



Rotary Messenger

Rotary Club of Eau Claire

Editor: Jerry Reinecke

February 22, 2010

In This Issue

- American Red Cross Relief Efforts in Haiti
- GSE Team from Japan to Visit in May

Guest

- Kristina Skornikova – Rotary Exchange Student from Slovakia

Leaves of Absence

- John DeRosa (10/25/2009 – 3/31/2010)
- Jeanne Chilson (1/25/2010 – 3/31/2010)
- Kris Becker (10/13/2009 – 4/13/2010)
- Glenn Horejsi (1/13/2010 – 4/30/2010)
- Ron Dulitz (11/22/2009 – 5/10/2010)
- Peter Scobie (2/17/2010 – 5/11/2010)
- Dennis Vanden Bloomen (1/1/2010 – 5/31/2010)
- Dina St. Louis (1/1/2010 – 6/30/2010)

The 4-Way Test

Of the things, we think, say or do:

1. Is it the 'Truth'?
2. Is it 'Fair' to all concerned?
3. Will it build 'Goodwill' and 'Better Friendships'?
4. Will it be 'Beneficial' to all?

American Red Cross Relief Efforts in Haiti presented by Jenny Ligaspi, Emergency Services Director

When disasters occur, whether at the local, national or international level, the American Red Cross is ready and able to respond. Jenny Ligaspi, Emergency Services Director of the American Red Cross Western Wisconsin Chapter, shared the story of the Red Cross's "immediate response" relief efforts in Haiti.

Over a month ago a catastrophic earth quake struck Haiti, including a significant portion of the capital city of Port-au-Prince, and affected the lives of an estimated three million people.

Everyone is affected... the old, young healthy, sick, rich and poor. The first priority is to provide food, water, medication, tarps, blankets, hygiene kits and kitchen kits. Within a month, the American Red Cross was distributing 1.2 million liters of water per day. In addition, the Red Cross has provided 70 Creole language interpreters, medical teams to go into the communities, and blood transfusions.

This is by far the largest American Red Cross disaster response ever, especially in a single country. The relief effort is still in the "immediate response" mode and will be for the next several months. Eventually, the response will move toward helping the Haitians rebuild their country and their lives.



American Red Cross representatives **Kyle Kriegl** (left), Regional Executive Director and **Jenny Legaspi** (right), Emergency Services Director

GSE Team from Japan to Visit in May

*(Thanks to Club International Chair **Mark Morse** for coordinating all aspects of the GSE Team Visit to Eau Claire and for providing this article)*

A five member Group Study Exchange Team from Chiba Prefecture, Japan, just northeast of Tokyo, will visit Eau Claire from May 4 to May 7, 2010. (Note: the "prefectures" of Japan are the 47 sub-national jurisdictions, similar to our states.)

The team members from Rotary District 2790 are:

- Team leader and Rotarian **Hiroshi Kaneoya** – age 63; graduated from the university in 1970 majoring in politics and economics. He was on a GSE exchange in Wisconsin 10 years ago. He is looking to meet new

Our Calendar

March 1 – The World of Professional Bike Racing by Tom McCarty

March 8 – Literacy Volunteers “Learner of the Year” Nou Thao and Executive Director Mary Beth Kelley-Lowe; Youth Rotars Honored

March 15 – How the FBI Serves Eau Claire by Special Agent Dave Fitzgerald

March 22 – Classification Talks by Darin McFadden and Steve Driever

Officers/Board of Directors for the 2009-10 Rotary Year

President – Jacqe Lahn

President-Elect – Jon Niebergall

Vice President – Sara Antonson

Secretary – Mary Knight

Exec Sec / Treas – Jerry Reinecke

Past President – Don Huebscher

Avenues of Service:

Club – Angela Hite

Community – Bob Schmidt

International – Mark Morse

Vocational – Marcia Van Beek

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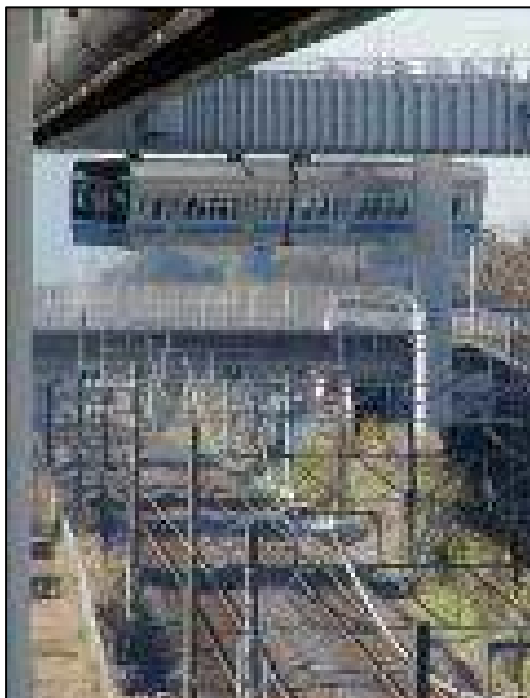
Rotary District 6250
www.rotary6250.org

friends, meet up with old friends, experience Wisconsin, help improve international understanding and encourage world peace.

- **Hideko Aoki** – works for a university as an instructor, teaching Chinese literature and Chinese language. She wants to learn about American society.
- **Michiyo Iimori** – married and has three daughters... ages 5, 9 and 12. She works for City Hall, and enjoys creating flower arrangements.
- **Yasuharu Tada** – age 26 and single. He graduated from the university with a degree in management. He works in a bank, and enjoys soccer, baseball, volleyball and playing the guitar.
- **Masuyosi Kita** – age 36. He works in a private high school as an English teacher and enjoys baseball.

Members of various Chippewa Valley Rotary Clubs have volunteered to serve as host families... **Brian and Diane Doudna** from our club, **Karen and Dick Hebert** from the Chippewa Falls Club, and **Jeff and Donna Sauter** from the Eau Claire Morning Club. Note that Karen is a past president of our Club before transferring to Chippewa Falls.

We will also need other kinds of help during the GSE team visit... for example, help with transportation and vocational outings. If you would like to be involved, please contact Mark Morse at markmorse@charter.net or 715-839-8857.



Pictures from Chiba Prefecture... a hanging monorail (left) and a typical shop.