



OCTOBER 18, 2008

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OCTOBER IS VOCATIONAL SERVICE MONTH

Our Vocational Lane of service encourages Rotarians worldwide to serve others through their vocations and by practicing high ethical standards. Consider those who have suffered a natural disaster this past year and have lost their occupation because their business was destroyed or their equipment lost. Also, consider those persons in sales who are greatly affected by today's economic woes. Think about those in third world countries who have no occupation or viable means to support themselves, particularly women. People would much prefer assistance with gaining employment rather than with a handout. Micro-Lending is an option we have through Rotary to help others gain or restore a vocation. Investigate the ways your club could serve those in need of vocational help.

GOVERNOR'S OFFICIAL VISITS

District Governor Bette Lewis has completed 69 of her 70 Official Visits to District 7620 Rotary Clubs and has been impressed with the level of humanitarian world and community projects that clubs are conducting. Hopefully, the District Coordinators of our Service Lanes will be able to compile a list of all the work District 7620 Rotarians are involved in very shortly. Expect a brief survey to be forwarded to club presidents for this purpose within the next few weeks.

Even though Official Visits are all but complete, the work of the District Governor continues with club visits for specific purposes and hosting the Presidential Membership Conference to be held in March, 2009. RI President D. K. Lee will also be making an official visit to District 7620 following that event. The Presidential membership Conference will involve Rotarians from Zones 31, 32, 33, and 34.



DG Bette Lewis and Greater Severna Park President Jason Copeland share a laugh at her official visit to the club.

CATCH A DREAM FOR POLIO PLUS

District 7620 Clubs continue to support the Million Dollar Challenge with generous contributions. The list is growing.

Remember, President D. K. Lee has asked each of the 33,000 clubs worldwide to contribute a minimum of \$1000 per year for the next three years to enable us to keep our promise to the world to eradicate polio.



Carroll Creek -- \$42,407
District 7620 -- \$6,718
College Park -- \$6,500
Lexington Park -- \$5,600
Charles County/La Plata -- \$4,833
Columbia -- \$4,251
Montgomery Village -- \$2,000
Towsontowne -- \$2,000
Upper Marlboro -- \$2,000
Bethesda-Chevy Chase -- \$2,300
Greenbelt -- \$1,976
Potomac -- \$1,750
Laurel -- \$1,700
Capitol Hill -- \$1,680

Ellicott City -- \$1,600
Friendship Heights -- \$1,500
Glen Burnie -- \$1,416
Ellicott City Sunrise -- \$1,194
Westminster -- \$1,050
Annapolis -- \$1,000
Bowie -- \$1,000
Catonsville-Sunrise -- \$1,000
Crofton -- \$1,000
Fredericktowne -- \$1,000
Kingsville-White Marsh -- \$1,000
Mt. Airy -- \$1,000
South Anne Arundel -- \$1,000
Waldorf -- \$1,000
Washington, DC. -- \$1,000

Twenty-nine District 7620 clubs have already met their responsibility to match the Million Dollar Challenge for this year. CARROLL CREEK LEADS THE DISTRICT! The district PolioPlus Chair, PDG Dr. Raj Saini, is available to speak at clubs or club events.

THE ROTARY FOUNDATION

Your Rotary Foundation Committee has been most active this past month. On September 27, the committee held a very successful Foundation Seminar 101 with 42 participants. Most of the major Foundation topics were covered, but the emphasis on grant applications and approvals was the highlight. Several lucky clubs left with assurances of receiving a DDF grant of some type for their projects.

The Group Study Exchange Team interviewed ten candidates for the Team Leader position for the GSE Team to Greece. Rotarian Robert Martin of the Rockville Club was chosen as this year's Team Leader. The next step is to receive applications and interview for the members of the Greece GSE Team. The deadline for applying was October 15.

The Ambassadorial Scholar Team met to select a University Professor Scholar and this year's recipient is Rotarian Roger Candelaria from the Bladensburg Club. Roger will go to Colombia to teach.

Rotary Alumni in the district met and enjoyed a Reception held at the Bulgarian Embassy on October 2nd. Peter Kyle is the Alumni Chair and arranged the event for past Ambassadorial Scholars, Peace Fellows, GSE Teams, University Professors and others. Zone 32 Alumni Coordinator Jeff Cadorette from New Jersey was also present, as well as DG Bette Lewis and PDGs Richard Carson and Rob Ketron.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR MARCH 30, 2009! The District will be holding our Annual Foundation Dinner on this date and will honor our Rotary International President, D. K. Lee and his wife Young.

Annual Giving provides the fuel that funds all of the above named projects. Remember that half of what we give annually comes back to the District in the form of District Designated Funds enabling us to fund club projects which have applied for a grant. The DDF also enables us to fund two Ambassadorial Scholars each year, as well as a University Professor.

MEMBERSHIP

District 7620 will host a Presidential Membership Conference on March 27-28, 2009 at the Greenbelt Marriott. The Conference will be held for all Districts in Zones 31, 32, 33, and 34 which includes the entire East Coast and the Caribbean. The conference will be open to all clubs for participation. Mark your calendars for this important event held by our RI /President D. K. Lee. President Lee will remain in our District for an official visit from March 29 – 31, 2009. Several clubs throughout the District will join together to sponsor a motivational speaker for this event.

Under the leadership of Membership Chair PDG Ray Streib and AGs Robert Kalinoski, Jimmie Gorski and Carol Blackburn, three highly successful Membership Recruitment events have been held in three locations within the district. When leaders within the community who are interested in community and humanitarian service have an opportunity to learn about the good works of Rotary and are given an invitation to join us, they respond positively. The clubs involved so far are experiencing growth from these events. The district is funding much of the expense for these events and clubs who are interested in participating should contact their Assistant Governor and/or PDG Ray Streib.

INVITE A FRIEND TO SHARE YOUR ROTARY EXPERIENCE!

RESOURCE FOCUS GROUPS

Rotary is successful with the projects we sponsor because collectively we focus worldwide on specific humanitarian areas: Health, Hunger, Water, Literacy and Peace and Understanding. The District held its first Mini-summit of the year on Health on October 11th. Participants from fourteen clubs heard presentations on PolioPlus, Malaria, Birthing Kits, Limb Restoration, Childhood Obesity, and Free Health Insurance. Many thanks to our presenters: PDG Dr. Raj Saini (Columbia), David Highfield (Bonds Meadow), Chuka Ndubizu and Anna Mae Kobbe (College Park), Kacy Conley (Woodlawn-Westview), and Tom Litzer (Johns Hopkins Healthcare).

Our next Mini-Summit will be on Hunger, November 15th, at the BWI Ramada. District Chair Joe Slert has put together an informative program, which will enable participants to explore ways in which your club can do more for this humanitarian need, both locally and internationally. A flyer is forthcoming to club presidents who should make individual members of their clubs aware of this opportunity. As always, the fee is \$15 which covers the cost of a hearty breakfast which will be served at 8:00 a.m. MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR NOVEMBER 15TH!

MINI-SUMMITS ON WATER (FEBRUARY 15TH) AND LITERACY (MARCH 21ST) ARE COMING UP. SAVE THESE DATES!

LEADERSHIP

One of the most important steps a club can take is to invest in its leadership through training. When clubs have a difficult time getting a member to step up to lead the club, it is many times because a person feels they are not ready. A club can overcome this problem by sending some of its up and coming members to the Rotary Leadership Institute. We are fortunate that we are able to host two of these training opportunities in our own district. The first will be held on October 25th in Frederick, MD. The second will be held on March 7th in Columbia. This training comes in three phases: I, II, and III. It is possible for an individual to complete two of these phases within our own district. The cost per session is \$95 and includes a lunch and materials. **PLAN TO SEND SOMEONE FROM YOUR CLUB TO EACH OF THESE EVENTS!**

PUBLIC IMAGE

District 7620 submitted another proposal for a 2008-09 PR Grant. This year, the district is proposing a pilot project in Howard County, one of the fastest growing areas in the District, that will include an integrated campaign with print and broadcast media. The clubs in the county will be funding the district contribution, depending on the award amount.

Several District clubs have been in the media recently, including the Carroll Creek club, which launched its Rotary Excellence in Business Ethics Awards in conjunction with the Frederick News Post. To read all about it, go to:

<http://www.fredericknewspost.com/sections/business/display.htm?StoryID=81540>

Are you sending your club newsletter to the local newspaper and radio station? Your local media are seeking local stories and will be interested in your club's service projects, youth programs and even your speakers. When you have a big event coming up, don't be afraid to send an email or make a call to let them know about your activities. The district has a PR committee that is eager to assist with your efforts. Contact J.W. Arnold, Rotary Club of Washington, at 202-528-1275 or jw@prdconline.com and the committee can offer advice or assistance with your efforts. Don't be afraid to "toot your own horn!"

COME CRUISE WITH ME

It's not too soon to book your accommodations for the 2009 District conference aboard Royal Caribbean's "Explorer of the Seas!" Make your minimum down payment to guarantee your stateroom for the five-day cruise to Bermuda. Look forward to meeting your fellow district 7620 Rotarians and families, as well as those from District 7260 from Long Island. Final payment and booking must be completed by February. The experience will include Plenary sessions with meaningful activities, dining in deluxe style and activities galore aboard the ship. A service project will be completed in Bermuda and we will have plenty of time for fun while there. Claude Morissette is organizing one of his outstanding golf tournaments, as well. Don't miss out on this unique District Conference.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Nov. 1 — Pre-PETS I, BWI Ramada

Jan. 31 — Pre-PETS II, BWI Ramada

Feb. 15 — Water Mini-Summit

March 6-7 — Multi-District PETS

March 21 — Literacy Mini-Summit

March 27-28 — Presidential Membership Conference, College Park

March 29-31 — President D.K. Lee Official Visit