

Sidebars.....

Upcoming Events

April 1: Sandy Harter
(Dept. of Homeland Security)

April 8: T/B/A

April 15: Robert Torgler
(On Benjamin Franklin)

April 16: Rotary Scholar
International Night
(Jhons Hopkins SAIS)

April 21: Board Meeting
(5:30 pm, Tom Barry's Office)

April 22: T/B/A

Three Minute Talk Schedule

April 1: Tas Tousimis

April 8: Steve Vaccarezza

April 15: Tom Williams

April 22: Neil Wilson

April 29: T/B/A

Member Milestones

(Apr. 1—Apr. 7)

Apr. 2: Russ Shew (Birthday)

Apr. 3: Jay Davies (Birthday)

The Special 3-Minute Corner

Rotary District 7620 Conference

HERSHEY 2005
DISTRICT CONFERENCE

One Sweet Celebration! May 19-22

Because of the absence of a 3-minute speaker last week, we are going to use this space to plug District 7620's upcoming annual Conference.

The dates are May 19 to May 22, and the location is the Hershey Park in Hershey, Pennsylvania. This is a family affair, and children are not only welcome, but encouraged to come! The first 100 to register will receive free theme park passes.

The program will include a lot of good things, including sessions on successful business strategies, advanced leadership, future Rotary, and Rotary "boot camp." There will be a Saturday night awards banquet, a Centennial Club's Projects presentation, and a club banner procession.

The keynote dinner speaker will be Russ Davis of the Maryland National Guard, who's talk will be an "Overview of the National Guard in the War on Terrorism.

Be there !

April Is Volunteer Month

The month of April is an important part of the celebration of Rotary's 100th birthday, wherein Rotarians around the world are being asked to donate ten hours of volunteer service in any project of his or her choice. **Ellen Gillis** (left) is heading up our club's participation in this Centennial commitment, and it is hoped that all the members of our club will take part.



There are many volunteer possibilities, including the following:

- Various yard and home cleanup jobs for St. Luke's House;
- Clean-up projects in Rock Creek Park and the Potomac River;
- "Christmas in April" in Montgomery County (home renovations, etc.).

Members have two choices. They can either let Ellen assign them to a specific job, or, if they do not like Ellen's assignments, they can select their job themselves (church, school, etc.). And above all else, everyone should remember that the Object of Rotary "is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as the basis of worth enterprise."

Islam, Christianity and Judaism

Imam **Yahya Hendi** (see picture), who was born in Palestinian territory and is now an American citizen, gave us an eloquent talk last week that was devoted to Islam, and its relation to Christianity and Judaism.

Although the Imam's father wished him to be a doctor, his first studies were of Islam, and he early-on discovered that two-thirds of the Koran speaks of Moses and Jesus. Fascinated with the life of Jesus Christ, he then attended a seminary to study Christianity. And he followed that with a period of study in a temple on Judaism.

"There is much more in common than differences among the three faiths," he said, and he added that all three speak to the ideals of peace and love of brothers. These studies led him to seek a new direction in his life, and he set out to become a theologian and to dedicate his efforts toward peace, which he feels can be effected though working as one, and through education.

In the question and answer session following his talk, the Imam spoke movingly of the strong influence of his mother on his life. He noted that President Bush made a terrible mistake when he used the word "crusade" after the events of September 11, inasmuch as the word is an anathema to Muslims. He closed his presentation with a prayer for peace and brotherhood.

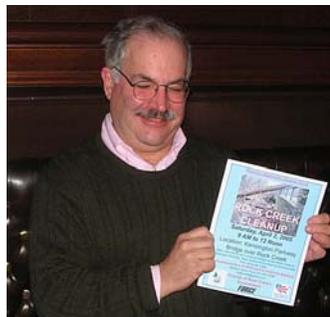
As an Imam, a teacher, and a religious leader, Yahya Hendi has a mosque in Frederick, Maryland, and serves as a Muslim chaplain at Georgetown University.

Rotary Scholar International Night

A very special Rotary dinner will be held on Saturday, April 16, 6:30 to 9:30, for the purpose of meeting and hearing from the foreign Rotary scholarship students who are attending area colleges and universities. While space is limited, all Rotarians are invited to attend.

The venue for this program is the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies near Dupont Circle in D.C., and the cost is \$60 per person for dinner and wine. If you would like to go, RSVP by April 8 (next Friday) via email at protary@hotmail.com.

A Smattering of Happy Bucks



There were only a half-dozen or so happy dollars last week (due, in part, to the meager attendance), and they were contributed by **Joe Bunker** (because of his distribution of dictionaries at Ashburton Elementary School), **Curtis Huff** (to welcome our speaker and guest, Abraham Oweiss), and your editor (for another 3rd grader "funny"). Also, **Frank Lankowski** (calling attention to a Reader's Digest article about the healing power of prayer), **Phil Dellinger** (who's off for Arizona), and **Victoria Feldman** (because of the healthy value of humor). The picture to the left is **Kevin Flynn** plugging the cleanup of Rock Creek Park.