





Mike Johns, Jr **Editor** 

# **DISTRICT 6630 NEWS**

Stew Buchanan District Governor

#### September 2010

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- TRC Jefferson gives "relief" to com-
- TRC Andover gives \$2500 for Learning garden
- Doc Brandenberry exudes "Service Above Self"
- Over 4.5 million dictionaries given
- Katie Spotz nominated for scholarship
- Over 100,000 attend Tall Ships Fest
- West Shore raffle Oct 16th
- Katie Spotz presented wi new bike
- A Taste of Hillcrest Oct 14th
- 397 shoe boxes filled
- Akron Poker Run raises \$20k

## Governor's Letter

Bigger, Better, Bolder

District # 6630 got bigger in August by adding the Rotary Club of Solon with 26 new charter members and 3 potential new members. What a celebration at the Signature of Solon Saturday August 26, 2010. If you missed it, you missed a very special night, a charter night for a new club. We will Are we excited? I am! My visits have another special night on so far with the clubs have been September 17, 2010 when the great fun. I continue to see all Rotary Club of Hillcrest Sun- of the outstanding projects, night celebration at the May- how District # 6630 Rotary field Country Club. We need clubs are so involved. What the clubs in District # 6630 to variety and diversity. And I be there. Don't miss it!

As the Rotary year progresses, many things are happening at A few of the other exciting club level. As I began this arti- part of include the Poker run going on.

September is New Generations month. Rotary has a lot to celebrate with all of the new ideas for the Fifth Avenue of service. The 2010 Council on Legislation, which met in April, made a decision to add this new avenue of service to club service, vocational service, community Now that the summer is over, service, and international ser- there are many events coming vice as a foundation of rotary up this fall. I would like to

club activity. New Generation includes all of the Youth Programs along with some new ones including a New Generation Exchange for 18-25 year olds that allows international students hosted by Rotary families to intern in various businesses and professions for 1 to 3 months.

rise will have their Charter activities, and fund raisers and have only been to 10 clubs so

the District level and at the events I have been able to be a cle for the newsletter I found for the Rotary Club of Akron myself going in many different and the Akron Rotary camp on directions and wanting to cover Rex Lake-over \$20,000 was many different things. So this raised with the 250 bike entries article will be several small artiplus the classic cars. Also, a cles rolled into one. Bear with steak dinner with the Garrettsme as I share my thoughts and ville Hiram Club, and then a some of things that have been part of the extended tunnel on the field at Infocision Stadium for the University of Akron football game with the Rotary Club of Tallmadge . In addition, The Rotary Club of Berea's Lou Groza Golf outing at Copper Top Country Club on September 9,2010 with over 125 golfers.

suggest that all of you check the website for two good programs for all of you to take advantage of. One of these programs is the regional TRF and RC seminar in Elvria on September 25. 2010. The presenters for this seminar are outstanding and they will have a wealth of information. See the web site to register. It is only \$20 with breakfast and lunch. The other program is the Rotary Leadership Institute session "one" to be held at the Baldwin Wallace campus in Beachwood on Saturday October 16, 2010. For more information, check the web for RLI.

As part of Rotary, being bigger, better, bolder, membership is one of our major goals. Adding new members and bringing in Rotary alumni from our many youth programs is essential. The key is to locate them and ASK them to join Rotary. But we cannot forget the members that you currently have in the club.. Members are the lifeblood and strengthen Rotary. We need to retain the members that we have. Clubs must reach for 100% retention. Keep members who know Rotary and can provide a solid base for the club. Provide training and development for your members. Make them better Rotarians.

Cont'd on pg 2



### Governor's Letter cont'd

As some of you may know, PDG Jim Frame has been receiving medical treatments of late and I am sure he would appreciate a note or phone call from all of his friends in Rotary. Jim is and has been the District leadership for the Gift of Life Program for many years. Because of his efforts more than 48 children are alive today after surgeries at the Cleveland Clinic and University Hospitals for many various heart complications. Our first gift of life recipient, Grace Agwacu, was at the Rotary International Convention in Montreal. She is now a very healthy and active young lady from Uganda.

Grace had her life saving surgery 35 years ago when she was four years old. She is now an ambassador for the gift of Life

# TRC Jefferson News

By John Stevenson

The Jefferson club recently completed a restroom and village storage facility at the community playground in cooperation with several other groups. Funding was provided by the Save Our Community Center board, and labor was donated by masonry, carpentry and graphic arts students of the Ashtabula County Ioint Vocational School, Support was also provided by the Village of Jefferson. The Jefferson club designed the building, secured the building permits and coordinated all the groups involved as well as the contracted labor. Club members donated time for site layout and preparation, skylight installation, painting and misc. labor.

The new facility is a welcome replacement for the portable toilets previously installed at the playground and demonstrate program and works with children and hospitals in Africa and Asia.

As mentioned last month, the District had the outing at the Cleveland Indians game on August 13, 2010. Sheila Hedrick, Rotary Club of Cuyahoga Falls, threw out the first pitch and had her name and picture on the giant scoreboard at Progressive Field It was a fun night capped off with a 30 minute fantastic Rock and Blast fireworks display. We had over 200 district Rotarians and guests in attendance. Thanks to all of those who were able to participate. What about a tailgate party at a Browns game? If some of you want us to put this together for the District, let Dave Harper or myself know. If we would do it, we would need to start the process soon. GO Browns!

Yours in Rotary Service,

Stew

РНОТО

what can be accomplished when community groups work together with local government.



### News From TRC Andover

By Richard Mole

When the Village of Andover community calls, its local Rotary Club answers. This has been the story for the last 85 years, ever since the Club was founded in February, 1926. This time was no exception.

The local Andover Public Library applied for, and was awarded, a \$7,500 LSTA grant administered by the State Library of Ohio. Routine, right? Well, there was a catch – the Library had to come up with \$2,500 of its own money as a local match to make the \$10,000 project complete. With state finances tight, the Library did not have an extra set of dimes available to rub together.

The Library wanted to create a Community Learning Garden next door to its building, in an empty lot owned by the library. The Board of Directors of the Andover Rotary Club came to the rescue and voted to donate the entire local match needed, all \$2,500.

"The library could have deployed their personnel and board members out into the community to try and pick up donations for the match," said Club President, Rich Mole, himself a Director Emeritus of the Library. "It would have taken a lot of effort and manhours on their part. We (the Rotary Club) wanted to save them the time and energy needed. The donation fit in with what our Club is all about, anyway."

A bronze plaque immortalizing the Rotary Club's contribution, complete with Rotary's emblem, was installed on a rock in the center of the Garden

The Central circle garden will be planted by Library staff. The four crescent-shaped gardens surrounding the commemorative rock are ready for community adoption. Local groups are invited to adopt one of the four gardens for everyone to enjoy.

The Library will add topsoil and three curved benches to complete the central garden, with Fairy roses and a magnificent donated Japanese Maple tree highlighting the garden. Bulbs will be planted along the walkway along with Knockout roses.

The Learning Garden will feature "Square Foot" gardens galore. Each Square is four feet on a side and the individual garden can grow an astounding supply of vegetables. There will be at least 20 of these gardens, boasting flowers, herbs, vegetables and ornamentals.

Garden competition for "Prettiest," "Most Unusual," "Most Productive," etc. will be sponsored by the Library as well as a program on cooking from your garden in early 2011.

This is not the first large-scale project on which the Andover Rotary Club has been involved. In 1994, the club developed and entirely funded an \$185,000 recreation complex for area citizens. The Club was awarded the "Creator Award" from Rotary International as a result of that initiative.



## Dr. CK Brandenberry Honored

By John Winer

The Rotary Club of Rock Creek/Grand Valley Ohio, USA has honored its only remaining Charter Member with a 55-Year Service Award. "Doc" Brandeberry was one of the 21 original members, and has been a member continuously, since 1955. The new club was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Ashtabula, Ohio, USA. The charter was presented by Rotary International President A.Z. Baker, at a ceremony held in Rock Creek, in June of 1955.

Doc and his wife Louise raised three children (Kent, Todd and Heather), while he conducted his busy medical practice. Doc nonetheless always found time for Rotary. He served as the club's second president in 1956/57, and again in 1997/98. Year after year, Doc has participated faithfully in numerous club activities, such as aluminum can recycling, Easter egg hunt, fruitcake sales, Duck Derby, holiday baskets and maintenance of Rotary Park. Even recent health setbacks have not kept

Doc from attending Rotary meetings and contributing. Doc Brandeberry

has

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BE SURE TO MOVE YOUR CURSOR
OVER THE GRAPHICS OR PICTURES
FOUND IN THIS DOCUMENT... MANY
OF THEM ARE LINKS TO VIDEOS,
WEBSITES, PICTURES OR OTHER
GOODIES

\*\*EDITOR'S NOTE\*\*

d e e d lived Rotary's ideal of "Service Above Self."

## 2011~2012 Ambassadorial Scholar

By Deb Boerger

On Saturday, August 14<sup>th</sup>, the twelve members of our district's Ambassadorial Scholarship Committee met at Signature of Solon to conduct the interviews of our four finalists. I am thrilled to let you know that our nominee is Katie Spotz. Many of you may recognize that name. Katie is the young woman who

r o w e d across the Atlantic earlier this year from Senegal in West Africa to Guyana in S o u t h America. That is just one of

her many extraordinary feats. At 18, she participated in "The Big Ride Across America", a 3,300-mile bike ride for the American Lung Association. She aided in the clean-up following Hurricane Katrina, she was the first person to swim the 352mile Allegheny River, she helped build a home in rural Thailand...... oh, and she has been named Glamour Magazine's Woman of the Year of 2010! Katie is an amazing young lady. She is focused, passionate, bright, mature, and gracious --- a perfect fit for the requirements of an Ambassadorial Scholar.

The next step for me is to send her application, along with our district's endorsement, to The Rotary Foundation for approval by the Trustees. They will assign her to a study institution. That should be in either South Africa or India. Katie remains a nominee until their approval is granted.

The scholarship is \$26,000 for one academic year abroad. She will either leave next fall or in early 2012 (depending on her assigned country). The dollars for her scholarship come from our District Designated Fund (DDF).

I now ask <u>all</u> of you reading this article to keep an eye out for qualified candidates for next year. We will be keeping the same schedule ..... with applications due to the sponsoring clubs in mid-June to early-July (each club's choice - give yourselves enough time to interview the candidates before the district deadline). The clubendorsed applications need to me in my hands by the end of July, 2011. The district committee will, then, interview the finalist towards the end of August.

Let's make it "Bigger, Better, and Bolder" going forward!

# TRC N Ridgeville Distributes Dictionaries

By Brian Ramser

Another school year is here!! The North Ridgeville Rotary will participate in one of our favorite annual events, "The Dictionary Project". On Wednesday September 22<sup>nd</sup>, every 3<sup>rd</sup> grader in North Ridgeville City Schools, St Peters Catholic School, and Lake Ridge Academy received their very own dictionaries.

North Ridgeville third-graders are not at a loss for words during the Fall when dictionaries are distributed to every student in the third-grade by members of the Rotary Club of North Ridgeville, as part of The Dictionary Project. Our club will typically pass out more than 375 books at Wilcox and Liberty Elementary Schools, Lake Ridge Academy and St. Peter School.

The project is spearheaded by North Ridgeville City Schools Superintendent and Rotarian Dr. Craig Phillips. "Rotary felt that this was a great opportunity to give back to North Ridgeville by providing students with a tool to help them with lifelong reading. Sponsoring this event is something that we truly see as an investment in the community," Phillips said. Since its inception in 1992, The Dictionary Project has provided over 4.5 million dictionaries to students around the United States. The goal is to help all students finish the school year as good writers, active readers and creative thinkers by providing students with their own personal dictionary. The dictionaries are a gift to each student to use at school and at home for years to come. | PHOTOS |

# TRC Stow-Munroe Falls Keeps Giving

By Jay Minkin

The Rotary Club of Stow-Munroe Falls recently gave its second installment of \$4,000 in fulfilling a five year \$20,000 pledge made by the Rotary in 2009 to The Grief Care Place in Stow. The Grief Care Place was opened in 1997 under the direction of Lou Ann Redmon to support families in 57 communities coping with the loss of a loved one. The Grief Care Place receives no govern-

ment funding and is financed through donations and fund raisers throughout the year.

The Rotary donation helps the Grief Care Place fund educational programs, computer updates in their offices and building the Healing Garden at their location site. The Grief Care Place is one of the many recipients of donations given to area programs that help the community.

## A Birthday Bash for the Whole City

PHOTOS

By Susan Schwartz & Ed Thomas

The Rotary Club of Cleveland entered its second century of service by presenting a very special gift to northeast Ohio. From July 7-11, the Club brought eleven stunning Tall Ships to Cleveland for a spectacular festival for all ages. A majestic Parade of Sail kicked off the Festival on Wednesday afternoon, July 7, at 4:00 pm. During its five-day run, the event attracted over 100,000 people who came to the Cleveland lakefront to see history come to life.

It took well over two years to plan and implement the 2010 Tall Ships Festival. It was the first time an event like this had been undertaken entirely by volunteers. The Tall Ships Festival Steering Committee was led by co-chairs Mikel Harding and Arnie de la Porte and was composed

of more than 20 dedicated Rotarians from the Rotary Club of Cleveland. Committee members oversaw the operation of several key subcommittees and helped with fundraising activities. Cleveland Rotary Club Executive Director Beverly Ghent- Skrzynski, primary consultant Terri Bell Weinberg, and Patti Lock,

who headed up the American Sail Training Association's involvement, organized and coordinated myriad details for over a year, and are to be commended for herding this huge group of cats!

The commitment was made just as the economy took its dive, but that didn't stop the momentum - it just took a little more time, patience and creativity to assemble the necessary players. The Port of Cleveland signed on as the major cosponsor and the Downtown Cleveland Alliance and WKYC-TV 3 stepped up to fund and promote the Parade of Sail. Many others followed suit as planning moved forward. Hospitality during the festival was one way funds were raised virtually every "Sail Away" on the ships and every party opportunity on the shore was filled to capacity. Vendors who exhibited during the event and concession fees also contributed to the financial success of the event.

Media coverage was terrific, with front page stories in the *Plain Dealer* on at least five occasions. Susan Schwartz and her Marketing and PR Subcommittee created a special 4-page PD pull-out section

(which was funded by the Rotary Club of Cleveland, with advertising support from Akzo Nobel and Dodd's Camera). Another article written by the PD's Sarah Crump offered information on what the event would offer and gave a preview of all the ships. Unbelievable support from WKYC-Channel 3 and CBS Radio stations spread the word - you couldn't turn on the TV or listen to the radio without hearing about the Festival. Cleveland Magazine and Lake Erie Living featured the event in special stories... and on and on. Special thanks go to Captain Wesley Heersen and the Flagship Niagara who made a special trip to Cleveland from Erie, PA for a press conference on June 16, which was attended by every major media outlet in the area. The Niagara sailed in with students from Project YESS

> onboard and her cannons blasting. It was a wonderful spectacle and certainly got the city talking. Tall Ships fever was everywhere!

> This event was also a fantastic opportunity to tell the Rotary story. With support from Rotarians across District 6630, visitors gained insight

into the organization and its mission and clubs attracted potential new members. Under the able leadership of Rick Pollak and his team, Rotary exhibits were set up and manned to share information about Rotary throughout the Festival.

Volunteers played a key role in the success of the Festival. Julie West and her team did an outstanding job of assembling, training and managing a crew of more than 350 – including many Rotarians from all over the district. These wonderful people did everything from directing traffic to acting as ship liaisons. The Festival would not have happened without the dedication of so many people working together from top to bottom.

As a lasting legacy, the Rotary Club of Cleveland created Project YESS (Youth Empowered to Succeed through Sailing) under the careful guidance of Eileen Smotzer and her subcommittee. This youth leadership training program will live on to provide an educational adventure for "at-risk" high school students, whether or not a Tall Ships Festival is taking place. Twenty-four students had the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to take

part in a four-day sail on a Tall Ship either before or after this year's Festival. Glidden, an Akzo Nobel brand, was a primary sponsor of this cutting-edge program. Additional financial assistance came from the Frank H. and Nancy L. Porter Fund of the Cleveland Foundation as well as several individuals.

There is no way to individually thank all the dedicated people from who worked on this event. The Rotary Club of Cleveland is grateful for the unsurpassed support it received from numerous District 6630 Rotarians and non-Rotarians, from event sponsors, from media partners, from the American Sail Training Association, and from the crews of the magnificent ships who made Cleveland their home for five days. What a way to celebrate 100 years of Service above Self.



#### CLUB VISIT

Please call one of above Phone's: We need a count for food and bever

CLUB	DAY OF WEEK	TIME	PLACE	DATE
Akron	Tues	12:00 PM	Tangier Restaurant	
Andover	Mon	6:30 PM	1st United Methodist Church	10/11/201
Ashtabula	Fri	12:00 PM	Elk's Lakefront Lodge	9/24/201
Aurora	Wed		Doogan's Restaurant	
Barberton	Thurs	7:15 AM	GreenDia Grille & Pub	10/14/201
Bedford	Tues	12:00 PM	Mediterrean Party Center	10/12/201
Berea	Tues	6:30 PM	Baldwin-Wallace	10/19/201
Brunswick	Thurs	7:15 AM	Mapleside Apple Farm	
Burton-Middlefield	Wed		Punderson State Park	
Chagrin Highlands	Fri	12:00 PM	Bar Louie	10/29/201
Chagrin Valley	Tues	7:30 AM	Kenston Middle School	11/9/201
Chardon	Mon	12:00 PM	Bass Lake Inn	9/13/201
Chesterland	Wed	7:00 AM	Spectators grill-Mayfield Rd	9/29/201
Cleveland	Thurs	12:00 PM	Windows on the River	12/2/201
Cleveland East	Wed	5:30 PM	Cleveland Playhouse Club	11/10/201
Conneaut	Tues	12:00 PM	Dave's Sugar Bowl Restaurant	10/5/201
Cuyahoga Falls	Tues	12:00 PM	Silver Lake Country Club	10/26/201
Euclid	Tues	12:00 PM	Kristy's	9/21/201
Fairlawn	Wed	7:30 AM	Fairlawn Country Club	8/11/201
Garrettsville-Hiram	Mon	6:15 PM	Hiram College Kennedy Center	10/28/201
Geneva	Tues	6:00 PM		10/5/201
Hillcrest	Tues	11:45 AM	Mayfield Village Civic Center	10/19/201
Hillcrest Sunrise			Mayfield Village Civic Center	10/26/201
Hudson	Wed	7:15 AM	Laurel Lake	11/10/201
Hudson Clock Tower	Wed	12:00 PM	Country Club of Hudson	8/18/201
Jefferson	Thurs		Congregational Church	9/30/201
Kent	Tues	11:45 AM	Twin Lakes Country Club	8/3/201
Lakewood Rocky River	Mon	12:00 PM	Rocky River Memorial Hall	2 6
Lakewood Rocky River Sunrise	Wed		Rocky River Memorial Hall	11/17/201
Lodi	Tues	5:30 PM	Lodi Community Hospital	9/21/201
Mantua	Tues		Hilltop Christian Church	10/28/201
Medina	Thurs		Rustic Hills Country Club	11/4/201
Medina Sunrise	Tues	7:15 AM	Rustic Hills Country Club	9/28/201
Mentor	Thurs	12:00 PM	LaMalfa Center	11/4/201
Middleburg Heights	Thurs	7:30 AM		10/21/201
Nordonia Hills	Tues		Gambitta's Party Center	11/2/201
North Ridgeville	Fri		North Ridgeville Senior Center	8/27/201
North Royalton-Broadview Hts	Wed		Mom's Restaurant	9/15/201
Northampton Township	Thurs		Papa Joe's Restaurant	8/26/201
Painesville	Tues		Hellriegel's Inn	
Parma	Tues		Dimitri's Restaurant	7/27/201
Port Summit	Thurs		Beef O'Brady's	9/30/201
Ravenna	Mon		Ravenna Elks Club	9/20/201
Rock Creek-Grand Valley	Thurs		Methodist Church	
Shaker Heights	Tues	7:30 AM	Cleveland Skating Club	10/18/201

## Katie Spotz Rides Again

PHOTOS

By Lori O'Neill

ing to replace Katie's bicycle."

Chagrin Falls, September 15—When Katie Spotz' van was stolen on August 29, the thieves made off with more than just her 2000 Dodge minivan, they also got the bicycle she rode across the United States in 2006, along with the oars she used in her world record-setting row across the Atlantic ocean earlier this year. But Katie's back on her bike today thanks to the Chagrin Valley Rotary Club, Century Cycles, and Giant Bicycles, the manufacturer of the stolen bike.

When he heard about the theft of Katie's van and the loss of her bicycle, Chagrin Valley Rotary Club member, Mark Besand, swung into action to find a way to replace the bike and get Katie back on the road. The Bainbridge resident, who chaired the club's "Water for Life" fund raiser to support Katie's row across the Atlantic earlier this year to raise money for clean drinking water projects around the world, pledged to work to replace Katie's Giant OCR 2 bike and get her back to training for her next event. With the support of the Chagrin Valley Rotary Club, Mark and fellow member Jeff Griff, reached out to Century Cycles where Katie purchased the bike.

Upon learning of Katie's misfortune, Century Cycles owner Scott Cowan immediately contacted Giant Bicycles, the manufacturer of the bike, to help the club find a way to replace it. Working together, the Chagrin Valley Rotary Club, Century Cycles, and Giant Bicycles presented Katie with a brand-new 2011 Giant Defy Advanced 1, a high-performance carbon fiber road bike with a retail value of \$3,100 on Wednesday, September 15 at Century Cycles in Rocky River.

"Katie's quest to help others around the world has inspired our club to fulfill the Rotary motto, Service Above Self," said Gary Pinkerton, Chagrin Valley Rotary Club president. "Thanks to members Mark Besand, Jeff Griff and Frank Lanza, who stepped up to ensure that Katie's damaged van is repaired and road-worthy, and that she's back up on her bike training for the next event. We're proud to support this remarkable young woman and are especially grateful to Century Cycles and Giant for their generosity in help-

"Everyone in the Northeast Ohio bicycling community was heartbroken to hear of the theft of Katie's bike," said Scott Cowan. "We are super excited to be able help get Katie back on the road again."

The presentation of Katie's new bicycle caught the attention of local media outlets including the Plain Dealer, Fox8 News, and The Chagrin Valley Times, and so inspired a local resident that she anonymously donated \$750 toward paying for the bike!

About Century Cycles: Founded in 1992, Century Cycles is an award-winning, locally-owned chain of independent bicycle stores in Medina, Peninsula, and Rocky River, providing high-quality bicycles and friendly, expert service to northeast Ohio bicyclists and their families. Century Cycles is an authorized dealer of Giant, Raleigh, Diamondback, Electra, Surly, Masi, Bianchi, and Haro bicycles, as well as Santana tandems. The Peninsula store also rents bicycles year-round for riding on the Towpath Trail in the Cuyahoga Valley National Park. www.centurycycles.com

Giant Bicycles: About Across seven continents and fifty-odd countries, underneath thirty-two the world's brightest professional cyclists, ten thousand outlets, and throughout the streets of the most populous nations, you'll find bicycles designed and built by Giant, 'The Global Bicycle Company'.

Main Sponsor: Hillcrest Hospital a Cleveland Clinic hospital	lillcre:
A TASTE OF HILLCREST 2010	
ponsored by the Rotary Clubs of Hillcrest arsday, October 14th, 2010 6:00 – 9:00 p.m	
Executive Caterers at Landerhaven	
6111 Landerhaven Drive, Mayfield Hts.	
tary Clubs of Hillcrest serve Gates Mills, Highland Heights, Lyndhu feld Heights, Mayfield Village, Richmond Heights and South Euclid se cuisine from 25 restaurants, live entertainment, raffles, silent auct Tickets are \$35.00 each and include food, beverages and entertain	i. tions, ment.
vailable. Groups of 10 or more tickets can be purchased for \$30.00 ed tickets available at the door. (\$20 tax deductible contribution). Sorry, n refund/credits, all sales final	
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Or, complete the form below and return it to the address shown)	
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#### **News From TRC Berea**

By Linda Kramer

The Rotary Club of Berea and the City of Berea will team up again to sponsor a free Shred Fest for area residents. Rotarians will staff the event from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 2 in the parking lot of Roehm Middle School, at the corner of Bagley Road and Pleasant Street. They will accept documents in bags and boxes to be shredded by Cintas Corp. New this time is a prescription drug disposal program backed by Southwest General Health Center. Although the Shred Fest is free, donations will be accepted to support Rotary projects. Businesses may also drop off documents at a cost of \$5 per bag or box. Rotary also sponsored a Shred Fest in May.

Future programs: On tap for future Rotary programs are a talk on the Soldiers and Sailors Monument in downtown Cleveland, a program on massage therapy and Reiki and a talk by Richard Durst, president of Baldwin-Wallace College. Rotarians also will enjoy their annual clam bake Oct. 5 at the home of Rotarians Bob Huge and Judy Stull.

Mrs. Mayor: Guest speaker on Aug. 24 was Joanne Stalzer Ward, a graduate of Berea High School who is now a City Council member in Hercules, Calif., and the former mayor. Mrs. Ward, former president of the Hercules Rotary, was in town for her class' 50<sup>th</sup> reunion. She explained how Hercules City Council members take turns filling the mayoral post. The town is managed by a city administrator, who is hired by council. Each council member takes a one-year turn at the mayor's job. Hercules is a town of about 25,000 residents just outside Oakland, Calif.

Kick off time: The new Lou Groza Football League for 5-, 6- and 7-year-olds kicked off the season Aug. 28 with a special ceremony at Berea's Lou Groza Field. Berea Rotary sponsors one of the teams and helped with the ceremony and the lunch afterward. The club also helped pay for lights at the field. Berea Mayor Cyril Kleem announced that the field will now be known as Lou and Jackie Groza Field, in honor of Lou's wife, who passed away recently.

Helping the hungry: Rotarians helped three local food pantries Aug. 26 by eating at the Max & Erma's restaurant in Middleburg Heights. The eatery donated 20 percent of all sales to Rotary, which then divided the funds among the SCAN Hunger Pantry, Berea Welfare Assistance and Church Street Ministries.

## Shoe Boxes are on Their Way

By Jack Young, PDG

For the fifth year in a row Rotarians, Rotary Clubs, Schools and Friends of Rotary from our 6630 Rotary District supported the Christmas Shoe Boxes to the Children living in and around the garbage dump in Chinnendega, Nicaragua. After my first visit with a Rotarian team from Michigan and Iowa 5 years ago to a garbage dump where children were searching for food, I was asked by Michigan PDG Larry Wright if our district would help with supplying Shoe Boxes to the children. I indicated that "when you see the living conditions of these children and how they live and eat, we should be thankful and truly blessed that we live in the United States."

The goal is to encourage the children to seek a higher education than they would normally receive. A school was started by Father Marco Dessey and with the help of Rotary clubs from 6 different districts encourage the children to further their education. It is the belief of those involved that the best way to move these children from poverty, is by increasing their educational level.

Not all children receive shoe boxes at Christmas. The requirement for a shoe box is that 1) the child must have good attendance, 2) good grades 3) positive attitude and 4) be recommended by the teacher. Therefore it is disheartening when a shoe box is not given to all children, but a standard much be set at some level in order to make the process successful.

We are being successful one child at a time. Just this past April we had our second success story, Juan, attend our District Conference where he addressed the attendees. Juan graduated from high school and has received his college degree in Accounting and is now working for a company in Nicaragua.

Even though our total number of shoe boxes were not as much as last year, Rotary Clubs with the help of Brunswick Past President and Past Assistant Governor Marsha Pappalardo were able to purchase items and fill many of 397 Shoe Boxes, just 3 short of this years goal of 400. Marsha received help from many of her friends to help in this process. Marsha has also been to Nicaragua and has seen first hand the needs of these

children and how much they are appreciative of our help. In all over 30 Rotarians and Friends of Rotary have visited the dump area in Chinnendega.

Special gratitude goes to the following Rotary Clubs who supported the shoe box efforts by either filling the boxes or by their financial support this year. Rotary Clubs of Kent, Ashtabula, Conneaut, North Ridgeville, Lakewood Rocky River Sunrise, , North Royalton, Hillcrest, Wadsworth, Medina Evening, Hillcrest-Sunrise, Brunswick, Burton Middlefield, Twinsburg and Lodi plus the Brunswick Schools and the Brunswick Early Childhood Preschool PTA. It is estimated that over 300 Rotarians and Friends of Rotary were involved this year.

On Saturday, September 4th, Rotarians Tony Giovinazzo and Jim Horn from the RC of Brunswick and PDG Jack Young of the RC of Conneaut drove the shoe boxes to the Wal-Mart in Troy Michigan. The shoe boxes were combined with other supplies from the Michigan Rotary District and RC of Troy where Wal-Mart shipped them to Iowa where the items were combined with shoe boxes from Iowa and then continued their journey to Houston, Texas. At that point they will be loaded into a shipping container in Houston and shipped to Nicaragua. The goal is to get them to their destination by the first of December for distribution during the first week of Decem-

In a separate project headed by the RC of Wadsworth, the Medina County Cluster of Rotary clubs involving Medina Evening, Wadsworth, Brunswick and Lodi sponsored an additional 113 similar type shoe boxes to a small village near Octotal, Nicaragua which is in the north central part of Nicaragua near the Honduras border. Several Rotary Club members Dan Selby and Karl Elasses of Wadsworth, Stan Socha of Brunswick and PDG Jack Young, RC of Conneaut, visited the village last December. A special thank you to Marsha Pappalardo who purchased and filled most of the 113 shoe boxes on behalf of the Medina cluster.

Again a special thank you to all Rotarians, Rotary Clubs and friends of Rotary who helped this year. With out your support these children would not have a Christmas gift. This just reminds us that Rotary and Rotarians do care for those less fortunate

#### Akron Poker Run Great Success

By Gary Knuth

There wasn't a cloud in the sky when more than 250 people registered at the Akron Rotary Camp for the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Rotary Poker Run and Car Show. And the day just got better from there. Poker Run participants were given a nutritious breakfast and then set out on a 65 mile ride through scenic parts of Summit County, the Cuyahoga Valley National Park and Summit Metro Parks. The ride ended in downtown Akron at Lock 3 where riders were joined by more than 70 custom and classic car enthusiasts exhibiting their classic and custom rides.

Throughout the day, visitors to Lock 3 not only took in the sights of cool cars and bikes, they also enjoyed the sounds of some of the areas hottest bands. J.T. (minus Sweet Potato) warmed up the crowd with acoustic interpretations of classic tunes. The Mourning After pumped up the crowd with a more alternative sound, followed by Roxxy Morons own groove of funk and swing. Michael Stanley and the Midlife Chryslers closed out the day with their unique interpretation of everyone's favorite tunes.

Thomas Green from Akron who had the winning poker hand and took home the \$1,000 grand prize. Ervin Trischan of Akron won the peoples choice award with his super clean, 409 powered 62 Impala. Eric Herigstenberger from Copley was the Mayors Choice for Best Car with his immaculate 67 VW Karmann Ghia. Neil Spring won the Peoples Choice for best Bike with his custom Big Bear, and Ed Willey received the Mayors Choice for Best Bike with his 1982 FLHC.

But the real winners are the kids with special needs that attend the Akron Rotary Camp. The event raised over \$20,000, all of which will be used for equipment and supplies to ensure that all kids can enjoy the summer camping experience.

The Akron Rotary Club wishes to thank our sponsors, The City of Akron, The Akron Automobile Association, Woodsy's Music, and the Rubber City Radio Group (WAKR, WONE, and WQMX). And a special thank you to all those who attended and participated in this years event. Mark your calendars for August 28, 2011 when the Rotary Poker Run and Car Show promises to be bigger and better than ever!

ADD'L INFO