

Rotary

District 7305

The Connector - November, 2019



Two of Three Indigenous Wild Poliovirus Types Eradicated!



In a historic announcement on World Polio Day, an independent commission of experts concluded that wild poliovirus type 3 (WPV3) has been eradicated worldwide. Following the eradication of smallpox and wild poliovirus type 2, this news represents a historic achievement for humanity.

"The achievement of polio eradication will be a milestone for global health. Commitment from partners and countries, coupled with innovation, means of the three wild polio serotypes, only type one remains," said Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus.

WPV3 is the second strain of the

poliovirus to be wiped out, following the certification of the eradication of WPV2 in 2015. The last case of WPV3 was detected in northern Nigeria in 2012. Since then, the strength and reach of the eradication program's global surveillance system has been critical to verify that this strain is truly gone.

This is a significant achievement that should reinvigorate the eradication process and provides motivation for the final step – the eradication of wild poliovirus type 1. Eradicating WPV3 proves that a polio-free world is achievable.

The polio eradication efforts have saved the world more than US\$27 billion in health costs since 1988. A sustained polio-free world will generate further US\$14 billion in savings by 2050, compared to the cost countries would incur for controlling the virus indefinitely.

Source: WHO

Hawaii 2020 - What is Poké?

If you're planning to attend the Rotary International Convention in Honolulu, Hawaii, you may want to do some research about local food specialties. While many of us may primarily think of the Hawaiian Luau, the grand pig roast feast, another truly Hawaiian dish is Poké.

Poké, which is Hawaiian for "to slice" or "cut crosswise into pieces," is diced raw fish served either as an appetizer or as a main course and is one of the main dishes of Native Hawaiian cuisine. Traditional forms are aku (an oily tuna) and he'e (octopus). He'e Poké is usually called by its Japanese name Tako Poke, except in places like the island of Ni'ihau where the Hawaiian language is spoken. Increasingly popular Ahi Poké is made with yellow fin tuna.

Adaptations may also feature raw salmon or various shellfish as a main ingredient served raw with the common Poké seasonings including soy sauce, green onions, and sesame oil.

Whatever your taste, you'll be sure to find something that will tickle your taste buds when visiting Hawaii.

Source: Wikipedia



Quote of the Month:

"It is easier to interest men in war than in peace; it therefore requires more moral courage to talk peace than war."

Rotary Just at the Threshold, THE ROTARIAN, February 1917

*A picture
is worth a thousand words,
but the memories are priceless.*



Clockwise from top right: The Rotary Club of Green Tree sponsored a very successful blood drive by Vitalant. The drive took place at HCR Manor Care on Wednesday, October 30;

The Rotary Club of Johnstown-Sunset participated in the annual Johnstown Halloween Parade. Their float won the top prize in the Noon-Profit Dressed Up category with their "Wild About Rotary" float;

The Murrys ville-Export's annual Halloween Parade attracted many bands, floats and groups. The winning entry this year was the group that was looking to bring the Stanley Cup back to our district.





Clockwise from top right: The RC of Murrysville-Export had great success with their Chili Oktoberfest. Check out their pumpkin checkers game! The McMurry Rotary BOO-Ling "funraiser" was a great success. They even had a bowling dinosaur! Waynesburg Rotary had a visit from the Canine Partners for Life prison service dog program The Rotary Club of Upper St. Clair-Bethel Park arranged their 31st annual Chicken BBQ.



Flight 93 Memorial

A few weeks ago, members of the Rotary Club of Fox Chapel visited the Flight 93 Memorial in Shanksville, PA. This is an excursion that several clubs in our district have taken in recent months. And, as the memorial is nearing its final phases of construction, more and more visitors are expected.

The Tower of Voices (below right) is a very special part of the Flight 93 Memorial. It serves as both a visual and audible reminder of the heroism of the forty passengers and crew of United Flight 93. On September 09, 2018 Flight 93 National Memorial hosted a dedication event to complete the final phase of construction and complete the permanent memorial.

The tower is conceived as a



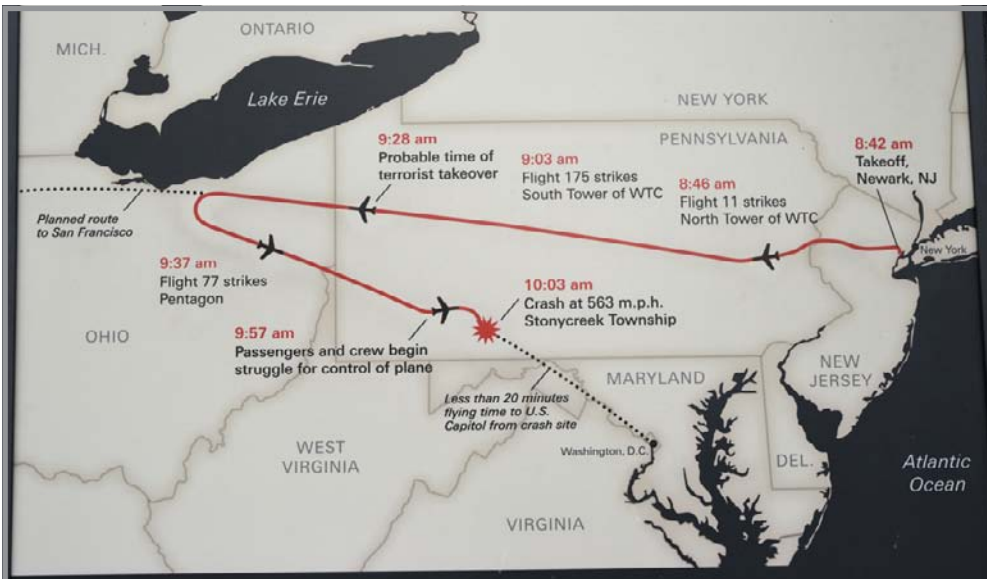
monumental, ninety-three feet tall musical instrument holding forty wind chimes, representing the forty passengers and crew members. It is intended to be a landmark feature near the memorial entrance, visible

from US Route 30/Lincoln Highway. The Tower of Voices provides a living memorial in sound to remember the forty through their ongoing voices.

The tower project was constructed from 2017 to 2018 with a dedication of the project on September 9, 2018. Funding for the design and construction of the project was provided through private donations to the National Park Foundation and the Friends of Flight 93 National Memorial.

There are no other chime structures like this in the world. The shape and orientation of the tower are designed to optimize air flow through the tower walls to reach the interior chime chamber. The chime system is designed using music theory to identify a mathematically developed range of frequencies needed to produce a distinct musical note associated with each chime. The applied music theory allows the sound produced by individual chimes to be musically compatible with the sound produced by the other chimes in the tower. The intent is to create a set of forty tones (voices) that can connote through consonance the serenity and nobility of the site while also through dissonance recalling the event that consecrated the site.

Source: The National Park Service



D 7305 Interact Conference

Representatives from thirteen Interact Clubs and six Rotary Exchange students attended the Annual District 7305 Interact Conference at DoubleTree by Hilton, Green Tree on October 16, 2019.

After a continental breakfast, the conference was called to order by the Interact District Governor, Emily Linder, of South Park High School.

The Keynote Speaker, Felicia Mycyk, gave an entertaining and humorous presentation, giving students tools to empower themselves to break personal barriers.

Five students campaigned for the Interact Governor position. Lena Voss, North Allegheny High School, sponsored by Northern Allegheny Rotary Club, was elected as Interact District Governor for the 2020-2021 year beginning July 1, 2020.

After voting took place, the students transferred to four breakout rooms: International Service, Round Table Discussions, Youth Services and the Community Service – Volunteer Showcase.

Attendees then assembled in the ballroom for a pizza buffet lunch.

Monetary Awards were given for Club of the Year, and Large and Small Club Projects, in addition to several random drawings.



Above: Emily Linder, the 2019-2020 Interact District Governor, addressing the District 7305 Interact Conference on October 16, 2019

Below: Interact Conference attendees listening to Keynote Speaker Felicia Mycyk.

Bottom right: Children at a rural school in Zambia reading from their new books. The very first books any of them had ever held in their hands.

Interact photos and text courtesy Sandy Grimes. Zambia photo courtesy of Kieran Spencer.

Atlanta Summit Beach Party

If you are planning to attend the Leadership Summit in Atlanta November 21-24, don't forget about the Friday night Beach Party. While most of the summit is dedicated to providing our future leaders with the tools they need to be successful, there is always some time set aside to have a little fun.

So, the summit organizers are asking that you get in the spirit and join them for a night of fun. With our upcoming Rotary International

Convention in Honolulu in mind, why not put on your best Hawaiian shirt and a pair of shorts? Or you could go all out and dress for the beach. You could even try the tacky tourist look.



Books for Zambia

Kieran Spencer, son of Conemaugh Township Rotarian Jeanne Spencer, spent last year as a Peace Corps volunteer in Zambia.

Kieran's job in Zambia was to teach the children English. The Conemaugh Township Rotary Club assisted him and donated books, a printer and a sterilizer to the small village where he was working. The books were the first ever given to this school and they became the start of their first library.



What's The Buzz All About?

The Buzz is Rotary District 7305's literacy program. First established in 2013-14 by the current District Governor, James Hahn, the program became an annual event under District 7300 and is now part of the new District 7305 program of activities.

The program involves Rotary Clubs in exploring possible support for a local school or schools in sponsoring either a third-grade dictionary distribution activity or a spelling bee activity or both.

Each Club determines the type of sponsorship they wish to pursue. Dictionary distribution involves the purchase of dictionaries for distribution to third grade students in coordination with the school.

The third grade spelling bee activity is arranged by a local school with financial awards for the winner(s) provided by the club. The winner of the school spelling bee(s) is/are invited to the District Conference for a district-wide spelling bee competition.

Emails were sent earlier to each president with copies of club implementation info and an Expression of Interest form. The president is responsible to identify a person to chair the activity and to inform THE BUZZ Chair of the Club's interest in this program.

Several clubs have already indicated their interest and have identified the schools and number of students that will be supported by them. Clubs should send an Expression of Interest by the end of December 2019.

It is important for Clubs to contact the local school(s) to discuss this program and determine their interest in either or both activities. Schools need to plan for these activities in advance, so clubs should contact the school leadership and staff as soon as possible.

For more information, a recently developed THE BUZZ Implementation Manual has been deposited in the District Website Library.

For questions pertaining to the program, please contact Dr. Vince Costa, EdD, at pakvince@gmail.com or by phone at 412-337-7690.



The Dictionary Project

At this time of year, many of the clubs in our district, as well as all over the US and beyond, are distributing dictionaries to third grade students in their area. So how did this highly successful and popular literacy project actually begin?

The idea for The Dictionary Project began in 1992 when Annie Plummer of Savannah, Georgia gave 50 dictionaries to children who attended a school close to her home. In her lifetime she raised the money to buy 17,000 dictionaries for children in Savannah, Georgia. Annie Plummer died December 23,

Scripps Spelling Bee - Interesting facts:

- *The spelling bee prize is higher than the average starting salary of a teacher in Montana.*
- *Nine newspapers collaborated to create the first National Spelling Bee in 1925*
- *A speller once fainted during his turn.*
- *Spelling bee officials take "the giggle factor" into account when selecting words.*
- *Once a speller says a letter, he or she may not take it back.*
- *Judges disqualify spellers who utter unintelligible noise or nonsense sounds.*
- *The winner will likely come from a public school.*
- *The Bee's national finals were first broadcast live on NBC in 1946.*
- *Merriam-Webster's unabridged dictionary is the spelling bee bible.*
- *No one knows the true origin of the word "bee."*

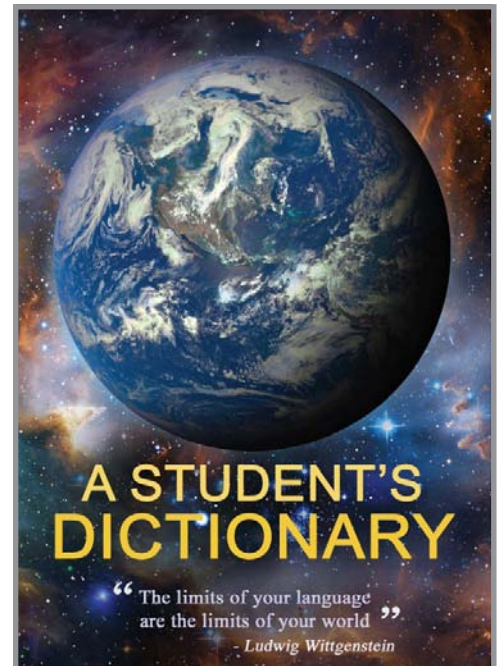
1999. She inspired the creation of The Dictionary Project, a nonprofit organization.

The Dictionary Project was created in 1995 as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization based in Charleston, South Carolina. Its original goal was to provide dictionaries to third graders in the public schools in the three counties surrounding Charleston, and this was accomplished in the 1995-96 school year and every year since. In 2001 the project was expanded to cover the third graders in all of South Carolina's public schools.

The project grew tremendously after it was featured in an article on the front page of The Wall Street Journal on March 4, 2002. This coverage brought national attention to the project and its founders, Mary and Arno French. As a result, individuals and groups from across the United States became involved with The Dictionary Project and sponsored the donation of dictionaries to children in their local schools.

The project continues to expand and now includes sponsors in all fifty United States, Puerto Rico, the US Virgin Islands, Canada, and various other countries. The program has been adopted by civic organizations and adapted to local communities through the sponsorship of Rotary Clubs, Kiwanis Clubs, Lions Clubs, and anyone wanting to sponsor a program to give dictionaries to children in their community.

Source: Wikipedia



5 Steps to Club Growth

My club, the Rotary Club of St. Andrew, Jamaica, has a storied history. We were chartered in 1966, four years after Jamaica's independence from the United Kingdom, as the third Rotary club in Jamaica. We have a pioneering spirit as demonstrated by being the first Rotary club in Jamaica to allow women to join.

Rotary is a wonderful global movement that allows individuals to come together and take actions that are an expression of our collective will to make this world a better place. Our members are our greatest strength, and membership matters. But our greatest strength is also our greatest challenge. Like a lot of clubs, we struggle with membership. How do we recruit new members, retain existing members, transition members of Rotaract into Rotary, and re-engage current or former members?

I won't be so bold as to suggest we have found the solution to membership growth. But I do believe we have found a solution. And the funny thing is it was staring us in the face the whole time: The Four Way Test. The best way to grow membership, in my opinion, is by "building goodwill and better friendships."

The club carried out five initiatives in August 2019, spearheaded by our director of club administration and the membership chair, that we hope will re-engage, retain, and recruit past, present, and future members:

- 1. Member call** – Calling members to ask how they are doing and encouraging them to attend. While this is certainly not a new idea, it goes a long way in saying to members you are appreciated and it is proven to get people out to meetings and events.
- 2. A games night** – a fun-filled night of fellowship, relaxation, and networking.
- 3. A membership mixer** – Yet another fun-filled night of fellowship, relaxation, and networking, this one with an eye toward corporate relationships. The club has engaged a major financial institution in Jamaica to sponsor the mixer geared toward



Ainsley Brown, left, receives his pin as Vocational Service Director from then-president Gemelia Davis at the the Rotary Club of St. Andrew's 2017 installation banquet.

allowing prospective members to interact with existing Rotarians outside of our mid-day meeting time on Tuesdays.

4. The Membership Challenge

– Attracting members is a challenge, why not make the effort into a contest. Each club member is challenged to invite a guest to a club meeting or service project. Members earn additional points if the guest joins, represents a vocation not presently in the club, or is a young professional between the ages of 25-45.

5. Tell your story, Why am I a Rotarian?

– We know stories not stats attract people to Rotary. This initiative creates an avenue for members to tell their Rotary story. By sharing our journeys, members better understand, appreciate, and learn from each other's experiences.

Through these and other efforts we will build goodwill and better friendships proving that membership matters.

From Rotary Voices By Ainsley Brown, Rotary Club of St. Andrew, Jamaica

Gladys Maharam Memorial Fund for Polio Eradication

Gladys Maharam passed away unexpectedly on October 13. Her obituary provided that in lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Rotary District 7300 Polio Fund. Gladys was a long-serving Director of that foundation. Gladys was a constant volunteer for events for any Rotary club of which she was a member, as well as Rotary District events, and served on many District committees regarding important issues. She also served as Treasurer of The Rotary District 7300 Foundation.

It is clear that Gladys' wishes were that any contributions in her name were to benefit Polio Eradication. A number of checks have been received; however, Gladys had made these arrangements before Rotary District 7305 existed, and there was no actual fund already in existence as named in Gladys' obituary. Accordingly, The Rotary District 7300 Foundation has come forward in providing their assistance. The Rotary District 7300 Foundation officially created this memorial fund in honor of Gladys to help fund Polio Eradication.

Any checks already issued as a memorial donation and sent pursuant to Gladys Maharam's obituary will be made part of this fund; the word "Foundation" will be added to the payee line on the checks already received after the words "Rotary District 7300" but before "Polio Fund" as needed to be able to deposit them with The Rotary District 7300 Foundation for the Gladys Maharam Polio Eradication Fund.

For donations already made, if the donors wish to obtain credit toward a Paul Harris Fellowship and/or credit for any Rotary club toward Polio Eradication, such additional information needed is to be provided to:

Virginia Finnegan
228 Jefferson Lane
Cranberry Township, PA 16066
or by email to: vafinn@verizon.net

For more detailed instructions on how to contribute, please see The Bulletin Board November issue that has been emailed to every Rotarian in our district with a valid email address. The Bulletin Board is also available on our district website as well as on Facebook.

If you have any additional questions, please contact Stu Benson of The Rotary District 7300 Foundation at:
stubenson3@gmail.com
or 412-491-1586



Rotary District 7305

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district.secretary@rotarydistrict7305.org

Visit us on Facebook

www.rotarydistrict7305.org

Polio - A Personal Reflection

As I write this on Oct. 24, "World Polio Day", I reflect back to the early 1950's and what transpired afterwards. At that time Polio was a very scary disease, not only because of what it did to people but also because so little was really known about what caused it and how it was spread. Public pools were closed, kids were kept away from crowds on a regular basis and many of those unfortunate individuals who contracted the disease died, were unable to breath on their own or were partially paralyzed and unable to walk.

Around that time Dr. Jonas Salk came to the University of Pittsburgh from Michigan and he and his research team worked on finding a preventative vaccine. In the fall of 1951 I started High School and a young man who was a year ahead of me, and whom I knew just well enough to occasionally say "Hi" to, made medical history.

Bill Kirkpatrick, from Wilkinsburg, had recently contracted Polio and was being treated, as best they knew how at the time, at the D.T. Watson Home in Sewickley Heights. Dr. Salk was beginning trial tests of his new Polio Vaccine and Bill volunteered to receive the very first vaccine injection. Nobody knew at the time whether it could help Bill, but he wanted to help prevent other folks from getting the disease that he was suffering with. *By Walt Sickles*

Rotary and Polio

Polio – a devastating disease that affects mostly human children, lives in the intestines, has three different strains and can cause the inability to breath, crippling of limbs and even death.

- In the 1940's and early 1950's there were, on average, 350,000 new Polio cases every year



throughout the world.

- On July 2, 1952, 16 year old Bill Kirkpatrick, a Shady Side Academy Sophomore from Wilkinsburg, was the first patient to take the Salk Polio Vaccine injection. This took place at the D.T. Watson Home in Sewickley Heights. Bill had already contracted Polio but received the vaccine as part of a test to see if it would help him and others who had the disease.
- In 1955, Dr. Jonas Salk's dead virus, injectable, Polio Vaccine was declared to be safe and effective in the prevention of the disease. Dr. Salk developed it at the University of Pittsburgh.
- In 1956, Dr. Robert Hingson, a member of the Oakland, Pittsburgh, Rotary Club invented his "Jet Gun for Peace" with which inoculations could be given with air pressure instead of a needle. He later started "Brother's Brother Foundation" which still operates in Pittsburgh.
- In 1962, Dr. Albert Sabin introduced a live virus, oral vaccine for the same purpose.
- In 1978 Rotary started its "Health, Hunger & Humanity" (3H) Program with a project to inoculate 6 million children in the Philippines against Polio.
- In 1985 Rotary started its "Polio Plus" Program. The initial goal was to raise \$120,000,000 and the thought at that time was that Polio could be eradicated in 10 years.
- In 1988, at the Philadelphia Rotary International Convention, RI President, Chuck Keller from

Rotary's Four Way Test

Of the things we think, say or do:

1. Is it the **truth**?
2. Is it **fair** to all concerned?
3. Will it build **goodwill** and **better friendships**?
4. Will it be **beneficial** to all concerned?

California, PA. announced that, not only had the \$120,000,000 goal been reached but that it had actually been surpassed by more than another \$100,000,000.

- The "Polio Plus" Program has been extremely successful although it has taken a lot longer than originally hoped, cost a lot more than anticipated and is still not yet completed. There are currently only three endemic countries, Afghanistan, Nigeria and Pakistan with the total worldwide number of new cases each year over the last five years numbering only in the double digits per year. Also, only one of the Polio Virus Strains remains active as two of them have been eradicated.
- Rotary continues to battle this scourge on human life vowing to bring it to an end. Once that task is completed, Rotary will be the only Non-Governmental Organization in history to have been instrumental in eradicating a disease. The only other disease that has been eradicated is Smallpox and that was done by government.

Polio Plus Update

The final total count of new Wild Virus Polio cases for all of 2018 was 33. So far this year, there have been 82 confirmed new cases, a dramatic increase from earlier this year and more than were reported at this time last year. In order to have a chance of complete eradication of this horrible disease we must keep up the fight and not give up on our cause.

Another problem, one which scientists are working very hard to solve, is that some additional new polio cases (43 so far this year) are still actually being caused by the vaccine itself. Let's also hope and pray that this problem will be solved very soon. *Polio texts by Walt Sickles, Ambridge Rotary*

SAVE THE DATE



SAVE THE DATE – NOVEMBER 13, 2019

2019 WORLD AFFAIRS INSTITUTE
FURTHER DETAILS CLOSER TO THE EVENT



SAVE THE DATE – DECEMBER 14, 2019

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS TRI-DISTRICT SEMINAR
AND GROW ROTARY HOLIDAY MIXER
TOWNEPLACE SUITES BY MARRIOTT, CRANBERRY TOWNSHIP



SAVE THE DATE – MARCH 11, 2020

ROTARY LEADERSHIP & ETHICS INSTITUTE
LA ROCHE UNIVERSITY



SAVE THE DATE – JUNE 6-10, 2020

2020 ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION
HONOLULU, HAWAII



SAVE THE DATE – JUNE 25-28, 2020

DISTRICT CONFERENCE
SEVEN SPRINGS MOUNTAIN RESORT



SAVE THE DATE – JUNE 27, 2020

THIRD GRADE SPELLING BEE
SEVEN SPRINGS



SAVE THE DATE – MARCH 3 ~ 6 2020

PETS PRESIDENT ELECT TRAINING SEMINAR
PENN STATE MAIN CAMPUS, STATE COLLEGE, PA



SAVE THE DATE – AUGUST, 2020

DISTRICT 7305 GOLF OUTING
DETAILS TBD

