



## TODAY'S PROGRAM

Ed Grisamore — Macon Telegraph  
**Rotarian of the Day**  
**Ed Hall**

## MAY 27 PROGRAM

Honorary Consul of the Kingdom of Denmark and Attorney at Law with a focus on auto accidents and wrongful deaths, Chris Smith of Macon spoke to the club last week. He began on a solemn note by listing horrifying statistics of uninsured motorists currently out on the streets driving with us. He then moved on to his international position with the Royal Danish Consulate, which turned the program's attitude around completely as he spoke of the "happiest people in the world" of Denmark and their current economy.



Jim Fain, Chris Smith, and President John

## VISITING ROTARIANS

None

## GUESTS

None

## ABSENTEES

Aycock 2, Bacon, Becker, Brooks, Davidson, Dennis, Dyer 2, Eberhardt, Ennis, Gandy, Geeter, Grant 2, Hall, Jones, Kennedy, Neely, Peters, Pope, M. Roberts, S. Roberts, Seymour, Sibilsky III, Strom, Tyson, Whipple, Zarkowsky

## MAKE-UPS

Morning Make-Up Meeting  
at Chick-Fil-A Wednesday, June 2

Adkins, Archer, Aycock, Bacon, Brooks, Chandler, Dean, Eubanks, Fain, Ferguson, Fontenot, Gray, Holmes, Kenyon, Leavitt, Murphey, Oliver, Perrin, Roberts, Strom, Watson

## RICH BERTOLI MEMORIAL CART FUND

\$12<sup>95</sup> TOTAL: \$2,669<sup>16</sup>

**50/50 CLUB**  
**49 Cards Left**  
**Pot: \$10<sup>50</sup>**

## WELCOME NEW MEMBER

**Deborah Marsh**



President John and Marsh

## APRIL FOOL'S RIDE JOINT FUNDRAISER

Heather Langston told the club of the results from our joint fundraiser with The Bicycling Club of Milledgeville and gave President John a check.



## CLUB BLOG

Please check out the club's blog and FEEL FREE TO MAKE COMMENTS or use the site to find information about past meetings and view many photos of past events.  
<http://milledgeville Rotary.wordpress.com>

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

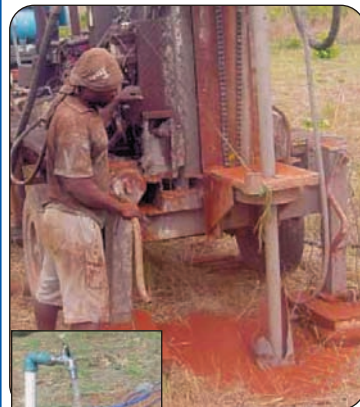
June 10 — Ed Shelor, GMC  
June 17 — Transition Meeting  
June 24 — Kathy Groseclose  
Animal Rescue Foundation

## DISTRICT 6920 NEWS

The following is a report from PDG Jim Puryear regarding a project that was begun several years ago. For about two years I have been working with a number of people to bring about a water well project in Nigeria. It has finally come to fruition. This was for two bore wells and water tanks with necessary piping to serve an orphanage and the people in the village. It was a \$39,000 project, funded from our District Designated Foundation money and matching money from Rotary International. The Augusta Club was the sponsoring club, although the district was the primary sponsor. The Rotary Club of New Haven in Nigeria was the sponsoring club on site. The village served was Amoli Village, Enugu (province) in Nigeria. Dr. Daniel Ajawara was the local coordinator there.

David Steele was the local Rotarian who led us to this project. He was helpful in contacts and follow-through.

This was an exciting project, but was long and it required much patience to get all of the necessary things together. It surely, however, should make a world of difference to the people there. The girls in the orphanage were having to haul all of their water quite some distance.



Drilling the second bore hole (above) and finally, water (left).



## Documentary at Cannes showcases band of Congolese polio survivors

Montana Kinunu is conjuring a drum kit from a broom laid across a plastic beer crate and weighed down with a rock. He pulls off his shirt, picks up a pair of battered drumsticks, and is soon tapping a fast, skittering rhythm, slapping his bare feet on the dirt floor. Beside him, Roger Landu is putting together his satonge, a single-string instrument fashioned from an amplified tin can and a guitar string stretched on a bent stick.

The rehearsal space is an open-air bar, imperfectly shielded from the heat, dust, and commotion of a busy neighborhood in Kinshasa, capital of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. It seems improbable, but Montana, Roger, and their bandmates have been touring European venues with this same improvised kit, testing the skills of sound engineers and winning rave reviews.

One by one, the band members arrive, several traveling on hand-cranked or motorized two-seater tricycles. Songwriter Coco Ngambali, who has the craggy features and upper-body

strength of a retired wrestler, opens the proceedings with the band's rallying cry. His call "Staff!" is answered in unison: "Benda Bilili très très fort!"

Bandleader Ricky Likabu whistles a tune, and the group, Staff Benda Bilili, eases into a languid bolero intro. Ricky calls for a halt to reprimand the brass section for coming in late. When they restart, the music is a notch tighter. The rhythm steps up and is suddenly irresistible. A gaggle of young onlookers sings along with the chorus. A hardboiled-egg vendor pauses to watch. A passing shoe-polisher keeps time by clacking his wooden brushes.

Ricky and Coco, along with guitarist Theo Nsituvuidi, vocalist Djunana Tanga-Suele, and atalaku (rap-style vocalist) Kabamba Kabose Kasungu, had polio as children, and they've fended for themselves for five decades in a country wracked by conflict and corruption. They formed a cooperative to trade goods back and forth across the Congo River between Kinshasa and



The band, which has a CD out called *Très Très Fort*, is made up of polio survivors and former street children.

Brazzaville, Republic of the Congo, and though they weren't destitute, they often slept on the streets near the ports where they made their living.

The other band members are former street children, of whom there are an estimated 15,000 in Kinshasa. Roger, the youngest member, invented his satonge while living on the streets. Ask kids downtown about "Papa Ricky," and their faces light up. "People distrust street children," he explains. "They see them as sorcerers, beggars, and thieves. But we treated them as our own. And of course they helped us too." There are always kids on hand

to carry the band's equipment or push the tricycles when the motors give out.

The fringe status of the Staff Benda Bilili collective — the name means "look beyond appearances" in Lingala — has limited the band's success at home but arguably has helped win the attention and respect of documentary filmmakers, audiences, and critics abroad. The band's album, *Très Très Fort* (which means "very, very strong"), was recorded at the zoo and released last spring, and in November, they won the Womex Award in Copenhagen, Denmark, for international music. Next month, they'll play at the Montréal Jazz Festival.

The band has joined Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu and golf legend (and polio survivor) Jack Nicklaus as part of Rotary International's latest public relations campaign to remind the world how close polio eradication is.

As a result of vaccination campaigns involving negotiated cease-fires with armed groups and unprecedented coordination among regions, polio is no longer endemic in Congo. But the virus can easily cross borders. In response to imported outbreaks in Central and West Africa, 85 million children in 19 countries were vaccinated in a cross-border campaign in March and April.

## DEFINITION OF ROTARY

Rotary is an organization of business and professional leaders united worldwide, who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world. There are approximately 1.2 million Rotarians, members of 31,936 Rotary clubs in 166 countries. Rotary is not a political organization, but all Rotarians are vitally concerned with everything pertaining to good citizenship and the election of good men and women to public office. Rotary is not a charitable organization, yet its activities exemplify the charity and the sacrifices that one should expect from people who believe that they have a responsibility to help others. Rotary is not a religious organization, but it is built on those eternal principles that have served as the moral compass for people throughout the ages.

## OBJECT OF ROTARY

The object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise through the development of acquaintance as the opportunity for service, the promotion of high ethical standards in business and professions, through service in one's personal, business, and community life, and the advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace.

## ROTARY INTERNATIONAL MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Rotary International is to support its member clubs in fulfilling the Object of Rotary by:

- Fostering unity among member clubs;
- Strengthening and expanding Rotary around the world;
- Communicating worldwide the work of Rotary; and
- Providing a system of international administration.

## ONGOING MAKE-UP OPPORTUNITIES

- (1) Sponsoring a new member. (2) Volunteering at a local school.
- (3) Visiting another Rotary Club. (4) Earn one make-up per quarter by visiting the e-club at [www.rotaryclubone.org](http://www.rotaryclubone.org) and taking the "test." Print the receipt and give it to Club Secretary Halsey Leavitt. (5) Attend a Rotary Board meeting. (6) Attend monthly breakfast meeting.

## ROTARY WEBSITES

Milledgeville Rotary: [www.milledgeville Rotary.org](http://www.milledgeville Rotary.org) District 6920: [www.rotarydistrict6920.net](http://www.rotarydistrict6920.net) Rotary International: [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)