

Rotary Review

The Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Plainfield and North Plainfield

Volume 6 Issue 4

December 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 Westfield

Assistant Governor

LAURA SHREVE

Rotary Club of Bound Brook-Middlesex

RUTGERS BASKETBALL



Club members and friends are ready for the crowd at the Rutgers v. Jackson State game. This crew took care of Booth #2, while others staffed Booth #1, the popcorn stand, and the sausage & pepper cart.

Our 2006-2007 Rutgers basketball season began with a fine effort by everyone who helped out at the Louis Brown Athletic Center on November 21.

Despite a fairly low turnout of fans, the Club managed to earn approximately \$700 for the evening’s work. (We are waiting for confirmation of gross receipts by Rutgers staff before a “final” figure can be calculated.)

Thirteen Club members and eleven friends and family pitched in for the first of our three basketball concession stand fundraisers.

This game was a good warm-up for the two remaining games, since both of those will be (or already are) sell-outs.

See *Coming Soon* for dates of the next games.

What Paul Harris Said...

The foundation upon which Rotary is built is friendship; on no less firm foundation could it have stood.

*Paul Harris
Founder of Rotary*

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

My observation is that membership growth is easy. The difficulty is retaining members.

I decided to list some of the reasons that I have stayed in Rotary for 18 years.

Here is my short list.

- Fellowship was my original motivation. I wanted to belong to something and associate with people other than just those in my church and professional associations. This is still a big deal for me.

- Without Rotary, I could not ever get to meet, and in many cases become friends with, this many quality people.

- I like being involved in service programs. Alone, I could never have the kind of impact that we have as a "body of Rotarians".

- I find a quiet satisfaction in lighting up

someone else's life, in being part of building a park, funding a medical clinic, providing clean bedding for orphans in an orphanage in Mexico, or helping reforest thousands of acres with trees.

- It is a rush to attend the District Conference and Rotary International's Convention. I know Rotarians all over the world.

- By volunteering and staying involved I keep up my interest in Rotary and in life.

- Rotary volunteer opportunities have helped me grow in personal skills such as public speaking; and leadership.

- Rotary gives me a sense of purpose and greater meaning to my life.

Some fail to understand my last statement. A man named Ernst Becker wrote a book back in the 70's. His thoughts parallel my thoughts on part of what Rotary gives back to me.

Let me paraphrase him:
Men and Women want to know that their life has somehow counted, if not for themselves, then at least in a larger scheme of things, that their life has left a trace; a

trace that has meaning.

And in order for anything once alive to have meaning, its effects must remain alive in eternity in some way.

Rotary is one of my vehicles for me to "leave a trace".

My life will "somehow have counted" and will continue to count for generations to come through Rotary.

I like that, it has an appealing ring.

George M. Yeiter
 Past District Governor
 2003-04 District 5890

Think you're having a Bad Day????

Joanne came home to find her husband Peter in the kitchen shaking frantically, almost in a dancing frenzy, with some kind of wire running from his waist towards the electric kettle.

Intending to jolt him away from the deadly current, she whacked him with a handy plank of wood, breaking his arm in two places.

Up to that moment, he had been happily listening to his Walkman.





Who's Who and What's New

Paul Casey resigns from Club...

Citing pressing responsibilities, and having thoroughly evaluated his options, Paul reluctantly resigned as of 11/30.

"I wish all of you all the luck in the world and I look forward to continue my relationship with each and every one of you. Good luck with all of your work."

Paul offered to assist in our projects as he may be available.

Good luck to you, Paul! We will all miss you.

Vocational Assembly

President Bill, Linda Persichino and Michael Townley attended the annual, multi-district Vocational Assembly. The event was held at the Pines Manor in Edison on October 11.

More than 300 Rotarians listened to an informative talk by Lee Mathews, the director of the Job Corps facility in Edison. He spoke of the many programs available as vocational training, including culinary services, computers, and trade skills.

He then treated the crowd to a presentation by the Job Corps Choir who, after only weeks of preparation, brought the audience to its feet for a standing ovation.

Mary Prevette, former state assemblywoman and former administrator of the Camden County Youth Center, spoke of the problems faced by inner-city youth in identifying and then achieving their goals.

The keynote address was given by RI President Bill Boyd, a Rotarian since 1971 and a member of the Rotary Club of Pakuranga, New Zealand.

President Bill spoke of his earnest belief that Rotarians "lead the way" all over the world, making it a better place, and shared some of his remembrances from traveling as Rotary's representative.

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?

Visitors from South America

Club members attending two separate meetings in October were treated to visits by Rotarians from South America.

Ingo Oscar Seitz (pictured in sweater at the right) came to our meeting on October 18th. He was in the country to attend a family wedding, and was staying with his sister in Plainfield.

The following week, Ingo brought his brother Udo along with him for another make-up.

The Seitz brothers live in

Brazil, approximately ten hours away from each other. They spoke English, and also speak German and Portuguese.

Linda Persichino exchanged Club banners with the brothers.



2006 10 20

- Rutgers Basketball**
- Game #1** - Completed
 - Game #2** - Men v. Georgetown - January 17 (no Club meeting that day)
 - Game #3** - Women v. UConn - February 26.

Dictionary Project

Distribution to 3rd graders at Plainfield elementary schools is nearly complete - only five schools remain to be scheduled. Be ready to pitch in when the call comes.

From the Editor:

Due to family obligations, I was unable to put out the newsletters in October and November. I apologize for the interruption, but am now back on track for regular publication.

Recent Meeting Program Summaries

Durable Power of Attorney

John Wood Goldsack, Esq., an attorney with a practice in North Plainfield, spoke at a recent meeting about the necessity for having a *power of attorney*.

John, a former Rotarian from this Club, explained that the durable power of attorney helps assure that the person's affairs will be controlled by a known person, rather than one appointed by the state.

John indicated that it is a good practice to update the power of attorney every five years or so, just to make sure that the person named is still your choice, is able to perform, and still agrees to serve in that capacity.

In conjunction with the power of attorney, John also recommended having a living will.

Through this document, the signer designates a person who will make decisions in case the signer is incapacitated. There are various limits that can be set on the authority of the decision-maker *vis a vis* the extent and nature of the incapacity.

According to John, you should designate whomever you choose, and the medical service provider must accept that designation.

DuCret School of Art

An interesting program that outlined the programs and history of the DuCret School was presented by its director, Frank Falotico.

In keeping with its tradition, the School brings to the classroom some of the best artists, illustrators, and designers in the area.

In 1980, the School sponsored its first annual New Jersey High School Student Art Show. The objective of

this exhibit was to showcase the work of New Jersey's high school students. Over the past 20-plus years the duCret School has exhibited the art of over 7,000 students representing 125 New Jersey high schools.

Founded in 1926, the DuCret School was housed in several locations over the years. In 1977, it moved to its current location, 1030 Central Avenue in Plainfield, the former home of the Wardlaw School.

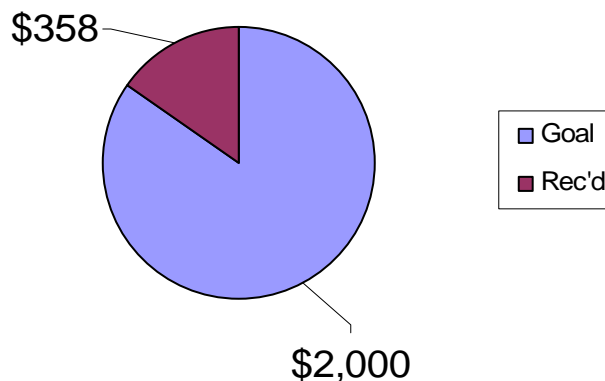
Rotary Foundation

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 chart shows the Club's progress toward reaching our goal of \$2,000.

Please get your contributions to Paul Henry soon - cash or checks accepted. We've got a long way to go to reach our goal.

Rotary Foundation



Calendar

Don't forget to check the website for your speaker assignments. December and January assignments are listed on the next page.

One source for speakers is the local papers; the local section of the *Courier News*, for one. Another source is the District list in the Members Area on the website (www.RotaryPNP.org). Remember - speakers are potential members, so give some thought to your choices.

YMCA Dinner

Thanks to the efforts of Tom Reedy, the Club offered a hot meal to shelter residents at the YMCA in Plainfield.

Cooking baked ziti, Trish Mulligan and Helena Alparone's mom prepared the main dish while Janet and Michael Townley prepared meatballs, Linda Persichino brought the salad, Beverly Howard the bread and butter, Tom Reedy the soft drinks, and Ivan Kosin and Paul Casey the desserts.



Bev Howard, Linda Persichino, Michael Townley and Helena Alparone serve approximately 40 dinners at the YMCA on October 30th. Addy Bonet was also there, but not pictured.

Everyone enjoyed spending a little time with the temporary residents at the Y, who expressed their appreciation with both a spontaneous prayer and by their applause.

After the residents and some staff were served, Club members sat down for dinner, too.

The Board of Directors has approved a recommendation to offer dinner 4 times a year. A schedule will be developed and announced soon. Be ready for the next event - it was great fun!

Membership

The focus was on membership at the December Club Assembly. President Bill reminded everyone that Paul Casey has recently resigned, bringing our number down to twenty.

He also pointed out that membership declines occur throughout Rotary, with most Clubs in our district suffering a net loss of one member over the year.

We can lament the decline, or we can do something about it. As we pointed out in one of our recent newsletters, most of the members in the Club were brought in by only a few of us.

Each of us has an obligation to sustain the health of the Club by infusing the new thoughts, ideas, wisdom and energy that comes from new members.

Where do these members come from? - they are your friends, business contacts, acquaintances. People who live or work in or around Plainfield and North Plainfield.

We discussed opportunities for seeking out new members, including putting together a *classification survey*. This is simply a list of businesses in our communities and comparing to open classifications in our Club.

Classification? what's that, you ask. You are a member of Rotary based on the work that you do, not the job that you hold. For example, President Bill is a member representing municipal police, not because he is the chief of police.

Why the distinction? Using

a broad classification system enables us to have more than one member representing a business or profession. It keeps any club from becoming exclusive, i.e., when the only people who can join hold specific job titles.

We have plenty of opportunities for new members if we ask our friends and the business associates around us. Who services your business? Who are your peers? Who provides your office machines? What about your accountant, your physician, your minister or rabbi?

We all need to work on building up our membership so we can continue to provide *Service Above Self*.

Dec/Jan Meeting Schedule

- ◇ **Dec. 6** - Club Assembly
- ◇ **Dec. 13** - Paul Henry responsible for speaker.
- ◇ **Dec. 20** - _____ responsible for speaker.
- ◇ **Dec. 27** - No Meeting
- ◇ **Jan. 3** - Club Assembly
- ◇ **Jan. 10** - Carolyn Currey on "Paws for People"
- ◇ **Jan. 17** - No Meeting - Rutgers Basketball
- ◇ **Jan. 24** - Addy Bonet responsible for speaker.
- ◇ **Jan. 31** - Marilyn Birnbaum responsible for speaker.

<i>Current Members and Classifications</i>	
Allen, Janice	Child care administration
Alparone, Helena	Banking
Birnbaum, Marilyn	Public education
Bonet, Addy	Social service
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
Manning, Denise	Medical support education
Mathews, Robin	Health care administration
McNally, Richard	Office machine sales

<i>Current Members and Classifications</i>	
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 1. Is it the truth? 2. Is it Fair to All Concerned? 3. Will it Build Goodwill
of things we say and do... 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**

Place
Stamp
Here

Inside This Issue

- ◇ *Rutgers Fundraiser*
 - ◇ *Membership*
 - ◇ *Recent Meeting Summaries*
 - ◇ *Up-Coming Meeting Schedule*
 - ◇ *What Paul Harris Said...*
 - ◇ *Why I am a Rotarian*
-