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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

February 14, 2007

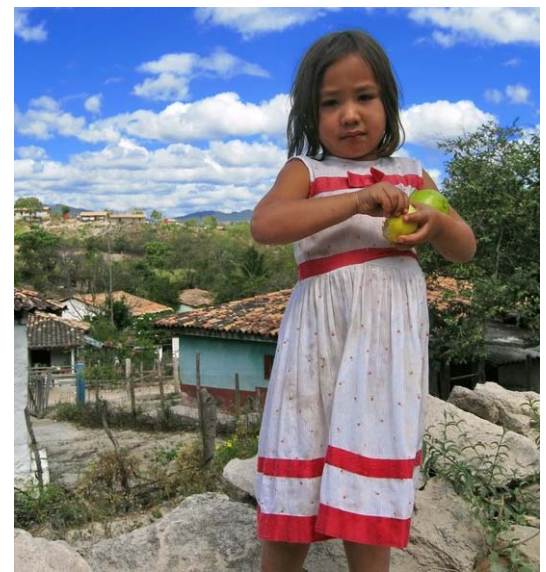
## They Say 'All You Need Is Love,' But Water Is Nearly As Important!

Robert J Kent Jr ([robjkentjr@gmail.com](mailto:robjkentjr@gmail.com))  
Water/Sanitation/Health Consultant  
Pure Water For The World

This last week we were in two very different communities. While there I met two children that caught my attention. I would like to share their stories with you:

Xiomara lives in the community of Las Crucitas about 60km outside of Danlí. Her village has no electricity and it's water source is from an open stream piped in from a mile away. Because her house is higher up she usually doesn't have water for most of the day, so she has to walk to her neighbor's house in the valley to fetch water with her mom. Speaking with her mother, I learn that Xiomara and her four sisters regularly have stomach problems and have never been de-wormed. The mother is very excited that her children will now have clean water and soon receive medication for their parasites. Xiomara most likely has them because of her distended stomach, a typical symptom. In a community such as Las Crucitas the children usually have an average infection rate of about 70%. This explains the overwhelming response of people who want/need these water filters. Even though their \$7.50 counterpart is a week's wages, they understand the need for clean water and are willing to pay that small portion of the true \$75 cost.

Pure Water for the World just installed 140 filters in Las Crucitas with the help of Hands to Honduras. This is a group of Rotarians and their families that donate their time for a week or two and travel to



Xiomara of Las Crucitas

Honduras to work on existing projects. This year there were over 50 people in 4 different groups trying to help with water, medical, dental, and construction. In the water group, there were some people who have done this for six years running and are still moved by their experience each time. For me, it was refreshing to watch so many people so excited about helping. Two people in particular went back to a community they had worked in two years ago. On the road in they met a little boy they remembered from last time. They went to his house to see the filter they had installed and see his family. The filter was still proudly being used as well as the other houses they went to. Speaking with the Rotarians after, they said it was this little day trip that made their vacation. They can't wait to come back next year and visit Xiomara in Las Crucitas.

See , *WATER* Page 2

## WATER, from Page 1

Úani means Soul or Spirit and he lives in the squatter town of 15 de Septiembre outside of Tela. The area was originally set up as a location



Úani of 15 de Septiembre

for temporary housing after Hurricane Mitch. It has since grown into a full fledged community of 300+ houses with no central planning. The water system was built in 1949 and was intended to only serve urban area of the city. Speaking with the local health clinic, we learned this peri-urban area has the worst cases of water related problems in the whole state of Atlantida. It is worrying to think that another 200 houses will be built in the next two years as the more scenic coastlines are developed by hotels and the people are re-settled here. Úani lives in the house behind him with his mother, father and two sisters and fetch their water from an open cistern down the street. Úani and his sister were the first kids in Honduras to give Rasa a hug without being asked for one. This is truly a community in need.

The purpose of our visit was to identify communities for a new Rotary Matching Grant in partnership with the local club of Tela. The advantage of working in 15 de Septiembre is that Pure Water for the World's workshop in San Juan (50km away) can supply the filters and also be delivered using our truck. Both of these items are huge upstart costs for projects and will allow this grant to supply even

more filters to families. Another advantage is that being so close to Tela, the money saved from not having to see a doctor or purchase bottled water can now be used to advance the socio-economic standing of Úani's family. Maybe one day his family can pay to send him to school, or buy nice clothes that get him a better job. But for a family who lost everything, clean water is a gift that will improve their future and allow them to rebuild their lives on a healthy foundation. I just hope Úani doesn't cut his hair as he grows up.

### Editor's Note:

*Our Club, along with the Madison Rotary Club, coordinated the effort with 12 other clubs in our district (14 in all) to raise over \$20,000 to adopt several villages. Our Club has donated \$2,000 to The Pure Water for the World project.*

## District 7470 Conference

Most Rotarians have never attended a Rotary district conference. They have not experienced one of the most enjoyable and rewarding privileges of Rotary membership. A district conference is for all club members and their spouses, not just for club officers and committee members. The purpose of a District Conference is for fellowship, good fun, inspirational speakers and discussion of matters which make one's Rotary membership more meaningful. Every person who attends a district conference finds that being a Rotarian becomes even more rewarding because of the new experiences, insights and acquaintances developed at the Conference.

This year's Rotary District 7470 District Conference will be held at The Hudson Valley Resort and Spa from May 3rd - May 6th, 2007. Immerse yourself in Rotary and meet fellow Rotarians from different clubs all around the District!

Registration forms are available from Dave Bagish and on both our website and the District 7470 website [www.njrotary.com](http://www.njrotary.com)

## Morristown Rotary Dinner Group 2007

The Morristown Rotary Club Dinner Group is organizing three dinners for 2007: March 31, June 9, and September 29. We will gather in groups of no more than four couples at host homes on the noted Saturdays for an evening of socializing and good cheer. It's a great way to get to know your fellow Rotarians better. If you have not yet participated in this very enjoyable Rotary activity and would like to do so this year, please contact Dick Betz at [erbetz@attglobal.net](mailto:erbetz@attglobal.net) or 609-860-7904 as soon as possible so you can be included in the 2007 schedule.



### Quote of the Week

*I don't understand why Cupid was chosen to represent Valentine's Day. When I think about romance, the last thing on my mind is a short, chubby toddler coming at me with a weapon.*

*Author Unknown*

## The 07-08 Rotary Theme Logo



## Looking to Add a Great Start to Your Wednesdays?

The Breakfast Meeting would love your support! Meetings are every Wednesday morning, 7:30 a.m. sharp, at The Morris Center YMCA. This meeting is a great way to make up for those times you just can't make the Luncheon Meeting; and an opportunity to invite prospective Rotarians who might not be able to make the Luncheon Meeting. Enjoy breakfast with us and help us build the Club! 🍷

## Help Fill These Pages!!

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

## Calendar of Events

- |          |   |         |  |
|----------|---|---------|--|
| Feb. 20  | STAR Program - At Michael Moore's office; A.G. Edwards, 67 Park Place, 10th Floor | May 3-6 | District 7470 District Conference at the Hudson Valley Resort and Spa. |
| March 10 | Morristown St. Patrick's Day Parade; 12 Noon Step-off. Details to come!           |         |  |
| March 14 | Club Assembly at both Meetings  |         |  |

## Mark Your Calendars Now for June 17-20



## Temporary Change Of Venue

For the next few weeks, though February 14th, Luncheon meetings will be held at the Dublin Pub. We will return to the Spring Brook Country Club February 21st. 🍷

Send Meeting Make-Ups to:  
**John Kuschke**  
26 Lynnfield Dr.  
Morristown, NJ  
07960

## UPCOMING LUNCH PROGRAMS

At the Dublin Pub through Feb 14.

**This Week:**  
To Be Announced

## UPCOMING BREAKFAST PROGRAMS

At the Morris Center YMCA, Cedar Knolls

**This Week:**  
John Kuschke, Classification Talk Revisited

## UPCOMING STAR PROGRAMS

At Michael Moore's office; A.G. Edwards, 67 Park Place, 10th Floor

## **NEXT WEEK!**

**Feb. 20, 2007**  
"Rotary Youth Exchange"  
by Roy Bumiller



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 12/31/2006 is \$134,600