



Your **ROTSOCPE** for Thursday, March 26, 2009

for the Rotary Club of San Marino, California, USA

CHRISTIE CLIMBS OUT OF THE COLBY MUD

THE WEATHER IS WARMING at Colby College in central Maine. Temperatures soared into the 30s most days last week, and Johnson Pond is free of ice. The Polar Bear Dip is already over. Pictures of those white bodies plunging into frigid water are posted to prove it on the www.colby.edu site. But now it's "Mud Time," and it's slushy around Waterford, in the middle of the Augusta to Bangor snow belt. Students are off to spring break beaches. Smarter students are in San Marino, as it's cheaper to live back home and have lunch at Rotary. That's our smart speaker!

CHRISTIE SHU IS HOME during this Colby spring break, preparing to graduate, then to study as an Ambassadorial Scholar in Kazakhstan. Bill Payne has been telling the story of Christie's interview with the district committee. She was studying in Russia, and Rotary rules demanded an in-person interview. After diplomatic negotiations worthy of Ms. Clinton's DOS, Christie's experimental videoconference interview from St. Petersburg to Pasadena worked. This Thursday, however, she'll be live, thawed out of Colby ice, here to tell us of her past and future adventures.

ROTARY DATES AHEAD

SATURDAY, APRIL 4 DISTRICT ASSEMBLY
for incoming officers

THURSDAY, MAY 14 SPRING FLING
the club's \$10K RACE

MAY 28 – 31 DISTRICT CONFERENCE
for all District Rotarians

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17 DEMOTION PARTY
at San Gabriel Country Club

A 10K RUN TOO CONFUSING

THE CLUB NEEDS \$10,000 this spring to fund our "Charities" activities through the year. We often gather these funds with fun parties, and just such is being planned for the evening of **Thursday, May 14**, by Gene Orłowsky and Jack Hamilton. Last week we referred to a **\$10K RACE**. This confused Gene and Jack. They did not understand that "K" is a symbol for kilometers, or that races are often 10K. They did not understand that "K" is also a symbol for 10,000, and that "\$" stands for dollars (they let their staff handle all those). I'm sorry. I forgot they're graduates of USC.

NOT QUITE 99 44/100% THERE, BUT GETTING CLOSE

ROTARY FOUNDATION CREDITS for the 2008-2009 accounting year cut off at the end of this month. TRF welcomes your donations any time of the year, but those made between April and June don't count toward a club's 100% participation as sustaining members. That's why John Harris and our club's Foundation Committee are scurrying around to get our last few members to chip in \$100 or more so we're a **100% club** another year.

ROTARY ASKS (EXPECTS!) EVERY ROTARIAN, every year, to make at least a minimum \$100 contribution to help with PolioPlus, water projects, youth exchanges, Ambassadorial Scholarships, and all the other worldwide projects of our organization. Far back in the last century, when Debbie Fogarty was our president for 1993-1994, we started reaching that goal with 100% of our members contributing. On through Mothershead, Datwyler, Derry and Eichel, Crowley, Veronda, Bortz, and Lowe-Francis, we celebrated 100% participation each year. Into the early 21st century Haserot, Thompson, and Hamilton administrations, on with the Therrien, Carter and Sohl, we made it.

DON'T BREAK THE CHAIN WITH MATTHEWS! A very few members haven't "sustained" for this year. It's true that we don't see some of these people very often (well, some we haven't seen since Debbie was a Lowrey, without finding Bruce Fogarty until later that year). But we need them to give, and for you if you've not given yet, and you to give a second time if it's possible for you. Talk with John Harris or anyone on the Foundation Committee to be found on the list in your club directory. Fifteen years of 100% is pretty impressive, but we don't want to stop now!

MARCH / APRIL 2009

MARCH	26	Noon	Another Scholar's current experiences abroad
APRIL	2	Noon	The Durant Expedition of Summiting Kilimanjaro
	4	Morning	DISTRICT ASSEMBLY in Victorville for Emile's crew
	9	Noon	Craft talks from two newer members <i>Board meeting rescheduled to next Thursday</i>
	16	Noon	"One Million Lights"
	16	1:35	Lois holds her monthly meeting of the Bored
	23	Noon	Group Study Exchange Team visiting San Marino

THE ROTOSCOPE

For the Rotary Club of San Marino, California, U.S.A.

March 26: To Russia, with Love



SHELTERBOX CALLS FOR HELP

JACK HAMILTON BROUGHT the ShelterBox idea to San Marino after learning about the project at an RI Convention. Launched in 2000 by a small Rotary in the Midlands of England, the concept is elegant: prepare logistical support for families by stockpiling containers with emergency supplies for housing, cooking, and living after disasters. The boxes are funded by Rotary Clubs around the world, assembled in England and Florida, flown to be stored at major airports, then flown into disaster areas for distribution as needed.

JACK'S NEWS INSPIRED INTERACT at Southwestern Academy to gather funding for 26 boxes. They were around \$800 each at first, but when the U.S. Dollar dropped against the Pound that year the price reached \$1200. Southwestern Interact blinked, but hung in there with garage sales, lawn mowing, painting, garage cleaning, and other weekend jobs to raise money – as the kids hit up their parents worldwide to kick in too.

WHEN THE GREAT TSUNAMI hit around the Indian Ocean, ShelterBox help came immediately. Since then, response teams in Pakistan, Swaziland, Congo, and Honduras have distributed hundreds of boxes after Congo wars, to AIDS orphans, in the low land around San Pedro Sula after heavy rains and flooding, and when a major earthquake left 15,000 homeless in southwestern Pakistan.

NOW SHELTERBOX IS NEAR DISASTER itself. All the boxes funded early this decade have been distributed, and little new funds have been donated. San Marino Rotary just made an investment to fund two-thirds of a box. Southwestern Interact has raised enough for a full box. Are you able to match these gifts? To make an online donation, fully tax deductible, go to www.shelterbox.org.

"BOY WEEK"

ONE OF ROTARY'S FIRST big projects was to get working boys in cities across America, and soon around the world, out into the healthy sunshine – for a week. Started in 1920 by some New York City Rotarians just returned from the Great War, "BOY WEEK" encouraged employers of boys from eight to 15 years old to give their working boys a week off – without pay, of course – to learn swimming in the city's exclusive Athletic Clubs, to spend a weekend up the Hudson camping out, and to build muscles by planting trees and grass in vacant lots where sports could be played once the parks matured.

"BOY WEEK" DIDN'T QUITE touch child labor evils, but did give some impoverished youngsters (male only; we guess the girls didn't need all that out-of-doors fresh air) a taste of country living. The idea spread quickly. By 1924, there were "BOY WEEKS" in Detroit, Cleveland, Cincinnati, and several other industrial cities of the Northeast. Rotarians in a number of countries heard the concept during RI international conventions, and by 1926 at least 25 countries brought boys from mines, mills, and assembly lines outside for a few days. "Boy Weeks" ended with the Depression, but led to TLC and RYLA.

TRANSPARANCY IN EVANSTON

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL and its nonprofit arm, The Rotary Foundation, have opened all the windows of the RI tower in Evanston, Illinois, to let you look in and wander about as much as you wish. Years ago the finances of RI, the investments of TRF, the spending by both groups were very hard to discover, even for good members. Now it's all there, who gets paid what, how much is in reserves, every detail posted by the new general secretary of RI, Ed Futa, unlike a few predecessors who kept things covered up. To learn more, go to: www.rotary.org/financials.

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Bulletin news or gripes? – send to: kveronda@southwesternacademy.edu – or call 626-799-5010, x1202

LOIS WONDERS HOW IT IS
THAT YOU'RE IN A MOVIE,
BUT ON TV?