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THIS WEEK'S MEETING

Just a reminder that this week's meeting is being held at the Turkish Cultural Center in West Haven:

727 Campbell Ave, West Haven CT 06516
[Click for Directions](#)

HAITI UPDATE FROM COLIN GERSHON

At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the District Foundation the Board approved a resolution to transmit an additional \$6,000 to the Haiti Relief Committee of District 4060 (Dominican Republic) in addition to the \$20,000 which has already been sent for the provision of food and medical supplies in the Port-au-Prince area.

In addition, the Foundation approved a distribution of \$10,000 to the Haitian Health Foundation of Norwich, Connecticut and Jeremie, Haiti. These distributions represent the total of funds received from Rotary clubs, Interact clubs and Rotarians to date. A list of donors and a current report of our Haiti Relief efforts can be located on the District website.

RED HEARTS PURPLE PINKIES

I am pleased to report that we raised almost \$1000 for polio eradication at the Red Hearts/Purple Pinkies Dinner/Dance last Friday evening. It was an enjoyable evening with a great DJ, and some amazing dancers!

3RD ANNUAL WORLD WATER SUMMIT

Rotary International News -- 16 February 2010

The Water and Sanitation Rotarian Action Group and the [Rotary International Water Resource Group](#) will host the third annual World Water Summit on 19 June at the Delta Centre-Ville Hotel in Montréal, Québec, Canada.

The [summit](#), which will convene the day before the 2010 RI Convention, will provide in-depth views on current water and sanitation challenges and solutions. During breakout sessions, experts in the field and experienced Rotarians will share their knowledge and offer advice.

Access to safe water and adequate sanitation is a critical building block in community development. More than 6,000 people die every day from water-related illnesses, and about 2.6 billion people lack access to adequate sanitation.

The daylong World Water Summit is open to all interested parties.

Register before 31 March to take advantage of the early-bird fee. [Learn more.](#)

NEW GRANT MANAGEMENT E-LEARNING MODULE

Rotary International News -- 15 February 2010

Can you identify good and poor grant management?

The [latest Future Vision e-learning tool](#) focuses on proper stewardship. This scenario-based module highlights grant management practices in each stage of a project according to the Future Vision model.

Test your own knowledge and take the [grant management](#) module.

SCALING NEW HEIGHTS FOR POLIO

By Dan Nixon Rotary International News -- 18 February 2010

"You breathe and you breathe and you breathe. And then you take a step."



That's how Finbar O'Sullivan, a member of the Rotary Club of Kelowna, British Columbia, Canada, describes climbing to the summit of 23,000-foot Mount Aconcagua in Argentina, the highest peak in the Western Hemisphere. "It was physically brutal -- probably one of the hardest things I think I've ever done."

O'Sullivan, 56, was part of a team of seven climbers from Kelowna, including four Rotarians and a guide, who made the ascent in December, raising US\$48,000 for Rotary's US\$200 Million Challenge. The feat was part of the Kelowna club's Peaks for Polio project to raise awareness of the disease and funds to help eradicate it.

O'Sullivan came up with the idea for the project in 2007, after attending a Rotary club meeting as a guest.



"The talk was on the PolioPlus program, my first lesson on the work Rotary does," says O'Sullivan, who has vivid memories of polio's effects on children he knew as a boy in England. "This was something I wanted to be part of. I wanted in."

He joined the Kelowna club that year. In planning the project, the team decided on Laurie Skreslet as its guide. Skreslet had climbed Mount Aconcagua 27 times and became the first Canadian to scale Mount Everest in 1982.

The project's goal is to make the climb an annual fundraiser until Rotary's challenge ends on 30 June 2012. The target is to have the next 20 participants each raise \$50,000, for a combined total of \$1 million.

O'Sullivan described the last 1,000 feet of the ascent as "brutal," up a 45-degree incline full of ice and snow, buffeted by winds that felt "just like a chainsaw cutting through you."

"Climbing this mountain was extremely difficult. But it is nothing compared with the difficulties faced by a child afflicted with polio," says team member and Kelowna Rotarian Gordon Savage. He invites Rotarians to learn more about the challenge and to assemble a team to climb a mountain closer to them as a fundraiser for polio.

Contact the project organizers at peaksforpolio@gmail.com, or go to www.peaksforpolio.com to learn more.

NIGERIA HITS NEW HIGH NOTES AGAINST POLIO

By Dan Nixon Rotary International News -- 16 February 2010

For over four decades, folklorist Dan Maraya Jos has stirred the hearts of Nigerians with songs on a range of social issues.

He has written more than 1,000 songs and released 150 records, using his musical talent to promote Operation Feed the Nation, the Universal Primary Education program, and other national initiatives.

In January, Dan Maraya was named Rotary's ambassador for polio eradication in Nigeria. "[He] no doubt has become a living legend with his lyrics and kind of music, which has gained acceptance amongst the low and mighty, in the towns, and even in the remotest rural areas," says Nigeria PolioPlus Committee Chair Busuyi Onabolu.

A custodian of Hausa culture and tradition, Dan Maraya has also performed in several countries in Africa, Europe, and Latin America, as well as in the United States. His long list of awards includes Nigeria's Federal Republic Medal and the Order of the Niger.

Dan Maraya has recorded three radio public service announcements (PSAs) in a regional version of Rotary International's "[We Are This Close to Ending Polio](#)" campaign. The PSAs are aimed at listeners who speak the Hausa language.

"President Yar'Adua is calling, the Sultan of Sokoto is calling, traditional and religious leaders are calling, and Rotary International is calling all families to take children under five years for polio immunization," he says in one of the PSAs.

Such social mobilization efforts helped vaccination teams reach more than 40 million children during Nigeria's Immunization Plus Days, held from 30 January to 2 February. For the first time in Nigeria, the new bivalent oral polio vaccine was used to target the two types of wild poliovirus remaining in the country: types 1 and 3.

Nigeria is one of four countries in the world (along with Afghanistan, India, and Pakistan) where polio remains endemic. In 2009, the incidence of polio in Nigeria dropped by more than 50 percent, compared with 2008. Only 13 cases have been reported since August.

"What this means in very simple terms is that we are now reaching more children," says Onabolu. "And Rotary International, as catalyst for the [Global Polio Eradication Initiative](#), is determined to support every effort at mobilizing the citizenry toward ensuring every child is immunized."

JOKE OF THE WEEK

Ole and Sven die in a snowmobiling accident, drunker than skunks, and go to Hell.

The Devil observes that they are really enjoying themselves. He says to them 'Doesn't the heat and smoke bother you?'

Ole replies, 'Vell, ya know, ve're from norderm Minnesoota, da land of snow an ice, an ve're jyst happy fer a chance ta varm up a little bit, ya know.'

The devil decides that these two aren't miserable enough and turns up the heat even more.

When he returns to the room of the two guys from Minnesota, the devil finds them in light jackets and hats, grilling Walleye and drinking beer.

The devil is astonished and exclaims, 'Everyone down here is in abject misery, and you two seem to be enjoying yourselves?'

Sven replies, 'Vell, ya know, ve don't git too much varm veather up dere at da Falls, so ve've jyst got ta haff a fish fry vhen da veather's dis nice.'

The devil is absolutely furious. He can hardly see straight. Finally he comes up with the answer. The two guys love the heat because they have been cold all their lives. The devil decides to turn all the heat off in Hell. The next morning, the temperature is 60 below zero, icicles are hanging everywhere, and people are shivering so bad that they are unable to wail, moan or gnash their teeth.



The devil smiles and heads for the room with Ole and Sven. He gets there and finds them back in their parkas, bomber hats, and mittens. They are jumping up and down, cheering, yelling and screaming like mad men.

The devil is dumbfounded, 'I don't understand, when I turn up the heat you're happy. Now it's freezing cold and you're still happy. What is wrong with you two?'

They both look at the devil in surprise and say, 'Vell, don't ya know, if hell iss froze over, dat must mean da Vikings von da Super Bowl.

MEETING SCHEDULE

Day	Date	Event
Mon	Feb 22 nd	Rotary's 105 th Anniversary Meeting to be held at: The Turkish Cultural Center in West Haven 727 Campbell Ave, West Haven CT 06516 CLICK FOR DIRECTIONS
Sat	Feb 27 th	District Leadership Seminar
Sat	Mar 13 th	World Rotaract Day
Mon	Mar 15 th	Student of the Month
Mon	Apr 12 th	Student of the Month
Sat	Apr 17 th	District Assembly – Meriden
Sat	Apr 24 th	Community Tag Sale Fundraiser with Amber Alert Registrations and the Gas Card Raffle drawing Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church @ 600 Shepard Ave.
Fri-Sun	Apr 30 th -May 2 nd	District Conference – Burlington VT
Mon	May 10 th	Student of the Month
Sun-Wed	Jun 20 th – 23 rd	International Convention Montreal

Of the things we think, say, or do...

