



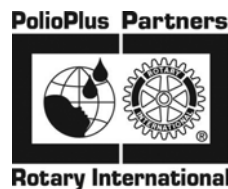
ROTARY FOUNDATION

KICK POLIO OUT OF AFRICA: What a great event! To quote Governor Dick: “The Rotary Trivia Challenge last Saturday night to raise funds for Polio Plus Partners was a great success. Cliff Dochterman, PRIP, was a treat. We



Master of Ceremonies PRIP Cliff Dochterman was introduced by Dr. Joe Serra.

owe a great big THANKS to everybody that helped with this tremendous effort.”



Trivia Challenge winners from Stockton Rotary!

ROTAPLAST

Following is an excerpt from the January 26 presentation made by PDG Nick Mascitelli at the D5220 Trivia Challenge event:

“Cathy and I just returned from an eight-day trip to Oaxaca, Mexico on a Rotaplast Medical Mission to repair cleft lips and cleft palates which are among the most common of all birth defects.

I don’t know how many of you have seen the Rotaplast logo but it incorporates the words – Saving smiles and Changing lives and now we know first hand what that means.

There were 22 of us on the team. There were 9 non-medical volunteers. From our District, were Cathy and I, Larry and Gay Slates from the Madera Rotary Club and Jan and Lyle Zitec from Madera Sunrise. We had 13 medical-volunteers. 2 plastic surgeons and 1 resident, 2 pediatricians, 3 anesthesiologists and 5 nurses, one of which was our own Jane Winning from Madera Rotary.

While we were there we fell in love with two of the youngest patients, 3 month old Dulce Maria (Sweet Mary) and baby Salvadore, also 3 months. These babies were absolutely adorable even with their cleft lips and after the operation, in the recovery room as we were holding them, you could tell that in a few weeks there wouldn’t even be a sign of the surgery and the operations were total successes.

All of the children were beautiful and they had smiles on their faces even before the surgery but their beauty was obscured and hidden by their deformity. After the surgery, even with the swelling and stitches, you could see their smile had been saved.

These children’s lives have been changed forever. They will have beautiful smiles, be able to speak and eat as others do, they will be accepted by other children and not be ridiculed, their families will be proud of them not ashamed and they will be able to live a normal life as do other children who were not born with the deformities.

These children will not remember us but we will always remember them. We hope that each of you will be able to experience the same kind of trip someday.”