

# **Governor Bill's Thoughts**

My wish would be that all of you could experience what Karen and I do as we travel of Rotary District - our clubs do really MARVILOUS things. Last night we attended Casino Night 2012 – ten clubs of Berks county third annual event– which drew 750 plus people and 600 GIFT BASKETS. Blue Bell's "Chef of the Burbs" raised \$28,000, at least three new Interact Clubs, Christmas Gift baskets for community needy, literacy programs, assisting Veterans, and on and on. What wonderful things Rotarians do!

The Easton HS Interact club was inaugurated with 24 kids attending the meeting. What made it special were the representatives from the Moravian Academy and Southern Lehigh Interact Clubs attending as well as members of the Easton Rotary Club. This is great news because the Easton Interactors will be able to join D-75430's New Generation Day on April 22<sup>nd</sup> at DeSales University. Please see the information below about his fun day – please pass it onto your Interact club.

Speaking of New Generations – the DeSales Rotaract will host its Second annual Purple Pinkie 5-K Run/walk on April 22<sup>nd</sup> in honor of PDG Yvette Palmer. If you will not be at the Conference on Sunday please support the Rotaract club. See below.

From of New Generations to our esteemed generations - let's all send our Birthday wishes to George Ikeda, West Allentown Rotary, who turned 90 years old on February 24<sup>th</sup>. George is truly a wonderful man and Rotarian. Please see PDG Palmers note below.

What do we look forward to this month? Our Club PEs will gather with DGE Tony at MA-PETS in Valley Forge March 1-3. It is a wonderful opportunity to learn and share Rotary ideas and leadership experiences. I believe all that attend will come back to the clubs motivated to have a super year. Let's all give them a hand as they "make a difference".

Finally – the D-7430 Conference is rapidly approaching – April 20-22 at Bear Creek Resort. You will have fun, be enlightened and be Proud you are a Rotarian. As we travel the District there is a sense of excitement because of the Rotarian-owned Car show, Rotarian entertainers, and the "trade Show" of Club projects and sharing of fundraising ideas. Remember we have a menu of attendance options that will fit your schedule and budget. I urge you to register soon as believe it or not some of the events are attendance limited. Just a note – we will have transportation from the Bear Creek Resort to the American on Wheels Museum Friday night. Again seating is limited – so first reserved - first served. See below.

# **Rotary International Assembly**

San Diego, CA January 2012

Rachel and I had the pleasure of attending this event in San Diego along with 530 incoming DGE's and their spouses from around the world. Before I left I was told by many of our PDGs what a monumental and inspirational event this would be -- and they were right!!

From the ringing of the bell to start the first plenary at 9am on that Monday morning to the end of the closing banquet on that Friday night, the whole event was taken up with inspiration and amazement and pride in what Rotarians achieve. In Rotary we are all part of such an effective worldwide organization and can be proud of the many great things we do.

Peace Through Service Sakuji Tanaka Rotary International President 2012-13

RI President elect Sakuji Tanaka set the tone for the event with his announcement of the 2012/2013 Theme, "*Peace Through Service.*", Not a sound could be heard as we all soaked up his words and inspiration. The inspiration just kept building as the week went on. We heard at various stages from RI President Banerjee. Also another highlight was the announcement from RI's Bob Scott that Rotarians around the world had smashed through the End Polio Now \$200 million Challenge. This great achievement was further endorsed by a stirring speech given by the CEO of the Gates Foundation, Jeff Raikes, who had this to say:

"In recognition of Rotary's great work, and to inspire Rotarians in the future, the Gates Foundation is committing an additional \$50 million to extend our partnership. "Rotary started the global fight against polio, and continues to set the tone for private fundraising, grassroots engagement, and maintaining polio eradication at the top of the agenda with key policymakers."

It was like being on an adrenalin rush, as we also attended many breakout sessions and idea exchanges. I was often were sitting across the table from District Governors from many corners of the globe, yet joined by the goal and belief of "Service Above Self." Rachel was equally impressed by the quality and depth of the people she met while attending the separate spouses sessions.

In the evenings we got a chance to kick back and there were a couple of very good friendship events again bonding you with all these kindred spirits. It was as if you have known them for so much longer, yet we had



just met at this once in a lifetime event.

On that final evening many of us had a tear in our eye from a heart full of pride and admiration for each other and the fact that we were all pumped up and ready for our year ahead leading our districts in "*Peace Thru Service*." As RI President-Elect Tanaka wished us all the best, I knew more than ever why I am a Rotarian and wanted to be our DG in 12/13.....For that I thank you all for allowing me the experience.

DGE Tony Jannetta

# **Polio Update**

The below has wonderful facts on Rotary's global effort to eradicate polio. Your positive messages and support continue to be impressive, very important and seen.

We are not there - YET; however, the most important positive action you can take is to speak out to leaders in developing and underdeveloped countries to maintain constant pressure for full immunization working with the World Health Organization and other Rotary partners to reach the goal of no wild polio cases for a minimum of 2 years. YES, WE CAN ERADICATE POLIO WITH THIS CONTNUED EFFORT.

Just completed the first NID of 2012 on February 19, 2012

Did you know what it involved? Here are just some basic facts .....

- \* 800,000 vaccination booths
- \* 2.3 Million vaccinators
- \* 1.2 Million vaccination teams
- 155,000 supervisors, with 155,000 vehicles ( cars, motorcycles, mopeds, bicycles, boats, elephants, camels or whatever it takes )
- \* 220 Million doses of Polio Vaccine, carried around the country in 2.0 Million vaccine carrier bags
- \* 6.3 Million ice packs to keep all those doses of polio vaccine in the 2.0 Million vaccine carries bags to maintain the cold chain.
- \* 91 Million homes visited
- \* 170 Million children immunized during each NID of these, 10 crore children immunized in just one day at booths.

No Polio Case was reported this week.

India Total in 2012 - REMAINS at Nil

India Total in 2011 REMAINS AT - 1

Wild virus maps, FAS, polio-update and wild virus line list prepared by the WHO-NPSP Data Team can be sent on request.

"Polio Summit 2012": Jointly Sponsored by the Government of India & Rotary International will be held in New Delhi from tomorrow February 25 & 26, 2012.

Prime Minister of India Dr. Manmohan Singh to inaugurate the event in the august presence of President Kalyan Banerjee, TRF Chair Bill Boyd, International PolioPlus Chair Dr. Bob Scott, Directors Yash Das and Shekhar Metha, General Secretary John Hewko, Ms. Carol Padak and may more. The Summit will be Chaired by PRIP Raja Saboo with PRID Sushil Gupta as its advisor.

India NID dates for 2012 Note the Change of dates:

The Government of India has announced that Polio National Immunization for 2012 will now take place on:

\*Sunday April 15, 2012. (Please note that due to non availability of Polio Vaccine the April 1 date stands postponed to April 15).

# Polio Update continued

Wild Poliovirus Weekly Update February 23, 2012, World Health Organization;

New polio cases reported in the past week for 2011: 1 New polio cases reported in the past week for 2012: 4 Total number of cases in 2011: 650 Total number of cases in 2012: 18

OFFICIALLY REPORTED WILD VIRUS CASES ON January 11, 2012 in Endemic Countries:

Pakistan: 2 new of cases reported in 2012 move to 11. No Cases of Polio in 2011 was reported this week. The 2011 total remains at 199

Afghanistan: One cases reported in 2012 Total moves to 4 . Number of Polio Cases reported in 2011 remains at 80

Nigeria: One case reported in 2012. Total moves to 2. One Case reported this week of 2011. Total Cases of Polio in 2011 - move to 61)

# **Rotary Pride—Catch It!**

The District Conference is April 20, 21, and 22. We've got the caterer, the speakers, the program. Now all we need is YOU! Registration is EASY. A registration form has been attached to the March Newsletter. They can be downloaded from the District website (www.rotarydistrict7430.org) or you can e-mail me (g\_vakiener@yahoo.com) and I'd be happy to send it to you. Rotarians can register with either a credit card or personal check.



The weekend has something for everyone ~ new Rotarians, 'old' Rotarians and the majority of us who fall in between! From the Friday night event at AOW

with a Rotarian Car Show, Catering by Karen Hunter and Hospitality Areas sponsored by Clubs to the weekend program at Bear Creek boasting exciting speakers, an International Dinner with the very traditional Parade of Flags, and Past RI President Carl Wilhelm Stenhammer. **Registration costs for the conference start at \$40**.

If I sound a little like a car salesman, it is because we intentionally offered registration 'a la carte' with the hope that every Rotarian will consider attending some if not all of the District Conference this year. If you've never attended, it is a great opportunity to meet other Rotarians from the District and be inspired by the work that Rotary does both locally and internationally. For those of you who attend every year, it is an opportunity to renew old friendships and see the future of Rotary taking shape.

April 20<sup>th</sup> will be here before you know it! Here are a few key dates to keep in mind ~

- Rotarians who register by April 1<sup>st</sup> will be entered into a drawing to win a SIGNIFICANT prize.
- Rotarians who plan to stay at Bear Creek must make their hotel reservations by March 20<sup>th</sup> to receive the special Rotary pricing.

Additional information is available on the District website. Mark your calendars and I'll see you there!

Page 5

# **Rotary New Generations Day**

On April 22nd beginning at 10 AM, District 7430 will sponsor a New Generations Day at DeSales. We invite all of our Interact, Youth Exchange and Rotaract members to join this fun day. Starting with a community service project of participating in the **DeSales University Rotaract Club's second Annual Yvette M. Palmer Purple Pinkie 5-K Run/walk**. It is an opportunity for our New Generation club members to gather and share what they are doing to make their community a better place. The next activity will be lunch with Past Rotary International President Stenhammar of Sweden. Finally, our host Interact clubs from Moravian Academy and Southern Lehigh have planned two and a half hours of joint activities aimed at building our New Generatins connectivity. Please encourage your Interact clubs and Youth Exchange students to attend. The cost will be \$10 for the 5K Run/Walk (must bring student ID) and \$5 for the lunch. See flyer below.



You are invited to a:

# ADTARL ADLANG BALLAND

# **Rotary New Generations Day**

Hosted by: Moravian Academy Interact Club and

Southern Lehigh Interact Club

# Where: DeSales University

# When: Sun. April 22, 2012

# Time: 10 AM for the Purple Pinkie 5-K Run/walk What: Meeting of District 7430Interact Clubs and Rotary Youth Exchange

A Chance to meet other Interact members, Advisors and officers Learn how other clubs are involved in Service Above Self. Enjoy the fellowship and luncheon for all members attending -

# \$5 donation for lunch

Participate in the DeSales University Rotaract Club's 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Yvette *M. Palmer Purple Pinkie 5K run/walk for Polio Plus* Greet Past Rotary International President Carl-Wilhelm Stenhammar

> visit the following link Purple Pinkle 5K Registration

> > **RSVP** by

April 15th to Kathy Greiss krgreiss@gmail.com

# **Literacy Month**

March is the month designated for Rotarians to focus their efforts on "LITERACY". Defining literacy on the most basic level "is the ability to read and write".

According to the National Institute for Literacy definition, literacy is "an individuals ability to read, write, and speak in English, compute and solve problems at levels of proficiency necessary to function on the job, in the family of the individual and in society".

Literacy affects society as a whole. One major statistic states that there is a clear direct correlation between literacy and crime, poverty and mortality. Literacy projects give children and families here and abroad the tools to succeed in society.





What projects can you start in your community or abroad? 1. Dictionary project

- 2. Tutoring
- 3." Cops and Kids" program
- 4. Partner with your local community agencies, library, school district
- 5. Develop a " Rotary Books for the World Project "
- 6. Conduct fund raising events for literacy

## Tips for creating a successful literacy project:

- 1. Develop a relationship with your community schools, social agencies, library or school district.
- 2. Apply for a grant from the Rotary Foundation to start your project.
- 3. Partner with other local Rotary Clubs.
- 4. Use your club and other community resources, including teachers and those with a passion for literacy.

#### Don't Have A Literacy Project?

If your club does not have a literacy project, consider March as a time to develop a Literacy Committee and start a project that meets the literacy needs of your community or abroad. If you already have a program, have testimonials from community members come and share how your literacy project made their life better. Please share with us your literacy projects and pictures. You can forward them to <u>MarieAnn19@comcast.net</u>

Marie Ann Thompson District Literacy Coordinator

## **Club News**

#### Allentown West

Rotarian Celebrates His 90th Birthday

<u>George Ikeda</u>, a long time Rotarian, turned 90 years young on Friday, February 24, 2012. On Saturday, February 18<sup>th</sup> George's four children surprised him and his wife, Janet, with a party at Luther Crest in Allentown. There were 120 people there, including George's brothers, one from Montana and one from Colorado. George thought he was going to Berwyn to visit his son. He came into the Hall and was totally surprised. His grand-children opened the party by singing "Happy Birthday." George was quite emotional and somewhat at a loss for words, unusual for him he said.

We arrived at Luther Crest a bit before the 2 PM "surprise" starting time and the whole of Crest Hall was full of family and friends. The caterer had a row of tables down the middle with food — salad, rolls, chicken or ham, etc. The festivities began with glasses of wine delivered to us by the wait staff and there were nuts, grapes, chips and salsa for snacking.

Then the revelers talked and got some food and drank more wine --- George had his Yuengling. There were two large sheet cakes and dozens of lighted candles. We all sang (poorly) Happy Birthday. Rotarian Ellen Kern (RC of Allentown), on behalf of state Senator, Pat Browne, presented George with a Senate Proclamation for the occasion. George was very moved and he carried it around the room smiling all the time. Happy Birthday, George.

PDG Bill Palmer

#### Central Perkiomen

The Central Perkiomen Rotary Club will be releasing funds ASAP for RI Foundations or RI sponsored programs as listed below: Rotary Foundation- \$2,500.00 Rotary Polio Fund - \$2,000.00 Rotary Shelter Box Program - \$1,000.00

The current Central Perkiomen Rotary Club leadership team is proud to announce this accomplishment and will provide future guidance to the club to continue it's efforts to support not only our local agenda but also the Rotary International agenda as well. It has been too long in our view that contributions to RI programs have been made available by the CP club. We will fill out all paperwork required as to get the proper recognition of our contributions.

In addition the club board has made the decision that by 8/1 of every year based on our carnival income (our carnival is in June) that we will review such contributions and release funds ASAP should they be available.

Pat Hoffman President - Central Perkiomen Rotary Club

#### Easton

Students at Easton Area High School are in the process of forming a Rotary Interact Club. Interact is Rotary International's service club for young people ages 12 to 18 The Club will be sponsored by The Rotary Club of Easton which will provide support and guidance, but they are self-governing and self-supporting. Interact clubs complete at least two community service projects, one of which furthers international understanding and goodwill. Through these efforts, Interactors develop a network of friendships with local and overseas clubs and learn the importance of developing leadership skills and personal integrity, as well as understanding the value of individual responsibility and hard work. Almost 200,000 young people worldwide are involved in Interact. Ms. Heidi Fritts will serve as the Club Advisor with assistance from Marissa Cecere, daughter of past-president Lori Metz. A kick-off meeting was held on Thursday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>.

## **Club News**

#### Emmaus

Emmaus Rotary Club Holds Inaugural Valentine Swing Band Fund Raiser

On Saturday evening, February 4<sup>th</sup>, The Emmaus Rotary Club hosted its first ever Valentine's Dance Fund Raiser, featuring the 17 piece Rob Stoneback Big Band. The event, which generated ticket sales in excess of 700 and gross proceeds of more than \$20,000, was held at the Ag-Hall complex on the Allentown Fairgrounds. It was a *Bring Your Own Beverages and Food* affair and everyone was happy to oblige, as guests showcased coolers of beverages and wide assortments of veggie trays and extravagant



Couples were treated to an evening of dancing



Rob Stoneback Big Band

The evening was officially opened by Emmaus Rotary Club President Woody Rohrbach, as he thanked the guests, along with the many individual and Corporate Sponsors who had contributed to this inaugural fund raising event. Renowned area swing band leader, Rob Stoneback and his 17 piece Big Band, provided the music that was the foundation for the fun filled evening of friendship, food and dancing.



Set-Up Crew: Woody, Cindy, Eileen, Joe P, Bob H, Eric L, Chris H., Rob S. Gary R, Jim P, Mike W





Woody, Nellie, Cindy, Joe P



#### Club News continued

Emmaus (continued)



A Good Time Was Had By All

#### Kutztown

#### Annual Agriculture Night

The Kutztown Rotary provides and annual forum bringing together representatives of Berks County Agriculture for an exchange with the Secretary of Agriculture. This year over 125 individuals attended the gathering. In addition it was the first year the Secretary spoke specifically to the Future Farms group.



## Lehigh Valley East

PA Secretary of Agriculture George Grieg is in the middle, Rotarian Bob Hobaugh is on the left

The Rotary flexClub of Lehigh Valley is sponsoring a community event on Sunday June 3rd at Coca Cola Park. They will be creating a Human Flag on the ball field just prior to the Iron Pigs home game with the Pawtucket Red Sox. As part of the event, they hope to feature local high school students singing the National Anthem. Proceeds from the event will support world peace through the Rotary Youth Exchange Program and other community projects of the Rotary flexClub of Lehigh Valley.

# **District Conference**

Rotary Pride —Catch It!

## District 7430 District Conference April 20 – 22, 2012

# Introducing the Featured Sponsors:



#### Lt. D.F. Pace, International Peace Fellow

Lt. D F. Pace is a member of the Rotary Club of Philadelphia. He is one of only five lawyers among Philadelpia's 6000 police officers, as well as an instructor at the Police Acadamy. As a Peace Fellow, Lt. Pace has spent three months of study at the prestigious Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok, Thailand where the focus is on violence prevention, mediation, compromise building, and the philosophy of peace building.



#### Steve Martineau, Executive Director of Friends Forever

Steve Martineau is Executive Director of Friends Forever, an organization that was founded in 1986 by Rotarian Robert Raiche. Friends Forever began as a joint YMCA/Rotary effort to unite one small group of Catholic and Protestant teens from Northern Ireland. Friends Forever uses a grassroots approach to promote understanding among cultures in conflict, focusing on teenagers as ambassadors of peace. The organization now works with young people in Northern Ireland, Israel as well as Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Uganda.



#### Mary Jane Gallagher

Mary Jane Gallagher is the Assistant Deputy Minister of the Student Achievement Division of the Ontario Ministry of Education. As a lifelong educator, Mary Jane has worked as a teacher, principal, superintendent and school board director. Her role as a Rotarian is also multi-faceted. She has served as Club President, has hosted Exchange Students and GSE teams. In 2010, she and her husband led a team of Rotarians in a National Immunization day in India. Mary Jane's message to Rotarians is "How Big is Your Neighborhood."



#### Special Friday Night Venue ~ America On Wheels Museum

Friday night was planned in an effort to make the conference available, accessible and affordable to the greatest number of Rotarians in the District. We want YOU to experience the **Fellowship** and **Fun** of a Rotary Conference. Join us at the America On Wheels Museum on **April 20th from 6:00 - 9:30pm** for the Rotarian Classic Car Show, Catering by Karen Hunter, and Entertainment by Rotarians from around the District. It is an event you will not want to miss!







Reach Within to Embrace Humanity

# **District Conference**

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April 20 – 22, 2012

Registration also available online @ www.rotarydistrict7430.org

Club Name:	Pricing: (excludes hotel)		# of Attendees	Total
Name:	Complete Conference Package Friday through Sunday	\$210		\$
Address:	Friday only	\$40		\$
City:	All day Saturday including all meals and banguet	\$150		\$
State:Zip:	Sunday breakfast Add a guest for	\$ 20		\$
Home Phone:	Saturday's Reception and International Dinner	\$75		\$
Cell Phone:		TOTAL		\$
E-Mail Address:				
Others Attending (indicate if Rotarian)	The Saturday even	ing Interna	tional Dinne	r will have

The Saturday evening International Dinner will have limited seating. All registrations will be dated upon receipt and banquet seating will be on a first received basis.

Special Needs: Please indicate if you any physical, dietary or other special need. We will do our best to accommodate you!

Make checks payable to District 7430 Conference. Visa or MasterCard accepted. Please complete for cardholder.

DG Nominee
Past District Governor
Assistant Governor
Club President
Club President Elect
Club Past President
Club Secretary
Club Treasurer
1 <sup>st</sup> Rotary Conference
Paul Harris Fellow

DG Elect

PARTNER/GUEST

Partner 
Guest 
Rotarian from: \_\_\_\_

Name to appear on badge:\_

YOU

Name:

DG Elect

Billing address:		
Card number:		
Expiration Date:	Verification Code:	

Signature: \_\_\_\_

Name:

Please send completed registration and payment to Marianne Aronson, Registration Chair at 3009 West Chew St., Allentown, PA 18104

Hotel Reservations: Must be made with Bear Creek Mountain Resort directly. Call 610-641-7101 for special Rotary pricing.

Any questions, contact Gretchen Vakiener at g\_vakiener@yahoo.com or telephone 610-759-7614.