



# THE DAYBREAKER



September 29th, 2022



Today we had 15 in person and 6 Zoom attendees

This quarter all Happy Bucks will benefit **Life Has No Boundaries**. Please be very happy to benefit this great organization.

## **Service Opportunities:**

**If you have interest in volunteering at Food Finders Food Bank, please contact Larry Fisher**

**Tree Lafayette Tree Planting Event October 8 – contact Rob or Linc for more information.**



**LUM needs socks! This is the most requested item at their Emergency Shelter and Office. Most needed are adult Large dark or white socks. For more information contact Bob Feuer.**

**We also plan to visit the local Girl Scout Camp October 13 @ 11:30 AM. They will provide a lunch and then tour their facility. This will be a kickoff for a joint service project with the Noon Club and the Satellite Club. Please contact Linc for more information.**

**GUESTS:** Khalil Williams

**INVOCATION:** David Strand

**REACQUAINTANCE SPEAKER:** Lisa Dullum



**PROGRAM:** Harish Raman – Engineers Without Borders

Harish presented a program on the Purdue Chapter of Engineers Without Borders and their project to provide clean water to Rubona, Rwanda. Harish is a senior in Aerospace Engineering at Purdue but has become active with the EWB Chapter at Purdue. He first introduced the other members of his team, Lauren Sparber, the President of the Chapter and Marissa Weygandt and Claire Hawks, Co-Chairs for Business Development on the project.

He explained that EWB – USA has a mission to partner with communities, to develop leaders and to build a better world. They do this through Partnerships, Ethical Principles and Home Centered Design. To present some history, the organization had been working with a water project in Bolivia when COVID hit. This had given them a background in water projects in mountainous terrain, and although COVID affected this program, they were able to find a new project in Rwanda that had similar needs and used their expertise.

The team presented the project which was necessary because of two challenges. The first is that the most accessible water for this community of 1,500 people is the Yanze River, which unfortunately is very polluted and very dangerous to access in the rainy seasons. Their clean water comes from a spring across the river from the village but requires a long walk to access it and does not provide a great flow of water. Since most of the water is brought back to the village in 5-gallon Jerry cans, the children who often must fetch the water have to get up very early in the morning to make the trip to the spring, wait for the water to fill the cans, return to the village and still walk a long distance to attend school. With 5-gallon cans weighing 40 lbs. this makes it hard to supply their needs, particularly when you consider that the average person in a developed society uses an average of 82 gallons of water daily.



The village felt a project to provide clean, high quality and accessible water would help the educational ability of the children, improve the health of the community, allow for population growth of the village and increase their sense of self-esteem. The proposed design would bring clean spring water across the river into holding tanks and tap stands in the village. The project would cost about \$100,000 and be financed 95% by EWB/Purdue and 5% by the community. EWB is working with IDA Rwanda, an organization in Rwanda that provides project support, materials, labor and communication. They also work with Chase a Better Tomorrow, a very local group that provides operators and maintenance support. This organization also provides the local payment and will be very involved with the day-to-day management and will be

completely responsible for the operation and maintenance of the project once completed.

EWB/Purdue is working on fund-raising and would gladly accept any financial support we could give, but also would welcome our Club's experience in organizing fund-raising events. They are also working with a Rotary International grant through the Peoria North Rotary Club.

**Thought of the Week:** The future depends on what you do today.  
— Mahatma Gandhi

**Trivia Question for the week:** What was the Queen's proper title?

**Answer from last week's trivia question:** What did the Queen always travel with?

Despite being an experienced traveler, The Queen didn't pack light. In addition to dozens of outfits, her own food and water, and even a personal supply of blood that matched her type, Elizabeth brought her own toilet paper wherever she went. You can recognize it by the special seal holding each fresh roll together—only Phillip or The Queen herself were allowed to break it.

## **UPCOMING PROGRAMS:**

**October 6 – Mark Ward – Purdue Data Mine**

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### **Why eradicating polio is so important**

The detection of poliovirus, and even cases of polio, in places where it hasn't been found for years has demonstrated once again

that eradicating a human disease isn't easy, especially in the final stages.

In recent months, an unvaccinated man in the United States was paralyzed. In the UK, poliovirus was detected in sewage. In Malawi, a child contracted polio. And Mozambique announced its first polio outbreak in 30 years.

But rather than be discouraged, Rotary and its partners in the [Global Polio Eradication Initiative](#) (GPEI) remain confident that they are making progress and can achieve their goal of a polio-free world. There are several reasons for this optimism.

A new oral vaccine, which has a substantially lower risk of causing vaccine-derived variant polio, is now available.

This makes it less likely that the weakened strain of poliovirus that is used in the vaccine will mutate and spur outbreaks in communities where immunization levels are low, which has occurred in Africa, Asia, and the Middle East.

Moreover, the number of cases of the disease caused by the wild virus has been at historically low levels in Pakistan and Afghanistan, the two countries where poliovirus transmission has never been stopped. This presents an opportunity to seize the moment and stop the wild virus forever.

Rotary members have been at the center of the worldwide effort to eradicate polio for more than three decades. Rotary launched PolioPlus in 1985 and helped found the GPEI in 1988, with the goal of eradicating a human disease for only the second time in history. (The World Health Organization declared the world free of



smallpox in 1980.) When the GPEI was founded, wild poliovirus paralyzed hundreds of children every day, with an estimated 350,000 polio cases across more than 125 countries in one year. Since then, cases have plummeted more than 99.9%, sparing more than 20 million people from paralysis.

Through a funding partnership with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Rotary commits US\$150 million to fighting polio every year. Rotary members have contributed more than US\$2.6 billion and countless volunteer hours to this effort. With the GPEI partners, members engage with communities everywhere to encourage high vaccination rates and help immunize more than 400 million children annually.

The re-emergence of polio highlights the importance of vaccination as the only form of protection against polio and many other diseases. It draws attention to the work needed to encourage people to get vaccinated at a time when vaccination rates are dropping in some communities. And it reinforces the fact that polio anywhere is a threat everywhere, which underscores the importance of the End Polio Now campaign.

As World Polio Day on 24 October approaches, Rotary urges its members to tell their communities about the importance of vaccination. Global donors and national governments are also expected to announce new pledges to fund the GPEI's 2022-26 polio eradication strategy. This strategy focuses on greater accountability from national governments about their work to eradicate wild polio and end outbreaks of polio caused by variant poliovirus.

With these kinds of sustained political and financial commitments, the world is still on the path toward an incredible accomplishment: making sure no person is paralyzed by polio ever again.