

Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club News

Rotary Club Calendar

- February 16 – 6:30pm – Meeting - Normandie Farm
“Rotary World Curling Fellowship”
Bob Pelletier and Sandra McMakin
(see article on this page)
“Hilltop Microfinance Update”
Craig Melcher, CFO and Will Miller, Director of
Education, Hilltop Microfinance
- February 16 – 8pm – Board of Directors Meeting
- February 18 – 7pm - North Bethesda Rotary Club’s
Second Annual Wine Tasting and Silent Auction at
Kenwood Country Club
- February 20 – GROW Membership Seminar,
Holiday Inn, Laurel
- February 23 – 5pm to 7:30pm Joint Rotary Social
with Bethesda-Chevy Rotary Club at Jaleo Spanish
Restaurant, 7271 Woodmont Avenue, Bethesda
107th Anniversary Rotary Founding
- February 25 – 8pm – Wheaton Kensington Rotary
Club’s Classical Music at Chevy Chase Women’s Club
- March 1 - 6:30pm – Service Project at Manna Food
- March 8 – 6:30pm – Meeting - Normandie Farm
Bruce Trock – Johns Hopkins University
- March 13 - 7pm – Manna Food Center Packing
- March 15 – 6:30pm – Meeting - Normandie Farm
I.J.Hudson - WSSC
- March 22 – 6:30pm Joint Rotary Social
with Rockville Rotary Club
- March 29 – 6:30pm – Club Assembly – Normandie
Farm
- April 5 - 6:30pm – Service Project at Manna Food
- April 12- 6:30pm – Meeting - Normandie Farm
- April 21 – 6:00pm – 32nd Annual International Night
at University Club



Todd Nitkin made a presentation to the Georgetown Rotaract Club.

February 9 Meeting Report



President Elect Nabil Bedawi presents the Rotary mug to Bob Hester from Metro. Bob described the efforts underway to improve reliability and safety on Metro and Metrobus. Art Blitz told of his experiences with family members and MetroAccess. Visiting Rotarians were Mitch Galen from Wheaton Kensington and Cristina Bautista from Metro Manila, Philippines. Alan Grant announced that he would be away for several weeks.



International Curling Fellowship of Rotarians

Rotary International has a large number of Fellowships. This particular Fellowship of Rotarian curlers has the honor of hosting the 2012 World Championships right here in our District 7620 at Laurel Maryland. The International Curling Fellowship of Rotarians has this gathering every two years and has been holding it since gaining its RI status in 1972 with participating countries from Canada, Scotland, Sweden and the USA. This event is most often hosted either in Canada or Scotland, so this is the first time it has been held in the mid Atlantic area of the United States.

The ICFR was formed by Rotarians who had a love for the sport of curling. The addition of curling as a full medal sport in the Winter Olympics has made it a much more recognized sport worldwide. We believe the

Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club News

sport was started way back in the 1500s in Scotland and has lately become one of the fastest growing winter sports involving men's, women's, junior's, senior's, and mixed teams.

Curling is a sport played on ice with a target painted at each end of a 150 ft long ice sheet. There are four members to a team who wear rubber-soled shoes and warm sweaters. Granite stones weighing 42 lbs. are the playing pieces. Each member delivers 2 stones down the ice sheet in an alternating fashion of taking turns over the course of 8 ends. The other team members give instructions on the stone's play and help the stone in its path by means of sweeping in front of the stone's path. There is both athleticism and strategy in this game called the "fitness and finesse sport". Not just a sport for elite athletes, you will find players able to compete into their later years. Many times games are won on the strategy rather than the physical talents of the team members. It is sometimes called "chess on ice" for that important part of the thinking game.

The team competition spots allotted from each country into the Rotary Worlds Championships are hotly contested. Only Rotary clubs are allowed to enter a team. Each year a playdown is held in the participating countries to see the champion team that will be representing their flag. Scotland has the "Ram's Head Competition" where about 90 teams compete each year for the one or two spots allowed for Scotland for that year. Canada as well has a large turnout of competitors that currently total over 60 teams from eastern and western Canada. In 1996 another event was introduced called the Friendship Event. This allows teams who perhaps did not win the #1 champion status in their country this year (but had been in another world championship previously) to play in the event as well. We expect to have 10 competitive teams and 10 friendly teams attending the 2012 Worlds here in Laurel, Maryland at the Potomac Curling Club facility.

This 2012 event has invited the following countries: Czech Republic, Denmark, Japan, Italy, Norway, Sweden, and Switzerland and well as the countries who have already signed up competitive teams from Canada, England, Scotland, and the USA

During the week a round-robin play will post teams to play against each other to wrap up with the "final four" on Friday. These final teams will then be seeded to play for the gold, silver, and bronze medals in their final event. The World Champion will be awarded the Silver Bell Trophy with all the engraved names of the previous world winners. Come watch the games.

Aside from curling, this event is all about fellowship. Fellowship events include the following:

Week's Agenda: April 1 thru April 6, 2012

- Sunday afternoon: Opening Ceremony, dignitaries welcome, Dinner, flags
- Monday: Curling morning & afternoon, spouse's tours, Fun night
- Tuesday: Curling morning & afternoon, spouse's tours, Home hosting
- Wednesday: Curling morning & afternoon, spouse's tours, Laurel Rotary Meeting
- Thursday: Curling morning & afternoon, evening free
- Friday Final Four games and Honor's Awards Dinner

-The Opening Ceremony is full of pomp. There will be a parade of teams with a flag carrier for their country's flag. An entrance is accompanied by a team of bagpipers to provide suitable music. Welcome speeches will be made by our local Senators, Mayors, and Governors. We will expect some embassies to have participation.

--The Fun Night is the first night, and specially arranged to allow all the participants and their spouses to mingle and have a good time meeting each other. A special USA music treat is booked with dancing to the "Fabulous Hub Caps"! All in District 7620 are invited to join us.

---The Home Hosting night is for local families to have about 4 or 5 couples over to their own home for a social dinner. This is a chance to meet your fellow Rotarian from another country.

---Laurel Rotary Club Meeting night. Of course we will offer a club to attend so that we can do a "make-up" meeting for the week. And the members of the Laurel Rotary Club are generously offering a special meeting for that night. Expect banners to exchange.

Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club News

–The spouses tours are for the husband or wife who travels along with the curler. Each day we take them out on a tour to see sights of our city and area.

–On Friday it will be down to the “final four” and the championship games will be played to determine the gold, silver, and bronze medals. That evening’s dinner will be the award ceremony and time to say our good byes to the Rotarians who attended.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

We would like a Host/friend for each visiting team. (to make sure they get airport greetings and transportation if there are hotel complications, keep in touch, help with issues that may come up and just be a good local friend)

We would like Sponsors/advertisement/recognition (Jay Davies 301-530-9435)

(this would be on display for the entire curling season of 2011-2012)

We would like home dinner hosts for groups of 6 or so. (Bob Pelletier 443-668-1902)

We would like help with transportation (car and van drivers during the week to get back and forth from the Sheraton Hotel which is nearby) (we have rented vehicles)

We would like help with lunchtime food and snacks at the event (a caterers kitchen is at the club)

We need basic helpers for the ice committee to scrape, sweep, and water sprinklers each day.

You also can help be the bartender’s helpers. Or make coffee and tea.

All District 7620 Rotarians are invited to participate in viewing the games during the day, and attend the events and outings each evening. Say hello to our visitors.

We all are proud to be selected to be hosting this world event in District 7620

Very pleased when we got the announcement that Laurel Maryland was successful in our bid over Lake Placid and Chicago location for this event.

Website:

www.curldc.org/events/rotary_2012

co-Chairs:

jwdaviesok@aol.com

robepelleti@aol.com

Take a Survey About Rotary

Dear Fellow Rotarian,

What is your experience in being a Rotarian? How do you feel about your club's local and international service activities? How is your club doing attracting new members and ensuring that existing members remain in the club? How is the fellowship experience in your club? What could be done by your club, as well as by your district, to make your Rotary experience more rewarding?

In order to help each of our clubs, as well as our district as a whole, in making the Rotary experience the best it can be, we need to hear from you. We have designed a new web-based survey that is both detailed and easy to respond to in order to identify what our priorities should be based on your own priorities. You can be assured that your responses to the survey will be confidential. The survey does not ask you to identify yourself. Only aggregate results will be provided to clubs and for the district as a whole.

The survey consists of 28 questions, and it should take you about 15 minutes to complete. Our commitment is to report to you the results of the survey, both at the club and district levels, and to help you identify what steps your club might take based on the survey results.

This is a unique opportunity to take stock of where we stand and how to move forward. Together with DGE Bob Parkinson and DGN Peter Kyle and DGND Bill Fine, I ask that you please take the time to fill out the survey, which is available at

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/YWXSM5S>.

Please pass on to your entire membership.

Thank you!

Claude Morissette,

District Governor

RI District 7620

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

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

February 16, 2012 - Page 3

Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club News

Former Peace Fellow Pursues Human Rights

By Kate Nolan RI News 14 February 2012

A barrister for the British government, Francesca Del Mese sought a Rotary Peace Fellowship in order to pursue international work.

Sponsored by the Rotary Club of Watford, England, she applied and was accepted into the 2002-04 class at the University of Queensland in Australia. For her applied field experience, she worked in the UN Special Court for Sierra Leone, and later prosecuted war criminals of the former Yugoslavia in The Hague. As a consultant at The Hague, she trained judges from Jordan on international criminal law.

Del Mese is one of more than 600 former peace fellows who have gone on to build peace in their communities and nations after completing their Peace Centers studies. This year marks the 10th anniversary of the Rotary Centers for International Studies in peace and conflict resolution.

In 2007, Del Mese traveled to Uganda to advise a London-based nonprofit concerned with human rights violations stemming from the country's 20-year civil war. Del Mese interviewed dozens of the some 30,000 Ugandan children who survived abduction.

"I typically would hear that they had been taken in the middle of the night by rebels, their families were murdered in front of them, and they were beaten and forced to fight for several years before either escaping or being released," Del Mese said.

Having missed the chance to receive an education, those who returned home found only menial jobs with meager wages, such as picking up garbage or digging holes.

"Without education, their chances of getting better jobs were hopeless," said Del Mese. "Many [interviewees] were specific about what they wanted to be: teachers, tailors, builders, accountants."

Last year, Del Mese became the legal adviser, based in Geneva, for the UN Commission of Inquiry into atrocities committed in Syria. She has since moved back to the London area, but some dark memories have been difficult to escape, such as reviewing multiple torture cases.



"Now I bank well-being," Del Mese says, explaining why she spends much of her free time walking her dog, Sadie, in the quiet woods near her home.

Current and former Rotary Peace Fellows, other Rotary Foundation alumni, and Rotarians will have an opportunity to hear the latest developments in peace and conflict resolution and learn practical skills from experts in the field during the Rotary World Peace Symposium in Bangkok, Thailand. The symposium, together with the Rotary Alumni Celebration, will be held 3-5 May, immediately preceding the 2012 RI Convention.

Francesca Del Mese, 2002-04 Rotary Peace Fellow

Peace In Our Time

by Kate Nolan, *The Rotarian* – February 2012

One year after the terrorist attacks of 9/11, the first class of Rotary Peace Fellows began their studies. Since then, more than 590 fellows have gone on to build peace in their communities and nations, as well as across international lines. They include graduates of a two-year master's degree program and a three-month professional certificate program at Rotary's partner universities.

Today, these alumni are settling border conflicts in West Africa, analyzing development aid at the World Bank, briefing U.S. generals on peace-building in Afghanistan, crafting legislation to protect exploited children in Brazil, and mediating neighborhood disputes in New York City, among many other career paths devoted to peace.

On the 10th anniversary of The Rotary Foundation's Rotary Centers for International Studies in peace and conflict resolution, we bring you the stories of 10 fellows who are creating change locally and globally.

Author and film producer Alex Kotlowitz also describes the importance of the grassroots approach to peace and how it is working on the inner-city streets of Chicago, where former gang members are mediating conflicts and preventing bloodshed. And Anne-Marie Slaughter, an Atlantic contributor and Princeton University professor, writes about how technology has transformed international relations, granting individuals

Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club News

and small groups unprecedented power to connect to one another and influence global events. Here is a collection of dispatches from the front lines.

The elections monitor

Certificate class: 2006

Rotary Peace Center: Chulalongkorn University

Sponsor: Rotary Club of Freetown, Sierra Leone

Master's class: 2012-14

Rotary Peace Center: University of Bradford, England

Sponsor: Rotary Club of Folsom, Calif., USA

Citizenship: Liberia

Richelieu Allison grew up in Monrovia, Liberia, during a brutal civil war. Many of his friends became child soldiers, some on their own, but others after being grabbed off the street. "My mother said, 'I am not going to allow any of my children to walk out of the house to join the rebel movement,'" he recalls. "I have been opposed to violence all my life because of my mom."

To avoid the kidnapers, he stayed indoors, passing the time by learning to cook. He ventured out to accompany his mother on peace marches, which bore risks of their own. "We were in a march on our way to the president's mansion," he explains. "Suddenly bombs were firing all over the city. We had to run. I looked down and saw blood on my shirt and realized it was someone else's."

When the rebels invaded the area, his family fled to a refugee center. There, he formed his first advocacy group. Today, Allison, 40, is cofounder and regional director of the West African Youth Network in Freetown, Sierra Leone, which mobilizes and trains young people to help restore peace and human rights in West Africa. In late November 2010, he led a peace caravan – two buses with about 40 Rotarians and members of his youth network – to border towns in four West African countries, where they held workshops to teach conflict resolution.

Allison returned to Liberia to help monitor the successful 2011 presidential elections. "I grew up in a country that was peaceful, but all of a sudden one of the most gruesome conflicts ever seen in Africa erupted," he says. "Look how far we've come."

The Killing Fields survivor

Class: 2002-04

Rotary Peace Center: University of Queensland

Sponsor: Rotary Club of Bathurst, Australia

Endowment: Hartley B. and Ruth B. Barker Endowed Rotary Peace Fellowship

Citizenship: Cambodia

When his Rotary Peace Fellowship in Brisbane, Australia, ended, Path Heang headed home to Cambodia, an impoverished nation where the Khmer Rouge killed more than two million citizens between 1975 and 1979. Heang, now chief of a UNICEF field office, works to improve the lives of women and children in his country's poorest households. He manages six programs that help millions in need.

"In Cambodia, privileges traditionally are for men and older people. Women and children are not a priority. They need access to education, health care, and training for employment," Heang explains. "In the future, I will work in other countries. Because Cambodia needs people like me, I felt obliged to come back."

Heang, 43, meshes his peace studies with his prior experience in a weapons eradication program and his native understanding of Cambodia. "I am in a senior position because of the analytical skills and tools I learned as a peace fellow," he says. "Now I can influence national policy for the poor in Cambodia. [This work] is not about perception. It is about evidence."

Reflecting on his peace fellowship, Heang says, "It changed me." His studies explored the Khmer Rouge tribunal in Cambodia and security issues in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations. At the same time, he says, he had to learn the basics of life in a wealthier nation, such as how to use an ATM.

The general's adviser

Class: 2007-09

Rotary Peace Center: University of Queensland

Sponsor: Rotary Club of Rosslyn-Fort Myer, Va., USA

Endowment: Hartley B. and Ruth B. Barker Endowed Rotary Peace Fellowship

Citizenship: United States

Unlike many Rotary Peace Fellows, Kevin Melton grew up far from a conflict zone. "But he's put himself

Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club News

there," says Georgetown University professor Craig Zelizer, who first met Melton when he was in high school, and Zelizer was assisting with a peer mediation program. The two have kept in touch while peace projects have taken Melton to hotspots such as Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and South Sudan.

Melton, 29, is now back in Afghanistan, his second stint since 2007. During his first, as a manager for Chemonics (a development firm contracted by USAID), he helped farmers find viable alternatives to growing poppies for opium.

In September 2009, he returned to work for USAID in Arghandab, where he helped warring tribes and ethnic groups work together to rebuild the nation. A year later, he became a policy analyst for NATO security forces in Afghanistan. Melton advised General David Petraeus, commander of NATO's international forces in the country, and now works with his replacement, General John R. Allen, on peace-building and counter-insurgency efforts in the face of imminent troop withdrawals and uncertain sources of future humanitarian aid. Melton says his job in Afghanistan relates closely to his peace studies, which focused on grassroots strategies. His fieldwork, an assignment on Afghanistan at NATO headquarters in Brussels, Belgium, also proved a valuable antecedent, he says.

"In this field," Melton says, "people have almost instant respect for you as a Rotary Peace Fellow, and they trust you are working on something for the long term."

The reality teacher

Class: 2006-08

Rotary Peace Center: University of Bradford

Sponsor: Rotary Club of Corpus Christi, Texas, USA

Citizenship: United States

In Ethiopia, Cameron Chisholm, 31, worked to prevent cross-border clashes and cattle raids as part of his Rotary Peace Fellowship fieldwork. He quickly observed that the peacekeeping strategies were geared more toward a culture of spears than the reality of AK-47s. "I realized there was a huge gap in the field. There was no place for practical skills training

in a holistic way. In Addis Ababa, I started scribbling a plan," Chisholm says.

After his fellowship, he accepted a job with the World Bank, where his team delivered daily security briefings to the bank's president, and where he met experts sympathetic to his vision of establishing an institute that would bridge the gap. Among them was Rotarian and former Ambassadorial Scholar Peter Kyle, then a World Bank lead counsel.

A year later, in 2009, Chisholm founded the International Peace and Security Institute, based in Washington, D.C. He is now also an adjunct professor at George Washington University. Kyle - winner of the 2009-10 Rotary Foundation Global Alumni Service to Humanity Award - serves on the institute's board of advisers.

The organization hosted monthlong symposiums in Bologna, Italy, in 2010 and 2011, which some described as a "peace version" of the famed World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland. The gatherings brought together world leaders, academic experts, and seasoned peace workers to develop and deliver hands-on training based on their personal experiences. The institute will host similar events this summer in Bologna and The Hague.

"Cameron has done a good job at getting a blue-ribbon board and starting the annual training institute, a clear outgrowth of the peace fellowship," Kyle says. "This is the next stage of peace and conflict resolution training."

The consultant

Class: 2007-09

Rotary Peace Center: Duke University and University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Sponsor: Rotary Club of Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

Citizenship: Kyrgyzstan

In mid-June 2010, ethnic violence erupted in southern Kyrgyzstan, killing hundreds of people. As part of a UN rapid assessment team, Zumrat Salmorbekova, who had recently graduated from the Rotary Peace Centers program, traveled there after the four-day outbreak had ended. After interviewing local residents and collecting and analyzing data, she concluded that women and children remained in grave danger.

Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club News

"One day the people started to kill each other, but afterward they still lived on the same street," says Salmorbekova, 38. She recalls a woman asking her neighbor, who was from a different ethnic group, "Why you left the night before the violence and didn't tell me anything?" Her report proved crucial in preventing further bloodshed.

Salmorbekova has an understanding of Central Asia that comes from growing up there and working directly with local people. . "You can't get it any other way," says one of her professors, Robert M. Jenkins, director of the Center for Slavic, Eurasian, and East European Studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. A native of Kyrgyzstan, Salmorbekova also works with the UN Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) as an expert on the Ferghana Valley.

Before becoming a peace fellow, she focused on peace-building efforts in Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan. Frustrated by the failure to prevent violence in the region, she applied for the fellowship to search for solutions, she says.

The decision was difficult, Salmorbekova recalls. It meant moving her husband, Syrgak, a social scientist, and their two sons to the United States. In North Carolina, her Rotarian hosts provided key support, finding schools for her children and an apartment and furnishings for the family. She remains in Chapel Hill as a consultant on international peace and development, and her eldest son was recently admitted to the University of North Carolina.

The neighborhood mediator

Class: 2002-04

Rotary Peace Center: Universidad del Salvador

Sponsor: Rotary Club of Lexington, Ky., USA

Citizenship: Panama/United States

Just as border incursions can explode into wars, rifts between inner-city neighbors can blow up into jail time and criminal records. Rochelle Arms, 33, helps them resolve conflicts - which might involve road rage, a love triangle, or a family issue - without violence. As the restorative justice coordinator for the New York Peace Institute, Arms works with people arrested on minor assault charges who are referred to her for

mediation by the Manhattan and Brooklyn criminal courts.

Whether the problem is a border dispute or a fistfight, the principles for mediating conflict are similar, Arms says. She looks for the underlying cause of the anger and recognizes that self-determination is key. A good mediator provides a safe space that allows the parties to speak the truth rather than what they believe they "should" say, she says.

The lesson comes from her Rotary Peace Fellowship training, which included an applied field experience in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, where she saw that ending violence alone won't sustain peace. "Peace is something you build and requires maintenance," she says.

The recruiter

Class: 2004-06

Rotary Peace Center: International Christian University

Sponsor: Rotary Club of Prospect/Goshen, Ky., USA

Citizenship: United States

Member: Rotary E-Club of the Southwest, Ariz., USA

William Daniel Sturgeon's research focused on U.S.-East Asian relations, with an emphasis on reconciliation. As a Rotary Peace Fellow, he analyzed the Yasukuni Shrine, believed to house the spirits of Japan's military dead and a flash point for East Asian relations. Since graduating, he has worked as journalist and is now a political analyst and speechwriter for the consul general of Japan in Atlanta.

He also is busy recruiting candidates to apply for Rotary Peace Fellowships, and encouraging alumni to join Rotary clubs. He envisions former peace fellows building partnerships between Rotary and the NGOs, foundations, governments, corporations, and other entities they represent.

Sturgeon, 34, joined the Rotary Club of Capitol Hill (Washington, D.C.) just shy of his 30th birthday, after attending a meeting for Rotary Foundation alumni. "When I was accepted as a peace fellow, the letter from Rotary International said, We look forward to a lifelong relationship with you. That always stuck with me," he says.

Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club News

So far, Sturgeon has recruited six people to apply for a fellowship – and all six were accepted. When he moved to Atlanta, he couldn't find a Rotary club that fit his schedule but found a way to continue his membership: the Rotary E-Club of the Southwest, with 99 members in 11 countries on six continents.

The Sudan peacemaker

Class: 2004-06

Rotary Peace Center: Duke University and University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Sponsor: Rotary Club of Calgary, Alta., Canada

Citizenship: Sierra Leone

In 1999, former banker Josephus Tenga was working for a Canadian NGO in Freetown, Sierra Leone, during the prolonged civil war, when political thugs attacked his house. He and his family fled, finding safety as refugees in Canada. "In Sierra Leone, I know what life was like before the conflicts started," reflects Tenga, 56. "I know what I went through, and I know others can get through this."

The journey led to Tenga's introduction to the Rotary Peace Centers program, after a Canadian Rotarian heard him speak about the crisis in Sierra Leone and urged him to apply.

Through the Canadian government, Tenga has served as technical adviser to Sudan's Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration Commission, which helped pave the way for establishing the Republic of South Sudan and, it is hoped, averting further war. He also has worked to prevent the spread of conflict in Darfur and organized workshops there to promote the surrender of weapons. In eastern Sudan, he assisted with a Kuwaiti-funded project to restore infrastructure and provide economic opportunities.

Now back home in the Canadian Rockies, Tenga is organizing a peace conference involving Sudan and the seven bordering countries, focused on the flow of arms in the region.

"Violence never ends. It's an industry," Tenga says. "People are making money off of it, and we cannot ignore it."

The child defender

Class: 2007-09

Rotary Peace Center: Duke University and University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Sponsor: Rotary Club of Brasília, Brazil

Endowment: Paul F. and Carolyn C. Rizza Endowed Rotary Peace Fellowship

Citizenship: Brazil

Katia de Mello Dantas, 34, helps stop sexual abuse against children, including pornography, human trafficking, and abduction. In recent months, she has begun to focus on protecting children from sexual predators on the Internet.

Based in Brasília, Brazil, Dantas – policy director for Latin America and the Caribbean for the International Centre for Missing and Exploited Children – travels the region, helping to draft uniform laws and train law enforcement officers on how to collect evidence and file effective charges. The center, based in Virginia, USA, became an international organization in 1999, spurred by the "Dutroux affair" – public outrage in Belgium over the botched handling of a serial killer case involving children.

Before taking on her current job, Dantas worked for USAID in Brazil and completed fieldwork as a peace fellow with the International Organization for Migration, where she researched the impact of cross-border movement on HIV/AIDS and other public health concerns.

She recalls that she once envisioned living in Asia, expecting that she would need to cross an ocean or two to become an international peace worker. But after working for the center in Washington, D.C., she realized she missed her home in Brazil. "My path changed, but not my goal. Peace fellows are all like Miss America, because we all want world peace," she says.

In 2011, Dantas was named one of the Top 99 Under 33 Foreign Policy Leaders by Young Professionals in Foreign Policy.

Potomac-Bethesda Rotary Club News



On Your Mark
Get Set
GROW!

Putting Membership Matters Into Motion

GROW Membership Seminar
Monday, February 20th, 2012
Registration at 5:15pm
Dinner/Seminar promptly at 6:00pm
FREE but you DO need to register
Holiday Inn Laurel West
15101 Sweitzer Lane, Laurel, MD
Club PEs, Membership Committee Members
and all Rotarians are **HIGHLY** encouraged to attend

Historic Moments: The first four Rotarians

By Susan Hanf and Jason Lamb, RI News - 15
February 2012

The first four Rotarians -- Gustavus Loehr, Silvester Schiele, Hiram E. Shorey, Paul P. Harris.

On 23 February 1905, Paul P. Harris, Gustavus Loehr, Silvester Schiele, and Hiram E. Shorey gathered in Loehr's office for what would become known as the first Rotary club meeting.

Harris's desire for camaraderie among business associates brought together these four men and eventually led to an international organization of service and fellowship. Rotary's founder, Harris, was born in Wisconsin, USA, on 19 April 1868. He was raised by his paternal grandparents in Vermont and attended the University



of Vermont, Princeton, and the University of Iowa. He was Rotary president from 1910 to 1912 and a member of the Rotary Club of Chicago until his death on 27 January 1947. Learn more about the founder of Rotary in "The Life and Times of Paul Harris."

Loehr, a mining engineer, was born on 18 October 1864 in Carlinville, Illinois. He was a Rotarian for only a few years, never holding office at the club or international level. But that first Rotary meeting was held in his office, Room 711 of the Unity Building in downtown Chicago. He died in Chicago on 23 May 1918.

A Rotarian for only a few years, Shorey served as recording secretary during the club's first year. He was born in Maine in August 1862 and died in March 1944.

Schiele, a coal dealer, served as the Chicago club's first president in 1905 and Rotary International's third treasurer in 1945. Born in Terre Haute, Indiana, in 1870, Schiele attended Terre Haute Business College and served in the U.S. Army during the Spanish-American War. He was president of the Schiele Coal Company from 1902 until his retirement in 1939. He and Harris became lifelong friends and lived near each other on the South Side of Chicago. Schiele died on 17 December 1945 and is buried near Harris at Mount Hope Cemetery.

Originally from Michigan, Ruggles was a graduate of Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, and joined Rotary at its second meeting. He was treasurer of the Chicago club during its first year, president from 1908 to 1910, and a Rotary director from 1912 to 1913. He is known for having introduced singing to Rotary club meetings. His

printing company, H.L. Ruggles & Co., printed the first issue of The National Rotarian and the first Rotary songbook. He died on 26 October 1959, an honorary member of seven clubs in addition to his home club, the Rotary Club of Chicago.

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

February 16, 2012 - Page 9