



# Rotary “Rich” Moment

Official Newsletter Serving the 70 Clubs in

**Rotary District 7620**

Volume 1, Issue 6

February 4 2007

## **Andy Winters Togo Project**

In honor of Andy Winters’ involvement in promoting a Rotary project which brings clean water to the poorest of the poor in Togo, the Board of the Rotary Club of Potomac has named the project the [Andy Winters Togo Project](#).

Andy was a Rotarian for a relatively short period at the time of his murder on Christmas Day, but his impact in the Rotary Club of Potomac as well as in D7620 was huge. Rotarians in our District may contribute to this worthy endeavor by sending contributions to Potomac Rotary Charities FBO Andy Winters Togo Project; please contact Vijay Khetarpal at [vijaykhetarpal@comcast.net](mailto:vijaykhetarpal@comcast.net) for more information.



*Andy Winters and spouse, Gigi.*

## **District 7620 District Conference 2008**

Excitement is in the air for the District Conference to be held May 1-4 at the Hilton Gaithersburg. Speakers for the Conference include Frank Devlyn, a past president of RI; Robert Mueller, Director of the FBI; and Ronald Tschetter, Director of the Peace Corps.

Please visit the District website at [www.rotary7620.org](http://www.rotary7620.org) and click on District Conference for details about the Conference, how to register for the Conference and how to book a room under the Rotary block.

*Note to all Rotarians: Please volunteer to serve on committees—marketing and promotion, sergeants at arms, exhibits and showcases—by sending an e-mail to [sara\\_torrence@hotmail.com](mailto:sara_torrence@hotmail.com).*



**Important Dates—Please Mark Your Calendars!****FEBRUARY**

Feb 11 District Leadership Meeting cancelled  
 Feb 15-18 RYLA Camp Letts, MD  
 Feb 25 Friendship Dinner (TBA)

**MARCH**

Mar 1 Rotary Leadership Institute I,II & III, Howard Community College  
 Mar 7-8 Multi-District PETS Va Crossings, Richmond  
 Mar 10 Friendship Dinner (TBA)  
 Mar 13 Friendship Networking, Black-Finn Rest & Saloon, Bethesda  
 Mar 15 Ambassadorial Scholar Applications due  
 Mar 16-20 Rotary Club of Washington, DC to visit the Rotary Club of Santiago, Chili as part of an exchange to celebrate 10 years of collaboration on various projects (3-H Grant awarded to both Clubs this year to build Burned Children Centers.  
 Mar 17 District Leadership Meeting BWI Ramada– to discuss District's new database (DaCdb)  
 Mar 19 Baltimore Metropolitan Gathering  
 Mar 24 Friendship Dinner (TBA)  
 Mar 26 Galludet Day  
 Mar 29 Mini-Summit Literacy Rockville Library Room 1 9:00 am  
 Mar 31 District Award entries due

**Important Dates (Continued)****APRIL**

Apr 5-12 Friendship Trip-Brazil  
 Apr 12 4-Way Test Speech Contest Semi-finals Glen Burnie HS  
 Apr 14 Friendship Dinner  
 Apr 16-25 Friendship Trip-Russia  
 Apr 19-May 17 Inbound GSE here  
 Apr 26-May24 Outbound GSE Holland

**MAY**

May 2-4 District Conference (DC) Gaithersburg Hilton  
 May 3 District Assembly at DC  
 May 12-15 Rotary Club of Washington DC to receive a delegation from Santiago, Chile as part of a Rotarian exchange and to foster continued collaboration in joint international projects.

**JUNE**

June 15-18 RI Convention Los Angeles  
 June 27 Bette Lewis Installation As New District Governor For 2008-09 at University Of MD Inn & Conf Center



*Major Donor (Rotary Foundation) Presentation to Al and Eta Cohen of Frederick Rotary Club on Jan 16.*



*Paul Harris Society Presentation to Rick Simmins of Frederick Rotary Club on Jan 16.*



*Montgomery County Executive Ike Leggit at combined metro-Bethesda/Bethesda Chevy Chase meeting on Jan 17. County Executive Leggit discussed the budget issues facing the county and the state at the meeting. He expressed his opinion that the computer service tax would be repealed from the tax bill.*

**Continued (County Executive Ike Leggit)**

County Executive Leggit mentioned that the top 2% of the tax payers in Montgomery County pay 41% of the County income tax. Because of this, any policy which would force these top payers to leave the County would hurt the underclass because of the loss of tax revenue.

**District Mini-Summit on Hunger—Jan 26**



## District Leadership Meeting—Jan 14

DG Rich began the meeting by expressing excitement and enthusiasm about D7620’s many community service projects and the work that is yet to be done. He thanked PDG Bob Nelson and the DG Selection Committee for their work in selecting a new DG Nominee Designate, Jay Kumar of the Rotary Club of Columbia. He also announced that Bob Kalinowski has begun filling in as Assistant Governor for Marty Lotz. DG Rich talked about the public relations grant and how J.W. Arnold is heading up the media campaign—62 radio announcements/public service announcements. DG Rich is hoping that this saturation of the airways may create 50 new Rotarians in D7620! He announced that grant monies are still available: \$20,000 in matching grants and \$15,000 in District Simplified grants. DG Rich reminded us of the RI Conference in LA in June and told us that the new District database will be introduced in February.

### RYLA—Bill Ceglia

Bill presented information about the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards to be held at Camp Letts for high school junior and seniors. The cost for each student is \$250 and Bill encouraged Clubs to support two students who during their 3 days at Camp Letts will plan service

### RYLA Continued

projects to take back to their communities. Rotaractors will be group chaperones for this program.

### District Website/new Database Program-Bill Copp

Bill talked about how the district website has been “cleaned up” and he thanked Jennifer Rae and others. The new database will be presented to Rotarians in the District soon enabling them to enter their profiles and maintain their personal data online so it is up-to-date.



### Tsunami Recovery—Don Walters

talked about Tsunami recovery and how D7620 helped in the recovery. The District’s Tsunami Recovery Committee is seeking \$5,000 from the Clubs in our District for matching grant funds to

### Tsunami Recovery Continued

support a fishing village in Thailand. In 2005 the Clubs in D7620 sent \$55,000 to Thailand to help with the recovery from the tsunami of December 2004. D3330 in Thailand has requested a follow-up matching grant to complete our efforts with the fishing village that we helped before. Don told us that in the spirit of Rotary International, we are committed to continued efforts as the devastation that hit Thailand is still affecting thousands of lives.

Please contact [stovy@chesapeake.net](mailto:stovy@chesapeake.net) or [dwalter1@cablespeed.com](mailto:dwalter1@cablespeed.com) for more information.



**Duke Thompson—"Keys for Causes"**  
Duke Thompson, a member of the Bel Air Rotary Club, has offered his services to play piano cabarets as a fundraiser for any Rotary Club (or Clubs) in D7620. His presentations include Gershwin, Mozart, The Doors, Procol Harum, and much more. These

### "Keys for Causes" Continued

cabarets are very unique and provide a refreshing option for a fundraiser for Rotary Clubs. Visit [dukethompson.com](http://dukethompson.com) to find out more about Duke Thompson. For more information on Duke's availability and this project contact Serap Esin at Maryland Conservatory of Music (410-399-9900) or through e-mail at [serap@musicismagic.com](mailto:serap@musicismagic.com).



**Polio Plus Program—PDG Raj Saini**  
PDG Raj talked about the Polio Plus Program and how Rotary has been involved in polio eradication since 1980 (first in Philippines). Since 1986 activity has been focused on immunization of children. He told us how ignorance has been an important factor in hindering the success of the eradication program.

## Polio Plus Continued

Murphy’s law played out as “whatever can go wrong will go wrong”. Raj told us how 9/11 and AIDS both had a negative impact on polio eradication. According to Raj, “money is a stumbling block, but money is not the most difficult part.” Raj told us that the Gates Foundation wants us to reach for the stars and lead the way to get this project done. Raj cheered us on to be “I can” people rather than “I cannot” people and he said that the difference in success and failure is a simple “T” (can vs can’t). Raj told us that he would be visiting Clubs in the District to spread the word and get support for polio eradication on behalf of the children of the world.



**Feed the Children-Niles  
Morton**

## Feed the Children Continued

Niles talked about how this coin drive involves pre-kindergarten through 5th grade students in a Howard County Elementary School. The Rotary Club of Clarksville works with students and a school community to raise money to feed the children of Nicaragua and this project is designed to potentially become a pilot project for other Rotary Clubs in D7620. The project has become the students’ project as they have grasped it and have taken the lead—taken ownership of it. The student leadership team is focusing the campaign on keeping the message simple, “Feeding Children”, not raising money. They are looking at it from the perspective that each dime provides a meal. The whole emphasis is kids helping other kids.



**Star Scholarship Foundation—  
Paul Peck**

## Star Scholarship Foundation Continued

Paul Peck talked about the Star Scholarship Foundation, a not-for-profit that awards scholarships to 9th, 10th and 11th grade African-American students. The program has been expanded to create and fund STAR Merit Awards to demonstrate to 6th, 7th, and 8th graders that there is hope, the community cares, and “Studying Pays.” This program is based upon the belief that if under-classes exist, the country will not succeed. Youth must believe that someone cares and believes in them in order for them to succeed.



**Peace Initiatives—  
Claes Ryn**

## Peace Initiatives Continued

Claes spoke about the ethos of Rotary to avert war in the future and the application of the **Rotary 4-Way Test**. He suggested that an international network of people—Rotarians in the world or “Rotary Ambassadors”— can promote the 4-Way Test to help avoid conflict. Rotary Ambassadors would work toward constructive solutions to problems in order to obtain peace in the world.

## Membership—Ray Streib

Ray talked to the group about increasing membership in Rotary in our District. He stressed retention of members as well as attracting new members and he talked about helping new Clubs get started in our District. According to Ray, District 7620 is one of the top 4 Districts in the Northeast in growth (2% growth).

## District Awards—Larry Leahy

Larry reminded Clubs to go to the District Website to access the information about District Awards. Go to [www.rotary7620.org](http://www.rotary7620.org) and after log-on, click on District Awards to access the Awards Form. It must be completed by March 31, 2008.

## Mine Action in Cambodia— Brendan Adams

Rotaractor Brendan talked about the Cambodian Mine Action, an international effort to raise money for demining the northwest border of Cambodia. This Cambodian region is covered in landmines making it hard to harvest crops or access food and water. Hundreds of injuries occur each year due to the landmines. On May 9 2008 Rotaract Clubs in D7620 will host a benefit at the Royal Embassy of Cambodia. Please go to [www.rotaract7620.org](http://www.rotaract7620.org) to purchase tickets.

## Of the things we think, say, or do:

1. Is it the **TRUTH**?
2. Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
3. Will it build **GOOD-WILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
4. Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

## URLs for District 7620 and for Rotary International (RI)



For more information about District 7620 please visit [www.rotary7620.org](http://www.rotary7620.org) and check out the new features of the website. Click on the yellow boxes to receive District news including RYLA information, latest newsletter, information about District & RI Conferences, GSE update, District Directory and more. Please see District Photo Gallery. Please register and get an account to login so you can access the **District Directory**. For information about Rotary International, please visit [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org).

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