

# Lynn Rotary TIPS

September 9, 2010 News of the Rotary Club of Lynn District 7930

## Our Fall Speakers !

September 16  
District Governor  
Stephen May

Our board of directors will meet prior to our meeting with Stephen this date, not on the usual directors' meeting date.

September 23  
Diana Moreno

EVERY ROTARIAN  
US \$100  
EVERY YEAR

## Gene Hastings:

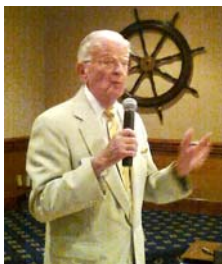
### "How I Became A Rotarian"

Fifth of a new series about our members!



Gene started his presentation by giving a little personal, family history. He mentioned his Great Grandparents and Grandparents & the eventual influences they had on his life and that of his late brother Bob, who, as Gene, was also a former president of Lynn Rotary.

Gene showed a couple of snapshots he had taken long ago - off the family's 10" Admiral TV - Arthur Godfrey and Jeanette MacDonald - and a very special photo of President Truman being inaugurated as President in 1949 - ending up as the ONLY photo of the inauguration in any paper in the world not in the immediate Washington D.C. area!



The Item won the top award by Editor & Publisher Magazine for this scoop! International & cross-country transmissions of photographs had yet to be "developed" at that time. It was snapped from his mother's tiny TV screen!

**Why Did Gene join Rotary?** He did so on orders from his boss at the Item: - "go this Thursday to the Hotel Edison at noon and don't be late!"

And thus began a long and wonderful relationship with Rotarians throughout the world - events Gene would have never imagined possible - as a Rotarian, as a District Governor, and as a committee representative for youth projects.

Outstanding in the experiences was visiting India with Clara in January, 2001 to give the children those magic drops preventing polio.

And of course . . . . love for our outstanding Camp Rotary !!

So very much, so very wonderful!

## Visitors and Guests

included Clara Hastings and Arthur Akers, from the college Application Education Program - a guest of Deb Harpe.

## Our \$289 Pot

was gently approached by Maroli Licardi and Rich Cuffe..

Surprise - Surprise . . . the money is safe !



## Danielle !!

After much embarrassment at our table our Sterling waitperson was asked again what her name was! It is Danielle and I wrote it down as did others - so here it is - try to memorize it, gang !! She is a fast learner and is doing a great job!

## Thanks Dave!

Photo of Gene above was by Dave Richardson !!

Give the world hope - give your Annual Foundation Gift Today!



## Our District Governor Stephen May

will be our very special guest next week!

Please come to our meeting Thursday - and be sure to bring a guest !



In addition, our Assistant Governor, Jim Babbins and 2011-2012 Governor-Elect Subbiah Doraiswami will be with us too! Terrific!



## A Rotary Peace Fellow tells her story

I was in a taxi on the way to testify before Congress on the situation facing Colombia's human rights defenders, the first time I was to appear before a congressional hearing, and I had the jitters.

I turned to my Colombian colleague – a human rights lawyer with two decades of experience backing the victims of Colombia's 40-year war – and asked if he felt anxious too.



“What makes me nervous is the thought of returning to Colombia after these hearings and what could follow,” he responded.

In that moment, he summed up the challenge of my job as executive director of the independent U.S. Office on Colombia and as an advocate in Washington, D.C., defending human rights workers. **None of it would have been possible without the Rotary Peace Fellowship I was awarded for 2005-07.**

I'd just returned from working with indigenous communities in the Ecuadorian Amazon and Chiapas, Mexico, and wanted to promote peace and conflict resolution, but had no idea how to move forward without a master's degree. Then a person I met while volunteering for Oxfam told me about the Rotary Peace Centers program. Being Australian, I contacted the Rotary Club of Roseville Chase, in a suburb of Sydney, and a few months later, I was selected as one of 50 fellowship recipients.

The program brought me to the University of Bradford in the United Kingdom to study international conflict resolution where I focused on mediation and politics. I developed friendships with other fellows – two of them came to Australia for my wedding. I was able to research human rights, regional politics in Latin America and Africa, internal displacement, religion, and conflict resolution.

I was fortunate to do my applied field experience – a requirement of the Rotary Peace Fellowship – with the United Nations independent expert on minority issues. I examined human rights abuses against Afro-Colombians, who have been disproportionately affected by conflict, especially by forced displacement.

Now, three years after graduating, I've met with young women who have shown me their wedding photos, much like my own. The difference is that their husbands are dead, murdered by the armed forces and later dressed up to look like enemy guerrillas killed in combat. Between January 2007 and July 2008, nearly one person a day was murdered by the armed forces. Efforts to bring international attention to this have forced the government to purge some officers and officials. In my position

at the U. S. Office on Colombia, I have met with senior Obama administration officials and members of Congress to urge them to pressure Colombian leaders to end the lethal abuse of power. We've been able to reduce the number of “extrajudicial executions” We've also helped persuade the country's government to rid the armed forces of over 50 rogue officers and senior officials, and to establish an army-wide human rights curriculum.

Doing what I do takes commitment, but it also requires training. **That's where my Rotary Peace Fellowship kicked in.** I learned so much from my two years at Bradford that I've been able to put to use. Without that preparation, I'm not sure I would have been able to make any headway at all in a country with such a complex and entrenched conflict.

After the congressional hearing, my Colombian colleague said to me, “Do you have any idea how important the work is that your organization is doing to allow us to continue to help Colombian victims?” In this line of work, it's hard to measure success, and calculating numbers doesn't seem all that relevant. Saving one person makes it worthwhile.

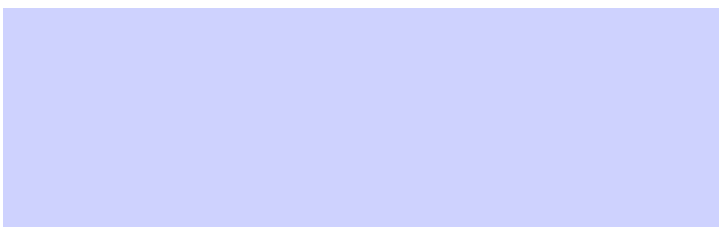
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## Itzhak Perlman Will Join the Chicago Symphony Orchestra in a Concert to End Polio

Rotary International is teaming up with violin virtuoso Itzhak Perlman and members of the world-renowned Chicago Symphony Orchestra to present a Concert to End Polio at Symphony Center in Chicago, 7 March 2011. All proceeds from the event will benefit Rotary's US\$200 Million Challenge.

Perlman contracted polio at age four and overcame serious physical challenges to become one of the world's most recognized musicians. The benefit concert marks his only Chicago appearance this season.

Tickets to the concert are priced between \$50 and \$200. Tickets to a post-concert reception with Perlman are \$150. Purchase tickets online or call 312-294-3000. A block of tickets has been reserved for Rotary club members until 30 November and are available when you order tickets by phone and mention Rotary.



## GREETERS' SCHEDULE

September 16 - Obie Barker & Bill Simpson  
September 23 - Virginia Doocy & Dave Richardson  
September 30 - Rich Cuffe & Bob Kennedy

**Please remember, Greeters have to BREAK DOWN also !!**