

The COG

February 25, 2010

LAST WEEK

"The Final Inch" is a film which portrays in vivid fashion the global battle being waged to eradicate polio from the world. The polio virus has essentially been eliminated from the industrialized countries but remains a real threat in lesser developed countries although the vaccine to eliminate the virus has been available for the past fifty years. The cost is cheap only pennies per dose consisting of two drops of vaccine.

Over 20 million people mostly volunteers are working to eliminate the polio virus world wide. It is the largest single non-military effort by mankind in human history. Organizations such as the World Health Organization, UNICEF and Rotary International are sending trained workers house to house in places like India, Pakistan, and Afghanistan to administer the vaccine to children and educate the adults as to why it is necessary. Ignorance, religion, cultural differences, decades of government mistrust, poor sanitation and contaminated water supplies all play a part in helping to block the worldwide eradication of the polio virus.

In 1948 North Carolina had 2,516 confirmed cases of polio and now there are zero cases. The last case in Texas was in 1977. Today India has the highest concentration of polio cases in the world with 873 new confirmed cases last year and Pakistan had 32 new cases reported. The children who are most vulnerable to the polio virus are those from birth to five years of age. It only takes one contaminated individual to spread the virus. For every child with the virus in India alone it is estimated two hundred more will carry the virus through contact.

This is Polio Awareness Month. Your donations to the Rotary Foundation are used in the worldwide effort to eliminate the polio virus. Bill and Melinda Gates have pledged \$350 million dollars in matching funds for this effort. Your dollars count in this effort too.

CONGRATULATIONS

Birthdays

Ken Barry-February 25th
George Cecil-February 27th
Sarai Repoley-March 3rd

Anniversaries

None this week.

Posting for Membership...

Vicki Escude'

Executive Leadership Coaching
Former member of the Rotary Club of
Pensacola

Proposed by: Spencer Elrod
Classification: Leadership Coaching

Zachary Lamb

Attorney with Patla, Straus, Robinson &
Moore, PA

Proposed by: Ken Hadeen
Classification: Legal Practice/Accounting Law

*Objections to the proposed members should be given,
in writing, to Margaret prior to March 4th.*

Program This Week

FACES OF ASHEVILLE HISTORICAL DIVERSITY DEBORAH MILES-UNCA

Program Next Week

ASHEVILLE CITY SCHOOLS ALLEN JOHNSON

ATTENDANCE LAST
WEEK—59.48%

Upcoming Events

- **March 11, 5:30 p.m.**
Organizational Meeting for new Rotary evening club. Renaissance Hotel
- **March 25th-Make Note!!!**
Meeting will be held at The Cove
Special Speaker from Samaritan's Purse
- **April 24th—Stop Hunger Now**
Food packaging event. Location to be announced. Food to be sent to Haiti.
Contributions welcomed.
- **April 30-May 2nd**
District Conference-Stone Mountain GA
- **May 15th—Honor Air Flight**

From Dennis King, A-B Tech:

At the end of each semester, the Foundation Office requests that scholar recipients update us on the progress. I know that you will happy to learn that Diane Hendrickson, the 2009-10 Dr. Harold Crutcher Rotary Club of Asheville Endowed Scholarship recipient completed the 2009 fall semester. Diane completed the fall semester with a 4.0 and was presented the President's List Certificate.

On behalf of the Foundation, thank you for your contributions and your support. You have made it possible for students to reach an important career goal. Thank you for being our partner and for your dedication to student success.



Programs-March

- March 11th-New Member Talks**
- March 18th-Honduras Medical Brigade Report**
- March 25th-Meeting at The Cove**