

Tom Callahan..... 24 Apr
Melinda Booth..... 27 Apr

Upcoming Programs

April 8

Check Dams in India
Eva Argawal & John Matthews

April 15

Charitable Activities in the Pacific Northwest
David Bley, Gates Foundation

April 22

Earth Day
George Chambers

April 29

*Mt. Rainier National Park
Damage & Repair*
Lee Taylor

Event Calendar

April 5

RI Foundation Seminar
Where does the money go?
[click for information](#)

April 10 - Fireside 6-8 p.m.

Gay Brook's Home
2929 81st SE Pl, G1 [click for directions](#)

May 16-18

District Conference
Kennewick, WA



[click for information](#)

June 15-18

International Convention
Los Angeles, CA
Pre-Registration



[click for information](#)



Bridges to Understanding: We are indebted to **Terry Lee** for introducing us to *Bridges of Understanding*, a unique organization dedicated to promoting cultural exchanges and understanding among students from countries around the globe – principally, Peru, Guatemala, India and South Africa. Communication is fostered through digital stories and the internet. Terry introduced **Lori Markowitz** who is International Program Manager for *Bridges*. Seattle is the site for a field trip and gathering of teenage students from many different countries taking place on April 14. The meeting is to be attended by the Dalai Lama, the Buddhist monk and Nobel Prize winner noted for his compassion in promoting peace and understanding among peoples and nations. Lori introduced two students participating in the program, **Zandi** from South Africa and **Tenzin Loeden** from Dharamsala, India, a small mountain village where the Dalai Lama resides. These young people are building bridges to a better world. For more information, see www.bridgesweb.org.



Fight for the Children: **Amin Adatia** introduced our main speaker, **Dr. Brad Berg**, founder of *Fight for the Children*. This is an organization dedicated to providing basic health care to children everywhere, but mostly in the developing world where children have no access to medical care. Two-thirds of childhood deaths occur in just 10 countries – from diseases which are totally treatable, curable or preventable (such as pneumonia, diarrhea and malaria). Only 1 in 10 of children with HIV is being treated. These appalling statistics can be changed through the efforts of organizations such as *Fight for the Children*.

The way this works is to locate a village and identify the medical needs of that village. Working with village leaders, clinics and hospitals are established and teams of U.S. doctors and nurses train local health care providers to take on the tasks of providing continued care. *Children* clinics are adopted by U.S. medical centers which provide oversight and are responsible for ongoing support. Education is also a key to helping the children of these areas lead healthy lives. *Children* is also actively involved in advancing education through a scholarship fund in each place it serves.

The clinics and hospitals thus far established are in East Africa. This includes an urgent care clinic in Dunga, Kenya, and a children's hospital in Kabale providing medical and laboratory services to a region of 2.5 million people. Additional clinics in Rwanda and Tanzania are due to open in the near future.

If this sounds like something Rotary supports, you are correct. Dr. Berg is from Mount Vernon and has the support of his local Rotary. This is a cause where contributions are put to work directly and leveraged through the volunteer efforts of professionals in the medical field. The fight for children in desperate need lays the foundation for a better world. Thank you Dr. Berg for all that you are doing – a true humanitarian in the spirit of Rotary.

Don't Forget: **Bo** reminds us of the following:

- **Fireside** at the home of **Ray and Fay Brook**, Thursday, April 10, 6 - 8 pm.
- **Foundation Seminar** this Saturday, April 5 (Red Badge requirement).
- **District Conference**, Tri-Cities, May 16 – 18.

Bo's Parting Gem: *Experience is what you get when you don't get what you want!*

Clint's Corner

Celebrate **Magazine Month** by encouraging literacy reports and success stories in the *Rotarian Magazine* and our own newsletter, *The Dawn*.

Experience Rotarians' humanitarian efforts worldwide through videos and other media. Without leaving home, you can travel from South America to Africa through [RVM: The Rotarian Video Magazine](#), which lets you see the global impact of Rotary's humanitarian projects.

Publishing items in the Dawn

If you have information, articles, photos, etc., for publication in the *Dawn*, please send them to DawnEditor@MIRotary.org.