



# Rotary In Action

Volume I Number II May, 2012

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## Carolyn Meub: Rotary's White House Champion of Change Honored

By Kevin O'Connor

**RUTLAND HERALD STAFF WRITER**

A decade ago, Carolyn Crowley Meub was finishing her term as first female governor of the region's Rotary clubs when she decided she wanted to do something different.

On April 20th, the Rutland resident — having turned her wish into a reality — set precedent by receiving White House honors as one of the nation's first 10 Rotary "Champions of Change."

Meub, executive director of the Vermont-based nonprofit Pure Water for the World, was selected for "transforming a small Rotary club project into an effective international charity that has brought clean water and sanitation to thousands of families in Honduras and Haiti," according to an official statement.

Meub's ties to Rotary — the

world's largest humanitarian service organization, with 1.2 million members in 200 countries — began in 1992 as a host parent (with her husband, Bill) who welcomed exchange students from Brazil, Finland, France, Germany, India, Indonesia and Thailand, each for at least a school year.

Meub became chairwoman of the region's visiting student program in 1995, president of the Rutland South Rotary Club in 1998 and governor of the 2,700-member southern Vermont and New Hampshire district in 2001.

Finishing her term in 2002, Meub went on to head Pure Water for the World — a project that began two decades ago when dentist Peter Abell, seeing people drink unhealthy water during a trip to El Salvador, spurred his Brattleboro Rotary Club to raise money to help. More than \$5 million later, the now incorporated nonprofit installs simple, inexpensive household filters in developing

countries in the Caribbean and Central America. Although most Americans take clean water for granted, 1 billion people worldwide drink from contaminated springs and streams, the United Nations reports, while 3.5 million people die each year from related diseases. Meub hopes her honor will shed more light on the problem. The more recognition of the issue we have," she says, "the more people we can serve."

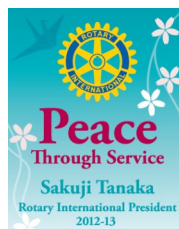
But on this day, Meub toured the East Wing of the White House, then moved to the nearby Eisenhower Executive Office Building for briefings by government officials and a panel presentation by the Champions.

"I am thrilled by this honor, Meub says, "but I wouldn't have it except for all the people who have supported Pure Water."

(See page 2 for photos.)

## A Gala for RI President- Elect Sakugi Tanaka

Saturday, June 30, 2012 is a big day for the northern New England Rotary Districts. Rotary President-Elect Sakugi Tanaka will be coming to our area and a gala celebration is being planned in Concord, NH for him.



of the home page of the District website and click on Dinner with President of RI.

This is a very special opportunity to meet the incoming President of Rotary International. **Don't miss it!**

To register for this evening go to the right hand column

**District Conference**  
**See you on June 1-3, 2012**

**Remember:**  
**It's a Small World**



## Update on the Vermont Recovery Grant

The Trustees of the Rotary Foundation will be meeting in Bangkok around the time of the International Convention (May 6-9) to review their policies on Relief and Recovery Matching Grants and in that context will be reviewing our proposal for the grant to assist with the aftermath of damage done by Tropical Storm Irene. Their decision should come to us sometime in mid-May.

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A side benefit to come from this effort is that Tristram Johnson from the Brattleboro Club has been accepted as a volunteer member of the Foundation's Technical Adviser Cadre—a project review team—and assigned to the Economic and Community Development Sector through 2015.

Congratulations, Tristram.

PHOTOS at **Top left:** Binota Banerjee, Carolyn Meub, RI President Kalyan Banerjee, DG Jan McElroy—at the National Press Club; **Top right:** Carolyn and Jim McElroy at the National Press Club reception; **Bottom left:** The 10 Champions; **Bottom right:** Carolyn presenting about Pure Water for the World with 5 of the other White House Champions of Change.

## Governor's Byline-Jan McElroy



Spring always brings renewal to the earth, and it seems that it does the same for Rotary. As this Rotary year is quickly winding down, the frequency of exciting happenings seems to be accelerating, as you can see from the events listed in this newsletter.

The selection of Carolyn Meub to be one of only ten Rotarians selected to be a White House Champion of Change at the first ever Rotary Day at the White House was a joyous surprise. In nominating her, I knew she was a winner, and could only hope that RI would agree with that assessment. Getting to participate in the event myself with Jim was an unexpected pleasure.

On April 19th we attended a special reception at the National Press Club hosted by two districts to honor the Champions. RI President

Banerjee and his wife Binota attended along with RI General Secretary and CEO, John Hewko, past RI GS Ed Futa, a number of Directors, Trustees, Zone Coordinators, and RI Representatives to the UN.

Early Friday morning we toured the East Wing of the White House. Unfortunately, no cameras were allowed. The photographs of past presidents and their families at work or at leisure lined the halls and contrasted sharply with the staid and stately portraits in the sitting rooms we visited. The rooms and furnishings were lovely, but we were all glancing out the windows hoping to see the first family dog, Bo.

The security for the WH and the Eisenhower Executive Building where the presentations were held was very tight. The Auditorium held 160 people and was full. The program was overseen by the Director of Public Engagement who had served in the Peace Corps in Honduras and was an admirer of the work of Pure Water for the World.

We heard from the President's Chief of Staff, who spoke

briefly and took questions from us for about 20 minutes. The Associate Administrator of Maternal and Child Health addressed us as did the Senior Director of the National Security Council, the Administrator of USAID, the State Department person in charge of exchange programs, and the Director of the office dealing with volunteerism at the Domestic Policy Council.

After lunch we heard from the Champions about their projects which included different water projects in Honduras, Haiti and the Dominican Republic, earthquake recovery in Haiti, training orthopedic surgeons in Malawi, educating girls in Afghanistan, immunizing children against polio in India, a program that provides a college scholarship for all 6th graders completing High School, a mobile food pantry in Alaska, the recovery of a high school in New Orleans and a preschool program for children from low-income families.

It was an impressive display of the best of Rotary doing good in the world. And our host presenters from the Administration clearly took note of that.





## 22 Facts from Earth Day Celebrated on April 22

1. **102:** the estimated weight of garbage - in TONS - that the average American will toss out in his or her lifetime
2. **2,400:** pounds of carbon dioxide saved by recycling half of your household waste. **Recycle!**
3. **7 million:** the size - in TONS (or twice the size of Texas) - of plastic, chemical sludge and other debris swirling in a giant trash patch in the Pacific, known as the Great Pacific Garbage Patch
4. **400 million:** the weight - in TONS - of old computer hardware, mobile phones and other electronic waste that are shipped from the U.S. to landfills in developing countries every year
5. **200:** dollars per year you can save by using CFL and LED lighting. **Make the switch!**
6. **35,000:** the miles of rivers and groundwater contaminated by U.S. factory-farmed hog, chicken and cattle waste
7. **60:** the percentage of carbon monoxide emissions from vehicle exhaust nationwide. In cities, this percentage jumps to 95%
8. **3 million:** the weight of toxic chemicals - in TONS - that U.S. factories spew each year into the air, land and water
9. **2,000:** gallons of water wasted per year from one drip a second. **Fix leaky faucets!**
10. **80:** the percent of items in landfills that could be recycled - but have not been
11. **50:** gallons of water washing machines can use per load. **Wash full loads of laundry!**
12. **63,000:** number of garbage trucks that we could fill every day with the trash we throw away
13. **1 million:** bushels of litter that Americans throw out their car window every day
14. **3.4 to 8.4:** BILLIONS of gallons of water a day that would be saved if all plumbing fixtures in the U.S. were replaced with water-conserving fixtures. **Buy water-efficient plumbing fixtures!**
15. **2.2 billion:** pounds of pesticides Americans use every year, which eventually washes into our rivers and lakes
16. **12 million:** barrels of oil required to make the 380 billion plastic bags used in the U.S. every year. **BYOB- Bring your own bag!**
17. **Less than 2:** percent of plastic bags in the U.S. that end up getting recycled
18. **Over 1 million:** number of birds and marine animals that die each year as a result of plastic pollution
19. **10 billion:** number of paper bags consumed by Americans every year; approximately 14 million trees are cut down every year for paper bag production
20. **46,000:** pieces of plastic litter floating in every square mile of the ocean, as estimated by The United Nations Environment Programme
21. **6 months:** length of time Americans could provide energy to heat and air condition the average home by recycling 1 ton of paper
22. **782 million:** number of trees that could be saved if Americans recycled 70% of the 85.5 million tons of paper they use each year (currently only 22% is recycled)

"I am only one, but still I am one.

I cannot do everything, but still I can do something.

And because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do the something that I can do."

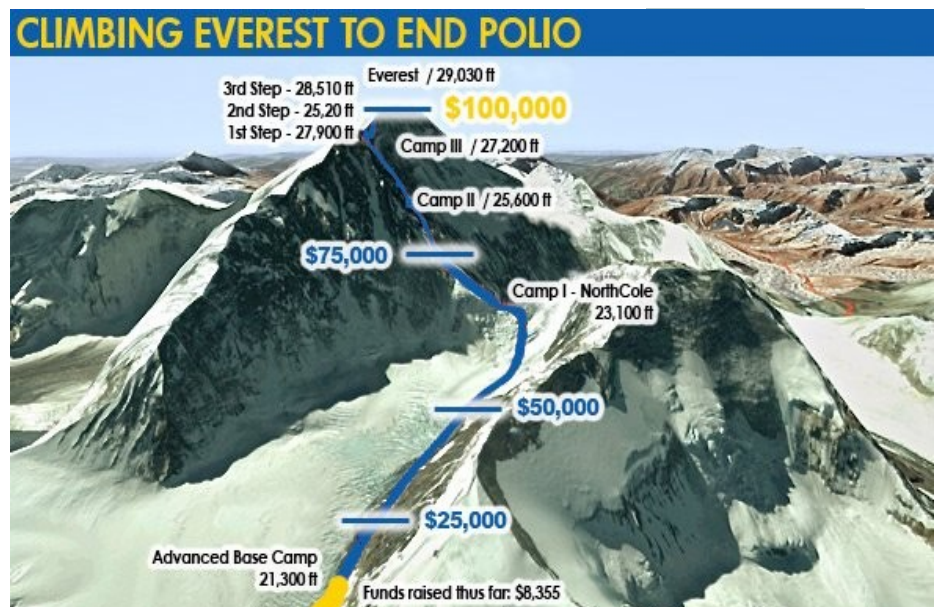
Edward Everett Hale



By the way, did you know that Earth Day is now observed in 175 countries and is the largest secular modern day holiday in the world? In light of that, anything should be possible!

## NEWS FROM THE DISTRICT

Past District Governor Joe Pratt is preparing to climb Mt. Everest. He was in a little Tibetan village several thousand feet below base camp on April 27th. They will have two more acclimatization climbs and after that (around the 10th or 11th of May) his party will make the big push to the summit. They are not sure how long it will take, but they have until the 22nd to make the summit. According to his wife Lori, he has some funny stories to tell, which we hope he will share with us sometime. He hopes to raise \$100,000 for the End Polio Campaign. So far \$8,355 has been contributed. Copy the link below the photo of Mt Everest into your browser and click to get the brochure and form to make a contribution.



## Club Events– See District and Club Websites for Details

Visit the RI Website:  
[www.Rotary.org](http://www.Rotary.org)  
 Register for Member  
 Access to contribute online  
 to the Foundation or check  
 out your contributions.

Visit the District Website:  
[www.Rotary7870.org](http://www.Rotary7870.org)  
 Secretaries should update  
 their membership and club  
 officers data.



**LET THERE BE PEACE  
ON EARTH!**



Road Show	Brattleboro	May 3
Comedy Night	Nashua	May 4
Silent Auction-10 am-8 pm & 10/100 Party-6-9 pm	White River Junction	May 4
Kentucky Derby Party	Souhegan Valley	May 4
Herrick's Cove Hot Dog Sale	Chester	May 6
RI Convention	Bangkok, Thailand	May 6-9
Newport Penny Sale—Middle High School	Newport	May 12
2nd Annual Open Car Show	Bow	May 19
Rotary Golf Tournament	Chester	June 3
District Conference	Sable Oaks-Marriott, South Portland, ME	June 1-3
37th Annual Golf Tournament	Brattleboro	June 7
Pancake Breakfast	Chester	June 9
Golf Tournament	New London	June 14
Hollis Fast 5K Road Race	Hollis-Brookline	June 14
Rotary Rockin' Ribfest	Nashua West	June 15-17
District Gavel Exchange/Dedication of the Paul		
Harris Memorial Garden-By Invitation	The Little Red Schoolhouse-Wallingford	June 25
Okemo Uphill Bike Climb	Ludlow	June 30
Dinner with RI President-elect Tanaka	Grappone Center-Concord, NH	June 30

If you want your events listed, you need to submit the information early and include what it is, where it is, when it is and others details important to your event. For additional details, see [www.Rotary7870.org](http://www.Rotary7870.org) — Calendar - and click on event to go to the club's website for event description, time and location information or go to their club website. Contact Dennis McMann for website information: [Dennis@McMann.net](mailto:Dennis@McMann.net)

## News in Brief from around the RI World

[ShelterBox](#), a grassroots disaster relief organization, is Rotary's first project partner. One of Rotary's four partner categories, project partner status is available to organizations started or managed by Rotarians and that offer service opportunities to Rotarians.

ShelterBox provides emergency shelter and lifesaving supplies to families affected

by disasters at the time when they need it most. Founded in 2000 by Rotarian Tom Henderson, ShelterBox has assisted well over one million people by responding to almost 200 natural or manmade disasters in over 75 different countries.

Your club can:  
 Invite a ShelterBox representative to speak at your

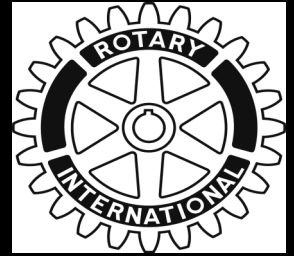
club (See District Directory for Bill and Dennie Dyer, or Arthur and Ruth Clough or John and Greta Olmstead)

Involve New Generations through Young ShelterBox

Visit [ShelterBox's website](#) for more information on how districts and clubs can support relief efforts. To receive help from them in an emergency, contact: [rotaryrequest@shelterbox.org](mailto:rotaryrequest@shelterbox.org).



# 2012 Rotary Foundation Golf Tournament District 7870



**Time:** Monday, September 17, 2012 9:00 am Shot Gun Start

**Location:** Concord Country Club  
A private course which is a par 70 consisting of 6507 yards from the blue tees and 6163 yards from the white tees. This course, with its water, hazards, sand traps and doglegs provides an interesting challenge for every level of play.

**Format:** Scramble

**Entry Fee:** \$125.00 per player  
Includes: Green Fee, Golf Cart, Raffle, Prizes, Buffet Lunch and Awards

**Player 1**

Golfer's Name \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Rotary Club \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_

**Player 3**

Golfer's Name \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Rotary Club \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_

**Player 2**

Golfer's Name \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Rotary Club \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_

**Player 4**

Golfer's Name \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Rotary Club \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_

**Please complete and return with your check to:**

**Chris Parkinson  
13 Wheeler Road  
Bow, NH 03304**

If you have questions, please e-mail Chris at [cep617@comcast.net](mailto:cep617@comcast.net)

**Make checks payable to: Rotary District 7870**