

WHEEL TALK

ROTARY CLUB OF ABBEVILLE

April 8, 2009

TODAY'S PROGRAM

Report on Vermilion Parish School Board's Tax Incentive by Randy Schexnayder

Last Week's Program:

How Sound Are Our Local Banks by Paul Patout

Badge Drawing Winner: Judge Edwards

Lotto Winner: None

Club Guests:

Finland Girls Basketball Team

Chris and Shawn – *Abbeville Meridional*

Visiting Rotarians: None

Rotarians with Guest:

Chris Dardeau—Pat Patout and Murphy Guilbeaux

Debra Parsons—Rick Parsons

REMINDERS !

- ◆ Sell those po-boys!! Po-boy sale on May 8, 2009
- ◆ April 11, 2009—**Ambassadorial Scholars Interviews** and interviews will take place at the district office.

SPOTLIGHT GUEST SPEAKER:

Randy J. Schexnayder is married to Judy Boudreaux and they have 3 children Jacob, Scott & Lauren. He was born in and graduated from Kaplan. He received a B.S. degree from USL, a M.Ed. and Ed Specialist degrees from McNeese. A football and basketball coach he was State and district Coach of the Year. Randy was Principal at Indian Bayou, Kaplan High and Abbeville High. He was previously Assist. Superintendent. He was a member of the State Executive Committee for the La. Principals' Assoc., St. Coordinator for the Nat'l Assoc. of Principals.

Pumping water for life in Zimbabwe

Amid famine, water scarcity, disease outbreaks, and rampant inflation in Zimbabwe, six Rotary clubs in as many countries are bringing hope to people there. The project is establishing water wells and vegetable and tree gardens at seven schools in the country. A US\$6,650 Rotary Foundation Matching Grant, combined with sponsor contributions, has provided a total of \$16,950 in funding for the effort. The project began in 2007, sponsored by the Rotary clubs of Grenaa and Grenaa-Djurs, Denmark; Türi, Estonia; Grossefehn/Wiesmoor, Germany; Drøbak, Norway; and Hunyani, Zimbabwe. Recent support has also come from the Rotary Club of Åmål, Sweden. Pump Aid, a nongovernmental organization, is managing installation and maintenance of the wells. Environment Africa, another NGO, oversees creation of the gardens, designed to help feed area residents and provide some with a livelihood. The organization is headed by Charlene Hewat, of the Hunyani club. "The technology is simple and efficient and requires no special technical skills," says Stein Nørve, a member of the Drøbak club. "The pumps may be operated manually by anyone." In 2008, Cecilia Nedziwe assessed the project's progress in the course of her work as manager of operations for the Centre for Peace Initiatives in Africa. At the Mupamombe school, she found the water pump functioning efficiently and workers planting seeds in the garden. "There was life and happiness around, and I was delighted to see everyone smiling and extending their gratefulness to Rotary for supporting the well project," said Nedziwe, who is based in Harare, Zimbabwe's capital, and is a former Rotary World Peace Fellow (Zimbabwe to Australia, 06-08). She found the situation similar at three of the other four schools. Only at the school in Kwayedza was the well for the pump yet to be completed. Two wells are also scheduled for installation at other schools.

MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

None Birthday

PARTNER BIRTHDAYS

None Partner's Name Birthday

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

None Partner's Name Anniversary Date Years

CLUB ANNIVERSARIES

None Date of Induction Years In Club

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

1879 Milk is sold in glass bottles for 1st time
1893 The Critic reports that the ice cream soda is our national drink
1913 17th amendment, requiring direct election of senators, ratified
1971 1st legal off-track betting system begins (OTB-New York)
1974 Hammerin' Hank Aaron hits 715th homerun, breaks Babe Ruth's record
1994 Smoking banned in Pentagon & all US military bases
1997 Microsoft Corp releases Internet Explorer 4.0

BULLETIN BUZZ

If anyone would like to post news, information, etc. in the weekly "Wheel Talk" bulletin, please contact Bernard Duhon at (337) 893-5066 or bernard@bernardduhon.com

MEMBER ABSENTEE LIST

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|--------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| Ted Ayo, LOA | Paul Bourgeois | Mike Couvillion |
| Alex Crochet | Tobi Edwards | Raymond Gagne |
| Riley Landry | Earl Parquette, LOA | Mark Shirley |
| Emery Toups | Bubba Weill | |