

Continued from inside

contacted the Inglis family and learned of the need for a bridge between Mutino and Kajuki. He also contacted the newly formed Meru club to see how he and his club could help.

Mwithimbu reports that the bridge is still standing strong, even after two months of heavy rains. Twice before, the Kenyan government had attempted to build a bridge between the villages, but both structures were swept away during rainstorms.

Brooker notes that the bridge has already begun to transform the villages' economies. Mutino residents can easily bring their farm products to the Kajuki market, and they have access to government, school, and hospital services that would otherwise be unavailable. Several entrepreneurs have even built a hotel and restaurant near the bridge.

"People were walking to the bridge, kneeling down, and praying -- that's how much it meant to them," says Brooker.

The clubs are collaborating on another Matching Grant project in Tharaka, Kenya, where they're building tanks to collect water runoff from rocky outcrops in the landscape. They're also in the process of applying for a Health, Hunger and Humanity Grant to help collect water for Kenyan villagers during the dry season.

The Inglis family and several British Rotary clubs have already stepped up to raise money for the Meru and Middleton clubs' collaborative projects.

Well Said...

Happiness is not a goal; it is a by-product. -Eleanor Roosevelt, diplomat and author (1884-1962)

I have always found that mercy bears richer fruits than strict justice. -Abraham Lincoln, 16th U.S. President (1809-1865)

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THE Frankfortarian

THE OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE
ROTARY CLUB OF FRANKFORT

P.O. Box 93, Frankfort, KY 40602

The weekly meeting of the Frankfort Rotary Club
airs on Cable 10 at 7pm Monday and 9am Tuesday

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Terry Shockley, Governor
District 6710

The Rotary Club of Frankfort Meets Every
Wednesday at the Capital Plaza Hotel
From 11:45 a.m. Until 1:00 p.m.

Frankfort Rotary Club website:
<http://www.frankfort-rotary.org>
The URL for the district website is
<http://www.rotarydistrict6710.org>
Rotary International Website is
<http://www.rotary.org/>

NEIGHBORING CLUBS

Monday:	Eminence-Henry County Public Library	12:00 noon
	Owenton-Smith House	12:10 p.m.
Tuesday:	Lexington Sunshine-LaFayette Club	7:00 a.m.
	Georgetown-G'town College Ldshp Trn Cnt.	12:00 noon
	Shelbyville-Centenary United Meth.	12:00 noon
	Versailles-At the Hospital	12:00 noon
Thursday:	Lawrenceburg-Anderson Public Library	12:00 noon
	Lexington-Fasig Tipton.....	12:00 noon
	Louisville-Galt House	12:10 p.m.

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THE
Frankfortarian

ROTARY CLUB
OF
FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY

DISTRICT 6710 • CLUB NO. 3717 • ORGANIZED DECEMBER 1922

Service Above Self

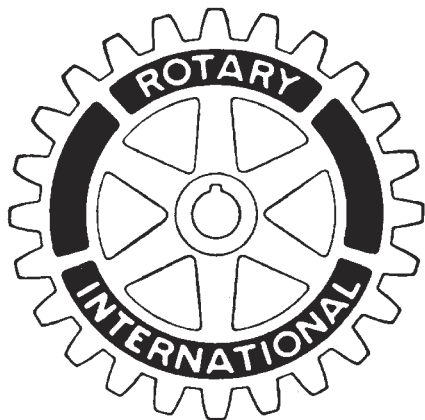
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ISSUE NO. 7

February 18, 2009

This Week's Speaker...

The February 25 Frankfort Rotary Club meeting will be at the Thomas D. Clark History Center, located at 100 West Broadway. Lunch will be served at 11:15 a.m. (lunch is \$12), followed at 11:45 by a 70-minute movie portraying men from Harrodsburg, KY on the infamous Bataan Death March. All participants are encouraged to view the Lincoln Exhibit at the History Center prior to or after the meeting. Come early so you won't have to eat in the dark!



Make-ups for Feb. 11

Bob Bullock James Shepherd
Charles Geveden Katherine Walden
Charlie Hinds

Attendance Percentage: 75%

**Board Action
February 16, 2009**

Attending: Richard Boyer, Dennis VanHorne, Don Dykman, Christine Harrison, Charles Geveden, Steve Dooley, Mark Hampton, Nancy Edwards, Dan Egbers, Kit Walden, and Paula Rarden.

* Approved the Finance report for January 2009 presented by Mark Hampton.

* Approved the minutes from the January 12, 2009 board meeting.

* Approved having the 2nd letter for low attendance and late club dues sent to those Rotarians that qualify.

* Approved leave-of-absence for Marcie Jeffreys from retro 1/14/09 to 2/25/09.

* Approved new member Brian Booth, contingent upon no negative response after publication in the newsletter.

* Listened to report from Club Service Director Nancy Edwards. She acknowledged that the club had five Rotarians attended the Rotary Leadership Institute program in Lexington a few weeks ago. Also, the weekly club meeting for February 25, 2009 will be at the "Kentucky History Center." The meeting will start a little earlier than usual. Lunch will start at 11:15 a.m. on that day.

* Listened to report from Community Service Director Charles Geveden. He noted that his committee is in the process of judging this year Frankfort Rotary Youth Funds Scholarship recipients.

* Listened to report from International Service Director Christine Harrison. She noted that the club still needs two more host families for this year visiting GSE team.

* Listened to report from Vocational Service Director Dan Egbers. He noted that the club would have no local Speech Contest this year due to lack of interest from the local schools.

* Acknowledged from Kit Walden that the District Conferences registration form should be available on our web page for filling out and printing it to send in with your payment to the District Conference.

* Discussed handing out to non-Rotarian speakers the "Frank Talks" book instead of the 4-Way Test pen. Deferred until later date.

* Scheduled the next board meeting for March 16, 2009.

VFW Make-up Meeting

The next make-up meeting will be on Monday the March 2 at the VFW meeting hall on Second at Capitol Ave. from 11:45am to 12:45pm. Rotarian Tony Massey will present the program.

Thanks to Host Families

A big thank you goes out to the host families who have agreed to host members of the GSE teams from Norway and Brazil May 27-June 1. Those Rotarians hosting so far are Ron Christopher, Chuck Dickinson, Chris Harrison (2), Clay Hulette, Van Ingram (2), and Don Nunnely. Two (2) additional host families are still needed. There will be two vans, Joe Johnson is one of the drivers but one more is needed along with two more host families. Contact Joe Johnson if you would like to host one or more of these young professionals. Joe is the scheduler and bus driver.

Reds Game

The annual trip to the Reds is scheduled for Saturday, July 18 at 4:30 PM from the Eastwood Shopping Center in front of Sears. This is Frankfort, Ky. day at the Reds. Tickets are \$40 each. See Joe Johnson for information and to buy tickets.

Building bridges to save lives

From www.rotary.org

The Nithi River used to claim as many as 50 lives each year near the Kenyan villages of Kajuki and Mutino.

But a Matching Grant project carried out by the Rotary clubs of Meru, Kenya, and Middleton, Greater Manchester, England, helped fund a bridge that allows villagers to cross the river safely, transforming the economies of the villages in the process.

Before the bridge was constructed, Mutino villagers had to make a 30 mile roundtrip journey to cross the river at a safe point, making it difficult to reach Kajuki for supplies and medical services. Often in emergencies, villagers would try to ford the river, and many died as a result.

"Life was never the same again for these people," says Meru club president Julius Gatobu Mwithimbu, reflecting on the results of the project. "People started traveling from far away just to come and feel the joy of walking over this river that had previously claimed the lives of their loved ones."

During the July opening ceremony for the bridge, Mwithimbu and John Brooker, district grants subcommittee chair, stood side by side, struggling to hold back emotion as they watched a group of Kenyan women helping a pregnant friend wade across the river. The women were demonstrating what their lives had been like before the bridge's opening.

"It hit home to me when they took the pregnant woman across how important [the bridge] is. During the rainy season, the river can rise 2 meters high or more," says Brooker.

The idea for the project, dubbed the Elliot-Poole Bridge, came to Brooker in 2005 after he saw an episode of the BBC television program Blue Peter. The show featured a boy named Elliot Inglis, who was visiting Kenya to help out with humanitarian projects. Brooker

Continued on back page