



**DEL MAR – SOLANA BEACH  
SUNRISE ROTARY**

**NOVEMBER 2007 NEWSLETTER**

Lloyd Flanders, Editor

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**HEADLINE NEWS & UPDATES**

**Short Recap of the Bimson/Mendoza trip to El Salvador**

As I sit here thinking about the last three days and the experiences which I encountered in El Salvador I would like to share with you some of the highlights.

Shantytown:

Next to a busy highway, directly across from a large mall we found a trail into a dense foliage area which was a shantytown. This consisted of one or two room buildings each inhabited by what seemed to be an extended family. Open sewers were everywhere; the conditions were unreal, tons of people everywhere.

San Vicente: This is a town of about 70,000 people, located about 50 miles from San Salvador where a major OEF project is underway. This project is a model for the school which we are supporting in Usulután. The operation includes a small hotel (14 rooms) a small restaurant, meeting rooms and an elementary school for at risk kids. Many buildings in this town have not been rebuilt since the big earthquake of several years ago

Usulután:

This town has about 50,000 people and is located about 70 miles from San Vicente. Our visit to the school site which our Rotary club is supporting was very rewarding. It amazed me what was going on there, they are so thankful and sincere in helping these kids, I couldn't believe how much was going on with so little; hope and dedication was everywhere. We were given a presentation on the history of the school along with testimonies from three of the students. This school needs help, a little money and a few resources go an incredibly long way and reaches some very important, needy people.

Jungle Village:

When we left the school at Usulután, Ildiko drove us into the jungle about 10 miles out of town. We went to a village of over 700 people, (160 families) these people live much removed from society as we know it. They rarely have visitors, and are without fresh water. Both Art and I had concerns about our own health. Animals were everywhere - pigs, chickens, water buffalo, and goats were all over including in the shacks. None of the buildings had doors. The inhabitants seemed to be fascinated with us; they were very friendly and warm. There are lots of opportunities to make life better for generations of an entire village

This trip was an adventure to say the least; I took over 400 pictures which I will present to you in a program later.

Steve

Editors note; we have released the funds - \$25,000 - to OEF.

## **ORGANIZATIONS FOR 2008 BOCCE DOLLARS SELECTED**

Our Board of Directors' selected three organizations to be the recipients of the funds raised from our 2008 Bocce Tournament; the Community Resource Center's Libré Children's Center; The Vision of Children Foundation; San Diego Adaptive Sports Foundation. The reason for making this selection now was to allow us to list these organizations in the promotional literature for the 2008 tournament. While the amounts to be awarded are determined after we know the dollars available, we know that these organizations will share 40% of our net proceeds. Based on past years' performance this means about \$12,000 – 14,000 will be divided between the three organizations.

As you are all aware of the CRC through our long time association with them, I'll give a few words of introduction to the other two;

- Adaptive Sports (SDASF) – you may remember this organization from their April presentation. SDASF activities are focused on making adaptive sports available to individuals with physical disabilities of all ages and abilities. We will be providing support to the SDASF’s 2008 West Regional Junior Wheelchair Basketball Tournament to be held Jan 19 – 20 here in San Diego. While this event does precede our tournament, the dollars to be provided are well within the range of projected proceeds.
- Vision of Children – their mission is improving the lives of visually impaired individuals and their families. Our funds will support their program addressing the needs of children with hereditary blindness/vision impairment by purchasing large screen monitors and special flexible mounts for computers in classrooms.

We will have occasion to discuss these organizations and their support at future meetings. If you do have any questions prior to then, any of the Board members would be glad to get you the answers.

## **INTERNATIONAL REPORT – Hans Norden**

On principle, we want to leverage our funds as much as possible, by applying for “Matching Grants”. The magic of the Rotary Share-system (see [http://www.rotary5340.org/foundation/share\\_files/frame.htm](http://www.rotary5340.org/foundation/share_files/frame.htm) ) is it’s ability to turn one dollar cash donation into \$3.50!

Another way of making our money go a lot farther is teaming up with another club as we did last year, DMSB provided \$3,000 towards a matching grant for a safe and clean water supply project to several remote indigenous villages in the Altiplano of Bolivia; south-west of La Paz. This project affected 37 families, approximately 215 individuals.

The concrete-lined wells with hand-pumps have taken a chore out of many girls’ lives, fetching water from afar on foot, and now they can go to school. The clean water was instrumental in starting hot-houses where they grow vegetables that improve their health. They even sell some of the crops on local markets to earn an income.

A couple of weeks ago, we had *Dory Beatrice* of La Jolla Golden Triangle Rotary (LJGT) and *Ken Barratt* of Quaker Bolivia Link (QBL) (<http://www.qbl.org>) talk to us about their upcoming return trip to Bolivia and their plans for placing ultra-sound equipment in local medical clinics. At the last board meeting we voted to allocate \$2,000 in cash and \$2,000 in District Designated Funds (DDF; see <http://www.rotary5340.org/foundation/pdf/Handout2006.pdf> ) to buy and deliver this mobile equipment.

The Board is very happy with the LJGT/QBL partnership because the money gets well spend, supervised and comes with great progress reports because Ken and Dory visit the project nearly annually. What we like about QBL is that they involve local people; asking them what they want us to help them with and requiring them to have their skin in the

game by providing labor. QBL engineers will also monitor the project for three years after its completion.

Apart from the Bolivia project, we have allocated \$1,500 to a Micro Credit program for Ghana, sponsored by “Mobilizing Rotary for Micro credit” chaired by Deborah Lindholm of the La Jolla Sunrise club. This was a program with a 12:1 match, facilitated by the Caster family, the Bill Gates Foundation, the Canadian government and of course, Rotary International. Because of the “Charles Foster Challenge” and many personal donations, our \$1,500 contribution rose to \$6,500!!! Jolly good show; hats off to all of you old sports!

The next project I want to fund will be an AIDS Orphans Relief Project (see <http://www.rotary5340.org> ). For questions and suggestions, come and see me after the regular Rotary meeting.

Your International Services chair  
Hans Norden

(the Dutchman; at our next meeting I would like to hear *Rule-Britannia-Nigel* explain to us why the British code of arms from England’s flagship “HMS Royal Charles” hangs in a Dutch museum. Find the answer at [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Second\\_Anglo-Dutch\\_War](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Second_Anglo-Dutch_War) )

## **COMMUNITY SERVICE UPDATE – Ken Barrett**

After a busy September, and in response to your survey results, I have been setting up project opportunities for Nov through January. At the top of the list from your feedback was CRC support and the San Diego Adaptive Sports Foundation. We will be supporting these organizations in two ways – through our Bocce dollars (as noted above) and with additional Community Service budget dollars and our hallmark “hands-on” resources. In Nov and Dec, we will have the traditional CRC Holiday Baskets support activities and, in request from CRC for a “return engagement”, Monica Sayers is heading up the women of our club to put on another Christmas party for the CRC’s Carol’s house. In January, we will be the sponsoring organization for the Adaptive Sports Foundations West Coast Regional Junior Wheelchair Basketball Tournament. We have also approved sending \$500 to Shakti Rising to help with furnishing their newly expanded facilities (the painting of which was one of our “busy Sep” projects).

Events under consideration or planning are serving at Father Joe’s for Valentines’ day dinner and working with the Torrey Pines Reserve Resource Ecologist to consider support to some new programs for which the Parks Service would like to have increased participation from our local communities and schools.

I have formed a Community Services Committee comprised of Nishina Asaria, Tom Burns, Lloyd Flanders and myself. Please feel free to talk with any of us about your ideas or needs for more information.