

Upcoming Programs

February 28

Our Wonderful School Recognitions!

March 6

Leslie Gould Chamber of Commerce

March 13

Lisa Connolly, Lynn home for young women

EVERY ROTARIAN
US \$100
EVERY YEAR

Julie Hahnke's Bagpipe Concert A Memorable Event!

Everyone's Help Needed For Our Club's Fundraiser!



Julie Hahnke

gave everyone a better idea on the how and why a bagpipe works than most of us had ever thought of previously. Julie was last at our club in December talking about her book and returned to show us about her passion for playing the bagpipes!



She has won several competitions and her wonderful pipes was once part of a Canadian team of pipers that lead the troops in World War I. At the end of her presentation she asked that we stand and she played Amazing Grace as a tribute to our men and women who have served and are serving in our armed forces.

Our Auction Mailing List

Chairperson Virginia Doocy asked everyone to carefully check last year's invitations list and make any corrections necessary ASAP !!

We all know that people move, addresses change, etc. etc.



Virginia said we need as a minimum an additional 50 to 75 names and addresses to whom invitations could be sent! Can you think of several perhaps within driving distance of the K of C hall who might decide to come and have a nice evening and some good food and fellowship?

Can YOU Pledge A Donation To Our Auction?

Any of our members /and or supporters of our Rotary Club, knowing the work that we do in our community, are urged to consider an item to pledge for our upcoming auction April 2nd.

A restaurant gift certificate? A card for credits at a popular store such as Wal-Mart or Home Depot or Staples? A savings account at a local bank?

There are many options! Think about it!

Everyone is urged to submit their auction pledge forms immediately as the program books will again include supporters and items and **the deadline for publishing these details in the book is TODAY, February 21!** Items must be submitted to Nick Sarantopoulos today! Nick's Email is ns@communitycreditunion.org and his business telephone is 781-598-0820.



Do not confuse this deadline with the auction invitations listing, **same date, but these go to Virginia Doocy!**

Deadline for the auction item sheets is **Thursday March 20 and these go to Maria Bazzi or Bob Kennedy!!**

Confused? **Print this out NOW !!**

Our Giant Pot

is up to \$11 and guess whose tickets were drawn by Julie Hahnke - Bob Kennedy and Bob Hastings! The money is safe.

Incoming President Michelle Desmarais was practicing for next year and ran the meeting this week and called the winning raffle tickets. She also learned the power of striking our bell with force to get order and attention in a busy room, even though we were in the small room this week! We did NOT need the portable PA system with those gorgeous bagpipes !!

Jim Harris A Grandfather!



Yes, Jim was on cloud nine His fourth grandchild was just born at Salem Hospital last night - Cameron David Harris 6 lbs. 14 oz! Congratulations to all!



Rotarian to donate \$2 million To help End Polio

By Tiffany Woods
Rotary International News

Rotary's efforts to eradicate polio have gotten a US \$2 million boost from a Rotarian diamond and jewelry magnate.

Harshad Mehta, a native of India who is a senior partner in the Belgium-based Rosy Blue diamond and jewelry company, has pledged to donate the money to Rotary's polio eradication efforts over the next three years.

Mehta, the largest Indian donor to The Rotary Foundation, was inspired to make the commitment after learning about the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's \$100 million challenge grant for polio eradication. Rotary must match the grant dollar for dollar over a three-year period.

Foundation Trustee Chair Robert S. Scott recalls a conversation with him in December, when Mehta suddenly said, "I will give \$2 million toward the match." It was "a very exciting development and an extremely generous" commitment, says Scott.

Mehta, 60, joined the Rotary Club of Bombay Metropolitan in 1986 as a charter member. His previous contributions to The Rotary Foundation have totaled more than \$1 million. Some of the money has been used to endow an Ambassadorial Scholarship that finances recipients' studies at universities.

Mehta serves as chair of the United Arab Emirates operations of Rosy Blue, a family business that employs more than 15,000 people around the world. He's also Armenia's honorary consul in Mumbai and the vice chair of the Dubai Diamond Exchange. He is a past chair of the Gem and Jewelry Export Promotion Council and a past vice president of the Federation of Indian Export Organizations.

In his spare time, he enjoys reading, listening to music, walking, swimming, playing cricket, and spending time with his wife, three children, and five grandchildren.

In the final push to stop polio, Mehta urges Rotarians not to give up. "We must further strengthen our resolve as we are so close to the ultimate goal," he says. "Any slackening at this point will result in a total loss of all the time, effort, and money put in over the past years."

Google gives Rotary \$3.5 Million to Help End Polio

By Dan Nixon and Vivian Fiore
Rotary International News

Rotary International has received a \$3.5 million challenge grant from the Google Foundation, a nonprofit managed by Google.org, in support of Rotary's top goal to eradicate polio worldwide. Rotary will raise funds to match the Google Foundation grant dollar-for-dollar over one year.

The grant and matching funds will directly support polio immunization activities carried out by the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI), a partnership spearheaded by the World Health Organization, Rotary International, UNICEF, and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

"Following the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's \$100 million grant to Rotary in November, Google.org represents another response to the call for support by Rotary and its partners to finish polio," says Dr. Robert S. Scott, trustee chair of The Rotary Foundation. "Both challenge grants reflect strong confidence in Ro-

tary's leadership role in working relentlessly to help achieve this vital public health goal for the world's children."

Eradicating polio has been Rotary's number-one priority since 1985. To date, Rotary has helped immunize nearly two billion children and contributed \$650 million to the GPEI, a figure that will rise to more than \$850 million by the time the world is certified polio-free.



Globally, the number of polio cases has fallen from 350,000 annually in the mid-1980s to approximately 2,000 cases in 2006. The GPEI has succeeded in slashing the number of cases by 99 percent and decreased the number of polio-endemic countries from 125 to just 4: Afghanistan, India, Nigeria, and Pakistan.

"This grant comes at a crucial time for the initiative, as more funds are needed to reach children in the most challenging regions of the world," says RI President Wilfrid J. Wilkinson. "We have the technical tools to beat polio, and we're almost there. All we need is for the rest of the world to follow the Google Foundation's lead in supporting the effort to eradicate this vaccine-preventable disease once and for all."

Moon Eclipse from Marblehead

This snapshot was taken about 30 minutes prior to total at approximately 9:30 Wednesday evening by your editor. Patti Tarr was outside with her camera too, but I have not seen any of her pictures yet. Anyone else?



GREETERS' SCHEDULE

February 28 - Bill Simpson & Maria Bazzi

March 6 - Art Horgan & Dave Richardson

March 13 - Bob Kennedy & Rich Cuffe

Please remember, Greeters have to BREAK DOWN also !!