



Mike Johns, Jr
Editor



Steve Zabor
District Governor

DISTRICT 6630 NEWS

June 2012

Governor's Letter

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The philosopher Bertrand Russell wrote that "Social cohesion demands a creed, or a code of behavior, or a prevailing sentiment, or, best, some combination of all three." As I think back on my year as District Governor I have learned and gained much. First, and foremost, I have gained respect for this wonderful district and its many members and for Rotarians around the world. We do have a common creed - "Service Above Self" - and we have a code of behavior - The Four Way Test. But, most of all, we have a prevailing sentiment that we are a community of individuals who know that together we can make a difference. This prevailing sentiment, and our individual commitment to our creed and code of conduct, is nurtured and reinforced through fellowship. This is fellowship month in the world of Rotary. And I tend to think it is a bit bizarre for Rotary International to devote a month to fellowship when that is what we do throughout the year in our club meetings, our cluster events and our district, zone and international events.

Nowhere is the fellowship of Rotary more evident than at an International Convention. There Rotarians you rarely see

get together to share stories, stories about their personal lives and about the work of Rotary. Through these stories we learn about how we can improve our efforts to build sustainable communities close to home and around the world. By sharing stories with people from other countries we work to build a more peaceful world through understanding. And, perhaps most importantly, we reinforce the prevailing sentiment that binds us together regardless of gender, nationality, color, creed or ethnicity.

As I wrote in last month's newsletter many of the speakers emphasized that we must complete our effort to eradicate polio. We do have the time, talent and resources to do the job. And the persistence that has been evident over the last 25+ years will see us through to the end. We are down to three endemic countries, but these involve the most difficult and complex barriers. Together we can do it.

Fellowship was also very evident at our District Conference in April. Almost every club had a member attend at least one activity. And the conversations in the hallways and at the meals seemed very lively. If

you could not attend please seek out someone from your club and ask them about their experience. If you did attend please share your experience with others in your club.

Our end of the year celebration and awards picnic will be on June 24th at West Woods in Geauga County beginning at 4:00 p.m. This is free for all Rotarians and their spouse/partners with a focus on those who have directly contributed to the successes of this year. I am thankful and humbled by the many district Rotarians who have taken the motto of Service Above Self to their hearts and have made my work much easier. This celebration will include recognition of the AZ Baker awards, Club Presidential Citations, Best Clubs, Literacy Awards, Membership Awards, and some special awards for individuals who have "Reached Within to Embrace Humanity" to build stronger and more sustainable communities here, abroad and in Rotary..

Rotary is a unique organization with leadership changing annually. I have been privileged to work with Rotary International President Kalyan Banerjee and am confident that Sakuji

Governor's Letter cont'd

Tanaka and Ron Burton, the next two RI Presidents, will build on past and recent successes. For me, it is time to pass the banner to Julie West. I have been privileged to have her support as I prepared for PETS-1, All Ohio PETS, District Assembly and for all of the activities this year. I am looking forward to her leadership and am prepared to help make it the best yet for District 6630. This past year we have followed the motto of "Reach within to Embrace

Humanity" and now we can work to build "Peace Through Service." The leadership of District 6630 is in good hands. With your help we will continue to move forward.

My thanks to everyone, especially club presidents, committee chairs, the district leadership team and Assistant Governors.

Yours in Rotary Service

Steve



News From TRC Hudson

By Penny Frese

The Rotary Club of Hudson chose the Rotary motto "Service Above Self" as the theme for its 27th Dinner, Auction and Reverse Raffle. Two hundred thirty three local businesses, organizations, and individuals took up the challenge by donating products, recreational packages, and services. Two hundred guests responded to the Rotary motto by purchasing tickets and bidding, netting approximately \$38,000. The elegant, black tie optional event was held at the Hilton Garden Inn in Twinsburg on May 11, 2012. Volunteers from the Hudson Rotary Club were assisted by scouts from Troop 321 in Hudson, and by four service learning students from Hudson High School.

The event is the major fundraiser for the club, providing the means for most of its activities and community outreach throughout the year. But each year, featured beneficiaries are identified for special consideration. The funds raised by this year's auction will be purchasing a supine board for Hattie Larlham, equipment for the newly established Hudson Food Pantry, and supplies for Bob's Bikes, a program unique to the club which renovates used bicycles and donates them to Good Neighbors in Cuyahoga Falls.

Many thanks to the generous club members, donors and guests who made this year's auction a true example of "Service Above Self."

Polio Eradication Shifts into Emergency Mode

By Donald Kwait, PRID

Despite the dramatic drop in polio cases so far this year (69 compared to 134 the prior year), the threat of continued transmission due to the funding gap has driven the Global Polio Initiative to launch the Global Polio Emergency Action Plan 2012-13.

Just last week at the meeting of the world's 194 Ministers of Health, the World Health Assembly declared the Eradication of Polio to be a GLOBAL EMERGENCY. Calling all member nations to urgently make available the financial resources required to finish the task.

In 1982, as a Rotary Foundation Trustee, we launched POLIOPUS and it was just 3 years later that the international community took note and the largest public-private health the world has ever seen was born: the Global Polio Eradication Initiative.

Just 24 years ago, The World Health Assembly passed the resolution in support of the eradication of polio joining forces with Rotary, the Center for Disease Control, World Health Organization and UNICEF. During these 24 years, the unprecedented im-

munization effort has brought together 20 million volunteers, raised more than US 9 billion.

The result 2.5 BILLION CHILDREN IMMUNIZED.

With a 750 million dollars short fall at present, this action should spur all Rotarians to stand up and be counted as we all want to Keep the Promise we made back in 1985.

Several points I wish to emphasize. First if we do not complete the task,

There is a potential for more than 100,000 children being paralyzed in the next 10 years. Second, if we do complete the task and polio is eradicated, the world will save 40-50 billion dollars from not having to administer the polio vaccine to newborns. Just imagine the effect this savings will have on the developing nations of the world.

Now is the time for each Rotary Club and each Rotarian in our district to join forces with like minded others and make their special contribution to "Fulfill The Promise" made back in 1985.

Containment of polio is not an option. Eradication is the only solution.

TRC Chagrin Valley Salutes Teachers

By Dale Arvay

We at the Chagrin Valley Rotary Club will be awarding our annual Teacher of the Year Awards. We have 2 candidates and winners from each school district: Chagrin Schools--Susan Smith; Kenston Schools--Linda Nutter. Each winner will receive a \$500 check for their respective libraries and \$100 for their

classrooms. Each Runner-up will receive a \$150 check for their classroom expenses.

The 4 teachers were interviewed by our committee to see which teacher most exemplifies the Rotary Motto: "Service above Self" and the "4-Way Test".

News From TRC Chagrin Highlands

By Marlene Herman

Progressive Dinner

July 24th a few of us and some of our spouses had a wonderful evening in Chagrin Falls. Bob Slanina planned the night and started us out with appetizers and drinks at Rick's Café followed by a wonderful dinner at Raintree Restaurant. Some of us topped all of that off with an ice cream at Jeni's (yum). We were very surprised to have the Chagrin Balloon Fest to enjoy for the rest of the evening.

Godfather

That's what we call Don Kwait of our Rotary Club. He was one of the first Rotarians to put a drop of medicine in the children's mouths to prevent Polio. I think he is just as passionate some fifty years later about putting an end to Polio worldwide. The last count was 127 cases in the whole world. You see Don came from a time when there was no medicine available yet. You could see children walking around with braces on their legs and young and old were put into "iron lungs." You can understand why he has such commitment, why he talks about ending polio every chance he gets.

Our club, like many others, plays Queen of Hearts during our meetings. Historically one third went to the week's winner, one third went to the pot for the person who draws the Queen of Hearts and the balance went to the club. Last year we agreed to give the one third that went to the club to Polio Eradication Fund. Our goal was to raise \$1,000.00. We have the most generous members in Rotary. Our very own Gita Gidwani and Burt Zucker drew the Queen of Hearts and chose to give their entire winnings to the Fund. They contributed \$240.00. Wow! That will allow us to give more than \$1200.00 polio Eradication Fund.

On Another Note

Don Kwait was our past District Governor many many moons ago. It was our privilege to have Steve Zabor honor Don by present our new Chagrin Highlands Rotary Banner, Home of P.R.I.D. Governor Don Kwait.

Club Mixer

There is never enough time to do most (not everything) that we want to do. All Rotarians are welcome however. Chagrin Highlands, Cleveland Hillcrest, Hillcrest and Chagrin Valley are going to get together Wednesday, June 13 for Happy Hour from 5-7 p.m. at the Rusty Bucket, 6025 Kruse Drive in Solon. They will provide free appetizers while we lift a few brews. Please feel free to join us.

Speakers

Please attend our club if you would like to hear Mark Hauserman from John Carroll University speak on "Entrepreneurship" on June 22nd. Lee Koused will speak on "Running for Judge" last fall on June 8th. We would love to have you on Friday from noon - 1:15 at Mitchell's Fish Market in Woodmere at Eton Square.

Sunset

As my reign as president comes to an end June 30th, I find myself reflecting on my thoughts a year ago. There was so much to do and so much to learn. There were relationships to establish and others to build. I look back fondly with just a glimmer of a smile for having grown and reflect on memories of Rotarians caring, sharing, giving, and of course always jabbing each other. It was a good year. Thank you!

Celebration and Transition

By Julie West

This is a time of celebration and transition for Clubs, for Districts, and for Rotary International as leadership changes occur across the Rotary world.

We celebrated Rotary International's year at the International Convention in Bangkok. Certainly one of the highlights of

the year was the a n -

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

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

nouncement that India has been polio-free for over a year and is no longer considered polio-endemic.

A portion of our District celebration occurred at the District Conference, but there is more to come. I encourage you all to attend the District Awards Picnic, June 24th, in Geauga Park System's The West Woods. Let's help District Governor Steve recognize those who have worked so hard to make this year a success, as well as show our support and appreciation for his leadership of our District.

Our Clubs are celebrating through their Changeover and Installation events. As it is logistically impossible to attend all the Club celebrations, I extend my congratulations and thanks to all of this year's Club

Presidents for their leadership of their Clubs and to all Club members for what they have collectively accomplished. At the same time, I congratulate the incoming Club Presidents and their leadership teams, whom I look forward to working with throughout the coming Rotary year.

As I look forward to beginning my year as District Governor, I am mindful of those who have helped me prepare for this opportunity and the associated responsibilities. Like Club Presidents-Elect, I have participated in several Rotary International training and planning experiences. Equally important is the support and assistance I have received from District Governor Steve, as well as many other current and past District and Club leaders. I thank you all and look forward to continuing to work with you.

At the same time, it is important for you to know that I am already working with those who will follow me: District Governor 2013-2014 Bob Johnson (Burton-Middlefield) and District Governor 2014-2015 Mike Davanzo (Medina Sunrise). At the District we are committed to working together which includes making our transitions as smooth as possible. I pledge that we will continue to do so throughout 2012-2013.

Enjoy your well-deserved celebrations and get ready for another productive and exciting year of Rotary in 2012-2013.

District night at Progressive Field, Friday evening August 31st when the Tribe plays the Texas Rangers. As has been the past tradition, the game will be followed by fireworks. We've changed the venue for our pre-game picnic to the Hilton Garden Inn, just across the street from Progressive Field, where the menu will be more extensive and we'll have our own room for Rotary fellowship. Don't forget to buy your First Pitch raffle tickets, the proceeds from which will go to support Rotary's commitment to eradicating polio. Bring your family and friends.

Desert Storm Veteran Addresses Berea Rotarians

By Linda Kramer

In honor of Memorial Day, Army Maj. Dianah Kwiatkowski, a critical care nurse during Operation Desert Storm, was the guest speaker at the Rotary Club of Berea



on May 29. A mother and grandmother, Major Kwiatkowski was called to active duty with her Reserve unit as Desert Storm got under way in 1991. She was assigned to a field hospital near the front-lines where she treated wounded coalition forces as well as prisoners of war. The nurses lived in tents pitched in the sand and ate MREs (meals ready to eat), or in

Kwiatkowski's case - lots of cheese and crackers. Kwiatkowski emphasized that soldiers' wounds aren't always just physical. The sounds and smells and experiences of war leave lasting mental and emotional impacts as well.

A former Berea resident now living in Olmsted Falls, Kwiatkowski retired in 2009 as a nurse in the intensive care unit of Southwest General Health Center in Middleburg Heights. She is a member of the Southwest Asia Veterans of Greater Cleveland and nominated and presented to the City of Berea an award as Patriotic City of the Year in 2011.

OF FAITH & FREEDOM: Berea Rotarians Consolina Templeman and Linda Kramer took part in the annual Of Faith & Freedom Cantata at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Berea on May 27. The program honors servicemen and women who lost their lives in service to our country and features musical performances and narration by veterans and members of the community. Templeman is a Marine and Kramer served in the Air Force.

GUEST SPEAKERS: Recent guest speakers included Shirley Morgenstern, president & CEO of the Cleveland Pops Orchestra. Morgenstern co-founded the group with husband Carl Topilow, who is the conductor.

Berea Rotarians also heard from Jim Bastien, vice president of the North End

Foundation of Berea, which began the Berea Youth Works project three years ago. Berea Youth Works provides part-time summer jobs for young people, working with local businesses and residents.

PRESIDENT'S DINNER: Consolina Templeman will be installed as President of Berea Rotary on June 26. The dinner will begin at 6 p.m. at J'Bella restaurant, 12201 Pearl Road, Strongsville. Tickets are \$25. For reservations, contact John Chapman, (440) 243-7067 or e-mail kchapman43@yahoo.com.

KIVA LOANS ~ Ken Weber, Berea Rotary Kiva chair, has made 280 loans to entrepreneurs around the world. The latest \$25 loans went to businesses in Cambodia (farming), Indonesia (pigs), Bolivia (food stall), Costa Rica (agriculture), Peru (cattle), Vietnam (cattle), Rwanda (agriculture), Mexico (farm supplies & flowers), Pakistan (livestock) and Ecuador (animal sales).

To learn more about Kiva loans, go to www.kiva.org.



ROTARY PARTNERS WITH THE CLEVELAND INDIANS

The Cleveland Indians and Rotary District 9630 have prepared to set up a discounted ticket for all attendees to the Cleveland Indians game on Friday, August 31st, 2012 against the Texas Rangers at Progressive Field. The two organizations have also reached an agreement to have a First Pitch award, which will be the grand prize of the raffle.

Tickets can be purchased for the raffle by contacting Julie West at 216-392-6771, Steve Zaher at 330-665-4056 or Steve Bachman at 330-940-2122.

Friday, August 31st, 2012 will be the 6th Annual Rotary Dinner Night at Progressive Field. All tickets will be located in the Upper Box section on the first base side of home plate. Those are great seats to watch the game and enjoy the post-game fireworks.

Pre-game picnic will be at the Hilton Garden Inn at 1100 Carnegie Avenue, a half-block from the ballpark, from 5:15pm to 6:45pm. Items include chicken, coleslaw, corn, baked beans, potato salad, dessert, non-alcoholic drinks, and a bag of peanuts. Also includes grand door prize.

To purchase tickets, please fill out the order form below.

For more information, please contact Steve Bachman at 330-940-2122 or steveb192@aol.com.
PLEASE PAY FOR ORDERS BY TICKETS BY AUGUST 12TH, 2012

Cleveland Indians vs. Texas Rangers Friday, August 31st, 2012 at 7:05

Return All Forms to: Steve Bachman, 73 Lake Front Dr., Akron, OH 44312

August 31 st , 2012 (Game Date)	
Deadline: August 15 th , 2012	
Adult: Ticket Only	@ \$14.00 = _____
Adult: Ticket and Meal	@ \$34.00 = _____
Child: Ticket Only	@ \$14.00 = _____
Child: Ticket and Meal	@ \$34.00 = _____
Total Enclosed =	_____
Name: _____	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____	Phone (Day): _____
E-Mail: _____	Payment Method (circle one):
Check: Cash AMEX VISA MC	Card # _____ Exp. Date: _____
Signature: _____	Check payable to: Rotaract District 9630 Check # _____

Gear Up Your Plates Today to Promote Rotary and Support the Rotary Foundation.

When you renew your Ohio License Plate, be sure to ask for the Official Rotary International Ohio License Plate. Not only will you **Publicize Rotary Wherever You Drive**, but you'll **Support The Rotary Foundation** as well.

The Ohio Rotary License Plate costs only \$25 more than your normal registration fee. \$15 of the fee is contributed to The Rotary Foundation. Since the program was initiated in 1997, over \$100,000 has been contributed to The Rotary Foundation from the Ohio License Plate Program.

Ohio Rotary License Plates are available for passenger cars, non-commercial trucks or trailers, motor homes and house vehicles online at www.ohio.gov/plates or at your local BMV office. You may keep your current initial, mirrored or personal plate number.



• **POD D6600**, Dave Perkins, Asst. Rotary Coordinator of Rotary Zone 29 shows his new Rotary License Plate. Each time he renews his plate he contributes \$15 to The Rotary Foundation. To date TRF has received over \$100,000 from Ohio Rotarians and their friends displaying the Ohio Rotary License Plate.

Some Ohio Rotarians have gotten a little creative with their ROTARY license plates. Here are some examples of those seen around the area: **EREY, DRUGHU, DQGT08, RCHANGH, HODGQ, CUNK02, 4FOU0, LUVRTY, INTRACT, KUCSD, MAKEUP, 8WYTTT, DLETRF, 4 TRF, 4 GRG, USA QP, and 49506**. Other examples can be seen on our web site www.ohio.gov/plates or our Rotary License Plates Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/ohio.rotary.license.plates>

Ohio is one of only eight states that offer the Rotary International License Plate. With your Rotary License Plate you can **Watch and Wave to Fellow Rotarians** as you travel. Get yours today!

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ShelterBox Update

By PDG Jack Young

Shelter Box has become part of the United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot network, which holds emergency relief goods in warehouses on five continents.

Both organizations recently signed a technical agreement that allows for Shelter box to be stored in these Humanitarian Response depots in five locations, Europe, Africa, Middle East, Latin American and South East Asia.

Due to their vicinity to potential emergencies, not only does prepositioning boxes to these hubs enable Shelter Box to respond quicker to disasters and rapidly deploy its life saving supplies but it also maximizes cost efficiency. The United Nation offers free storage, inspection and handling of relief items.

According to District 6630 PDG and SB Board member Young, this agreement enables us to increase even more our efficiency and timeliness in responding to disasters around the world. The storage location of each depot and their locally to potential facilitates the deployment of relief items with 24-48 hours. They are also close to airports and ports enhancing the rapid transport of relief items.

For further information on how you, your Rotary club and community can become involved, please contact PDG Jack A. Young, 440-759-4000 or JackIvill@aol.com.

“Are You Cool Enough to be a Rotarian?”

By Steven B. Shechter

Most service clubs, Rotary and the other guys as well, struggle to maintain membership numbers. Akron is no different. Our current plan to increase our membership by 50% from not quite 100 to 150 made us realize that we need more than just numbers and dues; we need to revisit the idea of standards for the long-term success of the club. We are making heady progress, but what may be more important is that we have found a way to address standards.

Some of the more senior members of the club remember when it was an accomplishment to be invited to be a Rotarian. The profile of a good Rotarian back then sounded more like a stereotype that is out of step with today's world. With a nod to Rotary founder Paul Harris, we recognized that the world is a changing place and Rotary must change with it. So who in today's world is cool enough to be a Rotarian?

In Akron, we have given a great deal of thought to this question. A simple an-

swer is that I am cool enough, and maybe you are too, but even though we have had some fun with this, this is a serious matter that speaks to the long-term viability of our organization throughout the world.

The real answer is that anybody who can and will meet the basic requirements and will become engaged in some meaningful manner has potential. To make that a practical reality, we have devised a Service Plan first for prospective members and ultimately for all members to help them find their Rotary Mojo (young people—ask your parents). This is by design a flexible program. We expect to refine it over time. What we hope never to change is our capacity to enlighten prospective members to our primary mission which is not simply to eat lunch but rather to place service above self. The Plan is intended to impart that perspective and to help people achieve whatever version of Rotary engagement suits them best.

Cool, isn't it?

Homecoming For TRC Medina's First Exchange Student

By David Lariviere

Marcus Faber spoke to Medina Sunrise Rotary about his life-changing experience as Medina's first Rotary International Exchange Student. "I arrived in Medina from my family's home in the Black Forest



Mark Morse, Marcus Faber, Becky Shotwell, Daryl Kubilis

Region of Germany, in August of 1994, and knew at once from the friendly welcome I received here that Medina would always be my second hometown."

Graduating Medina High School in 1995,

Marcus lettered in soccer and track, while keeping a busy schedule of meetings, travel and community service as a youth ambassador for Rotary. "Who would have believed that a young high school Exchange Student from a small town in Germany, about the same size as Medina, would be given an opportunity to visit so many states ~ from New York and Virginia to Wyoming and California," Marcus said, "but it is always best to be back in Medina."

Marcus served in the Mountain Forces Division of the German Army before earning his undergraduate and graduate degrees in Food Science and Technology from the highly selective FH Weihenstephan University in Munich, Germany. He is Director of Production and Quality Control at Bosinger International Meat Processing in Germany and often mentions his admiration for and appreciation to Sandridge Foods, headquartered in Medina, for their professional courtesy and friendship throughout his career. He lives with his wife Nadine and their 2 1\2

year old son Leonhard in Sulz am Neckar, a small town south of Stuttgart. And in closing, Marcus thanked Rotary, his student host families: Ralph and Helen Waite, Mark and Cindy Morse, and Frank and Becky Shotwell along with J.D. Pintner, CRC, Consulting Chef of Sandridge Foods. He said that he is looking forward to his next visit to Medina. "Auf W i e d e r s e h n M e d i n a !"



Leonhard, Marcus & Nadine Faber at JUMP in Medina

Terry Bowden Visits TRC Akron

By Kevin McGee

On May 22nd, the Rotary Club of Akron was given the rare opportunity to have an intimate gathering with Terry Bowden, University of Akron Head Football Coach, during its regular noon meeting. This special meeting was conducted in the Louis and Freda Stiles Fieldhouse on the campus of the University of Akron and was attended by more than 100 Rotarians and guests.



Coach Terry Bowden Addresses Akron Rotary

Bowden, who comes from a family of winning college coaches, provided remarks that seemed to charge the crowd. He spoke of the Akron Zips Football programs high academic performance (first in their conference) and his plans to build the team's success in the coming years. His advice to all, "Never, ever, ever, quit!"



Rotarians & guests packed the Stiles Fieldhouse

Photos Courtesy of BrandBuilderCommunications.com



A Pass to the Rotary World

By Barry Becker

I have been a Rotarian for over 30 years, and I have heard of make-ups from all over the world. Except for local visits request some club banners from the club secretary to exchange with a club you are visiting.

How do you find local clubs you might visit on a trip? You can go to www.Rotary.org Go to tab Find Rotary Club Websites. There you can search by country, type of site, district number, club name, or fellowship. There are over 1.2 Million members of 34,000+ clubs in over 163 countries.

In our district it's www.rotarydistrict6630.com. In the left hand column you may search when & where clubs meet, or club directory and contacts. There are 56 clubs in our district with 8 meeting on Monday, 18 on Tuesday, 13 on Wednesday, 14 on Thursday, and 3 on Friday. There are clubs meeting in mornings, noon and evening. There are plenty of opportunities to do make-ups and keep your attendance.

When you do visit a distant point in US or abroad bring a club banner to exchange with one from the club you visit. Bring it back and present it to your club for a permanent collection. The Westlake/Bay Village club has so many it has 2 or 3 banners full; many of them from Chuck Lawson who ran tours for businesses. He had traveled all over

the world.

The late Bill Walzer attended Rotary meetings all over Ohio, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Indiana and New York. He was a naval bomb and mine disposal expert in WWII. He helped local fire and police to spot and dispose of ordinance objects, pipe bombs. He invented a unit to transport such objects called the bomb hopper; makes quite a display and conversation piece. We also had a number of visits from traveling Rotarians.

The returning Rotarian or a visiting Rotarian should be afforded some time on their visit to tell the membership some details of their visit. A number of times there were stories exchanged between the Rotarian and a club member or two sharing similar experiences.

I have heard of make-up Rotary meetings onboard ships. There everyone is a visitor.

There are many opportunities to meet and make new friends. Rotary is viable, growing and almost omnipresent.

Believe it or not there are online Rotary clubs. They function as a regular club, but my personal opinion they cannot begin to offer the human touch of live interaction.

The great variety of fellow Rotarians here and abroad is one of Rotary's greatest resources. Get out there in the Rotary world and become an explorer!

What's On Rotary Radio

If you haven't made Rotary Radio a weekly listening habit yet, you have missed some interesting people discuss several exciting Rotary projects. Each week, show host and Willoughby Rotarian Ray Somich interviews other active Rotarians in an effort to educate listeners about the outstanding contributions of Rotary, to inform other Rotarians about district Rotary activities and projects, and to generally inspire people to provide more service to their community and mankind. In recent programs, PDG Jack Harig was a guest to explain the history of the Rotary Camp for Children with Special Needs, and other projects by the Rotary Club of Akron... Rob Previte was a guest from Rotary Club of Solon to discuss the Backyard Games, a series of healthy, fun and fundraising activities expected to draw participating clubs from across the country... PDG Jack Young discussed his international travels and the amazing "Shoe

Boxes for Nicaragua Kids" project... and John Hairston, Director of Development for the "Say Yes to Work" program discussed how several Rotary Clubs in our district are supporting and promoting this program in order to improve employee performance and business productivity. Rotary Radio is broadcast live every Monday afternoon at 5pm on 1330am WELW. You can also listen to the audio streams on computer or via your Smart Phone at welw.com. If you cannot listen at 5pm on Mondays, you can visit <http://www.welw.com/programming/archive.html> and open the Rotary Radio folder for on-demand listening of any Rotary Radio show whenever your schedule allows. Rotary Radio is also video-streamed, so you can also watch programs, at <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/rotary-radio>

Medina-Sunrise Paul Harris Recipients

By David Lariviere

Rotary Foundation Chairman Will Koran and the Ohio Rotary District Governors and Past Governors honored 37 Medina Sunrise Rotarians and family members as distinguished Paul Harris Fellows in a beau-



Will Koran, Rotary Foundation Chairman

tiful pool-side ceremony at the gazebo of Rustic Hills Country Club.

"Certainly, to recognize a person as a Paul Harris Fellow should always be an honor to the individual, his family and his community because it demonstrates significant support for the voluntary service work of Rotary and living the Rotary motto of 'Service Above Self,'" explained Koran. "And just as a Paul Harris Fellow can be recognition for exceptional service it can also be the expression of appreciation for a very generous contribution to the continued work of the



Medina Sunrise Paul Harris Fellows

Rotary Foundation."

Koran thanked the 2012 honorees and added, "The last time I checked, Rotary listed about 700,000 Paul Harris Fellows throughout the world. You are the backbone of the \$70 million in annual support to the Rotary Foundation and without your donations, The Rotary Foundation would NOT be one of the most respected humanitarian, educational and peace building foundations of the world in the 21st Century."

West Geauga Interact

By Hugh Cassidy

Updates from 2012 from Chelsea Arnold - Spanish Teacher at West Geauga High School and Interact Officer in 2006:

This year Interact members have volunteered for many community service opportunities, including Santa's Breakfast, the ringing of the bells for the Salvation Army Red Kettle drive, Shining Stars, and multiple events held by Lake Metroparks and Metzenbaum Center.

In addition to their volunteer work, they have organized several fundraisers throughout the year. One of the first and most successful was the Food Drive around Thanksgiving this year. We raised over 25,000 canned goods to distribute throughout different food banks of Geauga County.

Our biggest event each year is the Fashion Show. The fashion show has become the defining event for the Interact Club over the past 6 years. This year the fashion show was April 22nd at Patterson's Fruit Farm Banquet Center and featured West Geauga High School seniors and several teachers as models. It was catered by Guido's Restaurant. It also included a silent auction for two items - tickets to Mamma Mia playing at the Playhouse downtown, and tickets and backstage passes to see the band Train this summer. Over 80 people bought tickets to the fashion show, and the Interact Club was able to donate over \$1,400 to Project Peanut Butter of the Alliance for Youth Development in Ghana to support malnourished children in Africa. We are currently having a school supplies drive to support Elvis Dankoh's orphanage in Ghana. We are hoping to fill several boxes to ship to him by some time next year, and we may continue this on into next school year as well. The Interact Club has also donated \$500 to Elvis and also contributes \$1000 to the Shelter Box project earlier this year as well.

Next year, we hope to continue with all these projects and add some new ideas as well. We will have another food drive in the fall, and based on the level of success we have we may also add another food drive in the spring semester as well. We also still plan on having the fashion show including a Chinese Auction. We also plan to add an Open Mic Night fundraiser for students and staff to showcase their singing or instrumental talents to raise money for a cause to be determined. As always, there will be plenty of volunteer work that the students will have a chance to contribute to also.

TRC Westshore & Meals-on-Wheels

By Kevin Kelley

You can't cook hot meals without a working stove. That meant Fairview Park Meals On Wheels had a problem when the stove in the City Hall kitchen died.

Meals On Wheels moved to the basement of Fairview Park City Hall in January when kitchen space at Journey Community Church became unavailable. But then the City Hall stove stopped working, said Judy Norton, of West Shore Meals on Wheels, which oversees its Fairview Park affiliate. The city would not be replacing the stove because all its kitchen operations had long ago moved to its senior center. Besides, Fairview Park Meals On Wheels intends to move next year to New Hope Church's new location on Lorain Road.

Nevertheless, a new stove was needed. The West Shore Rotary, which covers Fairview Park, North Olmsted and the West Park neighborhood of Cleveland, offered to help in the purchase of a new one.

At its weekly luncheon meeting at the 100th Bomb Group restaurant on Brookpark Road, Rotary members presented Norton with a \$500 check to cover part of the cost of the stove.

"We as Rotarians pride ourselves that we take care of our communities," said Dan Fronczak, president-elect of the West Shore Rotary. "This was definitely a need."

Norton noted that West Shore Meals On Wheels serves 51,000 meals annually to homebound residents across the three communities - Fairview Park, Rocky River and Westlake - that the umbrella organization oversees. A cold lunch and hot meal are delivered to recipients weekdays for \$8 a day.

While much of the talk about Meals On Wheels focuses on the homebound persons the nonprofit organization serves, Norton said not much attention is given to the benefits experienced by its volunteers, many of whom are seniors.

"As seniors, it is often difficult to connect with new people when old friends have passed on," she told Rotarians. Many Meals volunteers are in their 80s, she noted.

Other than the stove breaking, the move to Fairview Park City Hall has worked out well for Fairview Park Meals On Wheels, said Barbara Kern, the organization's chairwoman.

TRC Cuyahoga Falls Creates Interactive Enrichment Area

By Jill Kolesar

On Saturday, June 2nd members of the Rotary Club of Cuyahoga Falls planned, prepared and built an interactive enrichment area for the Bethany YMCA Early Care and Education Center. Drills, saws, digging, assembling and lots of humor



were present to complete our efforts. This

area will allow children from toddler through 5 years of age a safe place to learn and play. Science, art and music will enhance their learning experience. We



were able to fund this project through Club fundraising efforts and a District Matching Grant. It was a great day for fellowship and putting Service Above Self.

Willoughby Rotary Annual Golf Outing
KIRTLAND COUNTRY CLUB
Monday, June 25, 2012

11:30 am - Rotary meeting, luncheon, registration
(Rotarians from other clubs can receive a "make up.")
1:00 p.m. Shotgun Start
5:30 pm Club House Gathering, Awards (No formal dinner)
Skill shots, best net team scores
Green fee w/cart: \$85 per person
Luncheon for non-Willoughby Rotarians & guests - please add \$25
(Lunch is a regular meeting for Willoughby Rotarians)
Total for guests, luncheon & golf - \$110

Information
Skip Murley - 440-595-5559 skipm@willoughbyrotary.com
Tim Wright Dr. - 440-750-0175 tim@willoughbyrotary.com
Directions
www.kirtlandcc.com Kirtland Country Club, 5915 Kirtland Road, Willoughby, OH 44094

Greetings from the Rotary Club of Strongsville!

By Jack Miaskowski

May was a Great Month in our Club!

We inducted some new members; however the real excitement was our involvement with a Group of Students at Strongsville High School called the "Connections Group". This is a group of students who have various problems that make attending high school somewhat of a chore to put it mild! There are many challenges for this group of students and they have found a Wonderful Teacher in Mike Rodak. He cares for each and every one of them. He challenges, coaches, coerces, cajoles, corrects, criticizes, and cares for them in getting their lives back on the correct track. Some have problems with the family, drugs, attitude, insecurity, lack of confidence, lack of desire, and any other problem a young person could encounter. He does not baby them; Mike makes them work towards a goal they decide upon together. For some it may be their marks, attitude, laziness, the student

decides what most needs improvement.

With that little background, here is the rest of the story. Our Club been involved with the Connections Group for almost 5 years and we have designated Scholarship Dollars to them. What is different with this selection process is that 5 of the students made a presentation to our Club at a regular Breakfast Meeting on May 18th. They were applying for Scholarship Dollars. We have members evaluate the presentations and the scholarship amounts are presented to the students at their Awards Luncheon.

I will not use the word "Winners" about the results as all of these kids are "WINNERS".

We now move to Thursday May 24th for the Connection Awards Luncheon attended by 120 students in this program. Recognition is the theme of the luncheon. The luncheon is sponsored by the Optimist Club, a great example of Service Clubs working together.

"Rodak" as the kids call him, has created 11 categories of Awards for the students. As I said, he has challenged the kids earlier and now is the time to reward them. His awards list is as follows: 3.0 Club and 4.0 Club, difficult marks for these kids to achieve; Teacher of the Year, Yes the kids pick the teacher. He is John Felton, who happens to be the Women's Soccer team coach, Diamond in the Rough; Upbeat Attitude; Enlightenment; Future Leader; Work Ethic; Perseverance; Respect; Growth Minded; Program Loyalty; and Reciprocity. You can define those words in your thinking process to mean what Rodak meant.

Awards went to 52 of the 120 students and guess what the other 68 students got from Mike Rodak, their teacher? They got a lecture saying you need to work harder next year. And having been fortunate to be there I saw kids who got that message, they had not tried hard enough to improve themselves. They all promised Mr.

Rodak they would try harder next year.

Yes, RESPECT is what this teacher gets from all of these students. They know he is on their side and they can see that he is trying to help them.

We are trying to assist that working relationship by having the Connections Group meet at Angel House, Life Enrichment Center. They meet 4 times a year for various programs. This allows plenty of outdoor activities as the property has plenty of space to roam. You can find private places to have that concentration that is essential to thinking. We are excited about the possibilities of having the kids work with professionals in an atmosphere that is conducive to learning.

Finally, if you are ever given the opportunity to work with students who have problems, take it! I guarantee you the feeling you will get from helping is so rewarding that you will want to get more involved! Try it, you will like it!

Rotary is People

By PDG Bob Prevette

Nigerian Rotarian Alex Oakafor and his wife Bertha visited District 6630 North East Ohio the week of 5-27-12 hosted by their friends PDG Bob & Caroline Prevette.

Alex one of three remaining Charter Members of the Rotary Club of Oregbeni, Benin City, Nigeria District 9140 chartered in 1985. Alex is a 27 year Rotarian, a RI Foundation Major Donor and has attended 12 Rotary International Conventions.

Alex and Bertha have 4 Children shown here. Three are attending The Prince Edward Island University in Canada with one graduating in May.



PDG Bob and Caroline Met the Oakafors at The RI Centennial Convention in Chicago in June of 2005. One of their (then) "little" Sons, Alex was sitting at McDonald's in McCormick Place with his family. I said to Caroline do you think his parents will care if I gave him a Rotary Pin. That was the start of a life long lasting friendship. We later spent time in the House of Friendship and met them at the following years at the RI Conventions of Copenhagen, Salt Lake City, Los Angeles, Montreal, and New Orleans. Alex Attended the Bangkok RI Convention this May being with our attending 6630 Members. Through the years Alex has been introduced to The District 6630 Rotarians attending the RI conventions and also joining us on their Zone Boat Ride.

Alex and PDG Bob continuously share e-mails staying close through the years along with family pictures strengthening their friendship.

Alex and Bertha Arrived Monday Night at 6:00 Pm at The Cleveland Airport after Leaving Charlottetown Prince Edward Island where they had been to be at their Daughters University of Prince Edwards

Island graduation, rising At 3:00 AM to make the Flight To Montreal, then on to LaGuardia, and into Cleveland. A long Day of Travels. Alex had just come into Charlottetown for the graduation from



The Bangkok, Thailand RI Convention! Alex and Bertha Joined PDG Bob and Caroline at the Tuesday Noon 5-22-12 Nordon Hills Rotary Club Meeting. Alex spoke thanking the Club to be recognized and of the Value of the Rotary Foundation along with the opportunity for lasting Rotary Friendships. President Robin Bugenske presents our Nordon Hills Rotary Club Flag to Alex. In turn Alex presented his Oregbeni Rotary Club's Flag to President Robin.



Tuesday 5-22 PM we visited Arch C. Klumph's Grave site at the Lakeview Cemetery in Cleveland. Alex being a RI Foundation Major Donor was pleased to have the opportunity to have visited Arch



C. Klumph's Grave site. Alex a Major Donor is most likely the First or near the First Nigerian Rotarian to visit Arch C. Klumph's Grave site, especially a Foundation Major Donor. Arch C. Klumph was Cleveland Rotary's Past President 1913, Rotary International's Past President 1916 -17 and Founder of the Rotary Foundation at the Atlanta RI Convention in 1917.



PDG Bob and Alex had long talked of playing Golf together. Wednesday Morning Alex and Bob joined Bob's Wednesday AM Golf League at Ellsworth Meadows Hudson Ohio playing 18 Holes. Alex enjoyed the Golf as we teed off at 7:30 AM, but was not happy with water holes as in Nigeria no water holes on the Golf Courses. Alex was impressed how the League Members and Club staff provided great fellowship and welcomed him to play.



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Rotary is People cont'd

Wednesday night several of Alex's District 6630 Personal Friends met for a Reception Dinner at The Bertram Inn and Conference Center in Aurora to Honor Alex and Bertha. Alex Spoke on The Values Of Rotary and Nigerian Activities. Attendees were PDG Al and Mary Connors Aurora Rotary, PDG Stew and Cheri Buchanan Akron Rotary, Governor Steve Zabor Mantua Rotary who the day before Just returned from a side Trip from the Bangkok RI convention to Laos, PDG Jim Frame who recuperating from his recent Illness was also able to join us, PDG Bob and Caroline Prevette of Nordonia Hills Rotary, PAG Stan and Penny Socha of Brunswick Rotary. Greg Prevette was also in attendance.



Thursday Morning we took the Oakafors to Hartsville for Lunch at the Hartsville Kitchen. Thursday Evening Alex and Bertha joined PDG Bob & Caroline's Grandchildren for Dinner. They had watched

pictures through the years from when they were born until now meeting and playing with them for the first time. Rob 5, Olivia 3, and Virginia 1. Here Alex Playing with Rob's Lego s and being shown Rob and Olivia's castle. Alex also played Wii Golf with Rob.



Alex provided the swing power for Olivia and Virginia. Friday morning 5-25 we picked up Alex and Bertha at 6:00 AM for their flight back to Charlottetown. The great week had unfortunately come to an end; a fast week when you're having fun with friends. However this close friendship will continue forever. Indeed "Rotary is People"

5-25-12 E-mail from Alex

Dear Bob & Caroline,

We are short of words on how to say a big thank you for your hospitality, Bertha and I don't actually know where to start. The programme for the visit was super and we quite enjoyed all but the most thrilling

was the great entertainment by the little angel (Rob, Olivia and Virginia) please tell them we love them all and will ever cherish their company. Tell Carolina that we recognize her as a super mother who is the pillar of the house, providing and making sure everybody is happy. Bob I learnt a lot from you and Caroline, The oneness the togetherness and the peaceful atmosphere that exist in your home and where ever you took us to. We love you all. Please send our sincerely thanks to all the Rotarians that turned up for the dinner on Wednesday, all Rotarians of Nordonia Hill club especially my president Robin, We love you all. Also our gratitude to your golf club for allowing me free of charge to play in the club. It has never happened before in all golf clubs I have played before. Bob you are too much "as we say in Nigeria. Tell Maggie though we were unable to meet her but that the little angels and Greg were her perfect representative. That her and Greg should be very proud of the little angels. We see them as gifted children, (Very intelligent).

Bob our prayer is that God almighty would continue to Bless you and their entire family with good health, long life ,peace, harmony and prosperity. Continue to be yourself for we love you and are very proud of you too. Sincerely Alex

The Rotary Club of Willoughby Announces Students Of the Year

By Ray Somich

For many years, the Rotary Club of Willoughby has honored exceptional students from four area high schools located in their community. Three are public schools: Eastlake North, Kirtland and Willoughby South. The fourth is a private school: Andrews Osborne Academy. Students have been honored as Students of the Month, and invited to appear at Rotary Club meetings to receive their plaques. For the 2011-2012 school year, the program was overhauled. Under the watch of committee co-chairs Chuck Roman and Connie McDonald,

all schools were informed that the program had changed to honor the one highest achieving student at each school for the full school year. Specific criteria were established for academic accomplishments, community service, teacher recommendations, and most important, each student submitted an essay on the Rotary International theme "Service Above Self." A committee of club members studied the applications and voted on a Rotary Student of the Year from each school. All four students and their parents were invited to a Rotary luncheon where they received plaques and cash prizes, and shared their essays

with the attendees. The committee also determined which one of these four high achievers was the overall 2012 Rotary Student of the Year, and this announcement was made known for the first time at the luncheon meeting. The honored students were Alexandra Vito --from Andrews Osborne Academy, Macy Araps from Eastlake North, Morgan Choe from Kirtland, and Katherine Behnke from Willoughby South. The 2012 Rotary Student of the Year was Morgan Choe. Willoughby Club President Ray Somich said the changes to the student awards program were necessary so the stu-

dents would have greater awareness of and appreciation for Rotary. Somich said that their club board members also thought it was important for the club to "raise the bar" for students by establishing the highest criteria for excellence, and honoring only the most deserving students. "The Student Awards program has always meant a lot to our club and the students being honored," said Somich. "But now these students truly understand 'Service Above Self' and by raising the standards, these outstanding young people also realize that they truly did achieve a very special honor."