

Rotary Review

The Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Plainfield and North Plainfield

Volume 6 Issue 5

January 2007

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OFFICERS

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Linda Persichino	President-Elect
Addy Bonet	Vice-President
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Linda Hawkins-Todman	Treasurer
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Paul Henry	R.I. Foundation
Dave Hollod	Club Administration
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Editor - Michael Townley

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Rotary Club of Pakuranga, New Zealand

“LEAD THE WAY”

Governor, District No. 7510

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Rotary Club of Westfield

Assistant Governor

LAURA SHREVE

Rotary Club of Bound Brook-Middlesex

HOLIDAY GREETINGS!



CARLOS SANTANA (RIGHT)

**SEASON'S GREETINGS
THANK YOU FOR CARING
SAN PABLO, ECUADOR 2006**

Our friend from Ecuador, Carlos Santana and his brother send holiday greetings. Both boys suffer from a serious skin condition. They are wearing their school uniforms, which we helped purchase.

Basketball Alert!!!

We are still short help for the January 17 game! If you are coming and can bring help, please call Michael at 822-1441 or send him an email at mtownley@comcast.net

Once again the Club has contributed to the Rotary Homes of Hope's "Sponsor Me" program. The Homes of Hope is a project of District 7510 and originated at the Rotary Club of Branchburg.

Our contribution of \$420 is enough to give our friend Carlos Santana two medical exams each year, a dental exam and treatment, uniforms to wear to school, attendance at school, and a

nourishing meal while there.

This is just one of the international service projects that we support. But in this case, calling it a "project" is not quite accurate.

Here, we are helping a young boy get an education in a healthy environment, improving his chances for success and long term good health at the same time.

What a joy it is to be able to help fill this need.

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

I joined Rotary in 1971 to get away from medicine for an hour and a half a week.

Up to that point in my life everything had centered on my profession as a physician and orthopedic surgeon, including my friends and my social life.

Rotary opened up a new world of friendships, with business and professional men and now women from all walks of life.

These individuals were men and women of integrity and compassion who were the leading citizens in my community.

They soon became the people I turned to for advice and assistance in my world outside of medicine.

Through Rotary I also became more involved with service to the less fortunate in my community.

After serving as a club president and a district governor, my circle of Rotary friends then extended far beyond my community to communities throughout California, the western United States and eventually the world.

Rotary then gave me the opportunity to use my professional skills to serve the Rotary Foundation as a technical advisor to the 3-H program in the area of health, and to serve as a medical officer at



International Assemblies.

With the help of Rotarians in my club, my district and The Rotary Foundation I was able to develop a prosthetic/orthotic clinic in Santa Ana, El Salvador (population 500,000).

They previously did not have a facility to make artificial limbs and braces for the medically indigent in that community.

Rotary has enriched my life in ways that I could not have imagined 35 years ago when I attended my first Rotary meeting.

That is why I am a Rotarian.

Michael W. Abdalla, MD
Trustee of The Rotary Foundation,
2004-2007
Rotary Club of Orange, California
D-5320



SERVICE Above Self

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

The average cost of rehabilitating a seal after the Exxon Valdez Oil spill in Alaska was \$ 80,000.00.

At a special ceremony, two of the most expensively saved animals were being released back into the wild amid cheers and applause from onlookers.

A minute later, in full view of those spectators, a killer whale ate them both.

Wish Book

If you were asked to tell what one thing would make you happy this holiday season, what would that be? We all have wants and desires, but we are also fortunate in that our wants and desires are not for basic needs.

Such is not the case for many people in our area. Each year, the *Courier News* publishes lists of "wishes" from people in need in our area.

These wishes are submitted by agencies from the area who recommend those who have the greatest needs. This year, our Club again supported our neighbors through this worthy program.

A \$200 donation was submitted to assist a single mother in Plainfield who asked for a bedroom set. Struggling to make ends meet, she has a new job and a new apartment for herself and beds for her two children, but no bed to sleep on herself.

A smaller gift of \$50 was given to provide a winter coat for a resident at the ARC group home on Terrill Road in Plainfield. And a \$25 gift satisfied the wish of another resident of the ARC home for puzzles to help pass the time.

The collection by the *Courier News* netted just over \$14,700 and satisfied the eleven major "wishes" of this year's program, plus four others of lesser cost.

Since 1990, the *Courier News* Wish Book has fulfilled some 378 requests and raised \$333,350.





Who's Who and What's New

Linda Hawkins-Todman is taking an extended "vacation" in Aruba. She will be there for the next three months, trying out living there for more than her usual two-week stints.

Linda Persichino is having an operation on her knee this month, and will be laid up for a while. She will be recuperating at home, with Becky stopping by frequently for nursing duties.

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?

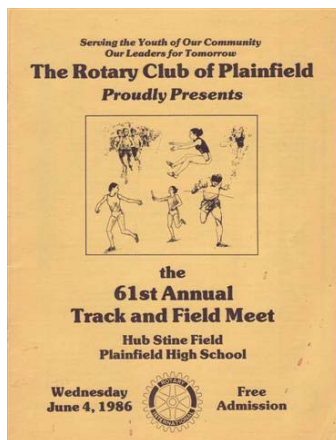
Track Meet Ad Journal

For a number of years, the Club published a commemorative program booklet for the Annual Track and Field Meet.

One of the members at that time was Bill Boise, owner of Boise Stationers and Boise Printing of Plainfield. The Club paid little (if anything) for the publishing.

The program booklet was full-size (11 by 17 when opened) and was distributed at the Track Meet to spectators, given to the participating schools, and to the advertisers.

The last year that the journal was published, the club raised approximately \$ 3,900. There were 13 full page ads, 19 half-page, 26 quarter-page, and the back cover.



A few years back, we had a smaller booklet that included ads

from members' businesses'. These booklets raised about \$500.

This year, the Board of Directors decided to renew the more detailed publication, only on a slightly smaller scale. We will



publish the new, color version in-house. It will be 8.5" by 11" when opened flat.

The layout and appearance will be very much like the

original, with ad space available as follows:

- Full page..... \$100
- Half page \$75
- Quarter page..... \$40
- Back cover..... \$150

Each member was given a copy of the sample booklet, the ad contract, and two "What is Rotary?" cards.

The Board anticipates that enough ads will be sold to cover the \$1200 +/- cost of the Track and Field Meet.

All sales must be turned in no later than 4/15/07, earlier if possible, to Robin Mathews (732-321-7000, x 61506) or to Michael Townley (908-227-6782).

Jack Townley's Words of Wisdom



After our nightly reading at bedtime, Jack asked Janet and me "So, what did you guys do in your heyday?" (He remembered this expression from the movie "Cars") We told him our heyday is

JANUARY 2007

Rutgers Basketball

Game #1 - Completed - earned \$787.50

Game #2 - Men v. Georgetown - January 17 (no Club meeting that day)

Game #3 - Women v. UConn - February 26.

YMCA Shelter Dinners


The Board of Directors approved a plan to offer meals at the YMCA once each quarter in 2007.

Addy Bonet is working up a proposed schedule with Ronnie Taylor at the Y.

Recent Meeting Program Summary

Plainfield Area YMCA
Residential Alternative Program
RAP
Raising Amazing People

Share your knowledge and strengths with a child, become a **RAP** resource parent



We build strong kids, strong families, strong communities

PHONE: 908-756-6060
 www.PlainfieldY.org

Stacey Reh, Director of Contract Services, spoke at the December 20th meeting. She was invited to speak by Ivan Kosin.

Stacey is responsible for managing the YMCA's foster care program.

Under contract with the

Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS), the Y solicits potential foster care families for children of all age groups.

Stacey told the Club that the hardest to place children are those in their teens. The Y has two families that only take teenagers, so that helps.

The Y has a total of four families providing foster care, and is always looking for more.

"My goal is to have ten families in our program by the end of 2007", said Stacey.

In addition to recruitment, the program staff also provides the mandatory training required by DYFS, and then follow-up support services.

Editor's Note: Tom Reedy's agency, United Family & Children's Society, is also under contract to DYFS to help provide foster families for those in need.

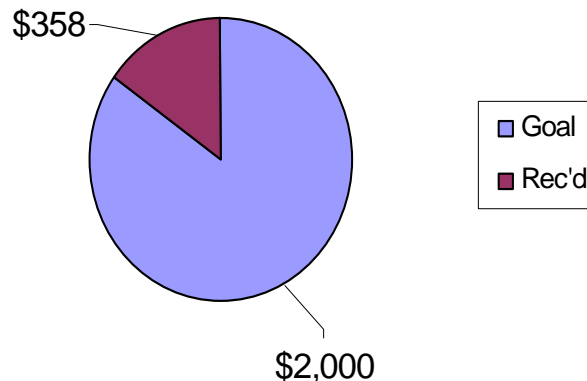
Rotary Foundation

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 Dinners

As mentioned in the "Coming Soon" section, the Club will be offering a hot meal to shelter residents at the YMCA in Plainfield each quarter in 2007.

Our first meal was such a great success that the Board of Directors adopted this as an ongoing project for the second half of President Bill's term and the first half of President-Elect Linda's term.



Tender, juicy chicken strips from Kentucky Fried Chicken..

The Board discussed meal planning, and will follow-up on a suggestion that we partner with the local Kentucky Fried Chicken outlets.

With three franchises in our two communities (on Somerset Street in North Plainfield, and on South Avenue and on West Seventh Street in Plainfield), the idea is to ask each restaurant to supply ten to fifteen meals for each quarter.

Club members would pick up the meals, provide desserts, serve the food, and socialize with the residents.

Interact Club

Interact is RI's service club for young people ages 14-18. Interact clubs are sponsored by individual Rotary clubs, which provide support and guidance, but Interact clubs are self-governing and self-supporting.

Club membership can be drawn from the student body of a single school or from two or more schools.

Each year, Interact clubs complete at least two community service projects, one of which furthers international understanding and goodwill.

As one of the fastest-growing programs of Rotary service, with more than 10,700 clubs in 109 countries and geographical areas, Interact has become a worldwide phenomenon.

The first Interact Club that we sponsored was at Plainfield High School, followed shortly thereafter by the North Plainfield club.

Unfortunately, the club at Plainfield High has been dormant for a couple of years, after the last advisor left the district.

But fortunately for us and the community, the North Plainfield club has remained active, although out of touch with our own club. We aim to rectify this, but we need a club member to serve as liaison to the Interact Club.

Amy Six, a teacher at the high school, is the Interact advisor at NPHS. She recently reported that the Interact Club meets each Wednesday afternoon after school, and is active in the community.

Current or recent projects include the following:

- ◇ Holiday Penny Drive - the

money collected will be used to purchase gifts for Children's Specialized Hospital.

- ◇ Meet with residents at Greenbrook Manor Nursing Home on Tuesday evenings for games and activities - begins 12/12/06
- ◇ Assisted the NPHS Student council with a Blood Drive on November 30.
- ◇ Bagging food and translating at the NP Food bank on the last two Saturdays of December (and will continue at the food bank throughout 2007.)

If you would like to volunteer as Interact liaison, meeting once a month with the Interact Club, please call President Bill today. You will receive credit as a "make up" for a missed Club meeting.

Jan/Feb Meeting Schedule

- ◇ **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.
- ◇ **Feb. 7** - Club Assembly
- ◇ **Feb. 14** - Helena Alparone responsible for speaker
- ◇ **Feb. 21** - Janice responsible for speaker
- ◇ **Feb. 28** - Bev Howard 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

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