

# MESA

# Worldwide



A NEWSLETTER OF MESA, A DISTRICT 6600 PROJECT, #7

**NEXT MEETING: May 17, 2005\***  
**Findlay Ford, 4 P.M.**  
**1 P.M. Warehouse Work Session**

**\*Please note change. This month's meeting will not be held at Defiance College as original scheduled**

## **Highlights from March 9th Meeting**

**Jim Heinrich**, in his treasurer's report stated that almost \$17,000 has been donated by District 6600 clubs for tsunami relief. See below table that updates contributions by club.

**Ron Stoner** Reported that we have shipped 3 more containers since the January meeting (Guatemala, Ghana and Honduras). The ambulance and wheel chair ready bus sent in February 2004 is still in Guatemala, but hopefully will be in at its final destination of Bloom Hospital in El Salvador soon. With the warehouse being sold, finding adequate new facilities is an immediate concern. Sue and Jim Hunt donated a used forklift to be used in the warehouse (see story below).

This year's **Uniendo conference** in Guatemala was a great success, with the MESA display attracting a great deal of attention. Next year's conference will be in San Pedro Sula, Honduras.

**Bob Haas** took Rotarians, their wives and friends (twenty in all) to Belize to work at the Santa Elena School. Work at the Unitedville School (rehabbed last year) has shown real dividends as enrollment has increased from 94 to 125 students, and 7 of 8 eight graders plan to attend high school. In the past no Unitedville students attended high school.

**Tom Brumley**, recently returned from Zambia, performed, along with a team of 3 other physicians 120 eye surgeries. This year they brought a dentist as part of the team, and he performed 500 extractions.

**Stan Kujawa** reported that this year's Wishing Star fundraiser was a great success raising 75 to 80 thousand dollars of the \$125,000 Wishing Star budget.

## **Fact Finding Trip to Mongolia**

**Ron Stoner and Dr Thomas Milbrodt (Bowling Green Rotary)** will be accompanying **Do Nguyen and David Langendorfer (Maumee Rotary)** on a fact-finding mission this May to Ulan Bator, Mongolia. At the invitation of the BayanZurkh Rotary club of Ulan Bator, the Rotarians will be assessing the level of medical equipment and care in Mongolia.

Mongolia is a primarily agrarian Buddhist country, populated by a nomadic people, and with limited resources. After years under communist rule, the country remained neglected and underdeveloped. Today, after it's emergence from communist domination, it is making an effort to modernize its infrastructure. One of the initiatives of the BayanZurkh Rotary Club, the only Rotary club in the country, is to try to update the status of medical care, which up until now is largely conducted through the practice of 'traditional medicine'.

Last year Do Nguyen met the president of the BayanZurkh club, Brigitte Cummings, at a Rotary International meeting in Japan. Cummings told Nguyen of the need for proper medical equipment and supplies, not only in the capitol, but also in the smaller clinics in the countryside. It was then that Do Nguyen decided to 'lend a helping hand'.

The six-day trip is being funded through a Rotary International grant. We wish Ron and the other Rotarians a safe and successful trip.

By Mel Honig from information supplied by Ron Stoner

## **World Community Workshop**

This year's World Community Workshop theme will be Egypt. All District Rotarians are invited to attend the Grand Banquet held on the first evening, May 10, 2005 at 6 P.M. The cost is \$18.00. Maha Zehery will be the keynote speaker. If you would like to attend please RSVP to Charlene Barr, telephone 419 783 2485.

## **MESA Receives Second Forklift Truck**

When their Elyria business recently merged with another company, PDG **Jim and Sue Hunt** generously decided to donate one of their Brickyard forklifts to MESA. Because this one is suitable for both indoor and outdoor use, it is a valuable addition to MESA's very sparse set of capital equipment, and it has already proved very useful.

To ship in the most cost-saving way, MESA always "live loads" containers, which means that all the cargo must be already palletized ready to be loaded within a two-hour time window when the container truck arrives. If the forklift runs out of fuel or otherwise breaks down during loading, it's very important to have a second one ready to take over.

Although it is a more rugged machine than the one donated last year, with District 6600 help, by the Rotary Clubs of Kenton and Cardington, the Hunt forklift is small enough to fit into a cargo container. In addition, the Hunt forklift adds flexibility: It can be operated either indoors or outdoors, using either gasoline or propane as fuel.

By Ron Stoner

## Cribs for El Salvador Orphans

Thanks to District 6600 Rotarians, orphaned babies in El Salvador now have cribs to sleep in.

Economic conditions in El Salvador are so poor that many parents cannot afford to feed their children. As a result, four or more babies per month are abandoned at Salvadoran public hospitals and orphanages. Strapped for funds the government is able to provide only minimal aid to care for the many orphan infants.

Just before last October's District 6600 Conference, the head of public orphanages in El Salvador made an emergency plea to Medical Equipment and Supplies Abroad (MESA) for cribs. This plea was announced at the Conference, where Rotary Clubs and individual Rotarians responded with pledges and donations of cash. The total of approximately \$6,500 pledged was enough to buy 50 cribs and mattresses.

As a result, 50 new cribs were added to a cargo container of food, diapers and clothing that was shipped to El Salvador orphanages the following week. The container arrived just before Christmas 2004. There was not enough room in it to ship mattresses for the cribs, so additional funds were sent directly to El Salvador to buy the mattresses there.

By Ron Stoner

## Tsunami District 6600 Rotary Club Donations to MESA

### Top 5 Contributors (per club member)

Club	Donation Amount	# Members	Per Member Donation
Avon-Avon Lake	\$1000.00	27	\$37.04
Findlay	6298.00	202	31.18
Sylvania	1568.06	107	14.65
N Bremen/N.K.	711.25	55	12.93
Van Wert	820.00	76	10.79

### Contributions by Club

Antwerp	\$100	Bellevue	\$255	Bowling Green	\$247
Bryan	1000	Bucyrus	251	Cardington	100
Celina	165	Defiance	750	Elyria	1000
Fremont	387	Galion	90	Greenwich	100
Kenton	150	Liberty Center	80	Lima	527
Loudonville	450	Mansfield	700	Marion	600
Milan	145	Montpelier	361.50	North Baltimore	155
Norwalk	455	Oak Harbor	370	Ottawa Glandorf	215
Wapakoneta	330				

The total donated to MESA to date by the District 6600 Clubs is \$19,381.81. This balance does not include monies collected by our clubs for tsunami relief and donated to other organizations, or donated by our Rotary clubs in their direct efforts to supply relief to areas devastated by the tsunami.

Mel Honig, editor

## El Milagro, Update

e-mail for Paul Darilek, Living Water El Salvador

I was delightfully surprised when I returned from my 30-day trip to the States. I came back not only to find two more desperately needed water wells drilled, but to find our team of Salvadoran drillers, on their own initiative, organizing local volunteer doctors to form medical and dental brigades in some of the communities where we've drilled. Inspired by what I saw going on, I'm now working with doctors both here in El Salvador and in the US to get medicines donated and to make this a permanent fixture at Living Water El Salvador (if the people lead, the leaders will follow!).

Medical brigades may not be the answer to the dire situation of the health care system in El Salvador—but they are one more way for us to say, we love you, we care for you, your needs are our needs. It's one more thing that lets us say that our faith doesn't make sense to us if we're not finding ways to serve and love each other.

We've been delighted to see brothers and sisters from an Oregon church turn the Living Water well in El Milagro into a local water system providing clean water 24 hours a day 7 days a week right into people's houses—far better than our government water source in San Salvador, which provides water only from 5:00 to 10:00 am!). They even have water meters and pay (about \$1.25 a month) for maintenance. Soon, they'll have an extensive drip-irrigation system enabling them to grow crops in the dry season, improving health and economy.

We're filled with joy to be part of what you're helping us do. We pray for that joy to spill into you.

Paul Darilek  
[www.lwes.org](http://www.lwes.org)

---

### *MESA- Medical Equipment & Supplies Abroad; Leadership Committees Rotary International President*

Jonathan B. Majiyagbe

#### *MESA Trustees*

District Governor	Steve Day	<a href="mailto:stvday@aol.com">stvday@aol.com</a>	419 474 8968
Past District Governor	Bill Ruse	<a href="mailto:wruse@wqho.rr.com">wruse@wqho.rr.com</a>	419 422 7498
District Governor Elect	Abe Kuttothara	<a href="mailto:drabek@broght.net">drabek@broght.net</a>	
District International Service			
Chairman	Bob Kuck	<a href="mailto:bobkuyck@symaptico.ca">bobkuyck@symaptico.ca</a>	419 753 2686
Treasurer	Jim Heinrich	<a href="mailto:jheinr1097@aol.com">jheinr1097@aol.com</a>	419 933 7114
Secretary	Judy Riggle	<a href="mailto:triggles@ix.network.com">triggles@ix.network.com</a>	440 774 4106
Steering Committee			
Chairman	Stan Kujawa	<a href="mailto:stan@findlayford.com">stan@findlayford.com</a>	419 424 0979

#### *MESA Steering Committee*

Chairman	Stan Kujawa		
Chairman Emeritus	Jack Goodnight	<a href="mailto:jackmesa@wcoil.com">jackmesa@wcoil.com</a>	419 991 7791
Treasurer	Jim Heinrich		
Secretary	Judy Riggle		
District International			

Service Chairman  
District World  
Committee Service      Jim Heinrich

*Country Contacts*

Costa Rica	Andrew Timothy	<a href="mailto:atimothy@lourdes.edu">atimothy@lourdes.edu</a>	419 882 0266
Nicaragua	Jim Heinrich		
El Salvador	Stan Kujawa		
Honduras	Ron Stoner		
Panama	Darline Clemens	<a href="mailto:dclemens@defiance.edu">dclemens@defiance.edu</a>	419 783 2484
Belize	Judy Riggle		
Guatemala	John Kurfes	<a href="mailto:johnkurfes@wcn.org">johnkurfes@wcn.org</a>	419 833 1891

*Strategic Plan Committee*

Chairman	Chuck Stocking	<a href="mailto:cstocking@pbenet.com">cstocking@pbenet.com</a>	419 874 8028
District Governor	Steve Day		
Communications	Jim Shrader	<a href="mailto:jcsgov6600@aol.com">jcsgov6600@aol.com</a>	419 423 3877
Treasurer	Jim Heinrich		
Logistics	Ron Stoner		
Operations Leader	Ron Stoner		
Uniendo Conference	Jack Goodnight		
	Andrew Timothy		
MESA Newsletter	Mel Honig	<a href="mailto:gaimel@msn.com">gaimel@msn.com</a>	419 843 4459