

Rotary Review

The Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Plainfield and North Plainfield

Volume 6 Issue 2

August 2006

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

William Parenti	President
Linda Persichino	President-Elect
Addy Bonet	Vice-President
Michael Townley	Secretary
Linda Hawkins-Todman	Treasurer
Thomas Reedy	Sgt. at Arms

DIRECTORS

Paul Casey	Service Projects
Paul Henry	R.I. Foundation
Dave Hollod	Club Administration
Ivan Kosin	Public Relations

Editor - Michael Townley

President, Rotary International WILLIAM B. BOYD

Rotary Club of Pakuranga, New Zealand

"LEAD THE WAY"

Governor, District No. 7510 D. MICHAEL HART

Rotary Club of Fanwood-Scotch Plains

Assistant Governor

LAURA SHREVE

Rotary Club of Bound Brook-Middlesex

CLUB CALENDAR

Beginning soon, we will post the Club Calendar on the website. The Calendar contains Rotary events at the Club, District, and International levels.

We also included holidays, community events (that we are aware of in advance), and benchmarks for the Board of Directors. Even more importantly, the Calendar also lists the program assignments for each week.

Consider following the *RI theme* for the month (shown on the first day of each month) when you arrange for your speaker.

Once you have a speaker, notify Michael so he can prepare the *Certificate of Appreciation*. He will also revise the Calendar for an updated posting on the website.

Please make your program speaker arrangements early so that the Calendar can be accurate and complete.

July 2006
Rotary Club of Plainfield-North Plainfield

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2	3	4 <i>Independence Day</i>	5 <i>Club Assembly Fire Meeting of Year</i>	6	7	8																																																																																																	
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Black = Club Events, Maroon = Board Info/Reminders, Purple = RI, Navy = District, Green = Holidays, Teal = other Info.
Printed on 7/25/2006

What Paul Harris Said...

"Shall we ever understand that the other fellow's necessities should have precedence over our luxuries, our absurdities? If so, then we shall attain the estate of the brotherhood of man."

Paul Harris, Founder of Rotary
Written for *The Rotarian* on the occasion of Rotary's 12th Anniversary - February, 1917

Need more information? Have comments, questions or suggestions? All are welcome. Contact the Editor at 908-822-1441 or at RotaryPNP@comcast.net.

Why I Am A Rotarian

What would life be without Rotary?

In contemplating this I think of all of the wonderful people that I have had the privilege of being associated with through Rotary.

Different cultures in amazing countries, all with the same commitment to give people everywhere a better chance at life.

All of us helping "To build friendships and understanding." I can't think of a better motto than "Service Above Self".

I am so honored to be a Rotarian.

PDG Marcie Schmidt
Nebraska, USA

Rotary Foundation

In order to earn the *RI Presidential Citation*, the Club must achieve certain standards and milestones. One of these is to have each Club member contribute a minimum of \$100 to the Annual Programs Fund.

The Annual Programs Fund supports Foundation programs in 163 countries on seven continents. From digging clean water wells for villages in Africa to teaching basic literacy skills to children in Latin America, all contributions go directly toward service projects.

Paul Henry is coordinating our collection. He has an envelope with him at each meeting. You can give him your contributions weekly, monthly, or quarterly, whichever suits you best.

President Bill kicked off the contribution drive at the July 26 meeting by presenting his \$100 check to Paul. Join him, won't you?

Lead the Way

taken from "The Rotary Membership Minute", Vol. 3, Ed. 1

The following comments from RI President William "Bill" Boyd are taken from a speech he delivered at the 2006 International Assembly.

Around the world, since before any of us here were born, Rotary has been changing lives in too many ways to count. As Rotary leaders, it is our responsibility to ensure that Rotary remains strong and able to help for many years to come.

New Rotarians join our clubs every day. Unfortunately, every day, some of those Rotarians leave. I know you all know this, because it's a message you've heard many times before.

Whenever anybody gets up in front of a room of Rotarians and starts talking about membership, you see a lot of eyes start to glaze over.



The truth is that our time is not best spent talking about how to attract new members. Our time would be far better spent in strengthening our clubs.

Rotary, working properly, is attractive enough to retain existing members and attract new ones.

New Rotarians leave because of poor leadership, cost, and a lack of service opportunities. That's what they tell us.

So I ask all of you to focus on strengthening the clubs in your districts in those three ways:

1. Making sure that there is a strong and effective club administration;
2. That the cost of membership gives good value; and
3. That every club runs a variety of engaging, useful, and productive projects, both in its own community and with partner clubs.

There are so many ways to make Rotary more accessible and more friendly to new members. A meeting doesn't need to involve a hotel meal; breakfast meetings are both more affordable and easier to fit into a busy schedule.

Encourage your club presidents to listen to their members and value their opinions. Encourage your clubs to break out of their established routines and to explore new ideas for projects.

As Rotarians, we are not content to let matters stay the way they have always been, in our clubs or in our communities. We are not content with the status quo, and we do not look at a problem only to say someone else will solve it.

We are the ones who ask why not us? We are the ones with the skills and the desire to build a better future. And we are the ones who must *Lead the Way*.



Who's Who and What's New

Addy Bonet had a very prominent feature article in a recent Sunday edition of the Star Ledger. The article outlined Addy's plan "to strengthen and expand (the) Plainfield Y's mission." Congrats, Addy!

Bill Parenti was featured in an article in the July 23 edition of the Courier News. The article was taken *verbatim* from a press release we submitted about our annual dinner. (If you missed it, see page 4 for complete text).

RI President to Speak at Assembly



RI President Bill Boyd of the Rotary Club of Pakuranga, New Zealand, will be the keynote speaker at the annual, multi-district Vocational Assembly.

Held each year as a joint project of all five New Jersey Rotary districts, the event will be held at the Pines Manor in Edison on October 11.

The Vocational Assembly provides a platform for presenting the Vocational Service Award to one outstanding Rotarian from the entire state.

Mark your calendars and be there with all of your fellow club members at this exciting event.

Four Way Test

Of the things we say and do...

1. Is it the truth?
2. Is it fair to all concerned?
3. Will it build good will and better friendships?
4. Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

Business Card Exchange

Local business owners met to exchange business information on June 21 at the Rock Avenue branch of Valley National Bank.



Co-sponsored by our club, the Chamber of Commerce and Valley National, the event included food and refreshments provided by the bank.

"This was a great opportunity for local businesses to learn about each other's services while learning something about Rotary," said Beverly Howard, then-President of the local Rotary club.

"We have much to offer in the

way of service opportunities for women and men in leadership and management positions in Plainfield and in North Plainfield," said Howard. "This event gave us a chance to speak about those opportunities and share the benefits of Rotary's "Service Above Self" motto."

Nearly thirty representatives of retail, government, banking, and professional service businesses attended the card exchange.



Tracy Robinson receives a digital camera prize, donated by Valley National Bank

JULY 2006

Dictionary Project

We will present a Student Dictionary to every 3rd grader in September. Be ready to help distribute the books.



Chief Parenti New Rotary Club President

Ed. Note - The following is the text of the Courier News article in the July 23 edition.

North Plainfield Police Chief William Parenti was inducted as President of the Rotary Club of Plainfield-North Plainfield at its annual dinner meeting, held on June 29th at Giovanna's Restaurant in Plainfield.

Chief Parenti succeeds Beverly Howard of the Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center, who completed a successful year as Club President and chaired the annual meeting.

Other officers inducted with Chief Parenti were Linda Persichino, President-Elect; Addy Bonet, Vice President; Michael Townley, Secretary; Linda Hawkins-Todman, Treasurer; Thomas Reedy, Sergeant at Arms. In addition, Paul Casey, Paul Henry, Dave Hollod, and Dr. Ivan Kosin were all inducted as directors of the Club.

The dinner was a triple celebration - thanking Ms. Howard and her officers for their year of service, inducting Chief Parenti and his officers for their coming year of service, and thanking all of the people who helped the Club at its various events and projects throughout the past year.

Chief Parenti was sworn in as president by Rotary District 7510 Governor Michael Hart of Westfield, who also took office on July 1. Parenti will lead the club until June 30, 2007 with an emphasis on local community needs and programs serving as the focus of his term.



District Governor Elect Mike Hart presents gavel to Bill Parenti

Ms. Howard highlighted major club achievements and activities, including donations to local programs such as the Plainfield Library's Literacy Project, Project Graduation, and the YMCA Summer Camp; reading to children at Holy Cross Nursery School; co-sponsoring a blood drive at Hartwyck Nursing Home in Plainfield; sponsoring a Business Card Exchange; and providing over \$7,000 for college scholarships to graduating high school students from North Plainfield

and Plainfield.

The Club also held its 79th annual track and field meet for over 200 local middle school students in June. This community service project is the longest-running project of its kind in New Jersey.

The Rotary Club supported international projects, including funding to help Dr. Yede Denis, a dentist and Rotarian from South Plainfield, teach basic dental care in Africa; adopted an Ecuadorian boy and provided funding for his health and educational needs; supplied a water filtration system for a family in Honduras; and contributed to the international programs of the Rotary Foundation, such as the worldwide eradication of poliomyelitis.

The meeting included a special thank you to the many volunteers who assisted the club in fundraising for local and international service projects. "We could not have achieved our successes without your help," said President Howard to the Club's friends as she summarized her year of service.



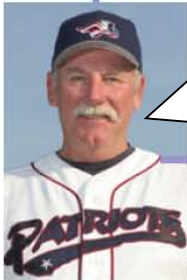
Going away on vacation?

Don't forget about Rotary. You can attend a meeting in any country, state or town. Michael has a book with all meeting places, days and times. And if you do travel, take a bannerette with you to give to your host. See Tom for one.

Jack Townley's Words of Wisdom



"Sometimes, you've just gotta laugh!"



Call Beverly to order your tickets today - she is waiting by her phone! Call 908-668-2628 NOW!!



**Come to a Somerset Patriots
Baseball Game Saturday, Sept.
16 @ 7:05 PM!**



See Sparky Lyle, 1977 Cy Young Award winner and now manager of the Patriots lead his team against the Newark Bears. The game will be followed by a spectacular fireworks display, so bring the family. Reserve your tickets (\$9.50 each) now! Contact Bev Howard - bhoward@solarishs.org

<i>Current Members and Classifications</i>	
Allen, Janice	Child care administration
Alparone, Helena	Banking
Birnbaum, Marilyn	Public education
Bonet, Addy	Social service
Casey, Paul	Youth services
Glock, Jackie	Social service
Griswold, Vicky	Music retail
Hawkins-Todman, Linda	Real estate
Henry, Paul	Financial planning/CPA
Hollod, David	Public administration
Howard, Beverly	Cardiac care
Kosin, Ivan	Chiropractic
Mathews, Robin	Health care administration

<i>Current Members and Classifications</i>	
McNally, Richard	Office machine sales
Mulligan, Patricia	Humanitarian services
Parenti, William	Municipal police service
Persichino, Linda	Banking
Reading, Lori	Continuing care
Reedy, Thomas	Social service
Townley, Michael	Stained and leaded glass
Honorary Members and Former Classifications	
Harvey, William	Clergy - presbyterian
Gindin, William	General law
Herting, Frank	Public education
Perrone, Ralph	Social service
Ridzy, Edward	Mortgage banking

THE FOUR WAY TEST of things we say and do... 1. Is it the truth? 2. Is it Fair to All Concerned? 3. Will it Build Goodwill and Better Friendships? 4. Will it be Beneficial to All Concerned?



The Rotary Review

**Rotary Club of Plainfield/North Plainfield
165 Palmer Avenue
South Plainfield, NJ 07080-2223**

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