



Rotary Times

District
5220

DG Bob Hobbs



SCORE WITH ROTARY

May—June 2007

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Since this is the final issue of the Rotary Times for this Rotary year, Betsy and I want to extend our heartfelt thanks to all the Rotarians of District 5220. We have seen extraordinary generosity demonstrated over and over, from the many amazing projects the clubs have initiated to the overwhelming response to Rotarian Don Kemplen's personal tragedy.

One more outstanding demonstration of generosity was seen at the District Conference in May. The following is an excerpt from an article written by Mariposa Rotarian Bill Atwood:

A Merced 8-Year-Old Is On His Way To Saving The World By [Dr. Bill Atwood](#)

We often fail to give credit to children when they do good things and when they do great things we miss the opportunity to learn from those of our population too young to vote or even to drive a car. On the first Saturday in this month I was witness to the power of one human being to make a positive change in the world, and it was better because the change came from the heart of a child.

Harrison is a second-grade student at Our Lady of Mercy Catholic School (OLM) in nearby Merced and sometime back his school heard from a priest about the plight of the homeless in Haiti. Harrison listened to this priest. Harrison really listened to the message, and it weighed upon his 8-year-old mind and on his heart. Harrison followed the lead of his Rotarian grandfather, DG Bob Hobbs, and decided that he could do something to help answer the prayer of at least one family who were homeless in far off Haiti.

The next day Harrison delivered a letter to the priest at the school and stated that he wanted to help raise the money to build one house. The priest advised Harrison that it would take \$3,500 to build such a house.

Harrison proposed a plan to the priest and to the principal of his school. He would write a letter to all the parents of all the students at OLM and suggest that most families eat out at least once each month. Harrison's letter asked that each family forego just one dinner

out and instead of spending that money at the local restaurant, the money would be donated to the relief fund to help this homeless family in Haiti. The parents were touched by this plea for help and over a few weeks \$800 was raised by this boy's great idea.

On May 6, Harrison's grandfather was being honored at a Rotary Area Conference in South Lake Tahoe and the entire Hobbs family was being introduced. As Harrison was introduced and walking away to be with the other family members, proud grandfather, Bob, just shared for one minute how proud he was of his 8-year-old grandson for taking on this charitable endeavor. He stated that Harrison had learned to pitch in from hearing about it so often at Rotary functions. People applauded and the program continued.

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Harrison Hobbs with part of his collection.