

THE OTHER SIDE OF THE WORLD

Written by Brandon Johnson, our Ambassadorial Scholar.

(continued from last week)

Saturday, July 20, 2008, 15:03

A Trial of Wills - Hua Shan Mountain

Hua Shan Mountain, China

Note: If you're prone to worry about my safety, this entry may not be for you. For those of you who choose to live the experience, do note that I am perfectly safe in this country, and would never do anything to seriously jeopardize my health...

Hua Shan mountain: "The most treacherous and tallest mountain."

Known throughout the Shaanxi province for its grueling hike and

spectacular views. A holy land of Taoist temples, where emperors trekked in the first millennia (the steps they walked on still used today). A photography dream for my father; an invigorating workout for my mother. A trial of will.

My goal: to climb the mountain straight to the highest point. A six-hour trek with a final destination of 1.3 miles in the air, through infinite stairwells narrow a

my body and steep as a ladder. And I decided to do it alone, with a sheet and some clothing as my bedding. It was one of the most grueling physical and mental experiences I have

ever endured. To illustrate the experience, below are some of my experiences from my journal, with the approximate times the events were occurring.

8:00 PM: *I've been hiking for about an hour and a half now. Twenty minutes in, and I was already out of breath. The ascent is so steep — up, up, up — with barely any breaks. Light-headed, legs throbbing, and only a quarter of the way. Interruptions every three minutes as I stop for air. The sun sets behind me, slowly and steadily; then suddenly, darkness. Alone,*

on unknown mountain terrain, a tiny flashlight as my guide, fear creeps in. Keep going.

Every 15 or 20 minutes, another mini food-mart (businesses that second as permanent family homes for the owners) sits awaiting customers. In need of water, I stop at one. I try to use hand signals to converse, but fail miserably. The Chinese family



snickers at whatever the father is saying to me.

I look up. Stars slowly dot the sky. Along the path, sidewalk lanterns speckle the ascent. Encouragement. Trekkers bellow "Wooohh!" into the night, the sound hovering in the darkness. I cusp my mouth and answer: "Wooooohhh!" I smile. Relief. This is solitude.

(continued next week)



REGISTER RECEIPTS

As you shop this holiday season, don't forget to turn in your ACME Register Receipts to Jack Sproul. Thanks for all your support!



Reception Committee		Program	
Date	Chairperson	Greeter	Speaker/Subject
December 11	William Tyson	Jim Thomas	Belschnikel
December 18	Jack Sproul	Evelyn Preising	Penncrest High School Ambassador Choir
December 25	— Christmas — no meeting		
January 1	— New Years Day —no meeting		
January 8	George Albany	Teresa Angarita	Club Assembly
January 15	Lew Beatty	Ed Beadle	Exchange Student Presentation - Monika

The Rotary Club of Media #5492
PO Box 522, Media, PA 19063

CALENDAR OF EVENT

Rotary Board Meetings – Second Tuesday of every month.

The meetings will be held at 12 p.m. at the Towne House.

Media Rotary Foundation Meetings – March 26, May 28, & June 25

The meeting will be held at 1:30 p.m. at the Towne House.

Schedule of Events for Rotary District 7450

Information can be obtained at www.rotary7450.org.

A copy of the Rotary Foundation of Media by-laws, latest Treasurer's report and guidelines for requesting funds are available at <http://www.mediarotary.org/foundation>. A comprehensive list of recipients is also available for your perusal.

Sunshine Committee

Let Lynne Green know about anyone who is ill, has passed away, has gotten married, has had a new baby, etc. Please contact her via email at pgs8@comcast.net.

MEMBERSHIP DATES

Our club board recommends (1) that the 3rd Thursday of each month be Membership Day (with a few minutes to talk about what it's like to be a Rotarian); (2) that the Rotary Information sessions for new members be held each month on the

Thursday following the board meeting (allowing for prospective new members names to be placed in *The Medium* with enough time for the 7-Day Notice); (3) that new member induction day be the 4th Thursday of each month.

District 7450 * Joel Chesney - District Governor * www.rotary7450.org

Rotary Foundation Chair: Russ deFuria, Membership Chair: Bob Lankin,

Group Study Exchange Chair: Karen Straw-Hacker, Vocational Chair:

Charles Streiwieser, Lieutenant Governor: Chuck Killian, Assistant Governors: Tim

Birch, John Washington, **Mollie Shifflet-O'Brien**, Robert Latshaw,

Arthur Klein, Cynthia Lyman, Doreen Storey, Samantha Kranyak-Ramsey and Bonnie Korengel.

Rotary International * Don Kurn Lee - President * www.rotary.org

Club Officers 2008-2009

President - Barbara Laurenzi

President Elect - Ken Delmar

Vice President - Carole McMahon

Secretary - Andy Hunt

Treasurer - Jack Sproul

Sergeant-at-Arms - Ted Pleibel, III

Past President - Nancy Geisel

Board Members

Ed Beadle - Jonathan Becker

Tom Gibson - Tom Gregory

Rosemarie Halt - Jack Hontz

Bryan Messick - Penelope Reed

John Schlesinger

Media Rotary Foundation

PO Box 2028, Media, PA 19063

President - Jackie Woolfall

Vice President - Tom Hibberd

Secretary - Lori Markusfeld

Treasurer - Bob Dimond

Board Members

Bill Davis - Walt Hill

Sally Holub - Bill Strine

Committee Chairs

Club Administration - Tom Gibson

Membership - Pat Kosinski

Public Relations - John Schlesinger

Service Projects - Bryan Messick

Rotary Foundation - Penelope Reed

Gundaker Foundation - Jonathan Becker

Media Foundation Liaison - Nancy Geisel

Program/Vocational - Ken Delmar

Rotary Information - Tony Cavaliere

Social/Sunshine - Lynne Green

Auction - Courtney Ballauer/Jackie Woolfall

Website: www.mediarotary.org

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



The following Rotarians celebrate their birthdays in December. Join me in congratulating them!

- 12/04 Ed Beadle
- 12/10 Lori Markusfeld
- 12/11 Larry Smoose
- 12/17 Linda Stone
- 12/22 Tom Hibberd
- Bryan Messick
- 12/27 Larry Weathers

GREAT ROTARIAN?!

Know someone who would make a great Rotarian? Bring them to a meeting!

Please don't forget to sign in at every meeting!

Replacement Badges - \$10

Replacement Lapel Pins - \$5

Phones must be on vibrate - \$10 charge if they ring.

Rotarians are responsible for all information changes with Courtney Ballauer.

Thank you for your cooperation!



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

DR. WALT HILL

Dr. Walt Hill would love to hear from fellow Rotarians. Call him at 610-544-7155. If you'd like to send him mail, he is at: Presbyterian Village
404 Cheswick Place, Apt 171A
Rosemont, PA 19010

ROTARY EXCHANGE STUDENT

Please welcome our club's Rotary exchange student for the 2008 - 2009 school year, Monica Bautista Sanchez, of Granada, Spain. Monica is 18 years old and enjoys basketball, skiing and reading. Her host family Dr. Betsy Race and Stuart Race and their 3 children live in Upper Providence. If your family would like to include Monica in an family activity or attending an event please call Rosemarie Halt at 610-892-0665 or the Race family directly at 610-565-7990.

DAVE PERGRIN

One of our Honorary Members, Dave Pergrin has been asking about us. If anyone would like to contact him, he would love to hear from fellow Rotarians. His contact information is:
313 Luther Drive
Shrewsbury, Pennsylvania, 17361



CLUB MEMBERS & CLASSIFICATIONS

The Medium
Editor: Courtney Ballauer
610-744-2899
ballauerco@mlhs.org

- George A. Albany, III - Banking, Savings Bank
- Teresa Angarita - Construction Company
- Don Bak - Architect
- Courtney Ballauer - Community Health
- Edward J. Beadle - Dentist
- Lewis B. Beatty, Jr. - Law-Probate
- Jonathan Becker - Estate Attorney
- David L. Belanger - Library Administration
- Joseph S. Bodalski - Financial Consultant
- Mike Boettcher - Surf Shop-Retail Manufacturing
- Valarie Bradley - Real Estate Inspections
- Marcus Brettschneider - Packaging
- Martin Brian - Pharmacist
- Jeffry Cadorette - Property Management
- Anthony Cavaliere - Banking
- George Cristoforidis - Home Health Care Equipment
- Bruce Clark - Municipal Manager
- Jim Clyma - Real Estate-Commercial
- William K. Davis - Community Planner
- Kenneth Delmar - Plastics, Packaging
- Robert L. Dimond - Veterans Affairs

- Robert W. Edmondson -
- Al L. Elko - Accounting-CPA
- Virginia Falkenbach - Computer - Web Design
- Nancy A. Geisel - Real Estate - Sales
- Michael Gibbons - Music Producer
- Tom Gibson - Public Relations
- Ellen Gorby - Salon/Spa
- Lynne L. Green - Realtor Leasing
- Tom H. Gregory - Printing - Quick Copy
- William S. Gross - Retail Men's Clothing
- Karin Gustafson - Advertising/Promotion
- Rosemarie Halt - Pharmacist
- Stanley T. Hibberd - Casualty Insurance
- O. Warren Higgins - Law-Retired
- Walton B. Hill - Education-Technical College
- Sally Holub - Magazine
- John Hontz - Education-Music
- Andrew Hunt - Investment Representative
- Peter E. Irish - Automotive Sales/Leasing
- Eugene L. Kane - Medicine-Optometrist
- Alex E. Karkenny - Stock Broker
- Denise Kerr - School Superintendent
- Reverend Robert Kesel - Clergy-Presbyterian
- Joseph Kleschick - Ship Building
- Terrance A. Kline - Law
- Pat Kosinski - Non Profit Director
- Jim Larsen - In-Home Senior Care
- Barbara Laurenzi - Banking-Business Banking
- Nicholas Lippincott - Law-Litigation
- Peter A. Mardinly - Law-Tax
- Lori Markusfeld - Fundraising
- Carole McMahon - Home Healthcare
- Bryan Messick - Banking
- Dale Moppert - Bank-Retail
- Ted Pleibel, III - Sign Maker
- Evelyn Preising, MA - Non-Profit Director

- Penelope Reed - Theater
- Dennis Rehrig - Med-Chiropractor
- J. Nelson Rigby - Funeral Director
- Martin T. Sarkees, Jr. - Accountant
- George S. Saulnier - Law
- John J. Schlesinger - School Administrator
- Mollie Shiflet - O'Brien - Law-Real Estate
- Dennis Slostad - Architect-Commercial
- Fran Smith - Insurance Consultant
- Jeffrey A. Smith - Borough Manager
- Warren D. Smith - Dental Laboratory
- Larry V. Smoose - Clergy
- Jack Sproul - Laundry-Coin Op
- Robert L. Stahl - Decorator
- Linda E. Stone - Commercial Banking
- William B. Strine - Engineer-Consultant
- James W. Thomas - Springfield Ford, Inc.
- Jay A. Thomas - Automobile-Retail
- Greg Torre - Alarm Service
- William Tyson - Oil Refining
- John D. Vairo - Higher Education Administration
- Lawrence Weathers, III - Auto-Leasing, Sales, Service, Parts
- Bob Wetzel - Higher Education-Development
- Mark Whitehead - Education
- Randolph B. Winton - Money Manager
- Jackie L. Woolfall - Marketing & Public Relations
- Andrea Youndt - Director-YMCA

- Honorary Members:
- Ted Hadley
 - Victor A. Menghetti, Sr - Veterinarian
 - David E. Pergrin
 - Walter Strine, Sr.

DONATIONS

THE ROTARY FOUNDATION

50/50 GIFTS

TO THE VFW

Our active military has requested the following items:

- Coloring Books, Baby Wipes, Crayons, Cotton Balls, Small Safe Toys, Q-Tips, Silly String, Toiletry packets, Tooth Paste, Tooth Brush, Powdered Drinks, Sunglass Inserts, Training Pants, Toilet Tissue (1-ply), Donations, CHOCOLATE

Dear the Rotary Club of Media Members,

At the November 20th club meeting, I gave a presentation about the importance of The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International in our community and our world. Each of you by now should have received a letter from PDG Russ DeFuria and District Annual Giving Chair Bob Edge asking for your support and with instructions about how to make your gift to The Rotary Foundation. If you did not receive that mailing or have any question at all about how to make your contribution, please don't hesitate to contact me.

If you were not at the November 20th meeting, the club Board of Director's and several club Rotarians have made available 20,000 recognition points as a challenge match to your gift to the Rotary Foundation. Each recognition point is equal to a dollar in allowing you to reach your first or your multiple Paul Harris Fellow designation. If you wish to take advantage of that challenge match, please make out your check to The Rotary Foundation and get it to me at the address below. I will fill in the appropriate paperwork for you to transfer the correct number of recognition points to you.

If you have any questions about where you currently stand relative to your giving history with the Foundation let me know.

Thanks in advance for your support of The Rotary Foundation. Millions and millions of children and families in our community and around the globe are counting on you.

Sincerely, Jeff Cadorette, PDG

50/50 gifts for the next 70 weeks were supplied by the following businesses and Rotarians: Conductive Plastics Company, Contemporary Styles, D'Ignazio's Towne House, Franklin Mint Federal Credit Union, Kaos Surfboards, Pinocchio's, PNC Bank, Professional Duplicating, The Little Inn, Vinnie's Place, Wawa

The following Rotarians are responsible for the above gifts: Mike Boettcher, Jeff Cadorette, Ken Delmar, Tom Gregory, Terry Kline, Barb Laurenzi, Bryan Messick, Ted Pleibel, Greg Torre

Please thank them for making our weekly 50/50 more exciting!