



INTERNATIONAL

[Polio Report](#)

The number of countries with indigenous polio has dropped to an-all time low of four, as polio eradication efforts enter a new phase involving the use of next-generation vaccines targeted at the two surviving strains of virus. The indigenous poliovirus has not circulated in Egypt or Niger for over 12 months. This leaves the countries of Nigeria, India, Pakistan and Afghanistan as the only countries that have never stopped indigenous polio transmission. The Egyptian Minister of Health said “The best tools of our age defeated this enemy who has been with us from pharaonic times”. The core partners in this effort are, the World Health Organization, Rotary International, the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and UNICEF.

[Invasion of Honduras](#)

Nearly 40 District 5220 Rotarians were in Honduras last week to distribute a container (280) of wheelchairs, conduct a dental and eyeglass clinic, distribute “seeds of hope” and attend a project fair. PDG Bob Bitter, Madera Sunrise Rotary, spearheaded the wheelchair distribution. PP Ricardo Cuevas, Manteca Rotary, and ADG Andy Soderstrom, Modesto Rotary conducted the dental clinic. The eyeglass clinic was conducted by PP Fred Stellhorn, and Pres. Jeff Liotard, both Manteca Rotarians and Pres. Rex Inglis, Stockton Sunrise Rotary. Most of the group had an opportunity to meet some members of the GSE team who will be coming in mid-April. I was one of those who attended, and I was very proud of our District’s great works, I call it “Rotary Pride”.



Randy Broughton, Rotary Club of Salida and fellow Rotarians in Honduras

[North Stockton Rotary](#)

Mel Hansen, member of North Stockton Rotary, and Grants Committee Chair of District 5220, was honored on a recent trip he took to Honduras. The Honduran Minister of Education recognized Mel for helping provide seeds for 750 schools in Honduras. The project was done in cooperation with Club Rotario de Tegucigalpa. The project was to teach the children to grow foods to improve their diets and help their families. Mel along with PP Ricardo Cuevas of Manteca Rotary, and DG Mark Oliver were made Honorary Members of Club Rotario de Tegucigalpa.

[Boyd to Emphasize Familiar Topics in 2006-2007](#)

Rotary International's incoming president, William B. Boyd, will emphasize four familiar topics during the 2006–07 Rotary year.

Boyd told incoming district governors at the International Assembly in San Diego, California, USA, on 17 February, his focus will be on water management, literacy, health and hunger, and the family of Rotary.

Every year at the assembly, Rotary's incoming president unveils emphases for the next Rotary year, which starts on 1 July. The current emphases under RI President Carl-Wilhelm Stenhammar are [literacy, water, health and hunger concerns, and public image](#). Past RI presidents Jonathan B. Majiyagbe and Glenn E. Estess Sr. emphasized some of these issues, too. Over the years, clubs have carried out service projects related to these areas. They've helped tap wells, filter water, distribute dictionaries, educate teachers, equip schools, donate food, and provide medical treatment.



2006-2007 Theme