

Rotary Club of Kennett Square	
District 7450	Club 5488
<i>SQUARE WHEEL</i>	
October 9, 2007	

We missed ALL of you who were not present!

VISITORING ROTARIANS:

Samantha Ramsey – West Grove/Avondale
Barry Kanofsky and Dave McKeon – Longwood Club

SPEAKER:

Jerry Poe – Haiti Children's' Mission

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Annual Pancake Breakfast at Unionville High School cafeteria during the Unionville Community Fair is this Saturday, October 13. It looks like all members will be working. First shift starts at 5AM. All are encouraged to stay through cleanup.
- The annual Unionville Community Fair is at risk due to a lack of individuals to lead committees that are needed to organize the fair. Also, possible construction at Unionville High School next year could force a temporary relocation even if volunteers step up. A call to action is being made to the community to continue this tradition and celebration of our rural and farming community roots.
- Saturday October 20 is road cleanup day. We start at 9AM at Eckerd Drug Store.
- Saturday November 3 is Rotary Day at the UN. A bus trip is being scheduled.
- Our regular dinner meeting of November 13 has been replaced by the annual Kennett Run Dinner meeting on Thursday, November 15.
- Congratulations to Bronwyn Martin who will Chair the Kennett Run this year representing Rotary.

- Mike Perna briefed us on the precarious financial situation of our Ivory Coast exchange students Eric Mark and Yannick. These sophomore students at Lincoln University are maintaining high A grades, playing varsity soccer, and working but expected funding from their country has dried up for now. They have each earned \$10,000 scholarships from Lincoln but are short of the needed \$40,000 per year per student for tuition, books, room and board. Mike proposed that we increase our pledge from \$1800 to \$5000 to get these young men through this academic year. Mike will personally contribute \$3000. Eric Mark and Yannick will contribute \$2500 each from their savings from local jobs. Mike is working with other possible sources of funds, including Rotary Clubs, to reach the needed total funding. There was a unanimous expression of support from members.

PROGRAM: Jerry Poe – **Haiti Children’s’ Mission**

Jerry is Director of Facilities for the Kennett YMCA and an ordained minister who created, leads and directs Haiti Children’s’ Mission since 1989. Jerry told us his inspiring life story and how he came to create this mission to the poorest country in our hemisphere where wages only average \$200 per year. Jerry has set up Electrical and Plumbing training, a musical business including creating and leading a band and now an orchestra, and a construction company in Haiti. Jerry has truly put into practice his father’s teaching that those who receive help from others must in turn provide help to those who need it. Besides the physical assistance Jerry is providing in Haiti he is also teaching that poverty is a state of mind as much as a physical reality and that being born into poverty does not mean that one must stay there. Jerry is truly providing an inspiring mission to Haitians that deserves support.

ATTENDANCE: 16 members and 6 guests

HAPPY DOLLARS: \$16

NEXT WEEK’S PROGRAM: Chrissy Hovde from the concord Coalition. Sponser is Elizabeth Rhoads.

NEXT WEEK’S EDITOR:

Respectfully Submitted,
[Jeff Hellrung](#)

