



THE GREENVILLE ROTARIAN

"Service above self"

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Issue Date *February 5, 2004*
Next Meeting *February 10, 2004*
Meeting Place *Poinsett Ballroom*

Law Day

The Greenville Rotary Club will observe its annual Law Day on February 10. The club will pay tribute to Greenville County's law enforcement officers. The meeting will be held in the Poinsett Ballroom rather than the Gold Room.

Rotarian elected to education board

Phillip Shoopman, a member of Greenville Rotary Club, has been elected by the legislative delegations of Greenville and Pickens Counties (13th Judicial Circuit) to serve on the South Carolina State Board of Education.

The Board adopts rules, regulations, and minimum standards governing public schools, and also works with the State Superintendent of Education to meet the objectives of public education as prescribed in the Constitution of the State.

State Senator Verne Smith said of Shoopman's election, "He will serve our schools well. I am thankful to have him serve." State Representative Lewis Vaughn stated, "I look forward to working with Phillip on policies that will enhance the quality of our public education."



Shoopman

Shoopman recently served as chairman of the Greenville County Planning Commission and is currently the Chairman of the Greer Chamber's Leadership Greer Class XXIV. Shoopman and his wife reside in Greer and attend Southside Fellowship.

Who will be served at the Rotary Family Literacy Center?

By Sara Mansbach

Jose, an Hispanic father originally from Guatemala who wants to find a better job than the construction crew and safer housing than his trailer, but to earn more must first learn to speak and write better English ...

Tameika, an African-American mother with five children, the youngest 2 and the oldest 10 years old, living in public housing and working full-time at Burger King to support her family, who is desperate to help her children with homework ...

Lori, a 17-year-old teen mother whose 11-month-old baby's father is incarcerated. She hopes to attend Greenville Tech some day but needs to upgrade her reading, writing, and math skills to prepare for a GED ...

These are three of the adults and parents who will use the services of our Rotary Family Literacy Center. Like us, they are striving for better lives for themselves and their families.

Our Center will provide them with childcare while they study; Greenville Literacy Association will provide their education. What they will gain is the opportunity to learn the skills life's circumstances have prevented them from developing.

The outcome? Greenville's ultimate payback will be that these parents break the intergenerational cycle of illiteracy in their families — becoming active participants in our county's economy, schools, and neighborhoods.

Your donation to our club's Centennial Project — the Rotary Family Literacy Center — can make these dreams a reality! Give today!

The Greenville Rotarian

Newsletter of The Rotary Club of Greenville, South Carolina

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Jonathan Majiyagbe, RI President

Edward Hamilton, District 7750 Governor

Terry Weaver, President

Frank Kolb, President-Elect

Randy Bell, Secretary

David Karr, Treasurer

Don Kirkland, Bulletin Editor

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Rotarians celebrate RYLA's success

More than 400 Rotarians and invited guests joined RI President Jonathan Majiyagbe at the University of Western Australia's Octagon Theatre in Perth on January 16 to mark the success of the Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA) program.

Born some 44 years ago in Brisbane, Queensland, as a *gundoo* — an aboriginal word meaning “festival” or “fun together” — RYLA aptly returned to the land of its origin as the centerpiece of an RI presidential celebration.

The RI president recounted how RYLA started as an act of Rotarian hospitality in 1959. When Brisbane Rotarians learned that Queen Elizabeth II was sending her young cousin Princess Alexandra to the centennial celebration of Queensland province, they planned a series of special youth activities to make her feel welcome and at ease.

“Australian Rotarians decided to create an annual youth program, based on this event,” President Majiyagbe said. “From there, the idea began to spread to other countries, and within a few years, RYLA events were being held throughout the Rotary world.”

Letter to Rotarians

On behalf of the Holiday Lights Committee, I would like to take this opportunity to thank those of you who took time out of your weekend two weeks ago to help complete the dismantling and storage of our light displays. I also want to thank everyone who participated in this year's event. Thanks to your hard work, this year is shaping up to be our most profitable one yet.

— Mark Dullea, Holiday Lights Committee

The Family of Rotary

Glyn and Sharon Finch are the proud grandparents of two adopted Russian boys who were scheduled to arrive in the States on January 28. Evan is 13 months old and Val is 4 years old. Their parents are Dorothy and Paul Cobb.

John Hardaway of Nexen Pruet law firm will be the U.S. delegate to the executive council meeting of the Federation Internationale des Courseils en Propriete Industrielle.

So far, approximately 40 Rotarians have accepted the offer to match with **Club Recognition points** any additional contributions made this year to the Foundation. The club has raised an additional \$10,500 for the Foundation and awarded 10,500 of the 14,500 available points. “Thanks to everyone who participated. We will soon begin awarding those new Paul Harris Fellows and Multiple Paul Harris Fellows,” said RF committee chairman Peggy Ann Brock.

Say health ministers

'Will finish polio before year's end'

Ministers of health from the six remaining polio-endemic countries have pledged to relegate polio to the history books within the next 12 months.

At the end of a high-level meeting at World Health Organization headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland, the ministers on January 15 unveiled a bold new plan to immunize 250 million children multiple times during a series of massive polio immunization campaigns in 2004.

According to a polio eradication initiative press release that announced the ministers' decision, Afghanistan, Egypt, India, Niger, Nigeria and Pakistan have beaten back the poliovirus to only a few remaining reservoirs. These data, and the introduction of aggressive new programs, present an unprecedented opportunity to eradicate polio.

The ministers noted that the success or failure of the polio eradication initiative now rests with the governments of the six polio-endemic countries. Polio transmission levels are at their lowest ever in the key countries of India, Pakistan and Egypt, providing these governments with a rare opportunity to halt the spread of the virus.

The first milestone in 2004 toward global polio eradication may well come from Egypt, according to epidemiologists, followed closely by India.

**Don't be a
missing person**

In the directory, the last meeting date is listed as June 24; it should be June 22.