

District 7450 Rotary Leader



Volume 9 Number 7

January, 2015

Message from DG Doug

First, let's all welcome District Governor-Elect Chad back from the International Assembly where he, along with the other 540 Governors-Elect from around the world, heard RI President Elect K.R. "Ravi" Ravindran encourage and challenge each and every one of them and each and every one of us to "Be A Gift to the World!" While each year the Rotary Theme is a bit different, every theme encourages each and every one of us to become and be Citizen Servants who serve others beyond ourselves in our collective effort to create a more peaceful and prosperous world for all. Speaking of Citizen Servants, a big Shout Out for Jeffry Cadorette, who was invited by the RI President to serve one of two Seminar Trainers for the International Assembly, and for Bronwyn Martin, who travelled to San Diego to support Rotarian Action Groups.



Second, my very pleasurable visits to our Rotary Clubs continue into this New Year. I have less than 20 to go and look forward to everyone. If I have not as yet visited your Club, please call me to schedule this informative and fun time. It certainly is informative and fun for me and, I hope, for every Rotarian in attendance. Our Clubs are great and are doing great things in the community and abroad. Keep up this wonderful work of Service!

During February and March, I want us to focus on recognition and awards. I, with the active help of our Assistant Governors, will be helping Clubs achieve a Presidential Citation if otherwise eligible. This year, the "Light Up the Family of Rotary" or Rotarians at Work Day event is new and required. But it will be fun to do and, I believe, even more fun if you do with one or more of your neighboring Clubs. Applications for this award must be submitted to me by March 31. In addition, do not forget that there are many other ways to recognize the achievement of our members and their contributions to their Clubs and Club Foundations, to our District Gundaker Foundation, and to our Rotary International Foundation.

These awards are outlined in the President's Manual and include the Avenue of Service Citation, the Reach One, Keep One (Membership) Award, the Rotary Foundation for Meritorious Service Award, the Rotary Foundation District Service Award, RI Membership Development and Extension Award, RI Recognition of Smaller Club Membership Growth, and the Significant Achievement Award. While I always speak about "Shining" and not bragging, all these awards allow us to show appreciation for all those who have been a light to others during this past Rotary year.

On the subject of Giving – let us remember all three avenues of giving: to and through our Clubs, our District 7450 Gundaker Foundation, and world class Rotary Foundation. I am pleased to report the matching challenge program for the Gundaker Foundation raised over \$20,000 during December 2014.

(Continued on Page Two)

In Downingtown:

Rotary 'wagon train' rolls along with library books



(Daily Local News photo)

Rotarians, community members, library officials, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and more wait in line to begin the "wagon train" from the old Downingtown Library to the new one January 3. For the 'wagon train' story, turn to Page Three.

2015-2016 Rotary theme



Be a gift to the world

Rotary Clubs reminded to register students for 2015 RYLA

The 2015 version of RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) is fast approaching and the District RYLA Committee is still seeking deserving high school juniors and seniors (or sophomores involved in InterAct) to participate in the program March 20 to 22 at Valley Forge's Freedom Foundation.

All Rotary Clubs are asked to sponsor a student at a cost of \$270 for the educational training session which combines elements of Rotary with leadership skills and techniques such as the Four Way Test, Polio Eradication, Service Above Self, the Six Areas of Focus, Anatomy of a Service Project, InterAct and Rotaract, "Stop Hunger Now" and Alex's Lemonade Stand, Anti-Bullying, Myers-Briggs assessment and a Free Enterprise Challenge.

As in the past, Rotarians and Rotaractors combine to serve as facilitators during the weekend where the 100 participants live in dormitory-style

housing and have all of their meals provided as they learn and share from each other and make lasting friendships.

Once again the "Stop Hunger Now" program will be offered and Clubs have been asked to contribute to the cost of contents for the material for 10,000 meal goal.

All necessary forms, including application, medical form, photo release, code of conduct and cancelation fee agreement, FAQs and information package can be found at www.ryla.d7450.org

Make checks payable to Rotary District 7450 with RYLA on the memo line. Completed documents should be sent to RYLA 2015, c/o Brian Casey, 505 Georgetown Rd., Wallingford, PA 19086-6921.

For additional information or concerns, contact RYLA Chair Karen Mazzarella at karenkeckmazz@gmail.com or (610) 613 3841.

Message from DG Doug

(Continued from page one)

The funds raised will support five grant programs of Gundaker Foundation.

I continue to encourage each and every Rotary Club President to donate to the Rotary Foundation during 2014-2015 in order to "consume" all of the funds my wife Julianna and I pledged to our Rotary Foundation fundraising effort. We have a ways to go, so Club Presidents, please Lead the Way and "Light Up Rotary!"

Another one of my goals for this Rotary year, which I hope will also become your goal, is to have every Rotarian in the District contribute at least \$100 to the Rotary Foundation this year, I recognize this may not be possible for all Rotarians and all Clubs.

To encourage every Rotarian to give something to the Rotary Foundation, I established a Governor's Award for any Club that can achieve 100% member participation in giving to the Rotary Foundation, with the Club achieving at least an average \$60 donation. That Club will receive The District Governor's 7450 Special EREY Award for 100% Participation.

This is a new District Award. Let us be a District where all of our Clubs receive this distinction! Please

remember that the contributions to the Rotary Foundation strengthen peace efforts, provide clean water and sanitation, support education, grow local economies, save mothers and children, and fight disease to transform lives in communities at home and around the world.

And speaking of disease treatment and prevention, do not forget our commitment to eradicate polio from the world. Even a modest \$20 contribution becomes \$60 in the fight to eradicate Polio, through the two for one match by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. We are THIS CLOSE! Let us do our part in making that contribution TODAY.

Do not forget the 2015 RYLA occurs from Friday, March 20, through Sunday, March 22. The slots are filling up rapidly so don't be "left out" of having a tenth or eleventh-grade student of your choice attend this informative and fun-filled event that encourages and develops new leaders seeking a more peaceful and prosperous world.

Finally, remember that Rotarians at Work Day is scheduled for April 25, please find a local service project that will allow others to see Rotarians at Work in our communities. Our District Service Committee Chair Bill Ronayne will shortly advise us on any District-wide planning for this event. Stay Tuned!



Thorndale-Downingtown Rotarians organize 'Wagon Train' to move books to new Downingtown Library

After hearing a report from a Downingtown Library board member about plans to move from the 100-year-old Library to a new building several blocks away during an October meeting, the Thorndale-Downingtown Rotary Club went into action.



(Daily Local News photo)
Thorndale-Downingtown Rotarian Steve Mueller and son Otto move a wagon-load of books from the old library to the new library.

Following the Rotary Club presentation on that Friday morning in October, the suggestion was made to organize a "bucket brigade" to move the books. Soon an idea surfaced to sponsor a "wagon train" to transport boxes of books across Lancaster Avenue to the new library on Wallace Avenue near Kerr Park.

Rotarian Jack Hines, former West Bradford Township Manager and a charter member of the Club, organized the effort which developed into a two-day project involving Rotarians, community volunteers as well as , Boy Scouts

and Girl Scouts.

According to Hines, the library volumes were packed in about 1,000 boxes and the team of volunteers moved equipment and many of the boxes in two days at the end of the holiday season.

Highlight of the effort was a "wagon train" featuring volunteers pulling over 50 wagons on numerous trips to transport about 200 cartons of books Saturday, January 3. In addition to 16 members of the Rotary Club, the "wagon masters" included Rotarians' family members, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Student Council representatives from the two Downingtown high schools, and many community volunteers, including a group of developmentally- disabled adults who live in the community and were loaned wagons by a nearby garden center.

Many of the wagons were decorated and all displayed numbers issued by the Rotary Club at registration.

Providing valuable assistance were the local Downingtown Fire Police, who helped the wagon masters cross Lancaster Pike, members of the Coatesville Rotary Club, who served refreshments to participants, and the Stafford Wheel Works workers, who supplied the cannon

to fire off at the start of the "wagon train" at 8 a.m. The participants braved the mid-20 degree weather which was clear until early afternoon when light rain began as the final trips were concluding.

Hines reports, "We asked the people bringing wagons to get sponsors for their wagons, although they did not have to have sponsors to participate. We awarded five prizes: best decorated, most sponsors, most dollars turned in, early registration and best named wagon.

"We raised over \$1,000 from the sponsors and when I was at the library the following week, they said that people are still sending donations because of the publicity from the Wagon Train."

He reported 50 wagons were registered ahead of time, some of which represented groups and not just one wagon. More people with wagons showed up to register Saturday morning.

According to Hines, the Club initially considered giving bikes and computers for prizes but when

groups registered, it was decided first to give gift cards and finally to give cash prizes, "in hopes that winners would share the prize money with the Library; which they did." He said the library has received several hundred dollars of the prize money with other funds received after stories were published in the Daily Local News and Philadelphia Inquirer.

The Thorndale Rotary Club (new Thorndale-Downingtown Rotary Club) was chartered in 1995 and has 18 members.



DAILY LOCAL NEWS photo
Members of the Downingtown area community joined Rotarians in the "wagon train" to move boxes of books from the old Downingtown Library on East Lancaster Avenue to the library's new quarters on Wallace Avenue, next to Kerr Park.



(Daily Local News photo)
Little Charlotte Herman is bundled up for another trip to deliver books to new Downingtown Library.



(Daily Local News)
Kristy Herman of Downingtown with her red wagon.

September return to Pieria Columbia:

Rotaplast Committee meets to map 2015 mission plans

The District 7450 Rotaplast Committee met over dinner in December to confirm plans for the coming year. On hand were (from left) Chairman Don Heebner, Conshohocken-Plymouth-Whitemarsh RC; Paul Quintavalla, Broomall RC; Mike Zielanski, Bensalem RC; Teresa Angarita, Media RC; Rosalie Thompson, Central Delaware County RC; Nurse Sandra Swiatek, Paoli Hospital (15 missions); Sue Mardinly, Concord-Chadds Ford RC; and (peeking over the top) Bruce Beadle, West Chester RC; and PDG Dave Ellis; Nurse Joanne Gillespie, Paoli Hospital (18 missions); and John Gillespie, Central Chester County RC. This committee has provided corrective surgery for over 1,500 children; more than any other committee in the country. Joining the Rotarians were two intrepid nurses who have participated in past missions and continue doing so. Together, they have served in over 30 missions, each one required two weeks away from family, friends and work.

This year, the Rotarians will conduct a returning medical mission to Pieria, Columbia where many of the children require second operations to correct their cleft lip/palate deformities.

"It isn't just one and done" says Chairman Don Heebner. "Many operations are complex and require



healing time between steps. There may be bone and tissue grafts, dental adjustments and other factors to contend with. We also serve people who require maxillofacial surgery which may require multiple operations of several hours each."

The mission is scheduled for September 2015. The major fund raising project is a theatre party at the Media Theatre in Media. They expect to sponsor the musical "Hello Dolly" in April. Dates will be announced.

From District 7450:

Dr. Douglas Klepfer receives 'Service Above Self Award'

Ardmore Rotary Club President Mike Greenberg (lefty) surprised Past President Dr. Douglas Klepfer with the District Service Above Self Award last month in recognition of Doug's work over the years and most recently his leadership of the successful effort to partner with Tokyo Rotary Club for the rehabilitation of a building for a Center for Mothers and Children in Kesen-nuna, Japan, an area devastated by the 2011 earthquake and tsunami. Dr. Klepfer also was chairman of the Club's partnership with Tokyo Club to fund and build and operate the first child care center, "Ayukko" in Rikusentakara, Japan in 2011-2012. Earlier he led the Club's community project to upgrade the Ardmore Rotary Garden for the Blind which is now The Sensory Garden. Again that effort was joined by Rotary Club of Tokyo which contributed \$10,000 in appreciation for the 200 dogwood trees which the Club sent and Dr. Klepfer presented to the Tokyo Rotary Club during the RI Convention in Japan in 2004. He proposed and worked to gain public and private support for the garden upgrade after visiting the garden one spring and seeing the cheery trees in bloom. Those trees were a gift from Tokyo Rotarians in mid-1970s when the Club joined Lower Merion in dedicating and helping fund the Garden for the Blind.



Reception honors 2014-2015 Gundaker Scholars

Gundaker Foundation Undergraduate chair Alan Haffler chaired a reception for 2014-2015 Gundaker graduate scholars at the January meeting of the Gundaker Foundation in Malvern

Haffler introduced the visiting grant winners and guests and announced "the new grant program starts February 22 when new grant applications are due and we begin the review and selection for 2015-2016. "We guide our decision-making activity to hopefully identify and aid those who we feel are capable of being the leaders of tomorrow by offering them a leg up today." On hand for the reception before the Foundation meeting were:

Brian A Bennet,



University of Evansville, majoring in accounting and business; sponsored by

Conshohocken-Plymouth Whitemarsh Rotary Club.



Christine Esposito
First-year dental student at University of Pennsylvania

and 2013 graduate of Gettysburg College. Sponsored by Langhorne Rotary Club.



Jennifer M Castellon, undergraduate grant at West Chester University, business management-

received a grant from Rotary International., was an international student; sponsored by West Chester Sunrise Rotary Club.



Kristin Daly-Barnes, second-year law student at Cornell; received both graduate and

undergraduate grants; sponsored by Bensalem Rotary Club.



Kenneth McAndress, senior at Pennsylvania State University, majoring in marketing and

finance, grant allows more free time to pursue fundraising for Pediatric Cancer Research, Kenneth's fraternity is paired with a family that has a child with cancer and Kenneth is in direct contact with the family and part of the support system, from Broomall; sponsored by Ardmore Rotary Club.



Jacquelyn Riloff, Temple University and majoring in business administration and psychology; District

Rotaract Rep 2010-2011, takes care of grandmother who has Alzheimer's; sponsored by Northeast Sunrises Philadelphia Rotary Club.



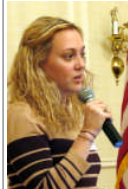
Stephanie M. Edwards, Drexel University chemical engineering student from Paoli; sponsored by [PMB] Rotary

Club. Worked three jobs to put herself through school; Bio trans medicine.



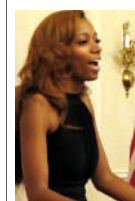
Russell Ramm, second-year grad student in occupational

therapy at Temple University, research on connection between environment and autism, brother has autism, married with two-year-old son; sponsored by Cheltenham-Rockledge Rotary Club.



Jessica Geida, third-year medical student at Philadelphia College of

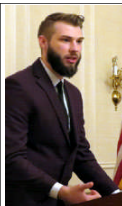
Osteopathic Medicine and May, 2016 graduate, started career with Rotary Interact Club.



Elle Berry-Johnson, grad student at West Chester University (five years) and RA to offset costs, working at CHOP, interested in helping

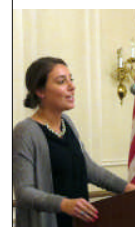
Asian families understand and deal with autism, wants to be "counseling developer," grant allows Elle to participate in community service.

Photos by JayChild



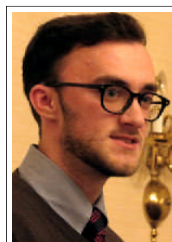
Kevin Hetzel, University of the Arts Illustration; major, second time recipient, grant allowed Kevin to experiment with

different mediums, plans to become a freelance illustrator working in partnership with Tim O'Brian, who has done covers for *Time* and *Rolling Stones*, married, two-year-old son; sponsored by Levittown-Fairless Hills Rotary Club.



Aimee Barcola, West Chester University grad student, studying speech pathology in

a nicku; sponsored by Oxford Rotary Club.



Justin Barry, grad student at Cambridge University studying British/Irish

history, research focuses on relationship between media and government policy makers, "Easter Rising."



Heather Turner, Villanova University grad student, volunteered for Villanova Human Research VHR, Philabundance

and Villanova Special Olympics; sponsored by Twin Valley Rotary Club.

(Continued on Page Six)

Children thank West Chester Rotarians with serenade



Over 30 children from the Chester County Family Academy serenaded the Rotary Club of West Chester with Christmas songs and a violin performances the week before Christmas. As they did last year, the children wrote a special song to the tune of "This Little Light of Mine, I'm Going to Let It Shine" to thank the Rotarians for

supporting them through the year with grants, Rotary Readers and other activities. In addition, the children enjoyed a holiday shopping trip to Wal-Mart, courtesy of Chester County Sheriff and West Chester Rotarian, Caroline "Bunny" Welsh, as noted on the bright yellow and red shirts they were wearing.

Philadelphia Rotary Club welcomes three new members



The Rotary Club of Philadelphia inducted three new members in December.

At left, Philadelphia Club President Sandy Goldberg (middle) welcomes Charles (Chuck) Martz and Alexandria Moore following their December 4 induction by Past President/Past DG/Past RI Director Lynmar Brock. At right, Hongmei Liu (left) was inducted as a new member at the Club's December 11 meeting at the Union League by PP/PDG Joan Batory (right).



Gundaker scholars:



Laura Ann Fabius, at University of ST, Andrews in Scotland, majoring in neuroscience; sponsored by Phoenixville Club.



Ryan R. Cupo, chemistry major at Alvernia University, from Morgantown; sponsored by Twin Valley Rotary Club.



Colleen McNaw, senior accounting major at Widener University, from Broomall; sponsored by Broomall Rotary Club.

Jessica Mare Jordan, (not pictures) senior at Pitt, majoring in communication science-speech pathology and audiology; sponsored by Glen Riddle Rotary Club.

For 80 Wordsworth teens**BC-Narberth, Eastwick Rotarians organize gift drive**

The Rotary Club of Bala Cynwyd-Narberth, with support from the Rotary Club of Eastwick-Airport, and the support the 65 residents in nearby Park Plaza Condominium conducted a successful holiday gift drive for about 80 teen residents of Wordsworth's Ford Road campus in Philadelphia. All the teens, many of whom came from dysfunctional homes or have experienced trauma, had little hope of a joyous holiday until the Rotarians, working with Wordsworth and the neighborhood condo, organized a massive outpouring of gifts that insured all residents in the program would be recognized. In addition to the condo residents shopping for items on the youngsters' lists, gift cards from Rotary enabled Wordsworth to "fill in the blanks" for kids who needed help with their wishes.

**DG Doug inducts doctor as Ardmore Rotarian**

District Governor Doug Blazey (left) made his official visit to the Rotary Club of Ardmore January 22 at the Merion Cricket Club in Haverford. The first order of business before he discussed his vision for Rotary through June 2015, was the induction of Dr. Brannon Claytor of Bryn Mawr as a member of the Ardmore Club. Joining in the induction ceremony is PP Chris Hoyt, (right) who is Brannon's sponsor. Brannon was a member of the Portsmouth, New Hampshire Rotary Club before moving to Bryn Mawr. Dr. Brannon is a plastic surgeon with an office in Bryn Mawr.

Have you considered being a part of Rotary's Youth Exchange?

**By Rob Newman, Rotary Club of Longwood,
Youth Exchange Outbound Chair**

Have you ever considered being part of one of the Rotary's most successful international service programs – Youth Exchange? Since 1929 Rotary has provided a once in a lifetime opportunity for high school students to broaden their education and world understanding by letting them live in another country with a host family and attend school here. This year over 8,000 Rotary students are sharing their lives and cultures with people in over 50 countries.

Here in District 7450, we have an active program with 10 'Outbounds' this year, and an equal number of 'Inbounds'. We are accepting applications

for Outbound Students through the end of February – there are over 35 countries to choose from; Norway to Brazil to Thailand. Interested in the world coming to you? We have Inbounds coming from the same group of countries.

If you know an outstanding student in your area that would be a good candidate for this program – please get in touch with me today! We'd also love to hear from you if you are interested in being a Host Family.

For additional information, go to <http://d7450youthexchange.org/>, or catain_newman@usafa-grads.com and I can tell you much more about the program.

Rotary Foundation moves up on list of non-profits

The Rotary Foundation has continued its steady growth, moving up 35 spots to 85th in The Chronicle of Philanthropy's annual ranking of the top 400 nonprofit organizations in the United States. The ranking is based on monetary contributions from private sources and reflects the increasing generosity of those who support Rotary's mission.

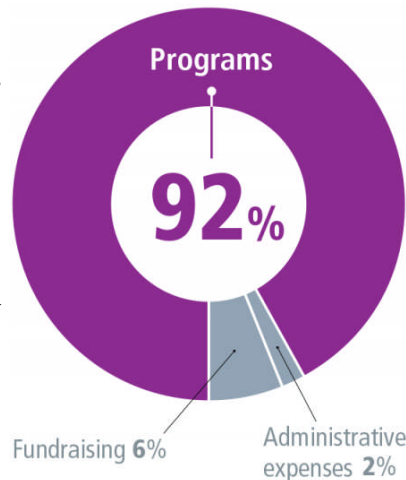
According to The Chronicle of Philanthropy, The Rotary Foundation received \$239,576,000 in 2013, a 32.4 percent increase from the previous year.

"This clearly shows our members recognize the unparalleled value of giving to their Foundation," says John Hewko, Rotary's general secretary. "They know that by giving to the Foundation their dollars have a much greater impact. And friends of Rotary respect that the Foundation puts their gift to great use."

The Foundation recently earned a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator, the largest and most prestigious independent evaluator of nonprofits in the United States. In the 2013-14 Rotary year, 92 percent of the Foundation's expenditures were applied to programs, with only 6 percent spent on fundraising and 2 percent on administrative expenses. The Foundation funded \$23.5 million in district grants and \$47.3 million in global grants. These grants support local and international humanitarian projects as well as scholarships.

Together with its partners in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, Rotary has led the effort to eradicate polio, contributing more than \$1.3 billion to the initiative since its outset. When an outbreak of polio threatened the Horn of Africa and the Middle East in 2013, Rotary provided

emergency funds, including a \$500,000 rapid-response grant for Somalia and a \$500,000 grant to the World Health Organization (WHO) to cover operational costs in the Middle East. As a result, the outbreak in the Horn of Africa slowed, and Syria reported only one case of polio in the first half of 2014.



Rotary is also at the forefront of efforts to fight other diseases. According to WHO, indoor air pollution causes 4.3 million deaths per year worldwide. To combat it, members of the Rotary Club of Taos-Milagro, New Mexico, mobilized Rotary Clubs in several countries to support the Himalayan Stove Project, which has installed more than 3,000 clean-burning stoves in Nepal.

In Tamil Nadu, India, Rotary Clubs partnered with Cubs in Maryland to use a Foundation global grant to purchase a large van and outfit it with X-ray equipment to screen women for breast cancer in hard-to-reach communities. The "mammobus" has conducted more than 2,500 free breast cancer screenings and detected and treated early-stage cancer in six women. Rotarians in Malindi, Kenya, teamed up with members in Maryland and Idaho to work with the Genesis World Mission in creating a rainwater catchment system to provide clean drinking water, irrigate crops, and establish fish farms in Burangi, Kenya.

In Seattle, Washington, Rotary members are diverting millions of pounds of fruit and vegetables from the waste stream and into the hands of those who need it through Rotary First Harvest, a program of District 5030.

Information from rotary.org

Beer, Wine and Cheese Tasting set January 28

DGE Chad Rosenberg will serve up a variety of delicious cheeses and wines from around the world at the Chad About Cheese Wednesday, January 28, from 6 to 9 p.m. at 43 Cricket Bar & Grill, 43 Cricket Avenue, Ardmore. In addition, a selection of beers carefully chosen to compliment the delicious selection of cheeses will be available. The cost is \$50 per person.

All proceeds will be used for a scholarship for one member from each Rotary Club in the District to attend the SASY Awards and the 2015 District Conference at the Union League, Philadelphia November 14.

To register, go to www.rotarydistrict7450.org and click on events drop down menu to find the event.



Great Valley Club president inducts her own father

Great Valley (formerly Exton-Frazer) Rotary Club, President Marybeth Scott inducted her father, Jim Scott, into the Great Valley Rotary Club last fall. It was a surprise for her as she thought her father was supposed to speak as part of that week's program.

PolioPlus support: Getting more bang for your buck!

Where can you donate money and have your one dollar of giving turn magically into THREE DOLLARS? By giving to PolioPlus this year and through 2018, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation will match all Rotarian donations 2:1 for up to \$35M/year. So that means for every \$1 you give, six children can be immunized.

So please consider PolioPlus in your giving. You can make a huge difference in the lives of the children of the world. Gates Foundation CEO Jeff Raikes last year announced its continued support and said, "When Rotarians combine the passion for service along with the power of a global network, you are unstoppable, and the Gates Foundation is proud to partner with you. We will combine the strength of Rotary's network with our resources and together with the other partners in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative we will not only end a disease, we will change the face of public health forever."

All funds raised will support crucial immunization activities in polio-affected countries. These are part of a comprehensive six-year plan to eradicate both wild poliovirus and vaccine-derived virus.

Rotary and the Gates Foundation have partnered on polio eradication since 2007, when the Gates Foundation gave Rotary a \$100 million challenge grant for polio eradication, increasing it to \$355 million in 2009. Rotary agreed to raise \$200 million in matching funds by June 2012. When the organization achieved its fundraising goal six months ahead of schedule, the Gates Foundation granted Rotary an additional \$50 million.

To date, Rotary Clubs worldwide have contributed \$1.3 billion to the polio eradication effort. "We're at a

critical point in the fight to end polio," said Past Rotary Vice-President John Germ, who leads the organization's fundraising efforts for polio eradication. "We must capitalize on this progress to finish the job.

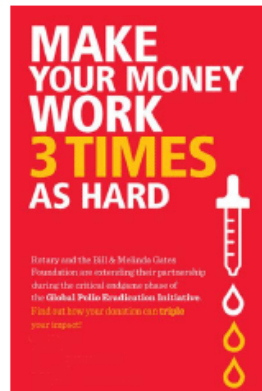
We have a robust plan, the tools to reach each child; and with funding in place, we can win against this devastating disease. Rotary and its partners remain committed to a polio-free world."

When Rotary began our polio eradication efforts in 1985, 350,000 children were infected with polio each year in more 125 countries.

Last year, we experienced only 416 cases worldwide and now have just three countries where polio is still endemic, Nigeria, Afghanistan and Pakistan. The number of cases in Nigeria is down to just six cases this year, as opposed to 50 cases at this time last year. Nigeria has not had a case since July, and hopes to finish out the year without any more. Afghanistan continues to be infected with the movement of refugees from Pakistan and 23 polio cases.

Pakistan is the true hot spot of polio infections with 276 to date this year, and six infections the first week in December alone. Pakistan's focal person on polio, Ayesha Raza Farooq, announced that soon more than 34 million children less than five years of age will be targeted in the National Immunization Days. This is very timely since the International Health Regulations (IHR) Committee of the World Health Organization (WHO) has warned Pakistan that its citizens will be subjected to global screening if the country does not improve its performance drastically over the next six months.

PolioPlus chair Jane Williams



Food for thought: Rotarians are different

By Joseph Hetherington

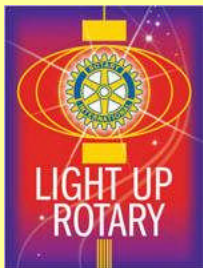
Words are tokens used to convey images and thought. The title "professional" is a word that has lost its meaning over the period of my lifetime. It was once restricted to medical doctors, clergy, and lawyers who took an oath to serve the public and regardless of ability to pay. I am not debating the fact of whether professionals still exist. In-fact I encounter quite a few doctors in Rotary that donate their time and expertise to third world missions.

It is amazing how few of the public know anything about Rotary, and sadder still how many Rotarians

know very little more. This could account in large part for the turnover in Rotary membership. The title Rotarian should be recognized as one who adheres to a higher standard in their daily actions as expressed in "Service Above Self" and the Four Way Test. We must promote and defend that image or the title Rotarian will also lose its meaning. Why are you a Rotarian?

(The author is past president of Bristol Rotary Club, past District secretary, served on numerous District committees and was active in the District's Gift of Life programs since 1994. He is serving as secretary of the Rotary Foundation Committee.)

DEADLINE for the **February District 7450 Rotary Leader** is **February 10**. Send photos/news to mombugjoan@msn.com info@Rotary7450.com and mombugjoan@msn.com. Please **identify** all people in photos. Thank you.



The Rotary 7450 Leader

Published by District 7450

Doug Blazey
District Governor

Joan Connor Toenniessen
Editor

Jay Childress

Technical Support / Graphics

⚙️ Deadline is 20th day of month prior to publication date. Please send news and photos (**with names and information**) to mombugjoan@msn.com

⚙️ Send photos (with names and information) to info@Rotary7450.org
Please identify people in photos.

⚙️ Submit Club attendance or changes to contact information through District Database at www.DaCdb.com
For help, call Sharon Quick at (215) 735-5984 or Brian Casey at (484) 483-8423.

District 7450 Calendar

February 16 thru 26: Ann Lee Hussy, PDG for District 7880 and polio survivor, is putting together her 21st trip to India February 16 through 26th. The approximate cost is \$3,000 total (flight, room and meals). The time to act is now! more information, email Ann Lee at annlee001@yahoo.com

February 27 thru 28: Mid-Atlantic President-Elect Training Session at Radisson Valley Forge Hotel and Casino King of Prussia. A Thursday. optional training session is still being evaluated but stay tuned.

March 20-22: Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) at Valley Forge's Freedoms Foundation for deserving high school students. Registration fees, paid by sponsoring Clubs, is \$270. For info contact RYLA Chair Karen Mazzarella at karenkeckmazz@gmail.com.

April 18: RLI at the Hotel du Pont in Wilmington, DE; offering Level I, II, III and Graduate. Contact Dist RLI Chair jwjr for info at- johnfw@hotmail.com go to www.rlinea.org

For two scholarships:

West Chester Rotarians selling fruit

Co-chairs Mickey Hall (left) and Christine Wildauer (right) kicked off the annual West Chester Rotary Club's "A Taste of Florida Fruit Sale" by engaging Rotarians in a rousing cheerleading session.



This year's goal is \$10,000, to pay for \$5,000 college scholarships for two graduating high school students who are selected based on essays about their volunteerism. Helping with the fruit sale this year is the West Chester Area School District and area high school students, represented by (second from left) Kevin Zabel, Superintendent Dr. James Scanlon, a member of the West Chester Rotary Club, and Caitlyn Brown. This year's selection includes Temple Oranges and Ruby Red Grapefruit. Because of the shorter time period for sales, orders must be received by February 28. Full and half cases of fruit, as well as mixed cases are available. Purchasers may also buy fruit to donate to the West Chester Food Cupboard, which will be delivered by Club members. Sales forms are available from any Rotarian or purchasers can go to the Club website <http://www.rotary7450.org/GWCSR/> and follow the link to the fruit sale. Pick-up date for the fruit is Saturday, March 7; snow date is March 14. For further information, go to lorgusflowers@gmail.com or call (610) 637-7205.