



RI President: Ron D. Burton
President: Gautam Ray

District Governor: Rajani Mukerji
Secretary: Debasis Chakraborty

RI Club No. 23960, Club Charter Date 30th June 1986

NO. 37

VOL : XXVIII

9th May 2014

It takes a village

Rotary project removed waste and improved a restroom in Ghana village
May 3, 2014 By Kurt Hauglie,
The Daily Mining Gazette



HOUGHTON - Rotary Clubs all over the world are in communication with each other, and because of that fact, Cindy Enderby went to a village in Ghana to help

residents with several sanitation projects, including the removal of a large pile of household waste.

Enderby, who is a member of the Houghton Rotary Club, said members of the Accra-West Rotary Club in Ghana let Rotary International know about the sanitation situation in the Ghana village of Medie. A Rotary member from Appleton, Wisconsin traveled to Medie to gather information.

"She came back to the states to visit last May, and was looking for people to support the project," she said.

Enderby said in 2001 she went to Ghana for Rotary to help out with polio immunizations, so she had a familiarity with the country.

"I was interested in doing something else to help," she said. "I brought it to the Houghton club."

She also mentioned the idea of doing a project in Medie to other individuals and Rotary clubs in the district, Enderby said.

The idea was well received by club members, Enderby said, because it fit in well with the Rotary mission of fighting disease and working to improve water quality and sanitation situations.

"The project addressed issues in both focus areas," she said.

Enderby said Rotary Club members raised about \$10,000 for the Medie project, which was undertaken by the villagers. Another \$10,000 was provided by the Rotary District 6220, and the Rotary International Foundation provided another \$15,000 for a total of \$35,000.

The money was used to renovate a public restroom, including building a septic system for it, and to remove a large pile of toxic waste in the middle of the village, Enderby said.

The projects were done in phases.

"The first step was the cleanup of the town, and getting huge dumpsters so people have a place to put their trash instead of dumping it in a pile," Enderby said. "Changing habits was a real important part of the project."

With the installation of the dumpsters, Enderby said a trash collection system has been started in the village, which is new.

"Rotary emphasizes the sustainability of a project," she said. "For sustainability, a huge education component was part of the grant."

Part of that sustainability is a required memorandum of understanding from the local government outlining their responsibilities to make sure the work done is continued, Enderby said.

"They have in writing that they will be responsible for the trash collection and managing the toilets that have been built," she said.

Enderby said workers from the Ghana version of the Environmental Protection Agency went to each home in the village to explain what was needed to keep the village clean.

There were some delays in the project, Enderby said.

"The renovation of the toilets took longer than expected because the septic system we had planned on, they decided wasn't going to be adequate," she said.

A larger septic system had to be constructed, Enderby said. Another set back involved the disposal of the toxic waste.

"That landfill closed down, so we had to find alternate solutions for getting rid of the waste," she said.

The project in Medie started in November and finished in March, Enderby said. In November, she went to Ghana for one week to see what had been done and to take part in a ground-breaking ceremony. She will go back to the village at the end of May to do a follow-up on the project.

The cleanup of Medie not only got rid of toxic waste and improved the sewage disposal system, Enderby said there are plans to bring in transportation systems and construct stands for a village market.

"It's not only going to address the health issues, it's going to help with enterprise development," she said.

Enderby said the people of Medie seem to be very enthusiastic about the effort to clean up the village.

"They planted trees," she said. "They're very excited about how lovely the center of town is."

Wayne Rotarians helping to provide water in Sudan

May 2, 2014
Special to
the Daily
News

Wayne

Rotarians are helping to make a difference in the world by



making water available to thousands in Sudan.

The first three wells in Sudan are being dug now, with more to be dug in the fall through the project.

Rotary International Foundation announced funding of \$116,880 to Wayne and Juba, South Sudan Rotary Clubs in partnership with Omaha-based NPO Aqua-Africa.

The funds will be used to drill wells that will provide water for more than 4,000 people in South Sudan.

The project has been a collaboration of international friendships and associates.

The Wayne Rotary club raised \$26,000, which was generously matched with \$39,000 by Rotary District 5650 representing clubs in western Iowa and eastern Nebraska.

This made the proposal eligible for additional funding from The Rotary Foundation. The Juba club will provide local contact and monitoring of the work.

Wayne Rotarians completed a couple of fundraisers, and was assisted by a couple of large donors who wish to remain anonymous.

South Sudan is the youngest nation in the world, gaining independence from Sudan in 2011. Fighting broke out in December 2013 between the government and rebel militia, raising tensions between ethnic groups.

The need for water access has become more urgent even as the logistics of drilling have become more challenging. During a recent visit to South Sudan, Buey set the ground work for drilling wells funded by the Rotary Grant.

The Rotary District 5650 annual convention is this weekend in Lincoln.

Upcoming District Event

District Assembly at Hotel Hyath Regency on 18th May 2014**Power Generation history &****future** By Rtn. Mridul Chanda**GREENHOUSE GAS—PROTECTOR OR TERMINATOR (Part-II)**

It is considered that from the period of Human Industrial Activities (taken the year, 1750AD), the generation of GHG by manmade actions has increased. Amongst all manmade Green house gases (called Anthropogenic GHG), CO₂ generation is the highest (26%). Additionally, it stays in the atmosphere for thousands of years. Scientists estimate that up to 20 percent of global carbon emissions come from deforestation – greater than the combined emissions of every car, truck and plane on the planet.

Next to it is Methane (9%). Although methane is about 21 times more efficient at absorbing radiation than CO₂, it stays in the atmosphere only for about 10 years.

If the volume of GHG in the atmosphere keeps rising with burning of fossil fuels, deforestation, etc, we cannot escape from global warming –which may influence this planet in several ways than even can be predicted. As per the studies, Sea level already rose about 1 foot during the last century. And it is expected to rise closer to 3 feet during the coming century. Rising sea level will cause increasing coastal erosion, flooding, and property damage during coastal storms in low-lying coastal countries like Bangladesh and island nations in the Indian and Pacific Oceans. Warmer Sea surface temperature will bring more and stronger hurricanes and typhoons. Higher temperature will change rainfall pattern—some areas will get more and some, less rain across the globe. The timing of wet and dry periods may change. Higher CO₂ allows plants to grow faster; but it will facilitate weeds to grow more and thus will nullify crop yield. All these mean new risks and challenges in agricultural activities-- a main ingredient of our life.

This is probably the greatest crisis this earth is going to face since its birth. In order to scientifically study the matter, a committee in the name of Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) was established jointly by the United Nations

Environment Programme and the World Meteorological Organization in 1988.

The purpose of the IPCC is to assess the information in the scientific and technical literature

related to all significant components of the issue of climate change. Leading experts on climate change and environmental, social, and economic sciences from some 60 nations have helped the IPCC to prepare periodic assessments on global climate change and its consequences and the viability of adaptation and mitigation measures.

Although given the natural variability of the Earth's climate, it is difficult to determine the extent of change that the human activities will cause—it is quite probable that unless we act to stop extra GHG formation, we are destined to a gloomy future.



Minutes of Meeting

Meeting no.1229 Dated. 02.05.2014

President calls meeting no. 1229 to order.

National Anthem led by Rtn. Pradeep Kr. Chowdhury

President welcomes Mr. Amal Chakraborty.

Minutes of the last meeting confirmed.

Discussions

- President thanked members for their participation in the 1st of the series of Thalassemia Awareness and screening camps planned & organized with the Helping Grant from EIRWT, at IHRM, Sonargaon, Sonarpur. President also requested members to participate in more numbers at the upcoming camp at Binodini Girls' High School, Dhakuria on 6th May 2014.
- President informed members present that efforts are being made to organize Thalassemia Awareness and screening camps at Ramchandra Institution and Andrews High school where the authorities may give the final nod only after the schools reopen after summer vacation. He also informed that the managing committee of Jagatbandhu Institution has turned down the proposal. Members present urged to approach North Calcutta organizations for hosting such camps as resolved in earlier meeting.
- President hands over the Charter of our new RCC, Ashram Anandam to Mr. Amal Chakraborty.
- President informed members about the receipt of a letter from PDG Rtn. Rajendra Khandelwal, informing Rotarians of the RI decision to uphold the results of COL election held earlier. In the absence of Secretary, President handed over the business to Rtn. Santanu Ghosh, the receipt of letters, bulletin from neighboring clubs, upcoming District events before handing back the meeting to the President. There being no other business, President terminated the meeting.

Member present 5 Sunshine collected Rs. 100/-



Club Project Report

On 6th May 2014,
Rtn. Gautam Ray, Rtn. Sajal Dutta, Rtn. Dipankar Sen, Rtn. Sanjay Dasgupta, Rtn. Dr. Malay Chatterjee & Rtn. Santanu Ghosh assembled at Binodini Girls' High School, Dhakuria for organising a Thalassemia Awareness & Screening camp under the leadership of Rtn. Samir Kr. Ray. 300 students along with their parents attended the Awareness camp while 113 students offered their blood samples for Thalassemia screening. PDG Rtn. Debasish Mitra, DRRC Rtn. Ashok Samanta & District Thalassemia Committee Chairman, Rtn. Dr. Ramendu Homchowdhury who visited the camp appreciated the valiant effort.

