

Rotary Review

The Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Plainfield and North Plainfield

Volume 6 Issue 7

March 2007

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

Dave Hollod.....	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

BOARD APPROVES FORMING NON-PROFIT CORPORATION

Board of Directors Approves Filing Articles of Incorporation for Rotary Plainfield-North Plainfield, Inc.

Fundraising by our club will take a new turn soon, thanks to the efforts of the Board of Directors.

At its regular monthly meeting on February 28, the Board approved the filing of “Articles of Incorporation” for the new, non-profit arm of the club, *Rotary Plainfield-North Plainfield, Inc.*

The new corporation takes the place of the *Community Scholarship Fund - Rotary Club of Plainfield, Inc.*, the original club-based corporation that had scholarship fundraising as its responsibility. It is this corporation (operating as a committee) that has handled the Adele DeLeeuw Scholarship for the Plainfield Foundation since the late 1980’s.

While the old corporation was established in our Club by-laws back in the 1980’s, investigation revealed that it had never been registered with the State of New Jersey. The Board also could not locate any of the incorporating documents, and decided to proceed

with forming a new corporation in its place.

At the same time, the Board decided that the new corporation should not be limited to scholarship activity only, but rather provide us with a fundraising vehicle for all types of charitable and educational needs, as may be permitted by the Internal Revenue Service for organizations exempt from income taxes under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Initially, the corporation will be used to help raise additional money for our scholarship program. Other fundraising activities will also be possible through the corporation’s non-profit status, after it receives exemption from income tax.

Once the Board approved the *Articles of Incorporation* and *By-Laws*, the second step was for the trustees to adopt the Articles of Incorporation and the By-laws. This was done on February 28, also.

Rotary PNP, Inc. trustees are the same as those serving under the old corporation, and include Michael Townley, Chairman; Victoria Griswold; Paul Henry; Dave Hollod, and Beverly Howard.

(Continued on page 2)

What Paul Harris Said...

“Rotary is good for you, my friends. To the ill, it says, ‘Take up thy bed and walk.’ Rotary prolongs the life of hundreds of thousands of (people); Rotary makes for health and happiness.”

Paul Harris, Founder of Rotary
Message to the 1946 Rotary Convention in Atlantic City

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 father-in-law, a past president of one of Rotary's largest clubs, gave me my first opportunity to experience a Rotary meeting.

As a young naval officer I was not a candidate for membership, but visiting the Rotary Club of Austin left a lasting impression.

My wife's father was not only a man whom I respected and admired, he measured up to the public scrutiny of a high visibility job. He was one of the most highly respected men in his community.

When I realized how much he valued Rotary, I knew it had to be a very special organization.

By the time I came ashore at the end of a long naval career my father-in-law had passed on, but one day a neighbor invited me to a club luncheon –



an invitation I accepted without hesitation.

“Service Above Self” and the “4-Way Test” gave me a course to steer in my second career as an educator and later as a businessman. Rotary has also given me the best friends anyone could ever hope to have.

PDG Jack Mayo
Rotary Club of Austin,
Texas D-5870



SERVICE Above Self

Scholarship Chair Needed for PHS

We are getting near “crunch time” for the two scholarship committees.

Most of the fundraising work has been done, and we now need to work on seeing that it is properly distributed to the deserving students.

President Bill has volunteered to chair the North Plainfield High Scholarship Committee, but we still need a chairperson for Plainfield High School.

Step up and be counted as a leader in your Club. Volunteer to chair this important committee.

RotaryPNP, Inc.

(Continued from page 1)

Each of the trustees serves a five-year term.

The *Articles of Incorporation* were signed by Michael and Beverly and were mailed to the State of New Jersey on Friday, March 2. Upon receipt of their affirmation of filing, the Trustees will be ready to tackle the IRS.

The *Application for Recognition of Exemption* (Form 1023) of the IRS has been fully developed and vetted by the Board of Directors and by the Trustees of the corporation. It includes a *Narrative Description*, along with a number of other attachments.

The application and the attachments were thoroughly reviewed by Paul Henry, who is an *Enrolled Agent*. This means that he is licensed by the federal government, has technical expertise in the field of taxation, and is authorized to represent taxpayers before all administrative levels of the IRS. We feel confident that, with Paul's help, we have put together a good package for the IRS.

After we receive the anticipated 501(c)(3) designation, we will submit appropriate forms to the State of New Jersey to obtain exemption from the state sales tax. This will apply only to purchases made by the Trustees, and not for general club expenses.

With Paul's advice, we will set up the necessary accounts, both internal and external, to properly separate the Club income and expense from the corporation. But that will not happen until we hear the good news from the IRS.



Who's Who and What's New

Linda Hawkins-Todman is available by email while in Aruba. She is at dltodman@aol.com. Linda reports that she is doing well and asked for a club banner to present to a Rotary club in Aruba.

Linda Persichino is recuperating from her knee operation. She is back at work and doing great.

Denise Manning has resigned from the Club. Denise was only with us for about six months when her employer closed their business. We wish her luck.

Track Meet

The Annual Track and Field Meet will be held on June 6 from Noon until 4 PM at the Hub Stine Athletic Field. Every member is expected to help - it is vitally needed to assure success!

This is our biggest youth service project of the year, and has been so for 80 years. Over 250 kids register for this Meet, some participating in an organized meet for the first time.

Our Program and Ad Journal will help off-set the \$1200 cost of the Meet, but only if you sell your ads. We have received five ad contracts and two more are promised, for a total of \$295. All sales must be turned in no later than 4/15/07.

Editorial

The recent resignation of our newest member, Denise Manning, brings our club's total membership down to nineteen. This is the least number of members our Club has ever had.

In part, this is due to the general malaise among businesses toward service in the community. In part, it is due to insufficient effort by all of us to recruit new members.

Every member of this Club should have brought in more than one new member by now. Many have brought in none. Reminds one of Churchill's famous line - **Never was so much owed by so many to so few**. It's time to turn that around, don't you think?

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?

District 7510 Events/News

◇ March is [Rotary Literacy Month](#) – Clubs and the District will focus on literacy in their service projects in March. Also of note...

March 16, 17, 18	RYLA Weekend (2 NPHS students will attend)
March 24th	Presidents Elect Training II- RVCC
April 2 nd	GSE Team Arrives from Greece
April 4, Wed	Intercity Meeting with GSE at Snuffy's
April 27, 28, 29	Baltimore District Conference (Linda P. and Bev Howard will attend)
May 16 th , Wed	District Assembly, Holiday Inn, Somerset
June 17- 21	Salt Lake City International Convention
June 21, 2007	Homes of Hope Team travels to Ecuador

2007-2008
YMCA

Blood Drive - Addy Bonet will chair the drive at the YMCA. More to come...

YMCA Shelter Dinner - Next dinner is Monday, March 19 - co-chairs Linda P. and Beverly will be looking for help - don't make them

look too far. It only takes an hour or so - easy and fun!

Rutgers Lacrosse - Next up for fundraising activity is a double-header of lacrosse games at Rutgers on June 9 - mark the date NOW! We need the money for scholarships.

Jack Townley's Words of Wisdom



"Sometimes, when I see other kids parents, I'm really glad for the ones I have."

Recent Meeting Program Summaries

VERMEULE PLACE



THE VERMEULE YEARS

Vermeule Place, at the corner of Greenbrook Road and Clinton Avenue in North Plainfield, New Jersey is a uniquely historic site and is today the center of much of the area's cultural and recreational activities.

In 1976, the Borough of North Plainfield purchased the park-like property from the Brunson Estate and has continued to develop the property for the benefit of all the area's residents.

As a result, Vermeule Place and its stately centerpiece, Vermeule Mansion (dating from 1806), is North Plainfield's modern and yet historical "Cultural Homestead," nurturing fine arts, crafts, and cultural activities on all levels for everyone.

Bob Hitchcock, a councilman in North Plainfield and President of the Friends of Vermeule, Inc.,

gave a presentation to the Club on the Vermeule Mansion in North Plainfield.

Located on Greenbrook Road and Clinton Avenue, this property was preserved through the efforts of the residents of North Plainfield and the Borough itself.

Restoration work is underway, and will take some time to complete. Working in stages, the Friends of Vermeule have secured the outside, with a new roof and other repairs, and are working room-by-room through the

inside.

The goal is to refurbish the interior and make the second and third floor spaces available for rent, such as to local artists.

The Vermeule Mansion includes the *Fleetwood Museum of Art and Photographica* on the first floor. This museum includes many different cameras and paintings donated to the Borough by Benjamin Fleetwood in 1985. The museum is open Saturdays from 10 AM to 4 PM.

Miss Union County Visits Club

Jennifer Costa, the reigning Miss Union County was our guest speaker on Wednesday, February 28th. Jennifer is completing her reign at the end of March.

Jennifer was selected as Miss Union County in 2005, and continued her reign in 2006. Her formal schooling was in diplomacy and international relations, in which she earned a masters degree.

After finishing her schooling, Jennifer worked in Lisbon, Portugal and later at the United Nations, representing Portugal.

Her platform as Miss Union County was to encourage kids to become oriented toward service

at an early age. She belongs to 12 service organizations.

Jennifer was a "Leo", a youth member of the Lions Club, and was recognized by Edison Rotary as an *Outstanding Student of the Month* in 1999.



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.

Rutger\$

The results are in, and our annual Rutgers Basketball Fundraiser was a success again!

Despite working with a handicap of having only three games (we asked for four), the Club still managed to earn \$2,870 toward our scholarship program's needs.

We began the season with a men's game versus Jackson State University. This November game was a "tune up" for the Big East games coming later in the season.

With only a small crowd, we brought in \$802.50 by staffing two booths instead of one. The number of groups working at each game is set by Rutgers - when they don't expect a big crowd, two groups each get two booths. For the busy games, then three groups are brought in to cover the same four booths.

The second game was a men's

game also, but this time it was against a Big East opponent. The January 16 game versus Georgetown was a great success.

Working at Booth #1, which is the busiest of the four booths, we struggled to keep up with the crowd of customers, most of whom were loyal, RU fans.

Booth #1 is on the home team side of the arena, and it shows. Scarlet was the dominant color as customers lined fifteen deep to get served at our Booth.

Similarly, the rolling carts were busy also. For this game, we had an ice cream cart, a small popcorn cart, and a roast beef sandwich cart near the Booth, plus the main popcorn cart and a sausage and pepper sandwich cart at the front of the Arena.

Fortunately for us, our friends from the Boys and Girls Club, Muhlenberg, and PNC Bank helped out that evening, and we were able to staff all positions without any trouble.



The final game was also busy, with the women playing arch-rival UConn. However, we were unable to get the #1 Booth, and our profits suffered. On the visitors' side, we only managed to earn \$760, despite the valiant efforts of our Interact Club friends who staffed all of the carts and some of the Booth positions as well.

We nearly reached our goal of \$3,000, but will have a chance to make it at a lacrosse double-header on June 9th. More on that later.

Meanwhile, our special thanks to all our friends who helped out at each of the games. We could not have succeeded without their hard work. So please, extend a sincere "thank you" to your relatives, co-workers, friends and Interactors. We needed them and they came through for us again.

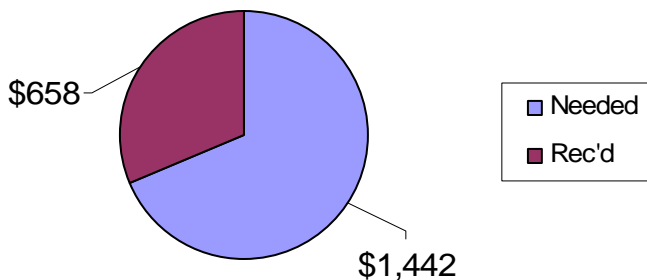
Rotary Foundation

The Club is slowly creeping toward reaching a contribution goal of \$100 per member for the Annual

Programs Fund.

Please get your contribution (whatever the amount) to Paul Henry or Michael Townley soon!

Rotary Foundation Goal - \$2,000



Note: More information about the programs and achievements of the Foundation can be found at <http://www.rotaryfirst100.org/foundation/newsletter/index.htm>. Click on the "Mar. 1" listing to read the latest newsletter.

March/April Meeting Schedule

- ◇ **Mar. 7 - Read Across America at Holy Cross**
- ◇ **Mar. 14** - Ivan is responsible for the speaker
- ◇ **March 21** - Dave is responsible for the speaker
- ◇ **March 28** - Robin is responsible for the speaker; also a Board Meeting
- ◇ **April 4 - InterCity Meeting at Snuffy's**
- ◇ **April 11** - Linda H-T is responsible for the speaker.
- ◇ **April 18** - Trish is responsible for the speaker.
- ◇ **April 25** - Vicky is responsible for the 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
Mathews, Robin	Health care administration
McNally, Richard	Office machine sales
Mulligan, Patricia	Humanitarian services

<i>Current Members and Classifications</i>	
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

- ◇ *New Non-Profit Corporation*
 - ◇ *District Events*
 - ◇ *Recent Meeting Summary*
 - ◇ *Why I am a Rotarian*
 - ◇ *Rutgers Basketball Concludes*
 - ◇ *Up-Coming Meeting Schedule*
-