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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

August 22, 2007

Rotarians Continue To Make A Difference In Post-Katrina Mississippi

By Lisa Baker

Rotary International News

With Katrina's second anniversary approaching, Rotarians continue to donate time and money to aid Biloxi, Mississippi, USA, one of the cities hit hard by the storm. They are only 2 years into a 10-year plan to rebuild, but funds and volunteers are dwindling.

Biloxi today

Mississippi has the lowest per capita income of all U.S. states, and Biloxi residents are among the poorest in the nation, according to the United States Census Bureau. Almost 20,000 families live in trailers issued by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), mainly because their hurricane-damaged or destroyed homes have yet to be repaired. "Biloxi was blown away," says Ellie Vasilopoulos, the Rotary Club of Biloxi's disaster relief committee chair. "We lost our history, heritage, and historic homes. They are all gone, and Biloxi is stark."

According to Dan Giordano, of the Rotary Club of Bakersfield East, California, news coverage of the Katrina aftermath doesn't do it justice. "Garbage is piled up everywhere, and the people in Biloxi have fallen through the cracks." Giordano and Vasilopoulos agree that Biloxi looks like a city in a developing country rather than one in the United States.


Rebuilding efforts

After Katrina hit, the Biloxi club teamed up with the local First Presbyterian Church to help rebuild. According to Bob Bolitho, a pastor from South Carolina who has volunteered with the church for the past two years, there's still much to be done. "Even after two years, we receive requests for help faster than we can finish repairing houses," he explains. "The

people we work with have no hope of ever living in their houses again unless we, or someone like us, rebuild it. What will these people do when the government orders them out of their FEMA trailers?" Bolitho also says the effort is no longer attracting the volunteers it needs, and he fears it's becoming a losing battle. Many volunteer groups are starting to leave, and there aren't enough workers to provide desperately needed help.

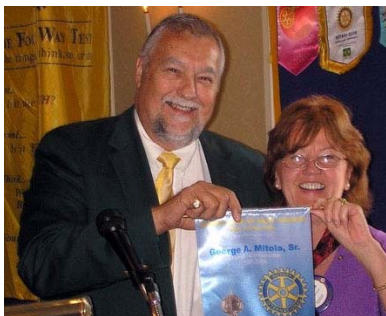
Rotary's role

The Bakersfield East club is one of many that have pitched in to assist those in need. The club contributed money for building supplies, and District 5240 (California) sent 50 mobile homes to Biloxi shortly after Katrina hit. Giordano has helped repair and construct houses there on more than one occasion and will be volunteering again in September. Vasilopoulos knows firsthand how significant Rotary's aid has been. "Rotarians have been outstanding with their compassion, money, and willingness to help. So many have come down here to rebuild homes." According to Bolitho, District 7300 (Pennsylvania, USA) has been among the relief effort's biggest supporters. Walt Sickles, of the Rotary Club of Ambridge, says the district has donated \$85,000 and raised \$14,000 to fund volunteer travel expenses. It has sent 17 teams, or about 100 Rotarians, to Biloxi so far. Another group will be going in September, and four more soon after that. Bolitho says the money from Rotarians primarily goes toward building materials, mainly for people who can't afford supplies but can do the physical labor needed to rebuild their homes.

"Rotary International has really made a difference in getting homes built," he says. "I am thankful to Rotary for all they've done." 

Governor's Visit Photos

Some photos from last weeks Governor's visit. Dist. Gov. George with President Dolores (Top) and Gov. George with Asst. Gov. Terry Berger and Morning Meeting Director Chris Flanagan. (Below).



Welcome Marco!



We welcome our new Long-term Exchange Student Marco Werner (pictured here with Liz Colquhoun and Dist. Gov. George Mitola at his arrival). Marco will be with us through the school year and we all look forward to meeting him! Welcome to Morristown, Marco!

Reminders! 100% Attendance!

This week, on August 22nd, our Luncheon Meeting will be a joint meeting with the Madison Rotary Club and the Short-term exchange students from Japan. This year's joint meeting will be held at the Madison Club's meeting place, Rod's Steak & Grill at the Madison Hotel in Convent Station. The meeting will begin at 12:15. There will be no Breakfast meeting August 22nd, as we encourage all members to try and attend the special Luncheon Program. Instead we invite all those that cannot attend the Luncheon to attend Breakfast on Friday, August 24th with the Morris Plains Rotary Club. The Morris Plains Club meets at Bretton Woods (361 Speedwell Ave, Morris Plains) at 7:47am. These are both great opportunities to meet some fellow Rotarians and experience another Club.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

The Morristown Rotary morning meeting will officially move to the Richard F. Blake Children's Center beginning with the Wednesday, August 29th meeting. The Blake Children's center is located next to the Morris Center YMCA. The meeting will be held in the "Busy Bee" all purpose conference room. Please enter up the ramp to the back door where a Rotarian will open the door.

If a Rotarian is late, they can also enter through the front doors of the childcare center and walk all the way back to the conference room. Ⓞ

We would like to congratulate the following Rotarians for attaining a 100% attendance record for the Rotary year 2006-2007! Congratulations to Frank Alai, Dave Bagish, Dolores Bagish, Liz Colquhoun, Bob Coultas, Bill Cunningham, Jim Deak, Chris Flanagan, Harvey Gilbert, John Kuschke, Tom Lanahan, Scott Marum, Jim Mongey, Suzanne Samson, and Bill Weiss. These Rotarians achieved 100% attendance through regular meeting attendance and make-ups. Great job folks!

On the subject of attendance, we would like to encourage all Rotarians to strive to join the 100% club! Please keep in mind that if miss a regular meeting, you can do a make-up at another Rotary Club's Meeting. If you make-up at another Rotary Club, you will be given a make-up slip that should be turned in to the Club Secretary. This type of make-up will give you credit towards your attendance, and also create a credit towards your meals account (since you paid for your meal at another Club and it did not come out of your regular meals account). Also, Club Service Projects and Board/Committee Meetings can also count a make-up against your attendance. If you volunteer at a Service Project/Fundraiser like the Fall Festival, Golf Outing, Camp Merry Heart Cleanup, Town-wide Cleanup, etc; or are required to attend a regular Board Meeting, STAR Program, or Committee meeting, your service to the Club can be used as a make-up towards your attendance. Simply notify the Club Secretary that you would like credit as a make-up (please note, this type of make-up only counts as a credit towards your attendance and not towards your meals account). Please remember, your make-ups are your responsibility, and if you do not notify the Club Secretary credit cannot be given. According to Club by-laws, make-ups should be turned in/requested within 14 days of the actual make-up. Ⓞ

Send Meeting
Make-Ups to:

John Kuschke
26 Lynnfield Dr.
Morristown, NJ
07960

Rotary Golf Outing

The Morristown Rotary Golf Outing will be Monday, September 17th this year. This is truly a fun event (even if you don't play golf!) that helps support the many programs the Club sponsors. If you have a four-some together for the event, or are planning to put one together, please contact Liz Colquhoun with the names of your group. Also, if you would like brochures to hand out to prospective golfers please see Liz or P.J.

If you can volunteer for all or part of the day at the event please contact P.J. Thurkauf. Keep in mind we welcome spouses, friends, and associates to help out as volunteers!

Liz: Elizabeth-Colquhoun@burgdorff.com

P.J.: turk11042@hotmail.com

Membership Candidate Profile

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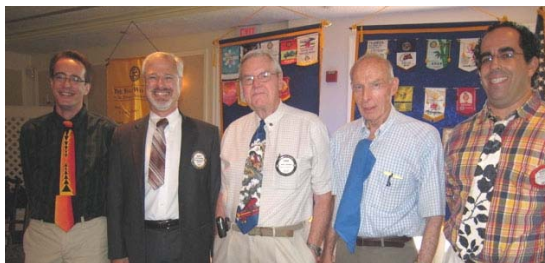
Name: Carol Delia
 Classification: Non-Profit
 Bus. Name: American Cancer Society
 Bus. Address: 669 Littleton Road
 Parsippany, NJ 07054
 Bus. Phone: 908-930-9568
 Bus. Fax: 973-331-5911
 Bus. Email: Carol.delia@cancer.org
 Birthday: July 11
 Hobbies: Tennis, travel, international studies/politics, busing daughter around
 Sponsor: Jill Savage

Last Week's Ugly Tie/Scarf Contest

In honor of Dist. Governor George Mitola's visit to our Club last week, a special contest was held. The first ever Morristown Rotary Ugly Tie/Shirt/Scarf Contest was a lot of fun at both meetings.



Our Breakfast winner, Nick Walsh, with the Morning's Emcee Bill O'Malley. Special thanks to Bill O'Malley and Century 21 Dept. Stores for our prizes! Our winners all received \$25 Gift Cards to Century 21!



And our Lunch Contestants! Our lunch winners were Jon Taylor (at left, top photo) and Dolores Bagish (at left, bottom photo). Thanks to Bill and Pat Cunningham for Emceeding the Lunch contest!

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

Aug 22	Joint Lunch Mtg. w/ Madison Club - No Breakfast - See Pg. 2	Sept 17	Morristown Rotary Golf Outing - Lake Mohawk Country Club
Aug 24	Makeup Meeting for people who can't attend the 8/22 lunch mtg.; all are invited to the Morris Plains Mtg. @ Bretton Woods. See Pg. 2	Sept 29	Dinner Club
		Sept 30	Fall Festival

UPCOMING LUNCH PROGRAMS

At the Spring Brook Country Club, Morris Township.

This Week:

Joint Meeting w/ Madison Rotary @ Rod's Steakhouse
 See Page 2

UPCOMING BREAKFAST PROGRAMS

At the Morris Center YMCA's Richard F. Blake Children's Center, Cedar Knolls.

This Week:

No meeting. All are encouraged to attend the special Lunch program or See page 2 about make-up.



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