



We all want the same thing.

January – February 2008

EVENING ROTARY CONNECTION

Interfaith Service a Highlight of Year

Peace on earth was the message of the interfaith service on December 18, 2007. A special thank you to Frank Rycyk for scheduling the speakers: Warren Solomon (member, Rotary West), Shakir Hamoodi, and The Reverend David Avery, Community Christian Church. The music performed by Elizabeth Eckles, Organist, Grace Episcopal Church, added special meaning to the way Christmas is embraced by different religions. As Beth played the final "Fanfare and Fugue for *Good King Wenceslaus*," many Rotarians and guests lingered to exchange sentiments and enjoy a time away from the hustle and bustle of the season.

Weekend Warriors

The Evening Rotarians service project at the Community Breast Care Project took several hours to complete. For the Rotary Club of Westchester (Los Angeles), paint and landscaping the home of someone who could use the extra help lasted over four days. Scott Odom, a father of three in Westchester, Calif., had been fighting prostate cancer for a long time. As he underwent treatment, home maintenance was about the last thing on his mind. Odom, an English professor at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles, and his wife, Christine, a school nurse, were just too busy. The Rotarians stepped in and even requested help from other groups in the community. By the end of the weekend, the Odoms weren't the only ones to benefit. As one club member said, "What a great gift we're giving us, working shoulder to shoulder to help a family really in need." (Dr. Odom lost his battle to cancer in November 2007.)

www.rotary.org

A Simple Truth

"Rotarians are the beacons of a simple truth. The key ingredient to making a peaceful world is the understanding that all people, no matter where they live, are equally precious." – William Gates Sr.

As we read these words by Mr. Gates, it seems so simple. As Rotarians we give of ourselves—time, talent and money. And in the end does it make a difference to the poverty, disease and destruction? The answer is yes. And that's why the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation gave the Rotary Foundation a \$100 million challenge grant to support global polio eradication and complete the crusade with the help of Rotary's 1.2 million volunteers. For more information on the challenge grant visit www.rotary.org.

A simple truth. We serve because we are all equally precious. Frieden auf Erden



Opportunity to Volunteer

Show Me Leadership Institute, Capital Plaza Hotel, March 28-29, 2007

Our club has been asked to supply four individuals to serve as sergeants-at-arms for each day. Contact Frank Rycyk at 573-636-2135.