

T ROTARY CLUB OF THE BRONX, NY, INC. TUESDAYS

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Rotary Theme 2010-2011:

**"BUILDING
COMMUNITIES, BRIDGING
CONTINENTS"**

Volume 94 • Number 42

April 26, 2011

President

Barry Fitzgerald
530 Riverdale Avenue #6H
Yonkers, NY 10705
718-548-7732

LOOKING AHEAD

5/10 - Club Assembly & Board Meeting

5/17 - Celebration of Mexico Sunset Meeting.

5/31 - Laveille Lavette - Purpose Management

6/28 - President's/Paul Harris Dinner

OPENINGS...

President Barry Fitzgerald opened the meeting and Rick Sherman led the Pledge of Allegiance. Rev. Sue Chadwick gave the Invocation.

MAKE UPS

None today.

VISITORS & GUESTS

Guest speaker Samuel Enders was a guest of the Club as were Sister Catherine Naughton and Kathy Nightingale from St. Brendan's Senior Lunch Program. Soon to be member Ann Ward was also with us.

CHUCK-A-BUCK

Sal Mastrocola was the lucky winner of \$20 in the 50/50 which he donated to Samuel Enders' African Dream Academy.

DR. HAPPINESS

Jim Romeo collected \$56 from happy Rotarians and guests.

REPORT ON THE APRIL 26, 2011 MEETING GUEST SPEAKER ~ SAMUEL ENDERS



PDG Bob Benson presents Barry Fitzgerald with his second Paul Harris Fellow pin.

Barry Fitzgerald introduced Samuel Enders, the Founder and Executive Director of the African Dream Academy.

Mr. Enders presented a PowerPoint presentation that showcased an animated schematic of the buildings of what will eventually be the finished compound in Liberia.

He strongly believes that one of the greatest gifts a person can receive is independence; the act of teaching one to fish, instead of handing them a fish. Each individual has a vision or dream, but to succeed in achieving one's dream requires support, guidance and empowerment. Like many kids in Liberia, and most of Africa, he was born into a family of nine kids. His father died when he was two months old. This made it difficult to find or afford food, clothing, healthcare, and education.

At the age of 15, in 1985, he was still in the third grade; they called him third grade grandfather. Twenty years ago, he was searching among the garbage for food when he saw something that brought forth within him a dream that is now becoming a reality. He saw a magazine with photos of kids who had back packs and books. I knew that my life would change if I could get a proper education.

He lived through seven years of one of Africa's bloodiest civil wars (In Liberia West Africa). Over three times he was ordered to be executed. He wanted to learn how to fish, instead of merely expecting someone to give him fish. Twelve years later, he has a Bachelor's Degree in Organizational Leadership and a Master's Degree in Divinity and Education. He is completing his MBA in preparation for his PH.D.

To remain faithful to the commitment of returning home, Mr. Enders returned to Liberia a year after he came to the United States for school. With help he organized and conducted the first VBS/Dream camp with 28 kids in attendance.

After 16 years of war, the death of over 250,000 people, and the destruction of the entire country's infrastructure, the United States and the United Nations stepped in and helped Liberia. Over 70,000 young fighters were disarmed and in 2005, Liberia, a country established by the American colonization Society for the return of free slaves, had a general election, electing the first African female president.

In an effort to reach out to the thousands of kids who were left hopeless, with the help of some friends, he began a VBS/dream camp for youth in 2005. They planned for 300 kids but got over 1,800 young people in attendance. In this last year they had over 6,300 children participating, many of them with big dreams for their families and country. The sheer numbers speak to the desperate need and desire in these children.

Continued on page 2

**SAVE THE DATE!!
CELEBRATION OF
MEXICO**

Come celebrate a belated Cinco de Mayo with the sounds and savory flavors of Mexico! This sunset meeting is on May 17th, so save the date! Details will be forthcoming.

SAMUEL ENDERS

Continued from page 1

Among the many topics discussed with the children was the topic of dreams. Ninety percent of the 6,000 youth and children who attended VBS are not in school. The average family makes \$27.00 (US) a month. Each family eats a bag of rice a month, which costs twenty-six \$26.00 (US), making it impossible for families to send their children to school.

As they interacted with these children and tried to give them hope, they concluded that they would like to have a lasting impact on their lives. Many of these children have to work for their families to eat and to be able to go to school. Some young girls have to sell their bodies to be able to enrich their minds. They would do this solely to be able to pay their school fees and put food on their tables.

The feeding and orphanage programs have helped, but education is the key to a brighter future for African kids. It is upon this belief that the African Dream Academy is being built.

He strongly believes that in order to change their lives, these students must be empowered to achieve their dreams. Upon completion, the African Dream Academy will be an independent, coeducational, and privately endowed world-class Christian educational institution. ADA will provide kindergarten through 12th grade education and technical training.

The mission is to build a state of the art educational institution in Liberia West Africa. The African Dream Academy will strive to create a positive environment in which African youth and children are challenged and inspired to achieve their dreams through quality education at little to no cost to the students. Vocational and technical education and training will help students to be not only self-sufficient, but will also provide a holistic opportunity to the people of Liberia and Africa by (providing them skills and a quality of life that would have otherwise be unattainable.

The African Dream Academy Core Values:

- Responsible Citizens- African Dream Academy recognizes that each person has the freedom to dream. All students deserve the opportunity to achieve their dreams in order to establish and maintain responsible citizens' roles in their communities, Liberia, Africa and the world.

- Educational and Spiritual Experiences- The African Dream Academy will provide a foundational program of educational

and spiritual nurture to promote growth in appropriate student character and to view education as a lifelong process.

- Self-Discipline- The African Dream Academy will provide an atmosphere of self-disciplined behavior, and the opportunity for students to mature intellectually, spiritually, emotionally, socially, physically, and artistically.

- Shared Responsibility- The African Dream Academy will promote shared responsibility between the home, church and community to instill within its students the fundamental principles of, honesty, integrity, character and democratic life.

- Pursuit of Excellence- The African Dream Academy is committed to the pursuit of excellence, acknowledging that the quest itself is the most significant aspect of achievement.

- Accepting Uniqueness within Unity Recognizing and allowing for individual differences and special needs, the African Dream Academy encourages and inspires students to think logically, creatively, and effectively for the benefit of both themselves and the benefit of the larger society.

Just \$15 will sponsor a child for the Camp, providing lodging and food. Sal Mastrocola got the ball rolling by donating his 50/50 winnings to sponsor a child and soon almost everyone present followed suit. The Foundation will be taking a donation to ADA under consideration.

Thank you Mr. Enders for all your heartfelt work.



President Barry Fitzgerald presented Sister Catherine from the St. Brendan's Senior Lunch Program with a check for \$1,400.



Jim Romeo presented Sal Mastrocola with a plaque from Gift of Life District 7230 in appreciation of his outstanding service and dedication to the cause.

MEMBER NOTICE

Please consult your current pocket roster to verify that all your contact information is correct. If not, please email all changes to Marguerite at: m.juner@verizon.net.

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Rotary Theme 2010-2011:
"BUILDING
COMMUNITIES, BRIDGING
CONTINENTS"

Volume 94 • Number 43
May 3, 2011

OPENINGS...

President Barry Fitzgerald opened the meeting and Dr. Arthur Wolstein led the Pledge of Allegiance. Rev. Sue Chadwick gave the Invocation.

CHUCK-A-BUCK

Jewel Moolenar Marsh won \$22 in the 50/50 which she donated to the Bronx Rotary Foundation.

VISITORS & GUESTS

Guest speaker Golda Lee was a guest of the Club. Jewel Moolenar Marsh visited from the Riverdale Rotary Club. Soon to be inducted members Ann Ward and David Enamorado were also present.

MAKE UPS

None today.

DR. HAPPINESS

Sal Mastrocola collected \$50 from happy Rotarians and guests.

Birthday Babies

APRIL

Rick Sherman - April 5th

Amir Asadi - April 7th

Luis A. Torres - 9th

David Michel, C.L.P. - 18th

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Jim Romeo,
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REPORT ON THE MAY 3, 2011 MEETING
GUEST SPEAKERS ~ JEWEL MOOLENAR MARSH & GOLDA LEE



Jewel Moolenar Marsh

Photos courtesy of Jim Romeo

specifications and delivery information to a central marshaling warehouse to the Rotary Club. The Rotary club buys, at cost, all the required packaging materials.

At the central warehouse boxed books are weighed, palletized and wrapped then shipped to The Second Wind Foundation in Houston, Texas. Here, in Houston, books from all USA Rotary collection centers are co-mingled, containerized and sent to third world Rotarian managed distribution centers.

Bronx Rotarians are asked to bring books to meetings which will be collected and temporarily stored at Rev. Susan Chadwick's parish house.

The second project Ms. Moolenar Marsh introduced was the Adopt-a-School project. For an initial investment of \$500 which can be used to purchase anything a Club chooses for the school (books, pens and pencils, uniforms, computers, desks, chairs, black/white boards, teacher training, science equipment and more), a Club can adopt a school in any third world country and give impoverished children a helping hand.

The Bronx Club could choose to support the Owerri school we

Continued on page 4

PP Cheryl Simmons-Oliver introduced Jewel Moolenar Marsh, incoming President for the Riverdale Rotary Club and District 7230 Literacy Chair.

Ms. Moolenar Marsh described an effort called CNY Rotary Books for the World which is a collaborative effort between Rotary Clubs, affiliated youth clubs, other community and service organizations and The Second Wind Foundation. Together, they providing K - 6th grade picture/story and K - 12th grade textbooks to needed regions of the world to create opportunities for a better way of life. She stressed her motto: "We learn to read in order to read to learn."

Books are shipped to Rotary club & district Distribution Centers in Africa and other locations throughout the world where English is one of the primary business languages. In addition Spanish and English books also are sent to locations in Latin America.

The "Rotary CNY Books for the World" committee provides general book types and descriptions, packing



Golda Lee, Ambassadorial Scholar from Trinidad.

GOLDA LEE

Continued from page 3

helped refurbish or another.

Ms. Moolenar Marsh then introduced Ambassadorial Scholar from Trinidad, Golda Lee.

Ms. Lee said that although Trinidad is in the Caribbean off the coast of Venezuela, it does not have the typical sandy shoreline that one would imagine. She told us that her father died when she was 1 year old, but that in Trinidad the concept of "it takes a village to raise a child" is adhered to, so she had many fathers to look after her.

She also said that the educational system there is very rigid and that she went to all girl schools. They were trained to learn information and "regurgitate" it back out onto the exam paper. There was no room for creativity, informality or opinion in the schoolroom.

Ms. Lee said she was therefore surprised to confront the informality in the classroom that exists in American Universities like Columbia. On the plus side, she appreciated that she felt free to express her ideas and have them nurtured in an academic environment. On the minus side, she found it difficult to grasp the way students were lounging in the classroom with their feet up, texting, eating, working on computers and barely acknowledging the entrance of their professor when she came from a tradition where students stood up when the professor entered the room and did not sit until they were told to.

Ms. Lee is finishing up her Master's degree in Political Journalism at Columbia University, but she is very interested in human interest stories.

Her thesis studies Caribbean immigrants who come to the U.S. to work as nannies and the impact that has on their own children that they leave behind.

Ms. Lee has worked as a news anchor in Trinidad, but hopes to garner similar work

in the U.S. after graduation to further hone her skills and gain experience in a different venue.

Thank you Ms. Jewel Moolenar Marsh and Ms. Golda Lee for the interesting and personable presentations!

MEMBER NOTICE

The Board has voted to charge members \$5 per meeting that they miss taking into consideration the 50% attendance requirement. This will be tallied on a bi-yearly basis and bills will be sent out. Alternatively, those who are not meeting the 50% attendance requirement may choose to take an ad out in the newsletter and support the Club in that way.

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MEETING TIMES & PLACES of ROTARY CLUBS in DISTRICT 7230

MONDAY			Inwood Manhattan	7:00p	Garden Cafe
Bedford-Armonk	6:15p	Bedford Presbyterian Church	Metro NYC	7:30p	Trattoria Dopo Teatro
Bronxville	12:15p	Fogarty's Town Tavern	Mount Kisco	12:15p	Mt. Kisco Holiday Inn
Central Bronx	7:00p	Jol Kabar Restaurant	Mount Vernon	12:15p	Bona Sera Restaurant
Chappaqua	12:15p	Crabtree's Kittle House	New Rochelle	6:15p	Davenport Club
New York	12:00p	Harvard Club	Ossining	12:30p	The Tuscan Grille
Northeast Westchester	6:15p	John-Michael's Restaurant	Pelhams	12:15p	Rockwells
St. George's	6:30p	Grotto Bay Beach Resort	Sandys	6:30p	Henry VIII Restaurant
TUESDAY			Tarrytowns	12:15p	Westchester Marriott Hotel
Bronx	12:15p	The Harbor Restaurant	Wall Street	5:30p	Downtown Association
Chinatown	1:00p	Hop Lee Restaurant	Yorktown	12:15p	Murphy's Restaurant
Croton-on-Hudson	12:15p	Bella Paula	THURSDAY		
East Yonkers	12:15p	Luciano's Restaurant	Cortlandt Manor	7:00p	Cortlandt Colonial
Hamilton	12:15p	Royal Hamilton Amateur Dinghy Club	Elmsford	12:15p	Rinis Restaurant
Hastings, Dobbs Ferry,			Mamaroneck	12:15p	Emilio's Restaurant
Ardley & Irvington	6:15p	Doubleday's	Mid-Island	7:30a	Dakota Diner
Mount Pleasant	12:00p	Casa Rina Restaurant	North Shore	7:00p	LiGreci's Staaten Restaurant
PortChester-Rye Brook	12:10p	T&J Trattoria	Peekskill	12:15p	Cortlandt Colonial Restaurant
Scarsdale	12:00p	Moscato's	Pembroke	7:15a	Royal Bermuda Yacht Club
Somers	6:15p	Pinnacle Restaurant	Pleasantville	12:15p	Riviera Restaurant
Staten Island	12:30p	Ligreci's Staaten Restaurant	Riverdale	6:45p	The Riverdale Greentree
Upper Manhattan	6:00p	Gran Piatto d'Oro Restaurant	South Shore	12:15p	Marina Grand
White Plains	12:15p	Crowne Plaza	Yonkers	12:15p	Luciano's Italian Restaurant
WEDNESDAY			FRIDAY		
Eastchester	12:15p	CIAO Restaurant	Briarcliff Manor	12:15p	Briarcliff Recreation Center
Gateway	7:15p	Lake Club	Larchmont	12:15p	Larchmont Yacht Club
Harrison	12:15p	Emilio's Restaurant	Rye	12:15p	Coveleigh Club
Hartsdale	12:15p	Alaroma Restaurant			