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P.J. Thurkauf

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OUR WELCOME SONG

We welcome you to Morristown
Where freedom's wars were fought.
We welcome you to Morristown
Where liberty was wrought.
Come join our age old comradeship,
Break bread with us today.
In real Rotarian fellowship
Our greetings we convey.

THE 4-WAY TEST

Of the things we think, say or do:
1. Is it the TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOODWILL and
BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all
concerned?

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

<http://www.morristownrotary.com>

THE RAMBLER

May 3, 2006

Youngsters Celebrate Rotary's Century of Service in Ohio

By Tonya Weger
Rotary International News

Members of the Rotary Club of Newark, Ohio, USA, looked toward the future when they undertook a community service project in observance of Rotary's 2005 centennial. According to club president Mike Massaro, who chaired the club's centennial committee, the clear choice was a playground for children of all levels of ability.

"When the playground was proposed, it received unanimous approval," Massaro says. "It is dedicated to our future leaders." The playground - covering 14,000 square feet - sits adjacent to a pavilion the club previously built on a campus shared by Ohio State University and Central Ohio Technical College branches.

Featuring wheelchair-accessible equipment, slides, swings, a climbing wall, sand tables, an oversized tic-tac-toe board with chimes, a periscope, musical tiles that sound when stepped on (think Tom Hanks' 1988 blockbuster Big), and a boat-like structure that rocks, the playground's total cost was approximately \$700,000. A spacious rubberized surface in Rotary colors makes maneuvering wheelchairs and strollers easy. "If we were going to do it, we were going to do it right," Massaro says. "There is a Rotary emblem at the entrance, and the seven play sections represent all the continents of the world since Rotary is an international organization."

Funding for the playground came from about 215 club members, area foundations and trusts, as well as local businesses. There were also several in-kind donations, ranging from supplies to labor. Newark Rotarian and retired architect, Glenn Abel, served as project manager. "I was most im-



Past District Governor Bob McGaughy celebrates at the playground's October dedication. Photo courtesy Mike Massaro

pressed by the generosity of the Rotarians, donating their time and money to make this project a reality," he says.

Many worked long, hard hours during the course of several weeks. Club member Omar Whisman says, "Our determination remained strong throughout the installation, but some of us were reaching for the Bengay." Even though the weather is just starting to warm, the playground, which was dedicated in October, has received much use. And on 16 May, the club will host the community's special needs children at an on-site lunch meeting. "No one every really thought about what it means to a child with a disability, but they want to take part in the activities and mingle with other children," Massaro explains. "It will be great for the club members to see the kids enjoying the playground." A playground teaches children to make more than just sandcastles, these Rotarians believe. The playground "allows all youngsters a chance to focus on ability - not disability," according to Scot Evans, a Newark Rotarian and father of four young children. ☺

Why I Am A Rotarian

An essay by Calum Thomson
Rotary Club of Longniddry, Scotland

I joined the family of Rotary a few years ago. My stepfather was a member of the local Rotary Club and had been President in 1998-99. At that time, I was obliged to help him in many aspects of his Presidential year as he was somewhat fearful of the new Information Technology explosion at that time!

Yes, Rotary was well known but also largely unknown to me. I did not really appreciate Rotary – yet, I owe it so much.

My grandmother was forced to live her last few years in a residential home for the elderly and after a fall in her wheelchair she became a virtual recluse. The only time she ever left that unhappy place (she was a very independent woman) was every spring when the Rotary Club held their annual concert for the elderly. Rotarians came to pick up the frail and immobile men and women from the local community and take them to the local church hall for a morning of tea, sandwiches and light entertainment. For a few, brief hours she escaped from the routine of the home and thoroughly enjoyed herself as she chatted to old friends.

For me, Rotary is all about goodwill – and at its very heart we have the Rotary Foundation. This foundation is the cement that binds every one of us together as we strive for world peace and understanding. I remember well receiving a sugar cube as a young child – a magical sweet, lump that contained the polio vaccine. Isn't it wonderful how Rotary and its foundation have dedicated itself to ensuring that every child receives such a gift.

Rotary has been a part of my family life; I can relate to Rotary's local and world community service projects; it makes me feel good that there are others all around our world dedicated to serve others. And remember Paul Harris' words – "If you have the love of your fellow man in your hearts, you are a potential Rotarian."

Why are you a Rotarian? Send your statement in 300 words (or less) to: EBlender@aol.com or visit <http://www.whyiam.org>

Upcoming Club and District Assemblies

The Club will hold our annual Club Assembly at this week's Luncheon Meeting (May 3rd) at the Spring Brook Country Club. Our Club officers will be presenting information regarding the current state of the Club and changes planned for '06-'07.

Also, there will be a District Assembly May 16th at the Hanover Manor (16 Eagle Rock Avenue • East Hanover, NJ 07936). This is a fantastic opportunity for Rotarians to gather, and learn about the many facets of Rotary. The meeting will start around 3:00pm; all new Morristown Rotarians (those in their first 2 years of Rotary) are encouraged to attend, and will have their enrollment fees paid by the Club. Please contact Tom Lanahan if you wish to attend this important program.

From The STAR Program

Submitted by Esli Badenhorst

We would like to congratulate our latest graduates Mike Elms and David Walker on completing the STAR Program. A new schedule for the next round of programs will be announced in the future!

From The Sunshine Committee

Submitted by Joan Shulman

On behalf of the entire Morristown Rotary Club we would like to extend our deepest sympathy to Helen Wronski on the recent passing of her niece. Our thoughts and prayers are with Helen and her family.

Also, the Sunshine Committee is interested to hear about the status of Rotarians health, births, deaths, and special events. Please contact either:

Joan Shulman: jshulman@ehorizons.org or
Sara Wilks: travelaccessinc@earthlink.net

Job Shadow Day with Morristown Interact Club

The Morristown Rotary Club presents the First Annual Job Shadow Day with Morristown High School's Interact Club, Wednesday, May 10, 2006. Help our club fulfill one of the most important of the Four Avenues of Service — **Vocational Service!** Participate in our First Annual Job Shadow Day by hosting a student from Morristown High School and sharing your career development with him/her. Pick your student up at the breakfast meeting, bring them to your office for half a day to shadow you, and return them to the lunch meeting. To participate, please contact Terry Pearl by Phone: 973.971.7102

Fax: 973.290.7561 or

Email: terry.pearl@ahsys.org

Please Contact Terry immediately if you wish to take part in this program!

Membership Candidate Profile

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Name: Jim Deak
Classification: Business Consulting
Spouse: Sally Deak
Business: Business Coach
Position: President
Bus. Address: 28 Lake Valley Road
Morristown, NJ 07960
Bus. Phone: 973-539-8331
Bus. E-mail: jndeak@aol.com
Home Phone: 973-539-8167
Birthday: September 1st
Hobbies: Flying, skiing, reading
Sponsor: Rusty Schommer

Morristown's Annual Spring Barrel Planting

Submitted by Doug Greenberger

The annual Spring Barrel Planting is upcoming Wednesday, May 17 at 6 pm. As in previous years we will meet at the Morristown Municipal Building and finish at The Dublin Pub. The Barrel Planting is also a great opportunity to get family and friends involved in Rotary! Feel free to invite spouses, children, and friends to come out and join us in beautifying Morristown. Also, if you have extra gardening tools (trowels, spading forks, water cans, etc) please bring them along. It is always better to have too many, than not enough! ☺

From The Programs Committee

Submitted by Bob Miller

We are in need of speakers for our Morning Meetings. If you have not given a Classification talk to the Morning Meeting or are a new member that hasn't done a Classification talk at either meeting, please contact Bob Miller. We would love to hear about you! ☺



UPCOMING LUNCH PROGRAMS

At the Spring Brook Country Club, Morris Township.

This Week:

Club Assembly, presented by our Club Officers

Membership Drive Cocktail Party

Submitted by Gary Reppen

As mentioned in previous issues of *The Rambler*, the Board has approved an evening Cocktail Party; the purpose of which is to invite potential new members and introduce them to Rotary. The date has been set for May 24th at the Spring Brook Country Club, 6:00-7:30pm. All Morristown Rotarians are invited, indeed, *encouraged* to attend. There will be a short presentation at this week's Club Assembly with the details for this event. If you plan on attending, please contact Gary Reppen or Bob Coultas with the name(s) of the potential member you will be bringing. ☺

SERVICE Above Self

Walk for the World

Submitted by Leslie Honeker-Payne

Spring is coming so let's get outside and stretch our legs! Walk for the World is a perfect opportunity to do just that! Come walk with us in an effort to raise money for the Rotary International Foundation. The date is Sunday May 21st and will be at Loantaka Park. We will need walkers (bike riders, rollerbladers, joggers...) and sponsors. As well if any Rotarians know of any other groups that want to walk to raise money for their cause we can reach out to them to get them information on the walk and they can join us that day as well. If you have any questions, please contact Harvey Gilbert or Leslie Payne. ☺

UPCOMING BREAKFAST PROGRAMS

At the Morris Center YMCA, Cedar Knolls

This Week:

Discussion of membership drive and retention ideas.

Help Fill These Pages!!

Please send stories, news, jokes, photographs, and gossip for *The Rambler* to:
P.J. Thurkauf at turk11042@hotmail.com or 973.538.2040 (fax)

Calendar of Events

May 10	Job Shadow Day with Morristown High School's Interact Club	May 21	Walk for the World at Loantaka Park
May 16	District 7470 Assembly, Hanover Manor. 3pm	May 24	Membership Drive Cocktail Party; at The Spring Brook Country Club, 6:00pm-7:30pm
May 17	Morristown Barrel Planting. 6pm	June 21	Morristown Rotary Installation Dinner at the Spring Brook Country Club. There will be no Breakfast or Lunch meetings this Wednesday.



Contributions to the Endowment Fund should be addressed to:

Morristown Rotary
Endowment Fund
c/o Jonathan Taylor
2 Tulip Lane
Randolph, NJ 07869

Thanks to the club officers for their continued management of this fund. Balance as of 12/31/05 is \$93,118.09