



**SERVICE Above Self**

# Fargo West Rotary

Newsletter February  
2009

Fargo West Rotary, PO Box 9237, Fargo, ND 58106



## President's Message *By Paula Grimestad*

February is World Understanding Month. Through world understanding peace will follow. We are all so different and yet so similar. We need to focus on the things we have in common, such as family, community and the pursuit of happiness. The world has become smaller and we are connected in so many more ways, through the internet, business and our economies.

World peace is a Rotary goal. Ambassadorial Scholarships and Rotary World Peace Fellowships are two important ways Rotary is working to bring world peace closer. "Will it build goodwill and better friendships"? This is our third test of the things we think say and do as Rotarians. As more and more people around the world adopt this view, peace around the world will become a reality.

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## Rotary Hits the Big Time

The Rotarians on the Internet (aka ROTI) is a fun group of Rotarians from around the world. They share information about themselves, their clubs and country and what Rotary is doing there. This is a post I had to share, as I thought it was pretty neat.

*"I just finished today's (Saturday, Jan 24th) New York Times Crossword Puzzle, and was delighted to find that Rotary is the answer to Number 58-Across. Unfortunately, the clue is simply, "civic club." Oh, if only Will Shortz had said "polio eradicator" or "world peace broker" or any one of a number of apt descriptions. Still, celebrities yearn for the day they are an answer to one of this prestigious puzzle's clues, so we should be proud!"*

Kate Schwadron  
Rotary District 6060 Grants Committee  
St. Louis, MO, USA

Announcing the  
2009-10 RI  
Theme:



## Sad Passing of Past RI President & His Legacy

On Jan 15, 2009 Carlos Canseco, Mexico, passed away.

Carlos was the driving force for the PolioPlus Program. Here is an excerpt from the biography of PRIP Carlos Canseco Gonzales which highlights his unique role in the history of Rotary International:

*"Dr. Carlos Canseco González will go down in history as the Rotary International President who launched, in 1985, the Polio Plus Program with the goal of raising \$120,000,000 to provide enough vaccine to rid the world of polio by the Centenary of Rotary in 2005"*

Carlos Canseco is one of RI's leading presidents. His is one of the most outstanding legacies of any one to serve RI.

Fargo West Rotary is proud to be a part of this important effort — this is something you cannot do on your own. As an organization, we can *and do* make a difference!

### **From RI President DK Lee**

Dear Fellow Rotarians,  
This is another historic day for Rotary. Our organization was honored today to host philanthropist Bill Gates, Jr. at Rotary's International Assembly in San Diego, California, USA.

Speaking to 2009-2010 district governors-elect, Bill Gates, Jr. congratulated Rotarians on the success of the partnership between Rotary International and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to raise funds for polio. To date, Rotarians have already committed more than \$60 million toward the original \$100 million Gates challenge grant awarded in November 2007.

In recognizing Rotary's impressive fundraising success and steadfast commitment to polio eradication, Gates announced today that his foundation has decided to increase its challenge grant by \$255 million – for a total of \$355 million. By accepting the increase, Rotary also accepts the challenge to raise an additional \$100 million in matching funds by 30 June 2012 and drives the combined Rotary and Gates Foundation partnership's support commitment to a total of \$555 million.

All of the resulting \$555 million will be spent in support of immunization activities carried out by the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) in polio-affected countries. The initiative is spearheaded by Rotary, the World Health Organization (WHO), the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and UNICEF.

The infusion of funds is crucial if the world is to finally be rid of polio, a crippling, sometimes fatal disease that poses the highest risk to children. Although the initiative has reduced the number of polio cases by 99 percent over the past two decades, the wild poliovirus still persists in four countries -- Afghanistan, India, Nigeria, and Pakistan -- and imported cases from these endemic countries threaten other developing nations.

Your continued participation in this effort is crucial to making it a success. The Rotary International Board of Directors and the Trustees of The Rotary Foundation have unanimously agreed to accept this challenge grant to ensure the success of the PolioPlus program. Rotary and the Gates Foundation intend for their funding partnership to set an example for the rest of the world. We feel confident that this extraordinary partnership will serve as a catalyst for further donations from others to help us realize the dream of a polio-free world.

When Rotary entered the fight against polio in 1985, we promised every child a world free from the threat of polio. We are almost there. This funding agreement between Rotary and the Gates Foundation is a huge step forward, bringing us even closer to our goal. Success is our only option. Together we can End Polio Now. For more information, please visit [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org).

For video and still photos go to:  
<http://www.thenewsmarket.com/rotaryinternational>

Happy Birthday!

2/20 Hassan Ghazi  
2/26 Arden Glanzer

## Meet Our New Member



*"In the past year I have been looking for an organization where I can use my talents working with like minded people doing our part in making this world a better place."*

*Kathleen Toft*

You know statistics say most adults will have 3-5 careers in our lifetime? Well I wanted to try a few more things so my varied background includes Radiology Technologist (x-ray tech), Orthodontic Assistant, Float Receptionist, Manager of Physician Recruitment, Accountant Recruiter, and Restaurant Manager/Owner. I joined the Valley Imports, Inc. family about a year ago and enjoy the challenges of my new career as a Sales Consultant.

My biggest joy(s) in life are my children, Luke, 25 and Maggie, 24. During their early years we were kept busy with dance, soccer, band, and hockey as well as other activities. In fact my daughter played hockey all through college and is still playing, albeit with an old man's league!! During their school years I was very active in various organizations such as PTA, the Dance Co. board, and the Hockey board but once they went off to college I was left without the involvement I was used to. Hobbies and interests include sailing, reading, enjoying good food and wine, and just being in nature.

I am honored to be joining the Fargo West Rotary Club and look forward to meeting those of you I don't already know. A big Thank You to Jill Berg for inviting me.

## Becoming a Host Family

*By Trent Gerards*



In November, Dani Arnold was searching for a home for our exchange student, Leo. As I read her emails I began to think this is something my family could do. I asked my wife, Sarah, what she thought of the idea and she was excited to be able to help out. Then we talked to our kids, Alayna, 5 and Dawson, 3. They were excited to have a big brother and couldn't wait until Leo came to live with us.

The first night when Leo arrived it was a little awkward. I think that is when the realization hit; we are responsible for another person. Alayna was not sure anymore and she spent the first few hours in her room. Dawson on the other hand was already asking Leo; do you want to play trucks?

The first few weeks we spent a lot of time getting to know each other, laying out ground rules, and adjusting to schedules. The hardest thing for our family was adding an active teenager's schedule to our current schedule. With patience and understanding we were able to overcome this hurdle.

It has been two months with Leo as part of our family and soon he will be moving to his next host family. It will be difficult for us to see Leo go. We never imagined how much this experience would change our family. Although Alayna wasn't so sure of Leo in the beginning, she will be saddened to see him leave. However, we will still have the picture Alayna drew for her Kindergarten class of her family at supper time and yes there were five people sitting at the family dinner table. Of course it was easy to pick out Leo. Alayna drew him wearing his winter coat, apparently she has picked up on the fact that the weather is a little colder than Leo is accustomed to.

People ask me, would you ever host another exchange student? My answer is always yes. This experience has been so positive for me and my family. If you have never been a host parent, I encourage you to try it at least once. I hope you find it as rewarding as we have.

## Future Rotarians Arrive



*“Grace LaMae Burchill was born on January 11th about 12:30 in the afternoon. She weighed 8 pounds, 8 ounces and was 19 3/4" long. Mom and baby are doing great. Grace is our first child. Her middle name is my grandmother's first name. I think we will be calling her Gracie Mae, at least while she's young.”*

Congratulations, Doug & Joylynn on your beautiful daughter!



Rachel & Joshua Clarke sent a photo of their second child, Wyatt, and his very proud big sister Aubrey.

Wyatt James Clarke was born at 7:46 AM on January 27th. He is 7 lbs 2 oz and 19" long. Both baby and mother are doing well. Congratulations to the Clarke family!

## Fargo West Rotary Announcements

**From Dani Arnold:** Please consider serving as our Exchange Student's last host family. We are hoping to move him into his final home in the beginning of March. The last few months are the easiest part of the exchange because he has his friends and his activities already established. Please contact Dani Arnold at 306-7022 or [daniness@yahoo.com](mailto:daniness@yahoo.com). This is very important, so please help find Leo a home!

**From Brad Dahl:** We are in our 10th Anniversary of our Harley Raffle. We have been very successful with raising money for the zoo. We have built the Takin Ridge and Wolf Exhibits and I want to thank our members for your help. I need your help again this year. We are moving the raffle to the Fargo Harley Davidson Store in West Fargo, where we will sell tickets at the open house on April 17th & 18<sup>th</sup>. The winning tickets will be drawn on the 18th at 2:00pm.

I want to thank all of our volunteers for selling, buying and working on the different committees; our club cannot do this without you.

If you have questions and would like to help you can contact the Harley committee Jennifer Dahl, Jill Henning, Patti Middendorp and Cory Badinger. We have openings on our subcommittees — advertising, mailing, telethon, special events. **Let's sell out this year!**



Rex Babin's interpretation of 'Miracle on the Hudson'

## ELL Update

By Ryan McManus

I would like to thank everyone who has volunteered thus far for the English Language Learners (ELL) program at Carl Ben Eielson school. This helps approximately 1,000 students in the Fargo School public school system learn English, making them bilingual. There is a great need to tutor these children. Many have had no formal education before coming here. They have to learn the basic skills, which qualifies them for this program.

This has been a well attended project and I have received many words of how enjoyable, fulfilling and fun this project is from club members. The teacher, Ms. Neis, whom is teaching the ELL program this year expressed her thanks and gratitude to me regarding our group. She also mentioned that **Fargo West Rotary has had the best volunteer attendance she has seen this year.**

Thanks to everyone for your volunteer efforts — especially, Paula Grimestad, Lavonne Langord, Brad Dahl, Dani Arnold, Mary Johnson, Steve Shark, Belinda Forknell, Joyce Linnerud Fowler, Judy Pearson, Paul Nelson, Jill Henning, John Stern, Dianne Mondry, Trent Gerads, Dave Wrolstad, Sharon Miller, Sheldon Emil, John Trombley, Patti Middendorp, Rachel Clarke, Doug Burchill and Kathy Toft.

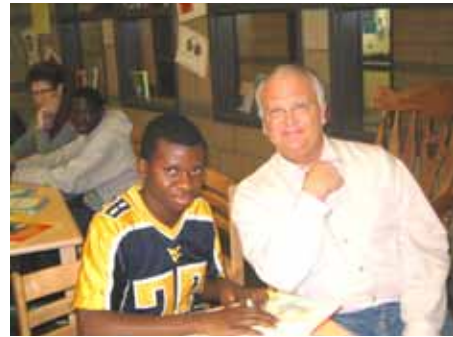
We have the month February left, if you would like to volunteer please let me know and we will get you the details. It takes about 90 minutes of your time. We can always use more volunteers.

Contact me at 361-4851 or [ryan.mcmanus@wellsfargo.com](mailto:ryan.mcmanus@wellsfargo.com). I hope to see you there!



Who's gaining the most from this experience?

Rotary's motto is Service Above Self.



Rotary has annual themes that address what we can do to help others: 2003-04 was *Lend A Hand* that showed an adult's hand reaching toward a child's hand. 2006-07 theme was *Lead The Way*. Isn't this what we do when we serve others?



Our Rotarians look mighty happy to be there lending a helping hand!

## February is World Understanding month

Rotary International sets a theme for each month and year. February is World Understanding Month. Where does a person even begin to promote World Understanding, or even understand it themselves?

One of the most enjoyable and rewarding ways is to participate in a Friendship Exchange. What are people who have gone on these exchanges saying about their experiences?

**Naty Sugguiyao** wrote: *“This is a wonderful opportunity Rotarians around the world to promote goodwill understanding and an exchange of what Rotarians are doing. The Rotary Club of Tabuk, District 3770, is open to host a visiting Rotarian of the Friendship Exchange. We are in Northern Philippines and our region is known as the Peacocks of the North inhabited by the Kalinga indigenous Peoples.”*  
Naty Sugguiyao President Rotary Club of Tabuk

**Maria Teresinha Lanna Gomides** wrote: *“This program Rotary Friendship Exchange is one of the best ways to live Rotary, to meet Rotarians and make friends for life. For me it was a new experience and I know I’ve learned a lot. I talked to the Rotarians from the 3 clubs I visited and of course took notes of everything I could. I am new in Rotary (6 years) and talking to people that have been living Rotary for long, was a lesson. I am from Brazil, district 4580 Rotary Club Ponte Nova Piranga and visited in July 2007 District 5100 Oregon and Washington states. I came back much more motivated to work for Rotary. Thank you very much for this opportunity.”*

Bruce and I were fortunate to visit England in 2002 on a Friendship Exchange and we are still communicating regularly with our friends. We exchange Christmas gifts with two of the families. Our hosts took us to places we would never have seen on a bus tour or on our own. There were many house parties for us which allowed us to meet Rotarians from various clubs and share our lives with them. We learned so much from them and learned to love the country. It was a wonderful experience; one we would like to repeat!

## Important Rotary Info

### February Meetings – World Understanding Month

**Greeter: Jill Henning**

2/2 Kevin Brooks — Sudanese Project

2/9 Presidential Inauguration

2/16 John Andreasen — Dakota Boys/Girls Ranch

2/23 Tom Isern — Center for Heritage Renewal

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Make up meetings at any of these local clubs:

Fargo West Rotary meets Monday noon at the Holiday Inn

Moorhead Rotary meets Tuesday noon at the Moorhead Country Club.

Fargo Rotary meets Wednesday noon at the Radisson Hotel.

FM/AM Rotary meets Thursday at 7:00a.m. at Seasons at Rose Creek Golf Club

FM/PM Make up meeting is at 5:15pm the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed of every month at the Winery



RI 2008-09 theme