



Rotary District 7500 Newsletter

Serving Monmouth, Ocean & Burlington Counties, New Jersey

www.rotary7500.org



Rotary International

March, 2005



Governor's Message

To All Rotarians in District 7500

Bernard "Bud" Umbaugh
Centennial District Governor

2000-01 International President Frank J. Devlyn Will attend this years District 7500 Conference

Last night I received wonderful news from one of our Marlton Club members, Dave Forward, the gentleman who wrote the History of Rotary. Dave, who is a good friend of Past International President Frank J. Devlyn, and has co-written two books with him, called to confirm that Frank has accepted our invitation to attend our District Conference. He will be our keynote speaker on Friday evening and has agreed to install anyone who wishes to become a Paul Harris Fellow that evening. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to have a Past International President and present Foundation Director recognize you, your spouse, partner, friend and family members as new or multi Paul Harris Fellows.

We want this year's district conference to be all it can be and we need your help to make it turn out that way. The conference committee made up mostly of Rotarians from my small home club of Marlton are working hard to do all that is necessary to have a great year end event, but we need more people to participate.

If you haven't registered yet, but plan to attend, please do it soon. We need to know now so we can reserve enough rooms to accommodate everyone. The Hudson Valley Resort & Spa is a conference center and needs more advanced notice than a traditional hotel complex. If you have signed up for our conference please do me a favor and recruit a few more people from your club. This will be a wonderful event to help celebrate our 100th birthday and now we will do it with one of the most outstanding Rotarians in the world, Frank Devlyn.

In my November's Governors column I asked every Rotarian in District 7500 to consider participating in the Every Rotarian - Every Year program.

This years Foundation chairperson, PDG Dick Ritchie, has visited many clubs to explain Every Rotarian – Every Year. That's the program that will hopefully get more people supporting the Rotary Foundation. We need your support if we are to reach this year's District goal of \$150,000. Please contribute now and help us continue to provide the many humanitarian and educational programs that make the service club of our choice truly an International organization.

For those of you who have supported our charity over the years I salute you and thank you for your wonderful generosity. You have made this a better world to live in and your continued support is needed to continue the great works that benefit the thousands who are touched by our Foundation.

Celebrate & Have Fun in Rotary!

Every Rotarian – Every Year is about more than money. It's about Rotarians fully participating in the life of their Foundation and taking responsibility for its fiscal strength.

This centennial year we celebrate Rotary by honoring its illustrious past. But we will also be preparing Rotary for even greater successes in our second century. That success depends in large part on a strong Foundation. Our goal is for every Rotarian to contribute to their charity – The Rotary Foundation. This is a goal that must be realized if we are to fulfill so many of our other Rotary dreams.

Let us dream about a world that will be free of Polio. Let us dream about a world where everyone can read and write. Let us dream about a world that will ensure security and respect for the elderly. And most of all, let us dream of a world that provides a safe haven for our children, safe water for them to drink and a world free of ravaging diseases.

Let us celebrate Rotary by supporting our Foundation and using its resources to realize great dreams for all mankind. Your Foundation gift at this time will help this dream come true.

Dream and Have Fun in Rotary.

Governor Bud

Related Stories

HAPPY 100th BIRTHDAY ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

Congressional Record: February 17, 2005 (Senate)

Page S1682-S1683

From the Congressional Record Online via GPO Access [wais.access.gpo.gov]

DOCID:cr17fe05-143

SENATE RESOLUTION 62--SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF A "ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DAY" AND CELEBRATING AND HONORING ROTARY INTERNATIONAL ON THE OCCASION OF ITS CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. Obama, Mr. Stevens, and Mr. Feingold) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. Res. 62

Whereas Rotary International, founded on February 23, 1905, in Chicago, Illinois, is the world's first service club and 1 of the largest nonprofit service organizations;

Whereas there are more than 1.2 million Rotary International club members comprised of professional and business leaders in more than 31,000 clubs in more than 165 countries;

Whereas the Rotary International motto, "Service Above Self", inspires members to provide humanitarian service, meet high ethical standards, and promote international good will;

Whereas Rotary International funds club projects and sponsors volunteers with community expertise to provide medical supplies, health care, clean water, food production, job training, and education to millions in need, particularly in developing countries;

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Whereas in 1985, Rotary International launched Polio Plus and spearheaded efforts with the World Health Organization, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and UNICEF to immunize the children of the world against polio;

Whereas polio cases have dropped by 99 percent since 1988, and the world now stands on the threshold of eradicating the disease;

Whereas Rotary International is the largest privately- funded source of international scholarships in the world and promotes international understanding through scholarships, exchange programs, and humanitarian grants;

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Whereas since 1947, more than 35,000 students from 110 countries have studied abroad as Rotary Ambassadorial Scholars;

Whereas Rotary International's Group Study Exchange program has helped more than 46,000 young professionals explore career fields in other countries;

Whereas 8,000 secondary school students each year experience life in another country through Rotary International's Youth Exchange Program;

Whereas over the past 5 years, members of Rotary International in all 50 States have hosted participants in Open World, a program sponsored by the Library of Congress, and therefore have earned the honor of serving as Open World's most outstanding host;

Whereas there are approximately 400,000 Rotary International club members in more than 7,700 clubs throughout the United States sponsoring service projects to address critical issues such as poverty, health, hunger, illiteracy, and the environment in their local communities and abroad; and

Whereas February 23, 2005, would be an appropriate date on which to observe Rotary International Day:

Now, therefore, be it Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of a ``Rotary International Day'' to celebrate the centennial anniversary of Rotary International; and

(2) recognizes Rotary International for 100 years of service to improving the human condition in communities throughout the world.

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

Commitment to Service Award

International President Glen Estees, Sr. has announced a new Rotary "Commitment to Service", award. This award will recognize Rotarians who have given 25 years of service or more, to their clubs, and have supported club leaders and projects in an exemplary way.

Up to five awards can be giving by each District Governor. Nomination forms can be requested by any club president by E-mailing or calling the District Governor. Governor Bud will appoint a committee to select the winners. Awards will be presented at this years District Conference. Deadline for nominations will be April 1, 2005.

Reported Polio Cases in South Asia Drop by 50%!

Health officials from Afghanistan, India, and Pakistan, the only polio-endemic countries in South Asia, announced in Geneva on 4 February that they are on track to stop transmission of the disease by the end of the year.

In 2004, polio cases in the three countries were slashed by 45 percent, according to a global polio eradication partners' press release that featured the announcement. Similar momentum this year should put an end to the transmission of polio in the densely populated region, which has proven a challenge to worldwide eradication efforts.

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Meeting at World Health Organization headquarters in Geneva, health ministers from the three countries and senior WHO officials hammered out an endgame plan involving several massive polio immunization campaigns this year in the few remaining polio-affected areas. The emphasis will be on reaching children in communities traditionally underserved by health services.

Last year, similar action paid off in the shrinking geographic footprint of the poliovirus and in falling numbers of affected children. According to a 1 February WHO report, total cases of polio in the region have fallen from 336 in 2003 to 186 in 2004 — 132 in India, 50 in Pakistan, and 4 in Afghanistan — which is the result of a greatly improved surveillance system. Vast areas of each country reported no polio last year. Afghan President Hamid Karzai, Indian Congress Party leader Sonia Gandhi, and Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf all lent their personal support to the 2004 immunization campaigns, during which 210 million children were given 1.5 billion doses of vaccine.

"The poliovirus is currently cornered in only 6 of the 51 states and provinces within the three countries," says RI's International [PolioPlus](#) Committee Chair Bill Sergeant. "This is the year to rid Asia of polio."

Administrative officials from all sectors of government are being pressed into duty. In key areas, teachers, district administrators, railway workers, and other government employees are mobilizing for vaccination campaigns. Officials also acknowledged the complementary need for increased routine immunization of children to prevent the virus from coming back.

Up to 21 additional immunization campaigns across the region in 2005 will involve millions of volunteers, including Rotarians, who will fan out house-to-house from remote villages to the vast metropolitan slums to reach all children under age five.

Tsunami Relief

Solidarity in South Asia Fund

www.rotary.org

To assist Rotarians in supporting longer-term recovery efforts in communities in South Asia that have been hit by the deadly tsunami, The Rotary Foundation will accept contributions earmarked for Solidarity in South Asia.

You may contribute to the Solidarity in South Asia fund by mailing a check or money order or using a credit card via our [secure online form](#). Mailed contributions should have "The Rotary Foundation/Solidarity in South Asia" on the payee line and be mailed to the international office or the fiscal agent serving your area. Addresses for international offices are listed below.

Rotary districts who wish to donate District Designated Funds (DDF) to the Solidarity in South Asia fund may do so by downloading the Solidarity in South Asia DDF Form from the [download center](#) and returning it to the SHARE Coordinator at The Rotary Foundation.

Tax receipts will be issued where applicable. Please check with the RI office serving your area (below) to see if your country allows tax deductions for contributions to the disaster relief effort. Contributions made to the Solidarity in South Asia Fund **will not** receive Rotary Foundation recognition credit. **Contribute to these charities**

- American Red Cross
- [UNICEF](#)

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Related Stories

Restarting Livelihood of Fisherman in Pottuvil \$5,000 – 25 Families

A sum of Rs. 500,000 was channelled through Regency to purchase outboard motors to revive the livelihood of fisherman in Pottuvil. The relief activities for these fishermen are overseen by the Pottuvil and Arugam Bay Fisherman's Association, a registered organization for providing relief. The Association was initiated by Charlie Anderson, a British national who was holidaying in Sri Lanka at the time of the disaster. He decided to stay on to help with relief efforts.

Outboard motors had been an urgent need to revive the disrupted livelihoods of fisherman. Hence, Charlie made a request through Joe Dacanay and Caroline Upton of Rotary Club of Napa Valley in California, who were volunteering in Pottuvil for these items. Napa Valley Club contributed US\$5,000 (approx Rs.500,000) to our relief efforts, and this was in turn channelled towards the purchase of the outboard motors. Rotary contribution towards fulfilling the total requirement of 5 outboard motors at a cost of Rs. 135,000 each was 75%. Considering that each boat that goes out to sea will carry 4 to 5 persons, it is hoped that at least 20-25 families have been given the opportunity to start earning an income once again. Regency thanks Joe and Caroline and the Rotary Club of Napa Valley for their contribution. Further information on Joe and Caroline's visit is at <http://www.napasar.org/tsunami.htm>

Tsunami Relief and Your Taxes

Those of you wishing to make or add to your January Tsunami Relief contributions may deduct these in either the 2004 or 2005 taxes (not both) using the IR-2005-6 Charitable Contributions Form. This is for **cash** only contributions to qualified charities. The Rotary Foundation (Southeast Asia Fund) as well as the Shelter Box USA are qualified Charities. Make sure that **Tsunami Relief** is recorded on your Check or Credit Card Receipt.

Every Rotarian, Every Year

Every Rotarian, Every Year now has a newsletter page—your source for news about the monumental effort uniting our international membership. The newsletter offers Annual Programs Fund updates, features on what Rotarians are doing to meet their club goals, and stories illustrating how APF contributions enhance people's lives. Updated monthly, the newsletter will be produced during Rotary's centennial year.

You can go to this website for the English version of the Every Rotarian, Every Year Newsletter and to sign up to have it delivered to you via email:
http://www.rotary.org/foundation/development/annualprograms/erey_news.html

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CLUB NEWS

Forked River Club

Shadowing Program

Rotary sponsored career day event provides job choices

By JESSICA STENSTROM Staff Writer Times Beacon – Published 02/03/2005

LACEY -- This year Feb. 2 was not just about whether Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow, predicting six more weeks of winter; it was a day that allowed a group of Lacey Township students to perform their own shadowing experience.

Vocational and Career Guidance Counselor Fred Moramarca said there were about 18 students who participated in the 2005 Groundhog Job Shadow Day and program sponsored by the Forked River Rotary Club each year.

Ocean Township Police Chief Kenneth Flatt, also a Rotary Club member, has organized the event for the past four years. He said the event gives students a chance to explore many different vocational careers that would not be possible in the high school setting. "A lot of the students are really not sure what they want to do and the day gives them a chance to explore some of their options," Flatt said.

Flatt said the career field with the most demand for the shadowing is law enforcement. Six students visited the Lacey Township Police Department and another six visited the department in Ocean Township. Moramarca said there were also two students at Southern Ocean County Hospital for the day, two at Lorton Construction and two with Joseph Kuna, a chiropractor in town.

The students visiting the Ocean Township Police Department experienced the shadowing in two parts, the morning mostly informational and then hands-on later in the day. Officers from the police department made presentations explaining the different specialized units in which they participate. Patrolman Matthew Azzarone, also a Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) officer working in Ocean Township schools, explained police work as a way of being to the students.

"This is not a job meant for everyone," Azzarone said. "It has to come from your heart. There is a lot to deal with and it wears you down. Some people don't like working like this."

He said police are required to work holidays, weekends and rotating shifts, sometimes working 4 p.m. to 12 a.m., but other shifts working 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Azzarone said the students should consider going to college first and then pursuing a law enforcement career after graduating if they are still interested. "If you have a college degree, you have something to fall back on if you end up not liking it (the law enforcement field)," Azzarone said.

He said when in school there are three focuses that could assist with entering the law enforcement field: a computer and math focus because of the high-tech crimes taking place, science and forensics, and fluency in a foreign language. "Spanish is always good, but try to learn a different language that will separate you from everyone else," Azzarone said. Azzarone said while the salary is good and he can live comfortably off of it, if someone is pursuing a law enforcement career for money, he or she is in the wrong field. "We'll never

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make the salary a doctor or lawyer makes. It has to come from inside," Azzarone said. "If it's about money, then this isn't the right job for you."

Throughout the morning the different specialized units from the police department made presentations to the participants. Patrolman Steve Mandarine discussed accident investigations. Detective George Thompson discussed criminal investigations. Patrolman Jimmy Kinlin discussed the off-road patrol unit. Patrolwoman Leanne Petracca discussed the bicycle patrol unit. Corporal Adam Mogul discussed the SWAT team. Patrolman Shawn Denning and K-9 Boy demonstrated the aspect of a K-9 unit.

One highlight of the morning was Mogul and Thompson breaking into the room unexpectedly, demonstrating a no-knock warrant to the students. Michelle Bibenedetti, 15, a sophomore, said, "The Special Weapons and Tactics Team (SWAT) team was interesting." Azzarone, standing in the back of the room during the SWAT team entrance, said he had watched everyone jump from the unexpected entrance.

All the students attending the shadow day at the Ocean Township Police Station said they had an interest in pursuing careers in the law enforcement field. Amber Laird, 18, a junior, said, "I want to have a career in law enforcement."

The students who participated in the Groundhog Job Shadow Day are chosen at the high school by Moramarca. He said each year the sophomore class completes a survey about jobs in which they are interested and then in conjunction with the Forked River Rotary Club, the students are paired with the appropriate professional to learn more about the career field.

Flatt said he participates in the program, hoping to find a candidate for the police department. "I figure that in five or 10 years it might benefit me and I might get a good candidate from students that have completed the job shadowing," Flatt said.

The event is run each year in conjunction with Groundhog Day, where legend has it if Punxsutawney Phil sees his shadow, there will be six more weeks of winter.

Forked River Club

Meals on Wheels Program

By JESSICA STENSTROM Staff Writer Times Beacon – Published 02/24/2005

There were about 25 Forked River Rotary Club members with their hair tucked back into hair nets assisting Tuesday at the Meals on Wheels based at Village Lutheran Church in Forked River. Rotarian Veronica Laureigh said the club decided to complete a service project in honor of its 100th Anniversary. She said she got the idea for the project while at a zone meeting conducted in Maryland. It was there that she learned the district governors for the area were going to California to do a similar project in honor of the club's anniversary. "I came back and asked them," Laureigh said. "They were more than happy to let us help."

Duties were divided among the Rotarians. Some were on hand in the morning to help set up the kitchen and prepare the meals that would be delivered to the homebound. Some helped serve lunch to the senior citizens who partake in the nutrition program in the afternoon.

"They have been a huge help to us," Site Manager Dawn Miliukas said. "It gave us an easy day."

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She said club volunteers helped with a variety of tasks that must be performed each day to run a nutrition site successfully. They helped package fruit for the homebound, assisted the drivers with packing their vans, set the tables, took out the garbage, washed dishes, date stamped the lids of homebound meals, packaged bread and helped serve on the line. "The list goes on and on," Miliukas said.

Rotarian Paul Rizzo of Manahawkin, a past president, said it was the club's first time volunteering at the Meals on Wheels. "This is part of our commitment to the community," Rizzo said.

Rotarian Paul Stephens of Forked River said although this is the first time the Rotary Club has worked with Meals on Wheels, the club has been active working on various projects with the Lacey Food Bank. "It is very satisfying to be able to help," Stephens said. Rotarian Toms Angona said it is a good cause. "Most of these people come here for companionship and to spend time with other people," Angona said.

Marie Nieto from Holiday City in Berkeley said she began coming to the nutrition site recently. "A friend of mine comes here and she told me about it," Nieto said. She said after that she started coming. "The people are friendly and it gets me out of the house," Nieto said, explaining that her daughter works the night shift at work and then sleeps during the day.

Each weekday the nutrition site is open to senior citizens age 60 and older, Miliukas said. She said seniors arrive at the site between 9:45 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. each day. Then a hot lunch is served between 11:10 and 11:15 a.m., Miliukas said. She said the nutrition site is not just about good food. There are also activities in which seniors can participate.

An instructor attends the luncheon Monday and Thursday, leading armchair exercises, Miliukas said. She said Wednesday and Friday are both dedicated to bingo. "We also try to do crafts with them and even trivia," Miliukas said. "We do all different kinds of things." Miliukas said site participants also get to attend a monthly party that celebrates all of the birthdays for the month. She said each month the Rotary Club donates a birthday cake for the birthday celebration.

The Meals on Wheels program and senior nutrition site are funded by Community Services, Inc. of Ocean County. If anyone would like more information on how to volunteer at the site or participate in the program, they can contact the Lacey Nutrition Site at (609) 693-1333.

Brick Morning and Afternoon Rotary Clubs Team Up for Mentoring

More than 100 Students from the Ocean County Vocational Technical School (OCVTS) will participate in a nationwide program of shadowing a workplace Mentor as they go through their day on the job. This begins on February 2nd and continues through the end of May. 35 members of the Brick Rotary Clubs (10 Morning, 25 afternoon) are opening their businesses and introducing students to a wide range of professions, occupations and trades. There are more than 20 different programs ranging from Culinary Arts to Auto Body Repair. Phil Lucas explained the purpose of the program is to support and reinforce what students learn in school by showing them the practical applications available in the marketplace through on-the-job experiences. Christine Karaska, OCVTS Coordinator, said that this program allows students to explore various careers beyond what their parents and neighbors do for a living. While many of the students already have an idea of their future career path, being able to shadow a mentor puts them even more ahead of the game.

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Two Students at a time visit their mentor for a day of learning. Afterwards, the students are given a survey to complete and asked to describe the day's events. While the students may only spend one day with a mentor, it can mean a lifetime of success. Congratulations to the Brick Clubs for playing such an active role in the development of these young people!

Centennial Celebrations

Monmouth County

The feedback from **Monmouth County's Centennial Celebration is GREAT!!** Held at Branches in West Long Branch, attendance was high, the food very good, the music and dancing superb and the camaraderie of Rotarians and their friends unsurpassed. More on this gala affair next month.

Ocean County

Likewise the feedback form **Ocean County's Centennial Celebration is GREAT** as well!! Held at the Ramada in Toms River, all of the attendees enjoyed good food, good refreshments, dancing and the camaraderie that only this type of celebration can provide. More details on this gala event next month as well.

Burlington County

There is still time to get tickets for **Burlington County's Centennial Celebration**. It will be held at the Riverton Country Club, March 5, 2005. Please visit the District 7500 website or contact Bob Kay 856.786.6778 for more details.

Club Events

Wrightstown Rotary Club

Annual 50 / 50 Fund Raiser

The Wrightstown Rotary Club is hosting it Annual Big 50 / 50 Night at the Garden State Diner on March 17th, 2005. This is the Real Deal! The cost per ticket is \$ 150.00. This includes a Buffet Meal and the chance to win ½ of the Pot! In previous years, this Pot has been Thousands (Yes, Thousands) of dollars. Festivities begin at 6:00 PM. For more information, please contact Rose Kay at 609.267.8135. Proceeds go directly to fund local High School Scholarships.

If your Club is having a special event, please send that to ronlynch@comcast.net so we can put that in the Newsletter!

District News

District 7500 Honors ICHF Founder at Heart & Snow Ball.

Rotary District 7500 (Monmouth, Burlington Ocean Counties, New Jersey) Gift of Life Foundation conducted its 6th. annual Heart & Snow Ball at the Chateau Grand Restaurant in Lakewood New Jersey on Saturday January 29th. While Rotarians from all of the Districts 42 Clubs attend, the event itself is sponsored by the four Rotary Clubs in Toms River and Seaside Heights. The Central Ocean Rotary Club of Toms River originated this event 6 years ago and has been joined by the Toms River Evening, Toms River Sunrise and Seaside Clubs for the past three years.

This year, Dr. William Novick the founder of the International Children's Heart Foundation of Memphis Tennessee (www.babyheart.com) was the honored guest and presented with a Paul Harris Fellowship. The presentation was made to Dr. Novick by the President of the Brick Morning Rotary Club, Jeanette DeChabert and Gift of Life Trustee Patricia Wallace. Dr. Novick founded ICHF 10 years ago and has since conducted over 90 missions to 16 different countries and performed open heart surgery on some 2,500 children. Rotary District 7500 Gift of Life Foundation is a proud supporter of ICHF. ICHF has also received financial support from GOL operations in District 7470 in north New Jersey and District 7980 in Hamden Connecticut.

The evening's festivities also included presentation of two additional Paul Harris awards to Jackie White, a member of the Toms River Club and her husband Mike. These two awards were presented by Bill Vanore, President of the Rotary Club of Toms River. The Whites have hosted three children for Gift of Life at their Lakewood home. All three children were treated at the Deborah Heart & Lung Center in nearby Browns Mills New Jersey. Coincidentally, Mike White received open heart surgery at Deborah to mend a hole in his heart when he was 9 years old.

The Heart & Snow Ball was attended by almost 200 people. In addition to the current District Governor Bud Umbaugh, 3 Past District Governors and 6 Club Presidents were also in attendance. Master of Ceremonies for the evening was the event Chairperson, Barbara Grecco-Donoghue assisted by her husband and Gift of Life Chairman Jeff Donoghue. Between ticket sales, donations and silent auctions a total of about \$26,000 was raised for the District 7500 Gift of Life Foundation. Included in that total were separate donations by the Rotary Club of Maple Shade for \$3,000, the Rotary Club of Seaside for \$2,500 and the Brick Morning Rotary Club for \$2,000.

District 7500 Rotary Ambassadorial Scholars

Who are our Rotary District 7500 Ambassadorial Scholars?

Jacob Kosoff, sponsored by the Burlington City Rotary Club, is a graduate of Pennsylvania State University. He was a Schreyer Honors Scholar and graduated with both BS and a MS Degrees in Economics. He also studied at Die Albert Ludwigs Universitat in Freiburg, Germany and at the Yeshiva Ohr Somayach/Tanabbaum College in Jerusalem. He served as a Page in the US House of Representatives during his Junior year of high school. Jacob's scholarship year was for the 2003-2004 academic year. However, because he studied at Witwatersrand University in South Africa, his academic year was from January 2004 until December, 2004. He has elected to stay on at the university to complete his master's

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degree at his own expense. As active as he is with Rotary activities in Johannesburg, he will continue to be active with Rotary when he returns to the USA.

Joshua Anderson is sponsored by the Long Beach Island Rotary Club. He is a graduate of Swarthmore College with a BA Degree in Linguistics. He has studied Chinese Mandarin, Spanish and Arabic. He speaks and writes Chinese very well and because of this he was permitted by Rotary International to study at the National Chengchi University in Taipei, China. He spent a semester of his Junior year in college studying Chinese at the Associated Colleges in Beijing, China. After completing his studies, he wants to help improve the quality of life for people around the world by working for a United Nations development agency or a non-governmental organization.

We are very blessed to have such committed young people representing District 7500 in the Ambassadorial Scholarship Program. Their most recent reports are given below.

Jacob Kosoff

Dear Rotary District 7500-

I have just completed my Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship year here in South Africa. Though my time as a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar is ending, I am still staying very active with Rotary in South Africa. My three main areas of focus are

1. Rotary International projects
2. Lecturing economics to students from disadvantaged backgrounds in South Africa
3. Facilitating a project to modernize the funeral insurance industry in rural KwaZulu (**NEW**)

1- With the RI work, I have been running the orientation for the incoming ambassadorial scholars, for the youth exchange and for various GSE teams. Currently, I am working with the new ambassadorial scholars that have arrived in Johannesburg and organizing housing and university registration. I just organized a dinner for all three incoming scholars: Autumn Elliot, Chad Smith and Ikumi Maekawa.

I have also been able to expand our food collection programs. In addition, I am continuing to serve as the Interact coordinator for the Barnato Park High School, which is in the inner city of Johannesburg. I see the students four times a month. I am also organizing a Rotary charity bicycle race in Johannesburg for March.

2- With the lecturing economics, it is quite fascinating. 91% of the South African population is non-white and under the former apartheid regime, access to education, specifically University level education was restricted. In 1994, South Africa had its first free elections and over the last ten years, the non-white majority is in the process of integrating into the University system. I, in partnership with Rotary and the University of the Witwatersrand, have been teaching introductory macroeconomic and introductory microeconomics to first year students enrolling at the University who come from previously disadvantaged backgrounds. This project, though very demanding and challenging, was been an extremely awarding experience. Now, as the majority of my students have advanced to second year at the University (with the highest pass rate for first year economics in the past 5 years)

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and I am teaching new students, I am very optimistic on the positive impact this program has on South Africa and the positive high profile position it gives to Rotary.

3-With the assistance of various banks and the University of the Witwatersrand, I have been able to play an instrumental role in helping to structure the current chaotic nature of the African funeral industry. In South Africa, over 8 million black South Africans participate in a tribal-based insurance program. The program is based on monthly contributing, depending on ability, and receiving a paid funeral for you or your immediate family upon death. As is common in many rural black communities throughout sub-Saharan Africa, re-insurance and actuarial services are not available and most of the proceeds are handled by tribal elders. Through Wits University and various domestic and international banks, we are working on bring free re-insurance and actuarial services to these participants. An enormous amount of the contributions could be better invested and receive interest payments. (Currently, fewer than 5% of tribal saving programs invest their funds in interest bearing accounts in the formal banking system)

This program is truly empowering and improving the lives of 8 million South Africans. Our trial versions have gone extremely well. The actuaries, accountants, and consultants have been providing assistance free of charge to these needy areas. In a time with rising death rates caused by AIDS/HIV and other diseases, proper insurance is needed. If successful, we can expand the program. The goal is to expand the program to a form of life insurance. If the primary income earner dies, irrespective of disease, there will be a payout to the dependents. Currently, South African insurance schemes do not pay out when the participant dies of AIDS/HIV or other sexually transmitted diseases.

Through all my various duties, especially when lecturing, I am constantly praising Rotary and Rotary District 7500 in particular for their remarkable support and for selecting me as an ambassadorial scholar and giving me this opportunity to serve.

I am not sure how much longer I will be in South Africa. I expect to stay at least another year, to complete my masters in economics and various projects mentioned above.

This Friday, the 11th of February, I am being inducted as an Honorary Member of the Rotary Club of Rosebank, Johannesburg. I will have photos of the induction and I will send photos shortly. I am very honored that immediately after the end of my scholarship I am joining a Rotary Club. Upon my return to the US, I plan on entering Rotary as a proper member and becoming very active in US Rotary projects, while continuing my participation in Rotary International programs. Yours in Rotary, Jacob Kosoff

Joshua Anderson

Dear Rotary District 7500

First Rotary Report

Taiwan is a beautiful island, which is why the Portuguese called it simply that, *la Ilha Formosa*, a name some people still use for Taiwan. My window looks out over mountains that rise dramatically and are still covered in green, even in November. Taiwan is also filled to brimming with exceedingly courteous and helpful people. Nearly every person has given me their name card and asked me to call them if I have any problems. They all seem to be subconsciously competing with each other to introduce me to the island. Between my host counselor, my neighbors, and even my landlord, I sometimes wonder if I'll have enough time to accept these invitations.

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Taiwan is also unique in that it can feel deceptively like the US, if you look past all of the signs in Chinese. With T.G.I. Friday's, Subway, Starbucks, and, of course, McDonald's all near my apartment, it's easy to imagine that you haven't really left at all. But then again, there is a Taoist temple with incense constantly burning next door to T.G.I. Friday's. There seem to be lots of examples of things that are very familiar on the surface, but take unexpected, Taiwanese twists. One day I decided to order a small pizza for dinner. When I got the pizza, I took it home and opened the box. To my surprise, the entire thing was covered in com. I expecting a relatively unhealthy meal of comfort food and here the Taiwanese completely changed my plans! Another image that stuck with me is a girl in a McDonald's uniform setting up an offering of fruit and ghost money for the spirits who might be roaming the area.

For me, this was the quintessential mixing of elements of Western culture with which I am so familiar into the traditional Chinese cultural milieu.

The Taiwanese are also amazingly supportive of anyone who willing to talk to them in Mandarin Chinese. Everywhere I go, people tell me how wonderful my Chinese is. At one restaurant, I simply said hello and the waitress was gushing about what good Chinese I spoke. I have, of course, gotten my fair share of strange looks while a Taiwanese person tried to sort through the wreckage of my last mangled Chinese sentence, but they are still very supportive and seem to be genuinely impressed.

Taiwan has also given me a taste of what can happen in terms of natural disasters that can happen here. We've had three small earthquakes in the last couple of weeks. Nothing much happened as a result of the earthquakes, though they did remind me that I should be careful where I place my picture frames. We've also had two typhoons, complete with typhoon days where schools and offices were closed. On my first typhoon day, during Typhoon Aere, I wasn't watching the news and had no idea that it was a typhoon day. I knew that it was raining and that there were a lot fewer cars on the roads. The first fact didn't surprise me; it rained quite often in the late summer, so why should that day be any different? The second fact was surprising, but I also noticed that the buses were running. I figured that if the buses were running, other things must be too.

Unfortunately, that was wrong. When I got to the Bank of America building, I had a nice conversation with the security guard there before he finally told me that no one was working because it was a typhoon day. He implied that I should have known that since it was pouring buckets of rain. In fact, I think the only reason that he was there was so that he could build a barrier of sandbags in front of the entrances in case the area started to flood. Needless to say, I have started to pay more attention to the news broadcasts when it seems likely that a typhoon day will be called. Of course, now there is also another motivation that I will not have to get up for class if I know there is a typhoon day ahead of time!

I have had a wonderful experience with Taiwanese Rotary so far. I was introduced to my host Rotary club on September 9th, right before classes started. I introduced myself and, being Taiwanese, the club members were all very supportive of my attempts at speaking Chinese. I feel very lucky to have been placed with my host Rotary club. They are incredibly diverse group of professionals, but they all welcomed me very warmly and asked me to call them the moment I ran into any problems. I have been back several times, as my school schedule has permitted.

I also attended a district wide awards ceremony on October 1th at which awards were given to various members of the community for their community service. On November 13th, I attended a lavish banquet held by the Lucky Star Club of Taipei to celebrate Rotary's Centennial Anniversary.

Celebrate & Have Fun in Rotary!

Another way in which I have been fulfilling my duties as an ambassador of goodwill is through language exchanges with people at school and in my apartment building. Since most of our conversations are non-programmed, We talk about our impressions of each others' countries or about what's going on in the world. Beyond standard things, like trying to explain the Electoral College system after the presidential election, we also talk about the more mundane cultural assumptions that we make. I remember evening I was talking with my neighbor showing her pictures of my family. She asked how many siblings I had (she was rightly proud of having remembered the word from a novel she was reading). I responded that I just had one sister. She said, "Oh, you have two siblings." I was very confused and responded, "No, I have one sibling." Now it was her turn to be confused. She then asked if I had four siblings, how many people would be in my family. When I answered seven, she burst out laughing and told me that in Chinese, you count yourself as a member of the group of siblings, which led to our confused conversation.

One attempt at cultural exchange turned out to be less successful than I had anticipated. My apartment building held a large party for the residents on the Mid-Autumn Festival, a traditional Chinese Holiday in late September this year. The building's superintendent rented a karaoke machine for all of the residents to entertain each other. My roommate, who is another Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar from the United States, and I decided that we would do the only Chinese song that r knew. The residents must have thought that we were really cute up there singing a song about how hard it is for this lonely guy to find a girlfriend and gave us a big hand afterwards. As the night wore on, they were looking for more people to sing karaoke, so we looked through the options for English songs that had different tempos than the ones the Taiwanese were choosing. Finally, it was our turn to sing the song we had chosen and, to our great embarrassment, we had never even heard it before. Luckily, one of our neighbors recognized the song and helped us through it.

As I have said repeatedly, the Taiwanese are always ready to help you with any problem you may be facing! I have been very lucky to be studying in Taiwan with all of the people here, both Rotarians and non-Rotarians. I am looking forward to the rest of my year here, which I am sure will be just as wonderful.

Yours in Rotary

Joshua Anderson

CENTENNIAL DISTRICT CONVENTION

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

FRANK DEVLYN

RI PRESIDENT

2000 - 2001

Celebrate & Have Fun in Rotary!

CENTENNIAL DISTRICT CONFERENCE

Location: Hudson Valley Spa and Resort, Kerhonkson, NY
Dates: May 13, 14, 15, 2005
Registration: NOW!!!!

Theme: CELEBRATE AND HAVE FUN WITH ROTARY

There has been a great deal of excitement concerning the Centennial District Conference. There are already over 200 people signed up! We have 11; yes count them, 11 Hospitality Suites. This year, while a bit of a drive, offers something for everyone. Besides the camaraderie and fellowship that is at the core of these Conferences, there will be a number of other activities suitable for the whole Family in a truly World Class Facility!

Key Note Speakers: High Energy Speakers representing the District and Region will be providing their insights and working plans on the Four Areas of Service as well as Membership Retention and a number of other exciting topics.

RUMOR HAS IT THAT PLANS INCLUDE A MYSTERY GUEST SPEAKER FROM RI!

Educational Sessions and Workshops: You asked for, you got it! There will be hands on sessions that will address those areas most requested by our District's Clubs. These include multiple year Club Planning and Implementation Strategies, How to obtain various Grants and Matching Grants from the District and RI, as well as a number of other key topics you have requested over the years. **Register Now!**

Centennial Celebration: There are a number of activities for everyone surrounding the Centennial Celebration of Rotary. Plans include some very interesting (and different) activities on Saturday afternoon and evening. Clubs will have the opportunity to "Strut Their Stuff" with a Centennial Table Decorating Contest for Friday Night as well as their own Hospitality Suites supporting the theme: Celebrate and Have Fun in Rotary. Yes, there will be Prizes!! **Register Now!**

SPA Activities: There are a number of activities both on the grounds and in the nearby area that will satisfy anyone's fancy. These include complete SPA facilities, Indoor Pool, Tennis, Golf, Rock Climbing, Ice Skating, Hot Air Balloon Rides, Wineries, Historical Tours, Game Room and Arcade, Miniature Golf and the list just keeps on growing! **Register Now!**

Hospitality Suites: There are currently 11 Hospitality Suites booked for the Conference. Each will all have their own Theme, (some have been pretty interesting in the past). Rumor has it that these may be the best yet. These truly provide the opportunity for all Rotarians to meet and greet each other in a purely social setting and support the theme of **Celebrate and Have Fun in Rotary.**

Golf Tournament: Speaking of Golf, there will be a Rotary Golf Tournament on Saturday with a shotgun start beginning at 12:30 PM. Get this .. For only \$45.00, you will receive a cart, greens fees, a box lunch, 18 holes of golf on a beautiful mountain course, prizes, and of course, the unlimited fellowship this type of event provides. **Register Now!**

Rumor has it that there may be a "Special Hole-In-One" prize available.
Register now!!

Celebrate & Have Fun in Rotary!

The District Conference is an excellent opportunity to get the **NEW MEMBERS** in your club engaged in Rotary. As Chairperson Masington has been emphasizing at Club Visits, this is an excellent forum to learn about Rotary and to begin thinking about ways "I" can become more involved. Presidents and Club Chairpersons should find a way to get as many new members to this event as possible. **Register Now!**

Due to the reservations policy at the Hotel and SPA as well as the Golf Course.....

WE NEED YOU TO REGISTER NOW!!!

PLEASE GET YOUR REGISTRATIONS IN TO JOE MASINGTON AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.

Doug Reynolds has also asked that anyone interested in the Golf Tournament please get their registrations to him as quickly as possible. We need this information in order to reserve the course as well as the Carts and other equipment.

REGISTRATION FORMS are available at www.rotary7500.org as well as through your Club President.

LOOK FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION VIA EMAIL DURING THE COMING DAYS.

Let's all make this Centennial District Conference the best ever!!

Communications Want to get the word out .. Quick?

Communications Director Dan Cortese says he can send to any mailing list. Just type your desired email message into the body of an email, and send to him, along with your requested recipient group. Better not to send your email as an attachment, which can be removed by the filters in different systems.

CENTENNIAL CONVENTION

Governor-Elect Nick Michals recommended that if you want to go to Centennial Convention, you should sign up as soon as possible. Attendance is predicted to be 50,000. The October issue of The Rotarian has registration forms. It may take 7 – 10 days to receive your registration response. Costs are \$375 for registration, plus hotel, plus plane fare (may be \$350). Some ticketed events will cost \$80 per ticket, but many events are free. A train may run from New York or Philadelphia. There will be no District hospitality room.

DISTRICT CALENDAR

See Club Calendar Below

CLUB CALENDAR

<u>Club</u>					<u>Activity</u>
March					
	Vince Lombardi Dinner	Sheraton, Edentown	3/3/2005	6:30 PM	732.938.5988
Burlington County	Centennial Celebration	Riverton Country Club	3/5/2005	6:00 PM	856.768.6778
	TEAM Meeting	Garden State Diner	3/9/2005	6:00 PM	
	PETS Meeting	Quality Inn, Toms River	3/12/2005	3:00 PM	
Wrightstown	50 - 50 Fund Raiser	Garden State Diner	3/17/2005	6:00PM	609.267.8135
	Rotary Leadership Institute	Raddison, Mt. Laurel	3/23/2005	7:30 AM	See President
April					
	Inter City Meeting	Holiday Inn Tinton Falls	4/7/2005	5:30 PM	732.544.5578
	TEAM Meeting	Garden State Diner	4/13/2005	6:00 PM	
	District Assembly	Georgian Court	4/23/2005		
	GSE Japanese Team		4/23/2005		

Celebrate & Have Fun in Rotary!

MONTHLY ATTENDANCE REPORTING

JANUARY, 2005

Club	Attend %	# Members	Monthly Net Gain Loss
Wrightstown	97.50	22	-1
PRC	95.65	31	-1
Moorestown Breakfast	90.64	47	0
Brick Lunch	85.45	55	1
Mount Laurel	84.76	31	-2
Riverside-Delran-Delanco	84.62	13	1
Brick Morning	84.09	33	-6
Maple Shade	83.67	49	0
Lakewood	81.00	45	2
Freehold	80.00	28	0
Forked River	79.59	62	1
Willingboro	78.58	62	1
Toms River	78.38	47	0
Jackson	77.60	28	0
Spring Lake-Brielle	76.68	32	0
Beachwood-Berkeley	76.66	17	0
Beverly	76.36	19	0
Point Pleasant Boro	75.00	32	-3
Red Bank	74.00	63	1
Moorestown	73.25	88	0
Seaside	67.86	20	-4
Marlton	67.75	24	0
Point Pleasant Beach	67.39	23	0
Burlington	65.50	44	0
Matawan	65.20	23	0
Great Bay	65.00	16	0
Central Ocean	63.70	29	0
Asbury Park	63.51	46	0
LBI	63.12	48	0
Medford-Vincentown	62.75	32	-1
Lakehurst-Manchester	60.23	22	0
Bordentown	60.19	27	0
Holmdel	60.00	10	0
Pemberton	59.26	27	0
Tinton Falls	59.21	19	2
Long Branch	57.90	59	0
Mount Holly	48.97	73	0
Hazlet	48.75	24	1
Southern Ocean	47.24	42	0
Toms River Sunrise		No Report	
Wall Sunrise		No Report	
	Net Gain/Loss		-8

Celebrate & Have Fun in Rotary!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

District 7500 would like to welcome these new members to our Rotary Family!

Brick Lunch Club

Deborah Lorenz
Mortgage Broker

Forked River Club

Patti O'Donnell
Counseling – Family Aid

Freehold Club

Stuart Sussman
Banking

Hazlet Club

Geoffrey Griffing
Banking

Jackson Club

James L. Carpenter
Auto Body Repair

Lakewood Club

Darrin Simone

William P. Leach
Financial Services

Ray Soto

Dianne R. LaPonzina
Banking Services

Medford Vincentown Club

Fred C. Wasiak
Camp Director

Point Pleasant Beach Club

Bill Jewett
Banking

Red Bank Club

Ann Higgins
Advertising

Tinton Falls Club

Gary Casazza
Real Estate

Karen Mastria
Banking

Veronica Dumas
Director of Sales, Hotel

Mike Warshaw
Attorney

Alexander B. Iler
Attorney

Philip H. Wolfson
Dentist

Celebrate & Have Fun in Rotary!

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

To: Russell Drabold, Rotary Club of Marlton

Greetings President Russell:

I'm writing from Rotary District 6270, founder of the World Affairs Seminar at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, and I ask for your assistance.

Please help us inform qualified high school sophomores, juniors, and seniors about the upcoming 29th annual Seminar being held June 11-17, 2005, and then ask them to apply to participate. Perhaps the Rotary Club of Marlton could assist with scholarship funding assistance as well.

Contact me via Email at was@uww.edu, via fax at 262-472-5210, via toll free phone at 888-404-4049 or visit our website: www.worldaffairsseminar.org for more details.

The old statement that "Knowledge is power" is even more true today. It is my sincere belief that in today's world, our emerging leaders need to seriously investigate, study, and understand that global issues such as conflict, war, genocide, economic imbalance, tyranny, and politics, among others, do have a daily impact on them and their world to be.

The World Affairs Seminar is one place for high school students to gain that knowledge. This year's topic is "GLOBALIZATION and TRADITION: Two Worlds Diverge?" and the keynoter is the noted Islamic scholar, Dr. Akbar Ahmed, author of Islam under Siege.

Thanks for your help...I look forward hearing from you. Cordially, Frederick R. "Rick" Luedke PDG District 6270, 1991-92

General Manager, World Affairs Seminar, University of Wisconsin-Whitewater
800 W. Main Street, Whitewater, WI 53190 Toll Free: 888 404 4049
Fax: 262 472 5210 Email: was@uww.edu