



Your **ROTOSCOPE** for **Thursday, July 23, 2009**

for the Rotary Club of San Marino, California, USA

A HERO OF SOUTH KOREA

NAM JACK HAS A SPECIAL family story to share. Nam has been very active in our community, a leader among supporters of our school district. She was chair of the successful Measure E parcel tax campaign in May, and citizen chair of the community center steering committee and a trustee of the Schools Foundation.

NAM HAS A PERSONAL STORY to tell us about her father. He was one of the founders, if not “the Founder”, of the Republic of Korea Army, a general and a war hero in the 1950-1953 Korean War. Nam is very proud of her heritage, and you will appreciate why when you hear of her father’s leadership.

REMINDER: OUR PLEDGE

THANK YOU VERY MUCH if you answered Lloyd Ownbey’s call last week with a \$30 or more contribution to The Rotary Foundation’s challenge of eliminating polio. If you’ve not yet responded, please do – with a check to The Rotary Foundation, dated in June so it counts for the Gates matching fund, and sent to John S. Harris so he can keep records for us. (John’s at 8310 Youngdale Road, San Gabriel 91725). And yes, your donation to PolioPlus does count on your foundation support record.

NEW RVM AVAILABLE

“**RVM**” – **THE ROTARIAN VIDEO MAGAZINE** – is sent by R.I. every four months, each volume containing three DVDs, each with three or four stories of Rotary projects worldwide. The fourth volume, last of 2008-2009 activities, was just published, and the first for 2009-2010 will be mailed in October. You can buy single volumes for \$15, or the annual set through a subscription at \$30. The latest shows flood relief efforts, Miracle League baseball, keeping Mongolia green: go to shop.rotary@rotary.org.

ROTARY’S GROWTH AREAS

MOST SERVICE CLUBS AND social membership organizations have been shrinking through this decade, with competition from so many other demands on our time and our funds. This has been true for Rotary in the United States, with fewer clubs and fewer members (about 6% down) since 2000. But it’s not true for Rotary overall, according to the latest membership statistics sent last month from R.I. headquarters in Evanston, Illinois.

THERE ARE 1,219,102 ROTARIANS worldwide, belonging to 7,577 clubs. If you attended one club each weekday, taking time off on weekends, it would take you 29 years to visit them all – but clubs are being added at a rate over 400 a year, so in fact you never could make up at every one. Membership has declined some 25% in Japan, but is up the same amount in both Chinas. Rotary’s biggest growth has been in the old Soviet Bloc countries, up 48% since 1996 in Austria, Belarus, the Czech Republic, Germany (primarily in the old East Germany), Hungary, Romania, and Slovakia. Great Britain and France membership has declined, but all around the European and North African coasts of the Mediterranean every country shows an increase.

“**RI ZONES**” **MUST BE FAIRLY EQUAL**, under international bylaws. Zones are used to divide up RI directors and TRF trustees, and new borders have been carved to ensure fairness in the selection of RI directors. As of July 1st, there are new boundaries and groupings. If you’re interested, you can search for “Rotary zones” at www.rotary.org.

JULY / AUGUST 2009

JULY

- | | | |
|----|------|---|
| 23 | Noon | Nam Jack with a story to tell about her father in Korea |
| 30 | Noon | More negotiations under way – but it’ll be good |

AUGUST

- | | | |
|----|------|---|
| 6 | Noon | Lunch meeting at Community Church – program coming |
| 13 | Noon | Another lunch, another meeting, another program –
(but there’s a rumor that the governor’s visiting) |

THE ROTOSCOPE

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

July 23: Proud daughter of a Korean War hero



'THE IMAGINATION LIBRARY'

DOLLY PARTON IS A GOOD ROTARIAN. The country music legend has created The Dollywood Foundation, working with Rotary International through her Georgia clubs to support "The Imagination Library". This project leads into Rotary's "Reading by Nine", promoting early childhood reading and book awareness by giving a book each month to children from birth until age five.

DOLLY KNOWS FROM her own very modest family background that many children arrive in elementary school having seen no books in their homes, and having never been read to by a parent. The Dollywood program is working to give mothers and fathers easy and colorful books to read at bedtime, then to use for their pre-school children to identify letters and sound out words. Dollywood books have been designed with interesting materials that will catch the adult's attention even as they charm the children into looking at pictures and following along with the parent's reading.

THERE ARE 203 ROTARY CLUBS in Georgia, and more than half already participate in "Imagination." Dolly has been traveling around her state, making up at big and small clubs, walking in unannounced (but we imagine garnering plenty of immediate attention from greeters, club officers, visitors, and general membership). She signs lots of autographs each meeting – but only in books the club members have purchased that can be donated to local children.

WITH THE SECOND-LOWEST primary school entry reading rate in the country, Georgia knows it has work to do in stimulating reading. Dolly's bouncy personality and charm is stirring up her fellow Rotarians to do something to correct the problem, and she invites San Marino Rotary to add "Imagination" book gifts to our "Reading by 9" work.

WHERE'S WALDO NOW?

OUR BIG OLD CLUB MARSHMALLOW president is home, after 25,000 miles of travel (that's around the world, of course) by air, coach, rail, car, cruise ship, and dog sled to England, Luxembourg, Alaska, British Columbia, and home. We're just kidding about the dog sled. Emile tried one, but there's no snow now on the Kenai Peninsula where Tinker took him to shoot bear. With their camera, of course. Emile's full of stories to tell about the Rotary International convention in Birmingham, his twin brother's years in Luxembourg, the driving around Alaska, and the fancy ship across to the Alaskan Panhandle – so many stories it will be hard to stop him once he steps up on our podium behind our lectern (got the difference, Dennis?) for the first time.

GREAT SCOT!

ROTARY'S NEW INTERNATIONAL Leader, John Kenny, moves into the presidential suite atop Rotary's office building in Evanston, Illinois, with one demand: the results of the latest football games from his beloved Falkirk Football Club are to be printed on his desk as soon as they're posted on line. A member of the Grangemouth, Scotland, Rotary Club since 1970, Kenny has been president of RI in Great Britain, a trustee of TRF, and a deputy lieutenant to Queen Elizabeth II, whatever that entails. A barrister – arguing in court on behalf of shipbuilding companies struggling with unions – he moved into full-time social service more than ten years ago as an enthusiastic booster of Rotary.

KENNY IS PUSHING WATER and sanitation projects. Through "Water Aid," he has spent time in Tanzania digging wells and installing cisterns. Prince Charles, president of Water Aid, honored him for funneling nearly \$1 million from Rotary in Great Britain to water projects in central Africa. He has ambitious plans to continue this work world-wide, encouraging clubs to skip meals and use the money saved for world projects. "There's nothing in the Rotary constitution that says you have to have a meal at a meeting – and most of us don't need food. Young people seem prepared to support a cause, but not prepared to join an organization. We must make them want Rotary."

Our OFFICERS for the NEW ROTARY YEAR:

OFFICERS:

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

EMILE'S PHILOSOPHIES:

Don't be irreplaceable.
If you can't be replaced, you can't be promoted.