



Weekly Bulletin of

The Jerusalem Rotary Club

Club # 13459, District 2490

16 March 2016

Club Officers

President:

P/ Yaron Amitai

Secretary:

R/ David Lilienthal

Treasurer:

P/P Eli Kenner

Immediate Past President:

P/P Nezar Tannous

President Elect 2016-17:

R/ Dan Shanit

Board Members:

R/ Art Braunstein

R/ Geert Cohen Stuart

P/P Sandi Darmon

P/P Ruth Harris

P/P David Seligman

R/ Dan Shanit

R/ Nuha Tannous

R/Guido de Werd

P/P Kern Wisman

PDG Irene Lewitt, ex-officio

Upcoming Programme

23 March Meeting

R/ Michael Mertes

"Will the Refugee Crisis Tear Europe Apart?"

March 24 : Purim

No meeting

30 March Dinner Meeting:

Pending

6 April Meeting:

Prof. Maurice Romani, Interdisciplinary Dept. Ben Gurion University

"Libyan Jewry-The Fate of a Minority"

14-16 April Outing:

Long weekend at Peniel-by-Galilee



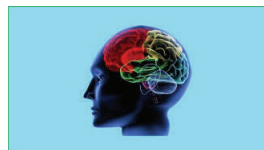
This Week's Programme

Marilyn Farber

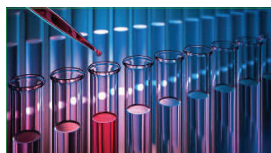
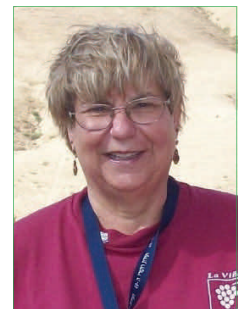
Ocular Epidemiologist, Past President JRC

"Presidential Conference on Disease Prevention and Treatment"

Jerusalem Rotary Club Past President, Dr. Marilyn Farber, a retired Ocular Epidemiologist will be reporting on the second of five Rotary International Presidential Conferences held in Cannes, France, which she attended with her husband P/P Dr. Mark Zober, this past 19-21 of February.



Rotary International President, KR Ravindran opened the conference which featured lectures in four lan-



guages covering a broad range of medical issues presented by a world class lineup of professionals from around the world, including Prof. Luc Montaigner, Nobel Prize Laureate in Medicine. Subjects such as community health, neurodegenerative diseases, blood donation, polio eradication, infectious diseases, blood diseases, and Ebola were explored in plenary lectures and workshops.



One of the animating questions of the conference was stated to be: "How can clubs and districts contribute to efforts to improve health, nutrition, and population outcomes worldwide?"





A Story From Honduras

Since 2006, I have traveled to Honduras on numerous occasions as part of a village electrification project organized by the Rotary Club of Lawrenceburg and our Rotary district. The Rotary Club of Madison, Alabama, has also been working with us in the same area for about nine years, doing incredible work delivering healthy burning Eco-Stoves, eye clinics, and dental clinics.

Last year, I wired this lady's home for electricity (photo at right). All she wanted was one light bulb to illuminate her kitchen. On her first attempt the string broke. I had to repair it and let her try again.



This year my friend and fellow Rotarian, Rick Copeland, sent down a bag full of shoes and asked me to carry a pair to this lady. I emptied out the bag and she picked out a pair of shoes. I checked the shoes for fit and asked

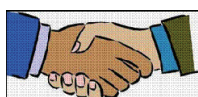
her to pose so that I could take a picture of her to prove to Rick that I didn't keep the shoes for myself.

Sometimes little things like a new pair of shoes can mean so much to the person receiving them and humble them to tears. But what this lady didn't know was how much her smile and excitement at getting a new pair of shoes had touched me — deeply inside. I was the one truly humbled.

The giver is not capable of setting a gift's true value; only the receiver can do that. Sometimes, you get a rare chance to see with your own eyes just how important your gift means to the receiver. We have touched the lives of a lot of people on this year's Honduran village electrification project. But if the only person we had helped was this lady, then the trip would still have been worthwhile.



- By Neal Beard, Rotary Club of Lawrenceburg, Tennessee, USA ♣



Greetings

The 2 March noon meeting of the Jerusalem Rotary Club had the pleasure of a visit by Rotarian Gary Katz who brought with him greetings from his club, the Rotary Club of Windsor, Canada.

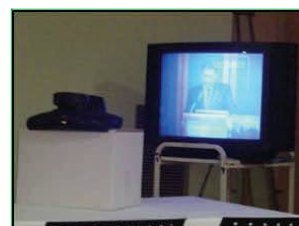
Gary was in Jerusalem, in part, to look in on the Sarah Herzog Hospital with whom the Windsor Club has worked on several projects. The Windsor Club has supported health care projects in Ghana for many years. Some of the projects of the Windsor Club have built on the initial teleconferencing capacity supplied to the Herzog Hospital in a 2005-06 Matching Grant

Project between the Rotary Club of Rocky Mount, North Carolina and the Jerusalem Rotary Club, which saw teleconferencing equipment supplied to the hospital for long-distance medical diagnosis, doctor training, as well as, in later years, a program to train nurses in Ghana.

- Kern W. ♣



Gary Katz



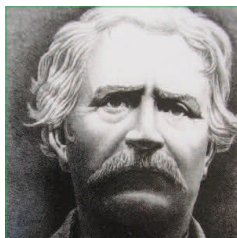
Teleconferencing equipment supplied to the Sarah Herzog Hospital



International Toast

Rotary Club of Kaunas, Lithuania

16 March 1846 is celebrated each year in Lithuania as the “Day of the Book Smugglers” because this is the day Jurgis Bielinis was born. Kaunas was the center of Lithuanian book-smuggling of which Jurgis Bielinis was a dominant figure.



Jurgis Bielinis

After the Lithuanian insurrection of 1863 the Russian Tsar Alexander II made all efforts to “Russify” the Lithuanian population and to alienate it from its historic roots. The Vilnius Governor ordered that all books were to be printed in the Russian Cyrillic alphabet, the Lithuanian use of the Latin alphabet was forbidden, there was a ban on printing and importing printed matter into Lithuania. Book smugglers (knygnešiai in Lithuanian), transported Lithuanian lan-

guage books printed in the Latin alphabet into Lithuanian-speaking areas of the Russian Empire, defying a ban on such materials in force from 1866 to 1904.

Jurgis Bielinis was born in the small town of Biržai in 1846 in Northern Lithuania. He went to school in Riga

and created the secret distribution network for banned books. Living undercover in hiding he smuggled hundreds of thousands of books, making sure that Lithuanian books reached every settlement in Lithuania convincing many institutions to serve as undercover transfer points for the

books. Most of the Latin-alphabet Lithuanian-language books and periodicals published at the time were printed in Lithuania Minor (Prussian Lithuania) and then smuggled into the rest of Lithuania. When caught, the book smugglers were punished by fines, banishment, exile, and deportation to Siberia. Some were simply shot in the head while crossing the border. Bielinis was caught 5 times and managed to escape, a large monetary reward was promised for his capture.

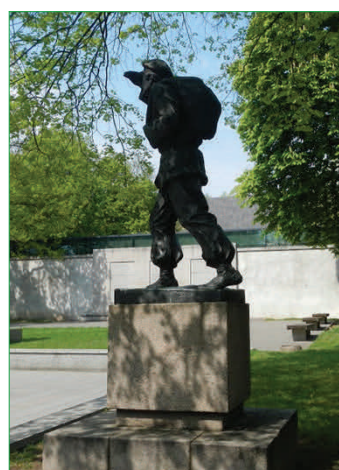
The first Lithuanian Rotary club was founded on 15 October 1934, in Kaunas. During the occupation by Germany and later by the Red Army and during Soviet times the Rotary Club was disbanded.

When Lithuania regained independence in 1990, Rotary re-established itself, the Kaunas Rotary Club was the heir to its predecessor pre-war club and when it reformed in 1990 there was still one pre-war Rotarian, Vytautas Landsbergis-Žemkalnis, still alive to tell the story – he was named an honorary member of the reconstituted Kaunas Rotary Club.

The Rotary Club of Kaunas is one of 49 Rotary clubs in Lithuania in District 1462 and successfully founded its first Rotaract club in 1995 and more recently it also started an Interact Club.

The club’s 57 members meet on Fridays at 1:00 pm at the Hotel Santaka. The President in 2015-16 is Sigitas Petkevicius.

- Guido de W. ♣



Monument to the
“Unknown Smuggler in
Kaunas





Happy Hour

Ever Wish You Had a Good Reply to Stupid Questions?

It was mealtime during an airline flight. 'Would you like dinner?', the flight attendant asked John, seated in front. 'What are my choices?' John asked. 'Yes or no,' she replied.



A lady was picking through the frozen turkeys at the grocery store but she couldn't find one big enough for her family. She asked a stock boy, 'Do these turkeys get any bigger?' The stock boy replied, 'No ma'am, they're dead...'

The police officer got out of his car as the kid who was stopped for speeding rolled down his window. 'I've been waiting for you all day,' the officer said. The kid replied, 'Yeah, well I got here as fast as I could.' When the cop finally stopped laughing, he sent the kid on his way without a ticket.



A truck driver was driving along on the freeway and noticed a sign that read: Low Bridge Ahead. Before he knows it, the bridge is right in front of him and his truck gets wedged under it. Cars are backed up for miles. Finally a police car comes up. The cop gets out of his car and walks to the truck driver, puts his hands on his hips and says, 'Got stuck, huh?' The truck driver says, 'No, I was delivering this bridge and I ran out of gas.'

Contributions by Rafi A. ♣

Jerusalem Rotary Club

Weekly Lunch Meetings are at the YMCA, 26 King David St, Jerusalem Wednesdays at 13:00. The last Wednesday of each month is a dinner meeting at 19:00.

Meetings are conducted in English.

Visiting Rotarians and other guests are welcome.

Luncheon/Dinner costs: NIS 75, students and lone soldiers: NIS 50, children under 18: NIS 30.

For Kosher meals please book in advance. For this and other enquiries please contact us through the Contact section on the website.

Please visit our website:

www.rotaryclubjerusalem.org

Follow the Jerusalem Rotary Club on social media: (Press 'Control' and click on icon to go to site)

