



Susitna Rotary 1-14-08

January Programs

January 21...2nd amendment rights

Exec of NRA

January 28 ..Club Assembly

FEBRUARY PROGRAMS

February 4.. Marty Metiva/Mat Su RC&D

February 11.Dawn Brunett/Mat Su Health

Foundation/**followed by Health Fair meeting**

February 18..

February 25..Club Assembly

NOTES FROM MEETING 1-14-08

COMMITTEE UPDATES...

- **Willow Winter Carnival..** Mitch reported that he has not gotten an email from Shirley Wakeman with information on what WACO needed for volunteers. He will forward it to the club as soon as he hears from her.
- **Relay for Life...** Penny announced that the next Committee meeting will be January 15th at MTA in Wasilla at 6pm. Kathy reminded everyone to sign up online if they have not already done so...just go to matsurelay.org., click on join a team, put in Susitna Rotary and click on join.
- **International Project...** Jack reported that Hillside Rotary

President, Bob Pearson, called to inform us that the project that we had agreed to cosponsor with their club did not work out because of some paperwork issues with Rotary International. Their club, as well as the other area clubs are now going to sponsor instead, an international project headed by Bob Weel an Anchorage Rotarian who is involved in Polio Plus. There are 55 people from Rotary who are going to India, to participate in National Polio Immunization day the second week of Feb. 08. They meet up with Rotarians and volunteers from India and around the world to immunize thousands of children under the age of 5 years and helping finally conquering this dreadful disease.

The following is information sent by Bob on the project....

For the next week, they travel west of Delhi to a remote village-Chahalka, a poor Muslim village of about 500 families, barely 50 km from Delhi, yet beyond effective reach of most social welfare organizations. Here, Past Dist Gov. Elias Thomas had the distinct honor of working with his team of Rotarians from India in Feb 07 to help protect the water supply of the village against contamination by its own residents who were washing dirty clothes and kitchen utensils by dipping into the main water reservoir provided by the local gov. The run off from the washing, done on the platform on top of the water reservoir, heavily polluted the water supply and the entire area had become a dirty and stinking breeding ground for water borne diseases, mosquitoes, etc. The polluted water also headed straight into the playground of the adjoining village school. They returned it to safe status through the construction of two

washing platforms, where they may now wash clothes and dishes without fear of polluting the water supply.

During the days working in the village in 2007, talks with the village council identified core areas where they need assistance to protect the health of the community, and to uplift the community's economic situation through education and vocational training. They have assured full cooperation and participation of the community in the project.

Bob writes...It's difficult for these illiterate and impoverished families to be convinced of the value of educating their children, even though education is provided free by the gov., when the family has to send out those children to work for the evening meal.

Especially if they see other educated youths sitting around unemployed..or see that other children at the village school are so many and the teachers so few (3 teachers for 350 children at the Chahalka school) that most kids even at class V level barely know how to read.

He writes. Our next most immediate goal is therefore to establish **The Rotary Centre for Computer and Vocational Training- Chahalka**, which will benefit the entire village through training of young school dropouts in computer skills that can lead directly to entry level jobs in India's burgeoning IT industry. This will also serve to encourage the younger children to study hard and stay on in school once they see that there is a job at the end of it.

Simultaneously, we aim to provide vocational training including tailoring and weaving to housewives that can generate an additional income for their families, so that they can then afford to take their children off unskilled labour work and send them to the free school.

We will also include carpentry and weaving for youngsters in the village if we are able to find winning mentors from within the village. We will also build a **Rotary Day Care Center** to satisfy the need of the village of Chahalka.

Jack asked the members if anyone had a problem with our participation in this project...the club voted to participate.

SETH KELLY REMINDED EVERYONE OF THE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB FUND RAISER , A WINE TASTING/AUCTION TO BE HELD AT EVANGELOS ON FEB. 2. SEVERAL CLUB MEMBERS ALREADY HAVE THEIR TICKETS AND SETH WILL SAVE A TABLE FOR US...LOOKS LIKE WE MAY EVEN NEED 2.....

CLASSIFICATION TALKS.....

We had classification talks by three of our members and learned a few things about each of them...

CHUCK TANNER...is a pilot, has about every classification you can get...He worked at Boeing as a designer on the 707's and 720's. He is a member of MENSA (and he pointed out, so is Jack Timm). He is a real estate broker and has been with his wife Carla (also a club member) for 20 years.

BIANCA PURCELL.. Has traveled to 43 states, she works for the Anchorage Police Dept. She is married to Roger Purcell (a Susitna Rotary Club Member), and helps him in their business too. She is a very busy lady!

PENNY GILLEN...worked in the computer industry for many years, retired from that occupation and is an accomplished photographer. Penny has her own business "All I Saw Photography". Penny is currently the Event Chairperson for Mat Su Relay for Life, a huge undertaking.

Thanks for the classification talks!



Split the Pot no big winner yet!
Carryover is \$251....woo hoo. Maybe next
week will see a winner. Could be you!

Birthdays for January...

1-07-08 Carla Hendrix

1-16-08 Rosemary Burnett

1-28-08 Roger Purcell

Important Dates...

Jan. 21..Martin Luther King Day

Jan. 23-25/ Health Fair Training

Jan 25-26 Willow Winter Carnival

Jan 25...Fireworks Willow Carnival

Feb 2-3 Willow Winter Carnival

Feb. 2...Groundhog Day

Feb. 2 Boys/Girls Club Winetasting Fundraiser

Evangelos

March...Luau...date to be announced.

JANUARY IS **ROTARY AWARENESS** MONTH

FEBRUARY IS **WORLD UNDERSTANDING** MONTH

MARCH IS **LITERACY** MONTH

APRIL IS **MAGAZINE** MONTH

MAY IS OPEN

JUNE IS **ROTARY FELLOWSHIP** MONTH

**SUSITNA ROTARY MEETS ON MONDAYS AT
NOON AT THE HOUSTON LODGE MILE 57.3
OF THE PARKS HIGHWAY**

PRESIDENT...Jack Timm 715-7671

Jacktimm@yahoo.com

PAST PRESIDENT...SCOTT NORMAN

PRESIDENT ELECT...Mitch Hull

SECRETARY....Nola Kurber....

TREASURER.... Kathy Timm

MEMBERSHIP....CHERIE LEBLANC-SHUE

FOUNDATION...KEITH KURBER

SPECIAL PROJECTS..RALPH BUZZARD

