



JOHN KENNY
Rotary International President

COLIN M. GERSHON
District Governor

PAUL MANGELS
Assistant District Governor

LYNDA HAMMOND
Hamden Club President

CONTENTS

Calling all Hands, Feet, and Other Body Parts	1
District Assembly A Huge Success for Hamden	1
Gates: keep up fight against polio.....	1
Help RI get a free ad in USA TODAY.....	1
Supplying Central America with safe, fuel-efficient stoves	1
Rotarians make good use of social media.....	2
Joke of the Week.....	3
Meeting Schedule.....	3

CALLING ALL HANDS, FEET, AND OTHER BODY PARTS

Lynda is kind enough to allow me to discuss the final planning elements of Saturday's tag sale at this Monday's meeting.

For anyone planning to participate in the tag sale, this is a very important meeting because we'll need to coordinate schedules, understand the tasks at hand, and gain a clear common understanding of what we need to do.

And there's a lot to do and think about for sure, ranging from when to show up, things we need to say to our guests, and even under what methods we'll accept payment.

I'm looking forward to seeing you all tomorrow evening.

DISTRICT ASSEMBLY A HUGE SUCCESS FOR HAMDEN

Perhaps it's a record, but 10 Hamden Rotarians attended District Assembly this past Saturday, along with two Quinnipiac Rotaractors.

Despite Julie Reppenhagen's insistence that there were plenty of seats for everyone, several of us found other spots to sit or stand for this wonderful event.

We also learned that there were just less than 1,600 cases of Polio reported worldwide last year. The number that wasn't reported that is of significance is the number of people that still haven't been vaccinated. I don't know what that number is, but it's many times larger than the 1,600 cases of Polio reported last year.

Rotary is only 58% done reaching our \$200 million dollar goal (\$117 million with \$83 million to go). With 18 months to go, we'd better get busy.

Early in the afternoon I found Ms. Jackie in the halls on her way to her next session, and she commented that although she'd never been to District Assembly before, she was so pleased with what she was exposed to that she was very sorry she'd missed previous years. As this was also my first District Assembly I have to concur.

Sean and I attended the session on scholarships, and he was so impressed by what both RI and the district have to offer that this morning he sent off "Service Above Self" scholarship application materials to one of his students.

For those of you who missed it this year, you may want to consider attending next year. It's not only a great way to learn about what Rotary is doing, but to meet and learn from other Rotarians in the district.

GATES: KEEP UP FIGHT AGAINST POLIO

Rotary International News -- 15 April 2010

In a video message to Rotarians, Bill Gates, cochair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, thanked Rotarians for their hard work in the effort to eradicate polio and congratulated Rotary for surpassing the halfway point in meeting Rotary's US\$200 Million Challenge.

"The work you're doing to raise funds for the program is critical, especially given the tight government budgets and increasing costs for a very aggressive polio program," Gates said. "Your work as advocates is also very important. We need to keep this fight high on the world's list of priorities."

Rotary has been a leader in the fight against polio since the launch of the PolioPlus program in 1985. Recently, the Gates Foundation awarded two grants totaling \$355 million to Rotary in support of its work in eradicating the disease. In response, Rotary pledged to raise \$200 million. To date, Rotary has raised \$117.5 million.

[See the Video By Clicking Here](#)

HELP RI GET A FREE AD IN USA TODAY

Rotary International News -- 16 April 2010

Help get the word out about our humanitarian work. Be a part of the "#AmericaWants" Twitter campaign to help Rotary International win a full-page, full-color ad in USA TODAY, valued at \$189,400.

To receive the free ad, Rotary must get the most tweets and retweets from 13 April to 16 April. Voting ends at 11:59 p.m. ET. For your vote to count, each tweet and retweet must include this exact phrase: "#AmericaWants @rotary to get a full-page ad in USA TODAY." You can tweet as many times as you like. Those who participate may receive a free End Polio Now pin.

SUPPLYING CENTRAL AMERICA WITH SAFE, FUEL-EFFICIENT STOVES

By Peter Schmidtke Rotary International News -- 4 March 2010

Six years ago, Rotarian Nancy Hughes had a career-defining experience as a volunteer with a U.S. medical team in Guatemala.



She met an 18-year-old indigenous woman who had lost the use of her hands at age 2 after falling into a cooking fire. Hughes learned that the common practice of cooking over open, indoor fires led to a high incidence of burns and smoke inhalation, especially in children. The team's doctors restored function to the woman's hands, and her expressions of gratitude spurred Hughes to search for a way to prevent such injuries.

In 2004, Hughes, a member of the Rotary Club of Eugene Southtowne, Oregon, wrote the first of five Matching Grants that provided more than 2,300 safe stoves in Guatemala over a three-year period.

She discovered a less expensive, lighter prototype, however, in a 50-pound portable stove called the Ecocina. The stove resembles a large cement flowerpot and has a partially covered top and a sheltered opening on one side. Designed by Larry Winiarski and Eugene Southtowne Rotarian Ken Goyer, the Ecocina is insulated to prevent burns and requires up to 50 percent less wood than an open fire. It also reduces smoke and carbon monoxide output by at least 70 percent.

In 2008, Hughes and five other Eugene Southtowne Rotarians founded [StoveTeam International](#). Aided by two Volunteer Service Grants, she and others from her club traveled twice to El Salvador and Guatemala to scout locations for Ecocina factories and educate communities and local organizations about the stoves.

That same year, a group of volunteers, including Hughes, constructed workbenches and storage areas for a factory near Sonsonate, El Salvador, that employs up to 15 workers. Two Matching Grants supplied raw materials and helped subsidize the \$40 cost of the stove to buyers. In its first full year of operation, the factory produced 6,000 Ecocinas and is now self-sufficient.

"We decided we were not about producing stoves; we were about producing factories to produce stoves," Hughes says. "And I really like the idea that we are providing people with employment."

"We are all very grateful because this has changed our lives," echoes factory owner Gustavo Peña, pointing to the company's positive impact on "all who do the factory work" and "all those families who receive an Ecocina."

Peña coordinates village Ecocina demonstrations with Peace Corps volunteers and solicits outside interest, including a recent order from the Mexican government for 3,000 stoves. He has also helped train owners for three factories in Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. These Matching Grant-supported factories started producing Ecocinas in early 2010, and a fourth, independently funded factory will begin operating in Nicaragua in April. Rotary clubs in El Salvador and the Guatemala Sur club in Guatemala have contributed to the effort by overseeing distribution, assisting in construction, and offsetting the cost of the Ecocinas to buyers.

Since its founding, StoveTeam International has received approximately \$370,000 from 40 Rotary clubs, Foundation grants, and private donations.

"Demands for new factories arrive in my e-mail every week," says Hughes, who is planning operations in Fiji, Mexico, and Paraguay. "New factory owners are learning stove production and business practices and more and more people are receiving fuel-efficient stoves every day."

ROTARIANS MAKE GOOD USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA

By Arnold R. Grahl Rotary International News -- 16 April 2010

Worldwide, Rotarians are finding ways to use social media to build fellowship and get new ideas about running their clubs.

Some Rotarians have begun using Rotary International's official LinkedIn group to identify other Rotarians who are planning to attend the [RI Convention in Montréal, Québec, Canada, 20-23 June](#).

Keith Tsukishima, a member of the Rotary Club of Richmond, B.C., will be going to his fifth RI Convention this year. Tsukishima recently asked other members of the LinkedIn group whether they would be attending, and more than 50 people responded.

"Rotarians communicating -- whether on social networking sites, or face to face, or at their meetings -- is like glue," Tsukishima says. "Sharing Rotary with others fosters more interest and promotes the diversity of this amazing organization."

He says he is looking forward to the convention as a chance to meet new friends and discover opportunities in Rotary. He is encouraged by the effectiveness of social media.

"Perhaps we are all trying to find more commonalities and want to belong to something meaningful," he says. "Meeting all these folks online puts faces and personalities into the picture. No longer are we just 1 of 1.2 million Rotarians. These are real people, with real ideas, real and sometimes different thoughts. These discussion groups cross age barriers, geographic barriers, gender barriers, and cultural barriers."

Dave Getz, a member of the Rotary Club of Mechanicsburg-North, Pennsylvania, USA, will be attending his second convention. He also went to the 2007 RI Convention in Salt Lake City, Utah.

"One thing I have enjoyed about Rotary is the opportunity to meet other Rotarians," he says. "Meeting those with whom I share something in common, whether it be the fellowship of musicians or a LinkedIn group or someone who shares my classification, enhances my Rotary experience."

Getz says the LinkedIn group has helped him this year in his role as club membership chair. He received valuable insights from group members on induction ceremonies, including one idea from a Ukrainian Rotarian.



THE CHARM



"We are hosting an exchange student from Ukraine this year, which made that especially meaningful," he says.

John Fortney, of the Rotary Club of Toronto, will be going to his seventh convention in eight years. He says more than 80 members of his club, as well as Rotaractors, are planning to attend. He is most looking forward to the fellowship, and he has some advice for fellow Rotarians on what to do: "If any of you are going to the province of Québec for the first time, treat yourselves to a side trip to Québec City. It is the only walled city in North America and is over 400 years old. You will swear you are in Europe."

JOKE OF THE WEEK

At the Hennepin County Medical Center they've built a machine that transfers the pain of childbirth from the mother to the father. It is still experimental though.

A couple came in, the mother was going into labor, and the doctors asked them if they would like to try the procedure. Since the doctors promised to be careful, the couple said, "sure, go ahead". The medical team started out transferring 5% of the pain. Things seemed okay so they upped it to 15%. At 25%, the husband broke into a sweat. He was a good sport though and kept saying "crank it up a little more".

Eventually, knowing that they were making medical history, the couple said "let's go for it" and the doctors turned the dial to 100%. The couple delivered a healthy baby. They took their baby home and found the mailman dead on the front porch.

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



MEETING SCHEDULE

Day	Date	Event
Mon	Apr 19 th	Tag Sale Planning
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.
Mon	Apr 26 th	Kyle Torres, Student @ St. Martin's de Porres Academy - Community Service Project to Address the needs of kids in foster care.
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

CAN'T MAKE THE MONDAY MEETING?

Town	Day	Time	Location	Address
Branford	Mon	12:15 PM	Italian-American Club	40 Hamre Lane
Hamden	Mon	05:45 PM	The Playwright	1232 Whitney Ave
North Haven	Tue	07:15 AM	Breakfast Nook	448 Washington Ave
New Haven	Tue	12:15 PM	Graduate Club	155 Elm St
West Haven	Wed	12:15 PM	App's Ristorante	283 Capt. Thomas Blvd
Orange	Fri	12:15 PM	Race Brook Ctry Club	246 Derby Ave
Woodbridge	Fri	12:15 PM	Coachman Square	21 Bradley Rd
E-Club (Dist. 7890)			http://www.rotaryclub7890.org/	

"In truth, people can generally make time for what they choose to do; it is not really the time but the will that is lacking."

~Sir John Lubbock 1834 – 1913 British Statesman, Banker, Naturalist