



**District Governor  
John D. Mitchell**

## **Governor's Newsletter**

### **District 7490**

**Serving Bergen, Hudson  
& Passaic Counties**

**New Jersey, USA**

**October, 2019**



### **Governor's Message for October.**

Dear Fellow Rotarians,

Rotary has been around for 114 years and we're still going strong. I continue to be amazed at the dedication of our District 7490 Rotarians. Interestingly, we go about our Rotary business and rarely, if ever, question why we are so focused on our **Service Above Self** ideals.

Feedback that I have received as I travel around our District asking why we are Rotarians range from:

- It's great to give back.
- This is exactly what I was looking for.
- My Club has fabulous people doing fabulous things.
- I'm encouraged by the diversity.
- We are saving young lives.
- I'm making solid business connections.
- Rotary is another opportunity to use my leadership skills.

I'm sure that if you ask yourself why you love Rotary, you'll have your own special reason. It's a question we should all be asking ourselves on an ongoing basis. Let's not fall into the trap of thinking our weekly membership get-togethers is what Rotary is all about. Remember, there is a marked difference between being a member of Rotary and being a true Rotarian.

Challenge yourself to become a Rotary leader. Challenge yourself to leave your mark in your neighborhood and in the world.

Challenge yourself to spread the Rotary mantra far and wide to attract new members. Challenge yourself to become a Rotary expert. Accept these challenges!

#### ***In this Issue.***

<i>Membership Corner by PDG Lenny Agrusti</i>	2
<i>Rotarians from Four Different Clubs Explain Why They Joined Rotary.</i>	3
<i>Depth of Human Trafficking Explained at Oct. 7 District Staff Meeting.</i>	4
<i>PDG Nikki Mederos Announces April 18 Rotary Leadership Institute Seminar in West Orange.</i>	6
<i>PDG Raj Bhatia Discusses Nov. 9 'Rotary/UN Day Observance in New York.</i>	6
<i>Pat LaRocco Discusses 'Alliance for Smiles at Oct. 7 District Staff Meeting.</i>	7
<i>PDG Lenny Agrusti Speaks on Nov. 7 'Grow Your Rotary Club' Membership Seminar.</i>	7
<i>RYLA Coordinators Sonia Roman, Jean Jordan and Student Donnie Ortiz Discuss Program.</i>	8
<i>Report on September 'Alliance for Smiles' Mission in Guatemala in Which 36 Children Were Operated On.</i>	9
<i>Phil Wilson of the Rotary Club of the Palisades Speaks of Polio and of His Own Affliction.</i>	10
<i>Volunteers Sought for Polio National Immunization Day Campaign in India</i>	11
<i>Paramus Rotary Club Visits Site of September 11 Attacks in Lower Manhattan.</i>	12

#### **Newsletter Editor**

Stephen Stamos is the editor of *The Governor's Newsletter*. He can be reached at 201-823-0247 or at [ssstamos@optonline.net](mailto:ssstamos@optonline.net).

## Membership Corner.

*By Past District Governor Leonard A. Agrusti  
Chairman, District Membership Committee*



**Past District Governor Leonard A. Agrusti, Chairman of District 7490's Membership Retention Committee.**

In the past articles that I submitted in the *Membership Corner*, I often mentioned the importance of following up on Prospective Members which have been sent to the clubs by Rotary International in the form of Membership Leads.

Many of you not only received these Membership Leads from RI but you also received an email from me with the information for Prospective Members in which I asked you to follow up and let me know your progress.

Very few of the clubs reached out to these prospective members. From January 2019 to the present, there were 45 Membership Leads sent out from RI to our district. I personally sent out 20 leads to the presidents this Rotary Year, those clubs that did respond back to me were very successful in getting new members but according to RI, there was no follow up in *My Rotary*.

RI asks that each prospect be reported in *My Rotary* on the "Manage Membership Leads" page. (Unless clubs enter a report, the membership Leads coordinator at RI never knows what has happened to a given prospect.)

To find all your current and many previous leads, sign in to *My Rotary*, go to Club Administration under the Manage tab, and then click on Membership Leads.

At the upcoming Membership Seminar, on November 7, I will demonstrate how to manage these leads and report them to RI.

These leads are a way Rotary International takes online inquiries from people who are interested in Rotary. We do not have to screen these members because RI has done this for you.

They have already been checked by the Rotary staff to make sure they meet Rotary's membership requirements. As a club, we just have to see if they fit into our club if not we can direct them to another club in our district.

Telephone the prospective member and meet with him/her and get to know them. Tell the prospective member about your club and the service that your club provides in the community as well as internationally. With their interests in mind, explain how your club can help them pursue their passions.

Membership Leads provide us with the hottest prospects of all. These prospective members took the time to pursue Rotary on their own. They might be looking for opportunities to help others in the community.

They may be looking for something that they can achieve through Rotary. This is what we have to find out and fit them into our club or another Rotary Club in the area.

After you meet with the prospective member, discuss what you learned about them with your membership committee and board members and determine whether the prospect is a good fit for your club.

**Note:** In *The Rotarian*, November issue, there is a fabulous article, on page 23, "**Matchmaker, matchmaker**", (Rotary's Membership Leads program handles the Introductions: the rest is up to your club) by Nancy Shepherdson. This is very informative reading.

Good Luck on getting new members and I hope to see you all on November 7 at the Membership Seminar at Care Plus in Paramus.

***Let's Grow Rotary together.***

Yours in Rotary,

***Lenny***

***Leonard (Lenny) Agrusti, PDG  
District Membership Chair***

My email is: mealen26@gmail.com.

## Rotarians from Four Different Clubs Explain Why They Joined Rotary.

### *Dr. Rajinder P. "Raj" Gandhi of the Ridgewood Rotary Club.*

I joined the Rotary Club of Ridgewood at the suggestion of my Attorney friend Paul Thornwall, giving me the example of RI President Year 1991 – 1992: Rajendra K. Saboo Year 1991-92.



**Dr. Rajinder "Raj" Gandhi of the Ridgewood Rotary Club.**

### *Keely Respass of the Jersey City Rotary Club.*

For quite some time I had a personal commitment to join a global legacy service organization that had a primary interest in providing service to those that need it most. Rotary is amazingly special to me in that it embodies tradition and empowerment to all persons without regard to political affiliation, creed, race, color, or national origin.



**Keely Respass of the Jersey City Rotary Club.**

### *Kay Song of the Fort Lee Rotary Club.*

I heard that Rotary that was an exclusive successful rich peoples' club when I was young. When I moved to Bergen County after I retired from Wall Street as an IT/Finance Specialist and was volunteering full time at the Korean Community Center (Former name is FGS) in Englewood, I had a chance to attend a local Rotary meeting but felt that I was not welcomed. Mr. John Mitchell whom I knew since 2013 invited me to join the Fort Lee Rotary Club. I felt that I am welcomed and members are friendly. I like Rotary's charity works, such as Gift of Life, Polio Vaccination, Clean Water Project, RFE program and etc., and how quietly it is done without giving any pressures to members. I really enjoy meeting members and helping projects.



**Kay Song of the Fort Lee Rotary Club.**

### *Roland Weimer of the Rotary club of the Palisades.*

Truth be told, I joined Rotary because I was running for office. My opponent was a member of this new service club in town. I followed him to a meeting and found people dedicated to service above self. I lost the election and joined Rotary instead. Still a win.



**Roland Weimer of the Rotary club of the Palisades.**



## Depth of Human Trafficking in New Jersey Illustrated at District 7490's October 7 Staff Meeting.



Carinne Murphy, Chairwoman of District 7490's Committee of Rotarians Combatting Human Trafficking, speaking on Oct. 7 at Rotary District 7490's District Staff Meeting. To her right, is the access address to a six-minute film "Stop[ This Traffic]" which she attempted to show during her presentation.

Carinne Murphy, the Chairwoman of Rotary District 7490's Committee on Rotarians Combatting Human Trafficking, spoke earlier this month on the scourge of sex trafficking, particularly as it applies to the State of New Jersey.

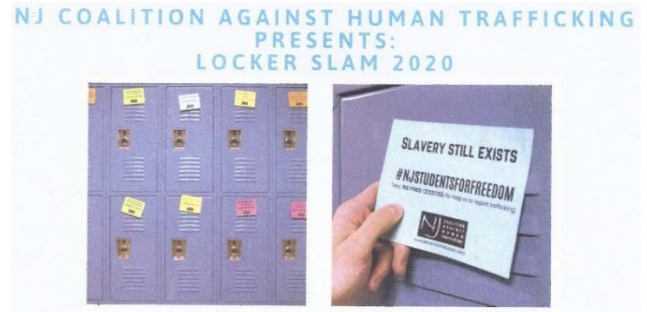
Speaking on Oct. 7 at the District Staff Meeting, Carinne, a member of the Park Ridge Rotary Club, said that since 2014, at least 650 cases of human trafficking have been reported in New Jersey, with the victims ranging in age from nine to 75 years old. But she suggested, as have law enforcement authorities, many more cases of human trafficking – which have *not* been reported – have also occurred in the Garden State. In one recent year alone, she said, 349 cases of human trafficking were uncovered in New Jersey.

In her talk, Carinne spoke of several initiatives to combat this scourge, one of which, she said, is "Locker Slam" in which student members of "NJ Students for Freedom" paste small posters warning of the potential for sexual abuse onto the school lockers of grade and high school students.

Some of the flyers, she said, bear the slogan "Abolish Modern Day Slavery" in reference to sexual abuse to which they could be subjected, while others declare "Slavery Still Exists." Both flyers include the "NJ Students for Freedom" Twitter identification #njstudentsforfreedom.

In furtherance of its campaign, Carinne also said that the Committee of Rotarians Combatting Human Trafficking is meeting with Interact clubs in the District, with four high schools said to be expressing a willingness to participate in the campaign.

*(Continued on page 5, Col. 1)*



A representation of the notices pasted onto the lockers of high school students warning them of the dangers of sexual abuse. The program is part of a "locker slam" initiative undertaken by "NJ Students for Freedom."



Part of a trifold leaflet produced by the NJ Coalition Against Human Trafficking, highlighting the groups struggling to end the pattern of sexual abuse of minors in New Jersey.

- 650 Cases since 2014
- Over 80% = US citizens
- Nearly 90% = sex trafficking survivors
- Ages range from 9 to 75



Statistics on the depth of human trafficking in New Jersey as illustrated in Carinne Murphy's slide presentation at the Oct. 7 District Staff Meeting.

## Depth of Human Trafficking in New Jersey Illustrated at District 7490's October 7 Staff Meeting.

*(Continued from Page 4, Col. 1)*

### ***'Stop This Traffic' Film Illustrates Scourge's Depth.***

At the beginning of her presentation, Carinne tried to show a six-minute film entitled "Stop This Traffic", in which several young people and one older person in Grand Rapids, Michigan were each asked to select one photograph from three pictures that were placed in front of them. After viewing the photographs, they were asked to speculate as to who the people in those pictures might be.

The participants were then asked to read excerpts of accounts written by all three youngsters shown in those pictures, telling of how they were sexually abused. The victims ranged in age from 12 to 16-years old.

After reading aloud a description of the ordeals to which the victims were subjected, the people participating in this video were then asked to take the picture they had selected and to enter a room where a board stretching across the room was filled with pictures of young people who have been abused.



"Stop This Traffic" by Manasseh Project & Kent County, Michigan

**A young woman in Grand Rapids, Michigan, looking at photographs of three youngsters ranging in age from 12 to 16-years old whom she then learns were victims of sexual abuse.**

A notice in the film said that the board held photographs of people who had been abused in the western part of Michigan alone, with the notice declaring: "This is a representation of the number of children trafficked at any given time in West Michigan alone."

While her listeners could hear the audio, however, the video could not be projected onto a projection screen. The film can be seen by accessing the website <https://vimeo/147914343>. The film was produced by the Manasseh Project and the Kent County (Michigan) Human Trafficking Task Force.



"Stop This Traffic" by Manasseh Project & Kent County, Michigan

**A young man viewing photographs of youngsters who were sexually abused, with all of the victims having been abused in the western part of Michigan alone, according to the film: "Stop This Traffic".**



"Stop This Traffic" by Manasseh Project & Kent County, Michigan

**The rectangular board filled with photographs of children who are said to have been sexually abused in the western part of Michigan alone.**

## Reports and Activities of Rotary District 7490 Monthly Staff Meeting on October 7.

### *PDG Nikki Mederos Announces RLI April Seminar.*

Past District Governor Niurka “Nikki” Mederos spoke in October of next spring’s Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) program which will take place in April. The seminar, she said, will take place on Saturday, April 18, at West Orange High School in West Orange, N.J.

The seminar, which will be hosted by Rotary District 7475, Nikki said, will not be “a lecture” but rather, she said, an interactive dialogue between RLI faculty members and students.

All three parts of the RLI curriculum, Nikki said – Parts I, II and III - will be offered during the program. Rotary clubs of those Rotarians of District 7490, Nikki said, who participate in the program will be charged half-price. People wishing to participate in the program, she said, can register on line.



Past District Governor Niurka “Nikki” Mederos speaking on Oct 7 of the Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) seminar on April 18 at West Orange High School in West Orange, N.J.

### *PDG Raj Bhatia Speaks on ‘Nov. 9 ‘Rotary/UN Day’.*

Past District Governor Suraj P. Bhatia, Rotary’s Alternate Representative to the United Nations in New York, spoke at this month’s District Staff Meeting of “Rotary/UN Day” which this year will take place on Saturday, Nov. 9, in New York. Similar observances, he said, will also take place in Santiago, Chili, and in Rome, Paris and Honolulu.

Several people who exemplify a commitment to Rotary’s *Six Areas of Focus*, he said, will be honored during the program, with those *Six Areas of Focus* being:”

Basic Education & Literacy;  
Maternal & Child Healthcare;  
Peace & Conflict Prevention/Resolution;  
Disease Prevention & Treatment;  
Water & Sanitation; and  
Economic and Community Development.

Indeed he said, both the United Nations and Rotary share a similar commitment to those six objectives.

The focus of this year’s observance, Raj said, will be on the refugee and migrant crisis throughout the world, with the greatest displacement of people from their homes since World War II now taking place in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

Rotary International, he added, is hoping that at least 30-percent of the participants in this year’s observance will be non-Rotarians.



Past District Governor Suraj P. Bhatia, speaking at District 7490’s meeting on Oct 7 of the annual “Rotary/UN Day” observance.



## Reports and Activities of Rotary District 7490 Monthly Staff Meeting on October 7.

### **Pat LaRocco on Recent 'Alliance for Smiles Mission.**

Dr. Patricia LaRocco, a member of the Fair Lawn Rotary Club and chairwoman of District 7490's Alliance for Smiles, spoke in October of a recent mission to Guatemala in which surgeons operated on 36 children with cleft palate and other facial deformities.

Speaking at the District Staff Meeting on Oct. 7, Pat said the mission was made up of 19 people. She said that because of the stigma associated with this deformity, children with cleft palate would often be virtual recluses, remaining at home with no interaction with other children.

*(See Report on Mission on Page 9)*



Dr. Patricia LaRocco, of the Fair Lawn Rotary Club, with then District Governor Niurka "Nikki" Mederos at Rotary District 7490's monthly meeting on May 20.

### **PDG Lenny Agrusti on 'Grow Rotary Club' Seminar.**

Past District Governor Leonard A. Agrusti, chairman of the District's Membership Committee, announced in October that the theme of next month's membership seminar will be "Grow Your Rotary Club."

The seminar, he said, will take place at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 7, at Care Plus, located at 610 Valley Health Way in Paramus. A light dinner will be served he added, with the event being free of charge.

Addressing this month's District Staff Meeting, Lenny spoke of Rotary International's 1.2-million members, attributing that seemingly permanent number – 1.2-million - to people "coming in the front door and leaving through the back door." That is, he said, as people throughout the world join Rotary, a similar number leave, for one reason or another; with some leaving because of a disenchantment with Rotary, others to work commitments and to some who die.

He encouraged his listeners to use social media in order to promote their clubs' service projects and fundraising programs.

*(Continued on Page 8, Col. 1)*



**Rotary**  
District 7490

**Grow Your  
Rotary Club!**



**How do you find and attract new members?**



**How do you engage and keep  
the members you already have?**

- **How to use social media for outreach**
- **How to involve family members and corporations**
- **How to use Rotary International's resources to grow your membership**
- **How to use service projects and fundraisers to grow and keep your membership**

---

**Rotary District 7490  
Membership Seminar**

**November 7, 2019 from 6 pm to 9 pm—No charge!**

**Care Plus, 610 Valley Health Way, Paramus, NJ 07652**

**Free Light Dinner!!**

**To reserve your spot, contact PDG Lenny Agrusti at [mealen26@gmail.com](mailto:mealen26@gmail.com).**

**Great for Club Presidents, Membership Chairs, AG's - All welcome!**

A flyer announcing the "Grow Your Rotary Club" seminar, which will take place at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 7 at Care Plus, located at 610 Valley Health Way in Paramus.

## District 7490 and Disaster Aid USA Send Sawyer Water Filters to Bahamas in Wake of Hurricane Dorian.

### **PDG Lenny Agrusti on 'Grow Rotary Club' Seminar.** (Continued from Page 7, Col. 1)

He also urged his fellow Rotarians to learn more about the full-breadth of Rotary through the "My Rotary" portal on RI's website.



**Past District Governor Leonard A. Agrusti, Chairman of the District's Membership Committee, speaking on Oct. 7 of the Committee's "Grow Your Rotary Club" seminar of Thursday, Nov 7, at Care Plus, located at 610 Valley Health Way in Paramus.**

### ***RYLA Program to be Held on June 21 – 25, 2020.***

Sonia Roman, of the Passaic Valley/Little Falls/Woodland Rotary Club; and Jean Jordan, of the Passaic Valley Rotary Club; the two RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) Coordinators, announced that next year's RYLA program will take place during the four-day period of Sunday, June 21, through Thursday, June 25, 2020 at Happiness is Camping located in Hardwick, N.J.

At the District Staff Meeting on Oct. 7, Sonia and Jean also thanked Rotary clubs that sponsored high school students for last June's RYLA program who were not necessarily members of Interact clubs or otherwise associated with Rotary.

Speaking also at the Staff Meeting, Donnie Ortiz, a student of John F. Kennedy Educational Complex in Paterson, who participated in last year's program, said that he "made 91 new friends" that is, he made friends with the 91 other high school students who participated in the program.



**Sonia Roman of the Passaic Valley/Little Falls/Woodland Rotary Club and Jean Jordan of the Passaic Valley Rotary Club, the two Coordinators of District 7490's RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) program, speaking at the Oct. 7 District Staff Meeting.**



**Donnie Ortiz, a student of the John F. Kennedy Educational Complex (high school) in Paterson, speaking on Oct. 7 of his experience at last June's RYLA program.**



### **Alliance for Smiles Conducts 10-Day Medical Mission in Guatemala, Operating on 36 Patients.**

Dr. Patricia LaRocco, Past President of the Rotary Club of Fair Lawn and District 7490 Assistant Governor, returned home on September 22 from Guatemala.

She had spent 10 days with 18 other medical professionals and support personnel, on a mission with Alliance for Smiles to provide free reconstructive surgery to children and babies with cleft lip and/or cleft palate deformities.

These patients were all from under-served populations in a rural area of Guatemala, who had little or no access to health care, and little to no financial ability to pay for this surgery. In addition to helping these patients with life altering surgery, the families also benefited because many of them suffer from the stigma associated with this deformity and the ostracizing of their children.

Fifty- five patients were screened, and 36 were able to undergo surgeries. 48 procedures were completed, since some patients required more than one operation.

*Sometimes we forget that families need support also.*



In the photograph above is the mother of a 4-month old baby boy with a severe cleft lip and cleft palate, who burst into tears when her baby was taken to the Operating Room.



**Look at the smile on her face when she saw her baby for the first time with his cleft lip repaired. The joy and gratitude of these families is reward enough for the work done on these missions.**

This mission was made possible through generous donations from 14 Rotary clubs in District 7490, individual donations, and matching grants from the Rotary International Foundation.

Alliance for Smiles was founded 15 years ago by six Rotarians in the San Francisco Club, and has partnered with the Rotary International Foundation for several missions. This mission was the first in the Western Hemisphere, with several more planned for the future.

***Please help us provide this life altering surgery to others less fortunate than ourselves.***

**Contact PDG Jim Boyer,  
[Jamboy7490@gmail.com](mailto:Jamboy7490@gmail.com)**

**Or**

**Pat LaRocco,  
[patL602mor@gmail.com](mailto:patL602mor@gmail.com), Chair of the District  
7490 Alliance for Smiles Committee.**

## Phil Wilson Speaks of His Own Affliction of Polio and Rotary's Efforts to Eradicate the Disease.



**Philip E. Wilson of the Rotary Club of the Palisades speaking at the Jersey City Rotary Club's meeting on October 10 of his own affliction of polio of the disease in general. For several months when he was 8, he said, he lived in an iron lung in order to breathe.**

Philip E. Wilson, a member of the Rotary Club of the Palisades in October spoke of his own experience with polio and of the disease in general.

Addressing the Jersey City Rotary Club at its meeting on October 10, Phil attributed the seasonal epidemics of polio in the United States, which continued into the 1950's, to what he termed a loss of natural immunity to the disease that was caused, he said, by the introduction of "clean water". Explaining his belief, Phil said that people lost natural immunity when clean water became available. Then, by drinking some water while swimming or through another contaminated source, they became vulnerable to contracting the illness.

With more Americans having access to clean water, that is, water free from disease-bearing microbes, Phil said that they had lost a natural immunity from polio that, ironically, they may have developed from water that was *not* clean.

The epidemic was, Phil said, for the most part seasonal, with children contracting the disease during the summer months when they would swim in public swimming pools. With health authorities thinking the disease might be caused by the use of such swimming pools, parents were then urged to keep their children out of them.

Discussing the disease in general, Phil spoke of Rotary International's 2011 slogan of "We're this close" in its efforts to eradicate polio, but of setbacks that have thus far prevented the total eradication of the disease, despite the progress that has been made over the last 30 years. For example, whereas in 1987, 1,000 new cases of polio would occur every day, the annual occurrence of polio now is in the double digits. Whereas in 1987, the world recorded more than 350,000 new cases of polio, in 2017, only 22 new cases were recorded.

His first experience with Rotary, Phil said, occurred in 1984 when Rotary International pledged \$200-million in a drive to eradicate polio, but with Rotary actually raising \$400-million. He spoke of five partners which he said, have maintained their longstanding commitment to eradicate polio – Rotary, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, UNICEF, (the United Nations Children's Fund) the World Health Organization and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

In the second decade of this – the 21<sup>st</sup> century - Phil said, hopes were high for the total eradication of polio, with Rotary in 2011 unveiling a slogan "We're this close" accompanied by a public figure with thumb and forefinger almost touching to highlight its near success in its then 29-year campaign against the disease.

Indeed, he said, in 2014 only 74 new cases of polio were reported throughout the world, with India being declared polio-free, leaving only three nations – Afghanistan, Nigeria and Pakistan – where the disease remained endemic. With no new cases being reported in Nigeria for the last three years, he added, Nigeria may this year also be declared polio-free.

But Phil said, the world's optimism in ridding itself of polio has been met by setbacks. While in 2017 only 22 new cases of polio were reported worldwide, he said, so far, in the first nine months of 2019, 82 new cases have been reported.

Yet, he said, the disease is still centered mainly in Afghanistan and Pakistan, where efforts to control it are hampered both by war and by the assassination of workers seeking to immunize children from the disease.

Efforts to eradicate the disease have also been hampered, he said, by unintended consequences resulting from two unrelated events.

In Nigeria, he said, people protested the drive against polio, which few people there experienced, when, they complained, health authorities were seemingly ignoring diseases with which they *were* confronted, one such disease being malaria. As a result, he said, the drive against polio there was, for a time, scaled back.

Another was the United States effort to capture or kill Osama bin Laden. Believing that he was being sheltered in a Pakistani town that also housed the nation's military academy, (its equivalent of the United States Military Academy at West Point) the United States persuaded a Pakistani doctor there to pose as a polio eradication volunteer and to draw blood samples from children who were thought to be bin Laden's sons and daughters.

In the resulting military operation, bin Laden was killed, but the doctor was jailed by Pakistani authorities, where he remains imprisoned to this day. As a result of this operation, some Pakistanis are wary of the nationwide efforts to eradicate the disease.

Nonetheless, Phil said, the Pakistani Government remains committed to launching its annual National Immunization Day vaccination drives, in which health workers and volunteers go throughout the nation immunizing children against the disease.

*(Continued on page 11, Col. 1)*

## Phil Wilson Speaks of His Own Affliction of Polio and Rotary's Efforts to Eradicate the Disease.

*(Continued from Page 10, Col. 2)*

In speaking of resistance to vaccination in Nigeria, Afghanistan and Pakistan, however, Phil cautioned his audience to be reflective of this opposition, noting that in the United States, some people object to the vaccination of their children against measles, saying that the vaccine causes some children to develop autism-related disorders.

Responding to questions from Valerie Valentin-Stetz, Phil then discussed his own exposure to polio.

He contracted the disease in 1952, Phil said, when he was eight-years old, probably from his brother who had earlier contracted polio. Upon his brother becoming ill, Phil said, both he and his brother were transported by ambulance to a hospital, with him becoming exposed to the disease through his brother's coughing.

His brother died from the disease, Phil said, while he was confined for three months in an iron lung in order to breathe. Without the use of the iron lung, he too would have died. Today, with only a 50-percent lung-capacity due to the disease, Phil said he cannot lie down while sleeping without the use of his BiPAP machine.

Noting that his left arm is virtually immobile due to polio, Phil said that during a recent 50-year high school reunion, he sought out three former classmates, who, he said, would every day help him to take off, and then later put on his coat.



Photograph from Rotary Club of Kernersville in North Carolina

**Bill Gates, who with his wife Melinda founded the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, indicating how close Rotary and its partners are to eradicating polio from the face of the Earth.**

## World Eradication of Polio Update. October 28, 2019.

Have you ever thought about being part of a National Immunization Day (NID) in India? It's a remarkable experience! Ask Dominic Jengo he has done it! Polio free India is having another NID in mid-January 2020. Why? They are in close proximity to two polio endemic countries and they recognize that people cross borders. They are being smart; they are being defensive!

*If you are interested here are some of the facts:*

Departure:	Friday, January 10, 2020
Return:	Tuesday, January 21, 2020
Cost:	double occupancy: \$2,499 per person

*Want more information contact the following:*

Jolene R Bortz, Manager, Howard Tours  
516 Grand Ave., Oakland, CA 94610  
phone, 510-834-2260  
email, [JBortz@HowardTours.net](mailto:JBortz@HowardTours.net)

Or contact Polio Plus Co-Chair, Philip Wilson at Wilson-PhilipE@gmail.com who will email the more detailed information received from Jolene Bortz.



Photograph from Science Photo Library

**A victim of polio in 1960 in an iron lung machine with a nurse in attendance. In his remarks at the Oct. 7 meeting of the Jersey City Rotary Club, Philip E. Wilson, a member of the Rotary Club of the Palisades, said that he was forced to live in an iron lung machine for three months after having contracting polio when he was eight-years old.**



### Paramus Rotary Club Visits Site of the Attacks of September 11, 2001 in Lower Manhattan.

The members of the Paramus Rotary Club felt the best way to remember 9/11, honor all those who lost their lives, and celebrate our nation's recovery, was to visit the 9/11 Memorial & Museum site.

In lieu of our usual Thursday afternoon meeting, Paramus Rotary Club members, as well as several family members and friends, chartered a bus to the 9/11 site. In route we recited the Pledge of Allegiance, sang God Bless America, and recited Rotary's "4 Way Test".

Upon arrival, we watched an extremely disturbing and emotional movie about the horrific events of 9/11, the heroism and sacrifice of firefighters, police, and other first responders and the ultimate loss of over 3,000 lives.

These firefighters, police, and first responders showed the ultimate example of "Service Above Self."

Then onto the 9/11 Museum which contains so many artifacts, photos, and personal items depicting the remnants of the towers, their contents, and many destroyed fire department and first responders' equipment. To suggest this experience was emotional is an understatement.

Time was then spent by the Reflecting Pools which sit on the exact footprints of the North and South towers.

Standing tall is the magnificent Freedom Tower/One World Trade Center which now stands as the tallest building in the United States and the Western Hemisphere and memorializes the original World Trade Center complex.



The 9/11 Memorial & Museum at the site of the attacks of September 11, 2001 and part of a girder from the Twin Towers.



The Reflecting Pools in lower Manhattan at the World Trade Center Memorial.



Photograph by Thomas E. Franklin/The Record

Freedom Tower in New York City and a photograph taken by Thomas E. Franklin of *The Record* in Bergen County, in which New York City firefighters are shown raising the American flag in the immediate aftermath of the attacks of September 11, 2001.



Fire trucks damaged during the attacks of September 11, 2001 as seen in the museum at the World Trade Center Memorial in lower Manhattan.