

# The Pathfinder

May, 2003

District 7090 Newsletter

DG Joe DePaolo

## Amherst North celebrates Arbor day

The Rotary Club of Amherst North celebrated Arbor day by planting six trees at six schools in the Sweet Home School District in Amherst, NY.

The tree planting project was started in 1991 as part of the Preserve Planet Earth program started by the late Past RI President Paulo Costa.

As a result of the that initiative, the Amherst North club has planted more than 100 trees in the Sweet Home School District to date.

Here Rotarian Pravin Suchak works with the MapleMere Service Club members who are planting a tree in the school grounds.



## Foundation needs your help. Now!

The latest Rotary Foundation monthly contribution report shows that District 7090 has a long way to go if this year's Annual Giving goal is to be reached.

The figures up to April 30 show District clubs have contributed \$110,436, or just \$34.97 per member, a long way from the goal of \$75 per member as established at the start of this Rotary year.

This same report indicates that District clubs have been supporting the PolioPlus initiative in a major way, but without the support for the Annual Giving program, many of Rotary's outstanding programs which use the Foundation funds will suffer extreme cutbacks in the future.

While 29 clubs have yet to contribute this Rotary year, several clubs are above the \$100 per member mark, and these include Hamilton Sunset at \$133, Hamilton AM at \$125 and Grimsby @ Noon at \$113.

Other clubs over the \$100 mark include Salamanca at \$111, Lincoln at \$108, and Ancaster at

\$101.

Two of the top ranked clubs in total Annual Givings are not on the per capita list as being over \$100, but both St. Catharines and Brantford are above the \$75 market. St. Catharines leads in total Annual Givings with \$10,729, followed by Brantford at \$9,158 and Hamilton AM at \$7,863.

The District had a total contribution goal of \$236,250 for this Rotary year, and PDG Ellard McBane, chair of the district's Annual Giving committee, notes that the results to date show that only 46.75 per cent has been achieved.

He has asked all clubs to get their contributions in before the end of the Rotary year to help this vital work of Rotary.

And, he issued a special appeal to those 29 clubs who have yet to contribute at all this year, noting that many of these clubs did not support the work of the Rotary Foundation in the previous year.

Sow the Seeds of Love

# Innovative new program launched to strengthen polio eradication efforts

An innovative financing program to help eradicate polio worldwide by 2005 was launched recently when the World Bank approved a US\$28 million loan for the purchase of oral polio vaccine in Nigeria, Africa's most polio-endemic country.

The World Bank, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Rotary International, and the United Nations Foundation, which together comprise the Investment Partnership for Polio, said they would move swiftly over the coming months to fund the immunization of children in other polio-endemic countries.

A \$20 million loan for eradicating polio in Pakistan is scheduled to be approved in May.

To fund the program, the partnership has established a trust fund with \$25 million from the Gates Foundation and \$25 million from Rotary International and the UN Foundation. This \$50 million investment will buy down \$120-140 million in World Bank loans. In this way, developing countries can mobilize what ultimately becomes grant funding to eradicate polio worldwide.

"Never before has polio been more geographically contained, with 99 per cent of cases found in Nigeria, Pakistan and India," said past Rotary International President and incoming Trustee Chairman James Lacy.

"This new, innovative financing approach will build upon our efforts by maximizing donor dollars and ensuring positive results."

According to World Bank President James D. Wolfensohn, "This financial innovation is bring-

ing the goal of a polio-free world one large step closer to becoming reality."

Rotary International President-elect Jonathan Majiyagbe said, "In my homeland of Nigeria, 201 children were infected by this disease last year, alone.

"No child today should ever have to suffer from this crippling disease, as an effective vaccine has made polio totally preventable. We must all continue our efforts to ensure that every child is vaccinated, and protect our investment in a polio-free world by 2005."

"With polio eradication within reach, it's critical to increase funding now to ensure that we finish the job we've started," said Patty Stonesifer, co-chair and president of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

"Eliminating polio will help not just those countries facing the disease, but also the entire world, which will never again have to fear a polio resurgence."

"The new World Bank plan to support polio eradication proves that large institutions can be very innovative in promoting global public goods," said UN Foundation

president Timothy Wirth.

"The private sector partners in the plan are also demonstrating unusual flexibility as well as typical generosity. . . . I hope the unique partnership represented here in the World Bank plan - like the WHO-UNICEF-CDC-Rotary partnership carrying out the polio eradication initiative on the ground - will be a model for many others."

The worldwide eradication campaign is now in its final stages. However, achieving the objective is severely threatened by the \$275 million shortfall in funding.

Consequently, the partnership is calling on the wider international community to help meet the funding gap and therefore to deliver a polio-free world by 2005.

Once the polio threat is lifted from the world, not only will the cost of medical care be lifted from the countries which can least afford such expenditures, but the monies saved will go into economic growth, education, and solving other health care issues and diseases.

The benefits far out reach the costs. Have you supported the Polio Eradication Fund?

## Lacy to address fellowship dinner

The Southern Ontario Rotary Fellowship dinner, originally scheduled for May 5, has now been rescheduled for June 16th.

Past Rotary International President Jim Lacy, who will become Rotary Foundation Trustee chair on July 1, will be the guest speaker for the occasion.

The event will be held at the Burlington Convention Centre, on Burloak just off the QEW in east Burlington, providing easy access for Rotarians from District 7090.

The cost for this evening of great fellowship, with the opportunity to hear an outstanding speaker, is \$50.

You can register online by logging onto: [www.rotary7080.org](http://www.rotary7080.org).

FROM THE DESK OF DG JOE

# Big push needed for Rotary Foundation

As you read this edition of Rotary News, Joan and I are in Australia for the Rotary International Convention. We have had the opportunity to experience a number of these conventions over the years, and it is quite the opportunity to hear such outstanding speakers, sit in on informative seminars, and enjoy the fellowship of Rotarians from around the world.

A number of District 7090 Rotarians and their spouses have joined us in Brisbane for the convention, and we know that they will return to their clubs with added enthusiasm about the ideals of Rotary.

The next Rotary International Convention will be held in Osaka, Japan, but the year after, Rotary's Centennial year, it will be in Chicago, right on our doorstep so to speak. I would urge Rotarians to start planning now for this once only opportunity - not only the opportunity to attend a Rotary Convention nearby, but a very special one at that. A convention to celebrate Rotary's 100th anniversary.

It is hard to believe that my year in office is now almost over. In a few short weeks, I will be passing the torch to DGE Bob Bruce, who has been busy putting his final plans in place for the upcoming year.

But there is still work to be done this year. Important work that we as Rotarians must not overlook.

One of our obligations as a Rotarian is to support the Rotary Foundation's Annual Giving program, but in looking at the most recent figures, District 7090 will be hard pressed to match last year's totals.

There has been excellent support for the PolioPlus program, with \$234,804 donated by District clubs to the end of April, but as you will see in another story in this issue of Rotary News, we are falling far behind in our contributions to the Annual Giving program, the backbone of so many of our programs.

In the Rotary year ending last June 30, District 7090 contributed \$200,034 to the Annual Giving program, or \$63.79 per member, but with time running out in this Rotary year, the latest figures show only \$110,436 or \$34.97 per member.

Our goal for this Rotary year for the Annual Giving program was \$236,250, or \$75 a member, so we are a long way from achieving that goal.

Now I know that many clubs wait until the last minute to send in their contributions to this program, but I would urge that you do it now to make sure that the monies are counted in this Rotary year.

Statistics can be revealing, and there is one that really stands out in RI's latest release. There are 29 clubs in District 7090 which have not donated a cent to the Rotary Foundation this Rotary year, and more disturbing,

many of those clubs did not contribute last year.

Some clubs have done a fantastic job, with six clubs over the \$100 per member figure, and to these clubs, I offer my heartfelt thanks.

And to those clubs, which have not contributed as of yet, please make your donations now. You can make a difference.



**Joan and DG Joe**

## District golf tournament is set for Legends course

The third annual Rotary District 7090 Invitational Golf Tournament is scheduled for Aug. 8 - and you are invited.

The event will be held at the Legends on the Niagara course in Niagara Falls, Canada, and will feature great golf, traditional Rotary fellowship and lots of prizes.

There will be a shotgun start at 1:30, with the Rotary Trophy awarded for low foursome, presented at the closing dinner.

For Rotarians who prefer a round of croquet,

Buffalo Rotary's croquet aficionado, John Sprague will be testing your skills at the Rotary Croquet Tournament, scheduled to get under way at 4 p.m.

The cost of golf, lunch and dinner is \$120 US or \$170 CND and that includes green fees, cart, and prizes. Dinner only is \$35 US or \$50 CND.

For more information, or to register, contact the Rotary Club of Buffalo at 716-854-3397 or email [jhawkes@buffalorotary.org](mailto:jhawkes@buffalorotary.org). You can also register on the district website at [www.rotarydistrict7090.org](http://www.rotarydistrict7090.org).



# Poster contest set for Rotary Centennial

Rotary International will be celebrating 100 years of service in the year 2005. As part of that celebration, Rotary clubs are invited to organize children's poster contests. One winner selected from each participating Rotary club will be entered into a Rotary district competition. One winner from each district competition will be entered into one of 34 zone competitions. One winner from each zone competition will compete in the international competition.

Considering the upcoming summer holidays, many clubs are just starting to get organized in September and contact with the schools is impossible during the summer. For that reason it is recommended that the clubs get started on this project now and make the

schools aware of the poster contest so that everyone is ready to go in time.

Children ages 10, 11, 12, or 13 on 1 January 2003 are eligible to compete. Posters should express the concept of providing service to others in the community and in the world. Additional information is available online at the following link on the RI website:

[http://www.rotary.org/newsandinfo/downloadcenter/pdfs/cent\\_poster\\_contest.pdf](http://www.rotary.org/newsandinfo/downloadcenter/pdfs/cent_poster_contest.pdf)

Clubs should register their contest with the District at the address given below. Club contest entries must be submitted to the district no later than 15 November 2003.

### Club projects

Rotary's Centennial in 2005 provides the ideal opportunity for

Rotary clubs to showcase their service projects in 30,000 communities worldwide. All clubs are invited to join in this global effort to demonstrate the remarkable scope and power of Rotary service.

To qualify as a Rotary club Centennial community project, all projects should meet the following criteria:

- Fulfill a daily identifiable community need;
- Provide a solution that has measurable ranks;
- Feature permanent sign, plaque, or inscription at the project site that identifies both the sponsoring Rotary club and Rotary's Centennial.

Projects that meet these criteria will appear in a special photo display at the 2005 RI Convention, and the sponsoring clubs will receive special recognition. Some projects will also be featured in RI publications and on the RI website.

To participate in the program, clubs must register their centennial community project with Rotary by July 1, 2003. The registration form is available online at RI Web Site:

[http://www.rotary.org/newsandinfo/downloadcenter/pdfs/cent\\_project\\_form.pdf](http://www.rotary.org/newsandinfo/downloadcenter/pdfs/cent_project_form.pdf)

All projects must be completed by February 2005, Rotary's Centennial month.

Besides registering the club's Centennial projects with RI, 7090 clubs are requested to register these projects with the District as well.

Please fax a copy of the registration form to:

Pravin D. Suchak,  
Chairman  
District 7090  
Centennial Committee  
Phone: (716) 868-9150  
Fax: 1-978-418-8959  
Email: Pravin@localnet.com

<h2>Canadian Golfing Fellowship of Rotarians</h2> <h3>8th Annual GOLF TOURNAMENT</h3> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">Sept. 26-27</div> 	
<p>This year in beautiful Kelowna, B.C. at the The Quail at the Okanagan Golf Club and Gallagher's Canyon Golf and Country Club</p>	
<b>Tournament highlights</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 36 holes of golf at two great golf courses</li> <li>• Wine tour and tasting</li> <li>• Sumptuous awards dinner • Rotary fellowship</li> </ul>	
<p><i>The Canadian Golfing Fellowship of Rotarians was founded in 1995 to promote goodwill, friendship and Rotary ideals through the medium of golf. Join today for great golfing experiences and fellowship</i></p>	<p>For further information, contact: John Tkach, 85 Citation Cres. Ancaster, Ont. L9K 1H 8, Ph: (905) 648-5361 Fax: (905) 383-2782 email: jtkach@look.ca</p>