



## INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

**POLIO:** Joe Serra, PDG, Stockton, reports that good progress has been made this year to eradicate polio in India and Pakistan. The country with the biggest problem now is Nigeria but the task seems manageable even there. Dave Gallagher, PDG, Modesto Sunrise, is organizing a combination Rotary Knowledge Contest and Dinner to be held in January in Modesto as a fundraiser for Polio Plus Partners. It is also very possible that there will be an opportunity for Rotarians from District 5220 to help with a National Immunization Day, probably next winter or spring. And, Joe Serra has two great programs entitled "Update on Polio Eradication" and "The Crawlers of Malawi" that he wants to give at club meetings. Joe's at [jo-seph.serra@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jo-seph.serra@sbcglobal.net).

**AMBULANCE DONATION:** American Medical Response donated two ambulances for the community of Oradea, Romania. The Modesto Sunrise Rotary Club facilitated the donation and is making sure the ambulances are shipped promptly. John Anderson, Jim Niskanen, Mark Henry, Dave Gallagher and the whole club deserve applause for their efforts. It should be noted that the District Governor was allowed to sit briefly in one of the units but was not allowed to use the siren.



President Jim Niskanen with Dick and Marty.

**ROTAPLAST:** Jane Winning, District Rotaplast Chair, is working hard to arrange a medical aid trip to another country this year. Members of the team will provide surgery to repair cleft palates for people that would never be able to get the operation otherwise. For more information about this opportunity to serve, contact Jane at [jwinning@maderahospital.org](mailto:jwinning@maderahospital.org). Both medical and non-medical volunteers can participate.

**POLIO PLUS PARTNERS:** If you want to take part in a National Immunization Day and be on the front line in the fight against polio, Dave Gallagher is the man you want to contact at [dg2020@aol.com](mailto:dg2020@aol.com). There is a possibility of an NID in Benin about the 20<sup>th</sup> of March, 2008.

**Wheelchair Project**—PDG Robert Bitter will lead another group to Honduras January 14-23 to deliver and distribute a whole container of wheelchairs from the Wheelchair Foundation. There are still some openings for interested parties to join the team on the trip. If you are interested, contact Bob at [rgbitter@earthlink.net](mailto:rgbitter@earthlink.net)

## HELP IS ON THE WAY—JANE WIEBE'S ONGOING MISSION TO BOSNIA



**An excerpt from the "blog" of Jane Wiebe, President of Madera Rotary and President of Help is on the Way**, an organization that provides help to the people of Bosnia:

"One old woman who cares for her 5 grandchildren took my hands in her face (she had just finished milking the cow.....refreshing!) and said "you are the richest woman in the world". I told her that I was not, taking this literally. She took my face with her hands and said, "No! You are not rich in money but you are rich in soul!" She told me that each summer when I come, that is (simply) enough. If I came and gave nothing and simply sat with them for a moment, that was enough. It was one of those moments in life that I experience here." Read more of Jane's blog about her mission trip to Bosnia. <http://www.helpisonway.com>