



ROTARY OF YUMA

THE BIG WHEEL

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“SERVICE ABOVE SELF”

BILL GATES PLEDGES \$255 MILLION MORE TO POLIO PLUS

Bill Gates, representing the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, announced at the 2009 International Assembly in San Diego that he was adding another \$255 million to the original commitment of \$100 million in the fight to eradicate polio.

“Rotarians, government leaders, and health professionals have made a phenomenal commitment to get us to a point at which polio afflicts only a small number of the world’s children,” Gates said. “However, complete elimination of the poliovirus is difficult and will continue to be difficult for a number of years. Rotary in particular has inspired my own personal commitment to get deeply involved in achieving eradication.”

Rotary International, already in a challenge to match the original \$100 million, announced that it will pledge another \$100 million to augment the new gift of \$255 million.

The participation of Rotary clubs and individual Rotarians in Rotary’s \$200 Million Challenge remains crucial to its success. Rotary has raised nearly \$73 million toward this amount: \$62 million in contributions and 11 million in commitments. Each club is being challenged to organize a public fundraiser annually for the next three years. In October, the Rotary Foundation Trustees approved a special Paul Harris Recognition, which begins July 1, featuring a certificate with the End Polio Now logo. In conjunction, the British and German governments have pledged an additional \$280 million *(continued on page 2)*



UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS . .

- 2009 *Midnight at the Oasis: March 6—8.*
- 2009 *Winter Sports Banquet: March 9*
- 2009 *St. Patrick’s Day Auction: March 14*
- 2009 *Yuma County Fair: March 31—April 5*
- 2009 *Teacher of the Year: April 21*

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THE WORLD OF ROTARY WWW.YUMAROTARY.ORG

That little box above and to the right is a bit scary. Time to roll up our sleeves and get to work. It looks like March is going to be a Yuma Rotary Club month kicking off with MATO. This could be an interesting Midnight because it is possible it will be the last time it will be held in the Ray Kroc Complex. Further, the Teacher of the Year and our Winter Sports Banquet held at the Yuma Civic Center may be the last time these events are held in this venue.

The auction will be held in a new location this year; the Pivot Pointe Conference Center. They have a lot more room than last year so we need to get donations and people to join us for this amazing event. On hand, for what might be the last time, is our favorite auctioneer, Mark Hansberger.



**A MESSAGE FROM
PRESIDENT MARK**

**THE
FOUR-WAY
TEST**

OF THE THINGS
WE THINK, SAY
OR DO

IS IT THE
TRUTH?

IS IT **FAIR** TO
ALL
CONCERNED?

WILL IT BUILD
GOODWILL
AND BETTER
FRIENDSHIPS?

WILL IT BE
BENEFICIAL
TO ALL
CONCERNED?

FELLOW ROTARIANS,

What a Rotary week it has been for me! I returned from serving as a counselor at RYLA, attended both the Yuma Crossing and Fort Yuma Rotary meetings and inducted our two latest members to the Yuma Rotary Club. Every event was something exciting and eye opening about Rotary. Rotarians are doing many good things throughout Yuma in all of our clubs.

Our "sister" clubs are preparing for their events: the Fort Yuma Mardi Gras in downtown Yuma. They are looking for sponsors and ordering supplies for the jambalaya. Yuma Crossing is preparing for their Golf Tournament coming up on April 25th at Desert Hills. Of course, our own committee is planning and preparing for our St. Patrick's party. It will be a busy spring. Everyone, please get involved and assist through support and ticket

sales.

Of course, the end result of these events is funds to help our regions club support kids going to RYLA and impacting their lives. As I told you on Tuesday, there were young men and women that challenged themselves and came away from RYLA as leaders that will know they can have an impact on their friends and world. One young woman in my group indicated that her mind was made up to participate in Rotary's exchange program because of the testimonies of the foreign exchange students, like Thais. What a great opportunity to see how Rotary is truly "Making Dreams Real".

Thanks, Rotarians for all you do!

YIR, Mark Watson, President

GLOBAL POLIO ERADICATION INITIATIVE (CON'T)

towards the fight to eliminate polio from the face of the earth.

Rotary will distribute the funds through grants to its partners in this effort, the World Health Organization, the U. S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and UNICEF.

Okay, so what does this mean for us, the Yuma Rotary Club. With the untimely death of the first Polio Pig and the arrival of Polio Pig II we have over \$560 already raised to meet RI's challenge. We are working on creating a fund raiser called Bowling for Polio (I

like to call it Bowlio) that will hopefully raise enough funds to cover the challenge for all of the clubs in the Yuma area.

Those of you who have witnessed the lengthy, ongoing effort to eradicate polio it must be nice to know the end is near.



The polio vaccine is administered orally.

VIC'S PROGRAM PICKS

Last week we had six members of the Boarder Patrol with us and they did a presentation on the current boarder issues in Arizona and here in Yuma County. They went over the challenges they are facing and how they expect to overcome those challenges. They also touched on their Exploring program for high school age youth interested in learning more about boarder patrol and other law enforcement careers.

Today we have with us Teri Norris from the

BY VICKY SCHRAM

Yuma Regional Medical Center. Terri will be speaking today on the YRMC Health Careers Exploring program for High School age youth interested in pursuing health careers.

Next week Ernie and Sally Montagne will share with us their two visits to West Africa on Rotary Volunteer Service Grants.

MEMBER’S PAGE

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHDAYS:

ANNIVERSARIES: Al and Ellenore Face (1/31, a whole bunch of years)

MEMBERSHIP:

PROUD MOMENTS: Not much in the way of proud moments, so I will say just how proud I am of the country I live in (shouldn’t end a sentence with a preposition, Chuck). What brought on this wave of patriotism was the inauguration of the 44th President of the United States. Not because of the Obama thing, but because of the peaceful transfer of power from one man to another. In fact, there was genuine moment of tranquility when George Bush hugged and kissed Michelle Obama and warmly, with a smile, shook hands with Barack before the Bushes jumped a ride to Andrews for the trip home. If you watched that and didn’t get a feeling of pride and well-being then I’m not sure you are experiencing the full joy of what it means to be an American. Man, are we lucky or what?

PICTURES OF THE WEEK



Sponsor Mina Girard places a Rotary pin on new member Christine Polston. Seems like it took a long time to get Christine in the club, but she hung on and we’re proud to have her.

Steve Schulte pins new member Chris Thompson and displays his usual style and panache.



YUMA AREA ROTARY CLUBS

YUMA SUNRISE ROTARY CLUB:	Wednesday,	6:45 AM	Ramada Inn
FOOTHILLS ROTARY CLUB:	Wednesday,	NOON	Daybreakers Cafe
SOMERTON ROTARY CLUB:	Wednesday,	6:00 PM	El Dragon Restaurant
SAN LUIS ROTARY CLUB:	Thursday,	NOON	San Luis Community Center
YUMA CROSSING ROTARY CLUB:	Thursday,	5:30 PM	Desert Hills Clubhouse
FORT YUMA ROTARY CLUB:	Thursday,	NOON	Desert Hills Clubhouse
YUMA NORTH END ROTARY CLUB:	Tuesday,	5:45 PM	La Fonda Restaurant

- PRESIDENT
Mark Watson
- PRESIDENT ELECT
Bob Stull
- IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT
Denise Sweet-McGregor
- SECRETARY & PUBLICITY
Chuck Nordquist
- TREASURER
Betty DeNise
- MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR
Wayne Wagner
- SERVICE PROJECTS DIRECTOR
George Davis
- CLUB ADMINISTRATION DIRECTOR
Mike Gibbs
- CLUB PROJECT DIRECTOR
Jim Conlee
- YOUTH/FAMILY OF ROTARY DIRECTOR
Jeanine Rhea
- DIRECTOR
Eve Scarff
- DIRECTOR
Lonie Ross-Misenhimer
- SERGEANT AT ARMS
Jack Puckett
Jack McArthur

THE BIG WHEEL “WHEELY”



Rotary touches children in so many ways and to prove they are grateful the art students from Desert Mesa Elementary School sent us a thank-you banner for the money we gave through the Louis LeRoy art awards. We have another chance to help young artists in the Yuma area again this year at the St. Patty's Day Auction. We have one more print by Louis to auction and another original by AWC Professor of Art Bill Blomquist. Save your money for the auction.

JANUARY 2009

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5	6 MEETING	7	8	9	10
11	12	13 MEETING BOARD MEETING	14	15	16	17
18	19	20 MEETING	21	22	23	24
25	26	27 MEETING	28	29	30	31 A: Al and Ellenore Face