to work together for humanity," says Dr. Arus Ferry, director of the hospital. Receiving free health services should be a "fundamental right" for the poor children in these neighborhoods, Ferry says.

Pending a new source of funding, Pike and others are hoping to continue the project in the future.

"For the children, this service made them feel more secure and cared for. For the health workers, this service opened their minds to see the reality of different parts of the world," says Dr. Sony Aria Laksana, director of Permata Bunda Hospital. "I hope this project can be sustained."

U.S. Rotarians Join Counterparts In Pakistan In Polio Eradication Effort

By Dan Nixon RI News – 10 January 2012

Two U.S. Rotarians and their wives got a firsthand look at Pakistan's effort to eradicate polio when they participated in the country's National Immunization Days (NIDs) in October.

"It was a moving experience to work alongside our Rotarian friends and hosts in giving the polio drops," says Steve Puderbaugh, a member of the Rotary Club of Raymond Area, New Hampshire. "It was easy to see that the children we were trying to save from this disease could be our children and grandchildren."



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Puderbaugh chairs Rotary District 7870's Group Study Exchange subcommittee and led a GSE team to Australia in 2008. He and his wife, Deb, and Past District Governor Joe Pratt and his wife, Lori, took part in the NIDs in response to an appeal from a District 3272 GSE team that visited the U.S. district in May.

The four, who made the trip at their own expense, helped immunize children at a hospital in Lahore, Punjab, and at a "polio camp" run by the Rotary Club of Lahore Jinnah. They also joined in a polio awareness rally sponsored by the Rotary Club of Lahore Shaheen. Puderbaugh says the rally featured about 150 people who had colorful banners and placards, along with decorated vehicles and a police escort, and "certainly got attention from people on the street and several media outlets."

In addition, the U.S. group participated in a World Polio Day seminar in Lahore, which included Aziz Memon, Pakistan PolioPlus Committee chair; Pervez Ahsan Khan, governor of District 3272; and representatives from the World Health Organization and UNICEF.

"We were honored to be there alongside the Pakistani Rotarians in the battle to control polio," Puderbaugh says. "We were also able to share information on how our American clubs and districts are still working to raise funds and awareness of polio, in spite of not having it in our country since 1979. It was very moving to meet people with polio."

In Faisalabad, the group immunized children at a hospital, and Puderbaugh was interviewed by a local TV station about his group's visit to Pakistan. They also saw a skit staged by university students on the challenges facing those working to immunize all Pakistani children against polio in the face of many challenges.



Top: Lori Pratt administers oral polio vaccine to a child in Lahore, Punjab, Pakistan, with the help of her husband, Joe Pratt, past governor of District 7870. At right are Deb and Steve Puderbaugh. Bottom: The U.S. group joins in a polio awareness rally in Lahore. Photos courtesy of Steve Puderbaugh.

Congratulations To Outstanding Rotary Clubs in District 7620

By Governor Claude Morissette

As I am traveling and visiting the clubs this year, one of my pleas to the Rotarians in the District is to please keep giving to the Rotary Foundation and the Polio Plus Program and if you have not, please consider helping in any way you can. The Rotary Foundation is our

Foundation and 50% of your donations come back for Grants and Scholarships after 3 years.

I want to congratulate the following Clubs in our District that have been recognized by the Rotary Foundation for their per capita achievement:

- 1) Greater Severna Park \$341.07
- 2) Glen Burnie \$307.41
- 3) Columbia Patuxent \$250.61

I also want to congratulate the following Clubs that were recognized as 100% sustaining member Clubs which was achieved last year by only 880 out of 33,000+ Clubs around the world:

- 1) Bladensburg
- 2) Columbia Town Center
- 3) Lake Shore
- 4) Potomac
- 5) Potomac-Bethesda

I also want to congratulate the following Clubs that were recognized for some level of giving by 100% of their members by receiving the EREY banner only

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1,550 out of the 33,000+ clubs in the world achieved this level of giving.

- 1) Bladensburg
- 2) Columbia Town Center
- 3) Lake Shore
- 4) Potomac
- 5) Potomac-Bethesda
- 6) Towsontowne

I will make sure I go back to the clubs and present them with their well deserved banners.

Thank you for all you do for Rotary, the Foundation and your communities!

Rotary Clubs With The Highest Giving Per Capita

Rotary International News – 6 January 2012

Contributions to the Annual Fund through the Every Rotarian, Every Year (EREY) initiative are the primary source of funding for Foundation programs.

From digging water wells for villages in Africa to teaching basic literacy skills to children in Latin America, during any given moment, thousands of Rotarians volunteer their time and expertise. All contributions to the Annual Fund are spent wisely on quality Rotary projects.

Following are the top ten Rotary clubs in per capita giving to the Annual Fund, from 1 July to 30 June 2011:

- The Peak, Hong Kong – US\$4,685
- Peoria North, Arizona USA – \$4,043
- Yangmei, Taiwan – \$3,991
- Yuanlin, Taiwan – \$3,771
- San Nicolás de los Garza, Mexico – \$3,187
- Senri, Osaka, Japan – \$3,054
- Panchiao, Taiwan – \$2,759
- San Pedro, Côte d'Ivoire – \$2,404
- São Paulo-Butantã, Brazil – \$2,143.12
- Gwangju-Youmju, Gwangju, Korea – \$2,015

Following are the top Rotary clubs in total Annual Fund giving in each zone for 2010-11:

- Zone 1: Koshigaya, Japan – \$25,591.82
- Zone 2: Gifu South, Japan – \$95,150.34

- Zone 3: Senri, Japan – \$131,317.00
- Zone 4: Bombay Queen City, India – \$52,515.06
- Zone 5: Bangalore Midtown, India – \$95,799.99
- Zone 6: Calcutta New Alipore, India – \$47,088.74
- Zone 7: Makati, Phillipines – \$91,000.00
- Zone 8: Caringbah, Australia – \$62,127.87
- Zone 9: Seoul Joongang, Republic of Korea – \$125,803.48
- Zone 10: Yuanlin, Taiwan – \$215,000.00
- Zone 11: Paris, France – \$31,603.74
- Zone 12: Lecce, Italy – \$39,801.68
- Zone 13: Pombal, Portugal – \$26,989.13
- Zone 14: Düsseldorf, Germany – \$33,267.86
- Zone 15: Karlskrona Aurora, Sweden – \$17,773.44
- Zone 16: Roskilde, Denmark – \$14,404.74
- Zone 17: Macclesfield Castle, England – \$18,634.38
- Zone 18: Winchester, England – \$10,366.29
- Zone 19: Reutlingen-Tübingen-Nord, Germany – \$13,973.30
- Zone 20: Port Harcourt, Nigeria – \$74,513.12
- Zone 21: San Nicolás de los Garza, Mexico – \$156,200.00
- Zone 22: Santos-José Bonifácio, Brazil – \$90,638.77
- Zone 23: San Telmo – Constitucion, Argentina – \$31,549.79
- Zone 24: Anchorage, United States – \$91,544.00
- Zone 25: Mercer Island, United States – \$95,367.46
- Zone 26: Peoria North, United States – \$80,875.00
- Zone 27: Oklahoma City, United States – \$60,700.00
- Zone 28: Edina, United States – \$82,154.00
- Zone 29: Grand Rapids, United States – \$33,531.25
- Zone 30: Birmingham, United States – \$100,208.41
- Zone 31: Alexandria, United States – \$70,680.00
- Zone 32: York, United States – \$41,751.08
- Zone 33: Charlotte, United States – \$53,937.00
- Zone 34: Jacksonville, United States – \$60,150.00

Your contributions ensure that Rotarians can continue promoting peace, fighting disease, providing clean water, saving mothers and children, supporting education, and nurturing local economies. Thank you!