



# THE GREENVILLE ROTARIAN

*"Service above self"*

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*Issue Date* ..... June 6, 2002  
*Next Meeting* ..... June 11, 2002  
*Meeting Place* ..... Poinsett Hotel (Gold Room), Main Street

Spotlight on RIF at June 11th meeting

## Rotary Foundation touches lives

The Rotary Foundation touches lives around the world and here in the United States. Our dollars to the Foundation help send Ambassadorial Scholars to other countries so they can study for a year or more at a foreign university and learn about other countries.

Our Rotary dollars help sponsor Group Study Exchange teams that build bridges to other countries and help us understand each other better. Foundation dollars bring clean water to underdeveloped countries and help vaccinate the remaining 1 percent of the world against polio. And our Foundation dollars help build and equip eye clinics and public schools in other countries.

We will have a very special program at our June 11th meeting on the Rotary Foundation. First, Past District Governor Sue Poss will bring the touching and inspiring story about Leila Goldsmith, a poor, uneducated woman from Travelers Rest who left her estate to PolioPlus. This wonderful gift in turn provided an unprecedented match of almost \$87,000 that allowed many Rotarians throughout District 7750 to become Paul Harris Fellows or Multiple Paul Harris Fellows. Our Greenville Rotarians who used this match will be recognized.

And finally, our own Surendra Jain will bring to us an equally moving, firsthand account of our Foundation dollars at work in India. It's a program that will provide an humbling and encouraging view of what people can accomplish when they live a life devoted to "Service Above Self."

## Bev 'hit ground running' at library

When Bev James became executive director of the Greenville County Library, she "hit the ground running" because she had to. She had to give leadership to a project that would make the new library, now under construction, second in size only to Charleston among South Carolina's public libraries.

Bev, a member of our club, brought Rotarians up to speed on the new library, which should be fully operational by Oct. 1, giving Greenvillians a facility valued at \$24.6 million — funded by public and private sources.

The new library will contain 119,000 square feet of space, compared with 76,000 in the current facility. The three-story structure — with the possibility of the later addition of a fourth story — will feature expanded meeting facilities, Internet services, business information resources, and state-of-the-art technology in support of county-wide library services.

She said the Wade Hampton-Taylors, Augusta and Westside branches are also looking toward enhancements as funds are available.



*Kalpana Munshi, president-elect of the Rotary Club of Bombay, India — the country's second oldest Rotary club — visited our club on May 28th. Club member Surendra Jain met her while he was making up a meeting in Bombay. She spoke briefly about her club's latest project to improve sanitation in Bombay's slums. After her comments, she and President Beth Padgett exchanged Rotary flags.*

### *The Greenville Rotarian*

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Rick King, RI President

Jim Futrell, District 7750 Governor

Beth Padgett, President

Frank Kolb, Secretary-Treasurer

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*American flags have gone on sale in Greenville Rotary's latest project — a campaign to get the Stars and Stripes flying all over Greenville. Here, Maxcy Boineau pays his money before picking up his flag prior to the May 28th meeting.*

## Habitat/Rotary night at Braves game

For \$6, you can see the Greenville Braves play and help build a house, too. June 21st will be Habitat for Humanity/Rotary Night at the stadium as the Braves take on the Birmingham Barons.

The general admission ticket, available at Rotary club meetings, also provides for a pre-game picnic from 5:30 until game time at 7:15 p.m.

Proceeds from the tickets will go toward construction of the second Habitat for Humanity house built by the Rotary clubs in Greenville County. Construction on the house is expected to start by September.

### *Family of Rotary*

## Two inducted into 'oldest, largest'

At the May 28th meeting, two new members were inducted into "the oldest Rotary club in South Carolina and the largest in the two Carolinas." They are **Bob Farris** and **Alex McNair**. By the way, membership in our club is nearing 400.

The May 23rd Rotary bulletin carried a picture of Ambassadorial Scholar **Felice Ferguson**, a Furman student. She is one of two Ambassadorial Scholars. The other is **Nick Goan**, a student at Presbyterian College.

## President's Corner

A year ago, when I was preparing for my year as president, I had this drilled into my head during numerous training opportunities: Communication is key to a successful year. Doubly so in a large club such as ours.

Well, this year would not have been nearly as great as it has been were it not for two people who helped inform our club about what's going on. Both of them are real pros — quite literally. Don Kirkland has done a magnificent job with our twice-monthly newsletter, *The Greenville Rotarian*. And Terry Weaver has done an equally outstanding job chairing our Technology Committee.

Don and his assistant, Denise, make sure that prior to every club meeting, all Greenville Rotarians have an informative, up-to-date newsletter. I did our *Greenville Rotarian* for several years, and it's not the easiest job in the world. Hats off to Don (and Denise) for keeping us well-informed!

Terry has provided our club with a great website. And with his e-blasts, he has helped promote club projects, recruit volunteers, remind us of deadlines and provide many members with an electronic copy of our *Greenville Rotarian*.

And the absolutely best part has been that Don and Terry have been great to work with!

— Beth Padgett

## Past RF scholar shares another Pulitzer Prize

For the second time in her career, former Rotary Foundation Scholar Sari Horwitz of the *Washington Post* has been honored for her work with a Pulitzer Prize. Horwitz was part of an investigative team that received the prize for a series of articles — “The District’s Lost Children.”

Besides Horwitz, the team included reporter Scott Higham and editor Sarah Cohen. “We were shocked, overwhelmed, excited, thrilled,” said Horwitz after the team was notified of the award. “The real prize was that the city responded.”

Horwitz studied politics, philosophy, and economics as a Foundation Scholar at Oxford University, England, in 1982-83, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Tucson, Ariz. She earned a master’s degree at Oxford a year later.

“The Rotary Scholarship was such a critical turning point for me,” Horwitz said, after receiving her first shared Pulitzer Prize. “I spoke to a lot of Rotary clubs. It gave me a lot of confidence — finding my way around a new country, meeting new people. It really broadened my horizons.”

### Key members of Congress receive awards

## Rotary cites champions of polio war

On May 15th, Rotary International presented key members of the United States Congress with the Polio Eradication Champion Award for their ongoing support of the initiative. In fiscal year 2002, Congress appropriated \$129.9 million to the global polio eradication effort.

First-time recipients of the award include Senator Richard J. Durbin (D-IL) and Representatives Maurice D. Hinchey (D-NY), Benjamin Gilman (R-NY), Mark Steven Kirk (R-IL), John Peterson (R-PA), and Michael McNulty (D-NY). Past recipients of the award were also honored for their continued support of polio eradication.

Since 1988, the number of polio cases has decreased from 350,000 to 494 in 2001, representing a 99.8 percent reduction. The polio virus now circulates in no more than 10 countries in South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa, down from 20 in 2000 and 125 in 1988.

In spite of this success, the final phase of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative is proving to be the most challenging. Reaching all children, including those in high-density populations and in areas of civil unrest, maintaining political commitment in the face of a disappearing disease, and, most critically, closing a \$275 million funding gap are the major obstacles that must be overcome.

To help meet this funding challenge, Rotary is embarking on its second membership fundraising drive with the goal of raising \$80 million for polio eradication.