

FRIDAY FACTS – ROTARY DISTRICT 5220

Richard D. Wyatt, District Governor 2007-2008

DATE: May 9, 2008

NEW MEMBERS: New members to report this week are:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>CLUB</u>	<u>MEMBERSHIP</u>
Dennis Schneider	Galt	Active
Jim Spaans	Galt	Honorary

DOCTOR JOE'S AFRICA: PDG Joe Serra will return to Malawi in July to help the Blantyre Rotary Club provide bed nets for the pediatric ward at the Queen Elizabeth Medical Center. They will also provide mosquito repellent screens for the pediatric intensive care ward where bed nets are not practical. Malaria exacts a terrible toll in Africa and this parasitic infection is sometimes resistant to common anti-malarial drugs. Bed nets are a cheap and very effective way to improve public health and a vital necessity for a hospital. Joe will also be taking orthopedic equipment to the University when he goes and excess baggage charges will have to be addressed.

There is also a needy primary school in the country outside Blantyre where children sit on the floor. They have no well and water is brought from a pump miles away. Their latrines are in disrepair. This is another project that Joe is helping to do. The plan is to dig a new well at the school, dig new latrines, and provide desks and chairs in the classrooms. Then, someday, as resources are available, there are leaky roofs to fix.

Naturally a project this ambitious requires money. A matching grant application is being prepared but this effort takes time. The project needs some immediate contributions for the bed nets and the mosquito screens. Contributions in any amount from clubs, Rotarians and others will be greatly appreciated. Send them to "The Malawi Project", c/o Joe Serra, 5053 Manor Circle, Stockton, CA 95212.

DISTRICT CONFERENCE: It is never too early to register for the 2009 District Conference.

THE DISTRICT ASSEMBLY: At 8:00 AM, tomorrow, May 10th at the San Joaquin County Education Services Center in Stockton the District Assembly will start. Be there. The session is essential for incoming club officers and very valuable for all Rotarians. Check with your club's President Elect or Secretary for full details.

NATIONAL IMMUNIZATION DAY IN ETHIOPIA: Rotarians from District 5220 can participate in an NID this fall in Africa. Tentative dates are from October 11 to October 25, 2008. There will be four days when you will help with the actual immunizations. There will also be the opportunity to go on safari or visit ancient historical sites. The cost including airfare and accommodations is estimated in the \$2,800 to \$3,000 range per person. Contact Joe Serra, joseph.serra@sbcglobal.net or 209-931-0770 for information. Check out www.Ethiopia-nid.org.

CONVENTION IN LA: It is time to register for the International Convention in Los Angeles. This is a close and easy one to attend. We need to collect books and bring them to the Convention to help with a big literacy project. The Convention is from June 15th through 18th. Register at www.rotary.org.

We'll Get The Job Done By Doing Good And Having Fun