



# THE RAMBLER

December 12, 2007

## After Contracting Polio, Survivor Immunizes Children

By Janice S. Chambers  
Rotary International News  
Photo courtesy of Jenny Horton

When Zaheer "Zak" Ahmed finally returned to Pakistan, after being diagnosed with polio and enduring weeks of isolation in Australia, one of the first things he did was sign up for a National Immunization Day. Ahmed's was the first case of polio diagnosed in Australia in 21 years, so he knows firsthand that until polio is eradicated worldwide, it has the potential to strike virtually anywhere.

While a student in Australia, Ahmed contracted polio after a visit home to Pakistan – one of four remaining endemic countries, along with Afghanistan, India, and Nigeria. When he returned again to Pakistan after being treated, he contacted Rotarian Jenny Horton in Islamabad, who works as technical consultant for the World Health Organization. She helped him get involved with local immunization activities.

Ahmed participated in a five-day immunization campaign, held in October, which reached 32.2 million children. It included three National Immunization Days and two mop-up days, with health care workers and volunteers going door to door to administer the vaccine.

Through PolioPlus Partners, all team members were equipped with a Rotary cap, ID badge, and lanyard.

Since Rotary launched its PolioPlus pro-



Ahmed immunizes a child in Pakistan, one of the four remaining polio-endemic countries.

gram in 1985, more than two billion children have received the oral polio vaccine, and the number of cases has declined by 99 percent.

Ahmed was kept in isolation during his stay at Melbourne's Box Hill Hospital until he tested negative for the poliovirus. Alerted by Horton, Rotarians in Australia replaced his clothing, which had to be destroyed, brought him games and newspapers and, above all, let him know someone cared while he endured constant media scrutiny.

It's believed that Ahmed's childhood polio immunizations in Pakistan protected him from permanent damage. Forced to leave Australia because his student visa expired, he hopes to return this month to resume his studies.

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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>

## Holiday Luncheon

As in years past, the Wednesday before Christmas (Dec. 19<sup>th</sup> this year) will be our Morristown Rotary Club Holiday Luncheon. We are very happy to have this year as our musical guests a group of players from the Colonial Symphony! As this is our Holiday Luncheon, any and all guests are welcome to attend. Please feel free to bring your spouse, children, and/or grandchildren; all are invited. The price for guests is \$20 a head. If you are planning to attend with guests please RSVP to Dolores (dolosunshine@optonline.net) with your total headcount before December 13. Please also note that there will be No Breakfast Meeting this day. ☺



Send Meeting Make-Ups to:

John Kuschke  
26 Lynnfield Dr.  
Morristown, NJ  
07960

## Holiday Greetings! Salvation Army Bell Ringing

Submitted By Harvey Gilbert

I received a Christmas card from the Wiedermann family with a picture of not so little, Gergo, who was our club's Gift of Life kid when he was near death and brought here for his heart operation in 1998. Almost 10 years later, he is 16 years old and looks marvelous....Our Morristown club was his sponsor. I just happened to be one of those in our club who brought him around to the hospital and the doctors...His mother and I nodded to one another and tried to speak poorly remembered French to one another to communicate...I never learned Hungarian, Emese (Mrs. Wiedermann) never learned English...We both knew what Rotary can do very well. She still sends me cards every year. I know she wants me to share her appreciation with our membership. What little time I gave to them, comes back to me year after year. I am proud to have helped and love to see Gergo looking so strong. ☺



Many thanks to all the Rotarians who came out to ring the bell for the Salvation Army Red Kettle Drive this weekend in front of Century 21 Department Stores. The kettle drive is the Salvation Army's main fund-raiser, which helps support programs for the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons and through the winter months. Morristown Rotary proud to support this good cause! ☺

### Quote of the Week

#### Private Fears

Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate  
Our deepest fear is that we are powerful  
beyond measure.....

It is our light, not our darkness, that most frightens us.

We ask ourselves: "Who Am I to be  
Brilliant, Gorgeous, Talented and Fabulous?"

Actually, Who are you not to be?

You are a child of the Great Spirit that has made mankind, put us in this universe and all of the majesty and magic that has followed.

You have been given a special spark.

Your playing around doesn't serve the world or yourself.

There is nothing wise about shrinking from what you could do.

You don't need to protect other people from feeling insecure around you.

Wasting the time you have been given is valueless.

You were born with special gifts and it is your purpose to polish them so that all of us can be enriched by your presence. You will not always be able to do your best and feel good. But you cannot help us to your light, unless you try.

You are not the only one with special gifts. A special spark is in everyone and As we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same.

As we are freed from our own deepest fear, our success automatically sets others free as well....That's when you hear all the applause...

They are happy for you for showing the way and they are happy for themselves for being part of the wonder of it all.....

Don't be afraid. You have the light and are loved.

Taken from the thoughts of Marianne Williamson's "A Return to Love"

Submitted By Harvey Gilbert

# Membership Candidate Profile

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Name: Jon E. Wyse  
Classification: Small Bus. Banking  
Bus. Name: Citibank NA  
Bus. Address: 30 W. Park Place  
Morristown, NJ 07960  
Bus. Phone: 973-359-4053  
Bus. Fax: 973-644-4029  
Bus. Email: jon.e.wyse@citi.com  
Birthday: 6/15  
Hobbies: Skiing, Computers, Sailing  
& Boating, International  
Travel  
Sponsor: Harvey Gilbert

# Cell Phone Collection

Submitted by Bill Cunningham

Instead of recycling, or worse yet, throwing out that old cellular phone, please collect all your old cell phones and bring them to lunch and give them to Bill Cunningham. We will be shipping them to Oklahoma and receive cash back which will go to the benefit of our many community projects.

JC Reiss, Alphagraphics and Morris County Duplicating also have collection bins for your convenience if you choose. Also, please remember to tell all your friends and family to drop off their old phones at any of these locations! ☺

# Membership Candidate Profile

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Name: Lucio M. Valerio  
Classification: Commercial Banking  
Bus. Name: The Provident Bank  
Bus. Address: 250 Madison Ave  
Convent Station NJ 07960  
Bus. Phone: 973-644-5433  
Bus. Fax: 973-540-0563  
Bus. Email: lucio.valerio@providentnj.com  
Birthday: 12/31  
Hobbies: Soccer, Tennis, Hiking and Reading  
Sponsor: Tom Slutsker

# From The Sunshine Committee

We wish a speedy recovery to Bill O'Malley who injured his shoulder last week when his dog unexpectedly took off after a deer during their morning walk one day. Bill will be keeping the dog locked up Christmas eve to ensure the safety of Santa's reindeer and his other shoulder. ☺



# 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

Dec 11 Morristown Rotary Board Meeting

Dec 19 Holiday Meeting - Spouses Welcome

# UPCOMING LUNCH PROGRAMS

At the Spring Brook Country Club, Morris Township.

## This Week:

Suzanne Sampson - Classification Talk

# UPCOMING BREAKFAST PROGRAMS

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

## This Week:

Suzanne Sampson - Classification Talk



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 09/10/2007 is \$154,800