



AUGUST 15, 2008

IN THIS ISSUE:

Disaster Relief
Disaster Relief Task Force Formed
Catch a Dream and PolioPlus
D7620 Receives PR Award
Membership Recruitment and Seminar
Presidential Award
Governor's Awards
Calendar
Official Visits

GREENBELT ROTARY CLUB HEADS IOWA DISASTER RELIEF EFFORT FOR D5970 AND D6000

Two Rotary Districts in Iowa were deeply affected by the recent flooding in their state. The Rotary Club of Greenbelt mobilized immediately under the leadership of member Steve Kemp, assisted by member Wick Caldwell, to spearhead the relief campaign for District 7620. The effort raised almost \$41,000 in cash and in-kind contributions. More than 75 volunteers were on hand in Cedar Rapids to unload the trailer, donated by SK Motors (a \$2,000 value). The tractor, drivers and fuel were donated by Maryland Paving (a \$7,500 value). The Wal-Mart Foundation gave a matching grant worth \$1,628. In addition to the \$4,535 cash donations received, food, clothing and consumables donated approximated \$25,000. District 6000 Governor, Susan Herrick, and District 5970 Governor, William Jacobson, expressed their gratitude for the caring of our district to DG Bette. This is yet another example of what Rotarians can do when we place our focus on our common goal of "Service Above Self."



Members of the Greenbelt Rotary Club prepare a truckload of relief supplies that were sent to flood-stricken areas of Iowa in July.

DISASTER RELIEF TASK FORCE FORMED

As we witness more and more catastrophic events in North America and elsewhere in the world, it is evident that there is a need to be prepared to mobilize our "Service Above Self" efforts quickly. Governor Bette is establishing a Disaster Relief Task Force, Chaired by Steve Kemp, assisted by Wick Caldwell and others, to develop and implement a disaster relief plan for the district. We welcome participation by other Rotarians who have an interest in serving. Just contact the District Office and let Denise Patterson know of your interest. More information will be forthcoming as the committee works on the plan.

CATCH A DREAM

As Rotarians, we have a promise to keep. We have an opportunity to keep that promise within the next three to five years. The Rotary Foundation has already contributed \$700m to keep this promise, but this tenacious disease is difficult and costly to eradicate. We still need everyone's support to fulfill our promise to the world. One billion dollars is spent annually to fight the poliovirus and even after the last case is reported, we will need to continue our immunization project for three more years. We are asking each club to contribute at least \$1000 per year for the next three years to do our part to match the Gates Challenge. Thanks to the following clubs who have already contributed to this effort:



College Park -- \$6500
Bowie -- \$1000
Carroll Creek -- \$1000
Charles County/La Plata -- \$1000
Fredericktowne -- \$1000
Glen Burnie -- \$1000
Lexington Park -- \$1000

GOOGLE GIVES ROTARY US\$3.5M CHALLENGE GRANT TO HELP US END POLIO NOW!
Confidence in Rotary International's leadership role in the public health initiative to eradicate polio is growing, as more and more foundations recognize the strength of a 1.2m volunteer organization with an established network that places "Service Above Self."

DISTRICT 7620 AWARDED INTERNATIONAL PR AWARD

District 7620 was one of only 15 districts recognized by the Rotary International Public Image Resource Group, R.I.'s public relations advisory committee made up of Rotarians from the public relations and advertising fields, for outstanding achievement last year. In addition to the district's radio project, which broadcast promotional spots on WETA and WYPR throughout Maryland, the District of Columbia and Northern Virginia, the working group noted the outstanding national media coverage attained by the Basra Prosthetic Project and the broadcast on C-SPAN of the Iraqi Ambassador's remarks at the Rotary Club of Washington, DC. The award will be presented at the Zone 31/32 Institute in Philadelphia in September.

This year's district public relations committee is putting together an exciting promotional plan for 2008-09 and will again apply for a PR grant from Rotary International. For more information about the committee or assistance with your club's public relations efforts, contact J.W. Arnold at jw@prdconline.com or 202-528-1275.

AUGUST: MEMBERSHIP AND EXTENSION MONTH

Our first membership recruitment event was held in Towson as a Tri-Club Networking Event on Thursday, August 14th. More than 1500 invitations were mailed out to individuals whom the three clubs involved believe would make excellent Rotarians. The Towson Rotary Dinner Club, the Downtown Towson Rotary Club, and the Towsontowne Rotary Breakfast Club worked together to develop the extensive list of individuals in their area who would make excellent Rotarians. The event was held at Confetti's Event Center and featured beverages and light fare. Invitees had an opportunity to speak with Rotarians about Rotary projects and programs and were invited to join one of the three Towson Rotary Clubs. We have strength in numbers and when we combine our efforts on a common goal we can accomplish great things.

Did you know that every club in the world who increases its membership during the 2008-09 Rotary year by a net 10% will be recognized by Rotary. The 10 clubs and districts with the highest percentage net membership increase will be recognized on stage at the 2009 RI Convention in Birmingham, England. To receive this recognition, membership information must be updated by May 15, 2009 via Membership Access. Membership database numbers will be used to determine achievement (keep those databases up to date).

WORDS TO GROW BY

"The reason many highly qualified managers and executives do not belong to Rotary is the simple fact that they have never been asked."

--Past RI President Clifford J. Dochterman

SAVE THE DATE

SEPTEMBER 13, 2008 – District Membership Seminar, BWI Ramada, 8 – 11:30 a.m.

MAKE DREAMS REAL AND EARN THE PRESIDENTIAL CITATION

The Presidential Citation will honor Rotary clubs that *Make Dreams Real* by initiating a project that reduces child mortality. As a part of the requirements, clubs must meet the membership goal of 10% net increase, as well the five categories in which clubs must complete activities: Membership, Club Service, Vocational Service, Community Service and International Service.

MAKE DREAMS REAL AND EARN THE GOVERNOR'S AWARD

The District Awards Program will be revamped this year to complement the new Club Leadership Plan. A Governor's Award will be presented to each club that meets the established criteria in the following areas: Foundation, Leadership, Membership, Service Projects and Public Relations. *The criteria for each will be announced in the September Leadership News and will be available on the website at that time.*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2008-09 LEADERSHIP

Sept. 2-7 – Zone 31/32 Institute, Philadelphia, PA
Sept. 8 – Literacy Day
Sept. 13 – Membership Development Seminar, BWI Ramada
Oct. 25 – Rotary Leadership Institute, Frederick
Nov. 1 – Pre-PETS I

DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S OFFICIAL VISIT SCHEDULE – August/September

August

19 - Charlotte Hall, Columbia
20 - Bel Air
21 - Metro-Bethesda, Towson
26 - Bond's Meadow
27 - Towsontowne

September

8 - Catonsville
9 - Greenbelt, Bowie
10 - North Anne Arundel, Potomac
11 - West Anne Arundel
16 - Sykesville
17 - Catonsville Sunrise, Washington, Laurel
18 - Woodlawn-Westview
23 - Gaithersburg, Mt. Airy
25 - Northern Calvert
30 - Silver Spring

DISTRICT 7620 SCRAPBOOK



DG Bette has been on the road in July and August making her official visits at clubs across the District. Left, Stephanie Gumm introduces Bette at Clarksville, and right, Bette poses with David Lynch in Aberdeen.



DG Bette installs the officers of the Bowie Rotary Club in July. At the installation ceremony, the club collected canned goods for the local food pantry.