



ROTARY VOTARY

The Rotary Club of West Chester

Jonathan Majiyabe, International President 2003-2004

Bulletin #02

www.WestChesterRotary.us

July 8, 2004

This Week's Program: July 8, 2004

Speakers : Dave Ellis and Carol Metzker
Immunization Day
Arranged by Gary Hewitt

Next Week's Program: July 15, 2004

Reclassification Talks
Arranged by Shannon Cassidy

MINUTES by Fran Luft

Steve Quigley called the meeting to order. The invocation was given by **Steve Godsall-Myers**. **President Steve** announced that the Rotary Family Picnic on June 27th was a huge success. **Annalie Lorgus** did a fantastic job as hostess.

In the May issue of the Rotary magazine there is an article about the new Rotary International president and our very own **Carol Metzger** has also written an article. Be sure to read it.

Andrew LaRosa introduced the following visiting Rotarians: Bill Hicks (WEGO), John Saling (GWCSunrise) and Robbe Healey (GWCSunrise). **Dick Yoder** introduced his guest Greg Radford, **Tom Varley** introduced his guest Jim Stuart. **Scott Scrivner** introduced his guest Arlene McGinnigan, **Don Stonestrom** introduced his guest Christine Colby and **Carol Metzger** introduced guests Lynmar and Claudie Brock.

Bob Connolly informed us of his 500 mile ride across Pennsylvania. This will be a fund raiser for Rotary Foundation. Sponsors have many opportunities to contribute to each of the 500 miles. So far Bob has raised \$300 towards this effort.

Carol Metzger announced that **John Kehner** has had successful surgery for cancer of the liver. Cards and visits would be appreciated. Ray McCarthy who now resides in Mass. is ill.

We wish both men speedy recoveries. Please keep them in your prayers.

Bob Frame announced the results from the Rotary/Lions Golf outing on the 28th. Lions won by 3 strokes. Tickets are still available for Rotary Night at the Phillies July 21st.

Applications are available for the Rotary Chili Cook Off on the Rotary website. This event will take place Sunday, October 10th from noon until 5 p.m.

Bill Ronayne won the 50/50. The big pot has over \$800 for the lucky person.

SPEAKERS REVIEW by Eric Metzker

Lynmar Brock, of the Rotary Club of Philadelphia, updated us as to the progress of work in Pakistan of the Rotary International Afghan Refugee Committee. At the request of Rotarians in Muslim countries, Rotary International undertook to provide relief to over 50,000 refugees of 1 million allowed to enter Pakistan from the war in Afghanistan.

In a landmark move, Rotary International teamed with the UN High Commission on Refugees (UNHCR) in December of 2001. Cooperation with the UNHCR was key to locating the refugees and obtaining the necessary security support from UN forces. Relief was targeted for the northwest frontier province in Kashmir. In what he described as a two-phase effort, the relief work started with a 'feed them a fish' phase followed by a 'teach

them to fish' phase to enable the refugees to eventually return to productive life in Afghanistan.

Located over the Khyber Pass, a 33 mile-long passage through the Hindu Kush mountain range, one of the two camps served by this effort contained 25,000 people on barren rock with no water, fuel, nor food. To reach this area, Lynmar and other members of the Refugee Committee traveled in UN Land Cruisers accompanied fore and aft by UN military vehicles armed against the constant threat of bandits.

To fund this cause, Rotary clubs around the world raised \$2 million. As chair of the RI Afghan Refugee Committee, Lynmar had the money transferred to Karachi, Pakistan where Rotary invested it at 9% interest. This move enabled Rotary to apply all of the donated money to the relief effort by using only interest earnings to pay for the logistics of the effort. The donations bought blankets, kerosene, fresh water, rice, tea, beans etc. which has served to sustain basic life.

In the following years the relief effort moved into the 'teach them to fish' phase as funds went to helping the refugees sustain themselves. Lessons in trades such as carpentry, tailoring, and carpet weaving prepared the refugees to help re-enter their country's economy in the extensive rebuilding efforts necessary after the war.

Perhaps the most moving testimony as to why Rotary and we as Rotarians dedicate our time and treasure to these efforts came from Lynmar's visit to a class of girls at one of the camps. These girls, ranging in age from 8 to 11, were learning school lessons in a tent when Lynmar and other Committee members were introduced to them. The girls immediately withdrew, some screaming and crying. As the only fair-skinned person in the group, Lynmar fit the description given to the girls of what an American would look like – that is, what the people would look like who were coming to kill them. As Lynmar points

out, with the Rotary emblem on the blankets, perhaps the Rotary wheel will stand for friendship between people around the world.

SAVE THE DATE

July 21 Rotary Night at the Phillies
Sept. 26 International Student Picnic
 @ West Chester University

NATIONAL IMMUNIZATION DAY

For those of you who are interested in a hands-on International Rotary Foundation and polio eradication experience, please consider participating in the upcoming November 22nd National Immunization Day in India.

There are two trips to choose from this fall. In a nutshell, the one in the north includes additional time touring (and a visit to the magnificent Taj Mahal and tiger preserve). The trip to the south (the one I'll participate in) is shorter, spends more time on the polio eradication project and may be a bit more "rustic." Itineraries and details are at:
www.westchesterrotary.us/forms/indian1.PDF">

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“HOW TO GET IN TOUCH”

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