

Rotary Review

The Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Plainfield and North Plainfield

Volume 7 Issue 3

September 2007

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OFFICERS

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Rotary Club of New Brunswick

NEW MEMBER PROTOCOLS

Who do You Ask? How? What Happens Next?

An important distinction between Rotary and other organizations is that membership in Rotary is by invitation. Rotary clubs invite individuals to join and become members.

Membership is vital to a Rotary club's operations and community service activities. A primary goal of the club is to continually expand the club with committed members who have the interest and ability to get involved in service and humanitarian projects. Prospective members must:

- hold — or be retired from — a professional, proprietary, executive, or managerial position;
- have the capacity to meet the club's weekly attendance or community project participation requirements;
- live or work within the locality of the club or the surrounding area.
- people with good reputations in the community who have demonstrated a commitment to service and the Object of Rotary through personal involvement in local affairs

Classifications: professional representation

Rotary uses a classification system to establish and maintain a vibrant cross-section or representation of the community's business, vocational, and professional interests among members and to develop a pool of resources and expertise to successfully implement service projects. This system is based on the founders' paradigm of choosing cross-representation of each business, profession, and institution within a community.

A classification describes either the principal business or the professional service of the organization that the Rotarian works for or the Rotarian's own activity within the organization. Some examples of classifications include: high schools, universities, eye surgery, banking, pharmaceutical retailing, and insurance agency.

Each club may have up to five members holding the same classification. With a limited pool of candidates, we don't have to worry about this limit.

Finding a new member

Often a person being considered for membership is invited by a member/sponsor to attend one or more club meetings to learn more

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What Paul Harris Said...

“I have no hesitation in saying that world peace could be achieved and made permanent if reared on Rotary's firm foundation of friendliness, tolerance and usefulness.”

From address to RI Convention, Havana, Cuba - 1940

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 am a Rotarian because:

- The world is not Polio free... yet. But, Rotary is still in action to eradicate it.
- People in Honduras, Africa, and other underdeveloped countries die every day from unclean water. But, Rotary is helping to provide clean water filtration devices to those people.
- Close to 1 billion people lack the most basic literacy and numeric skills. But, Rotary is helping to educate those through literacy programs.
- Nearly 1.3 billion people live in extreme poverty. But, Rotary is helping to provide those folks with opportunities to enhance their lives.
- Our world is not at peace. But, Rotary is educating young leaders on Mediation Skills and Peace

and Conflict Resolution.

- When there is a need, Rotary responds. That's why I'm a Rotarian.

Mike Dennis,
Past President,
Rotary Club of Orangeburg-
Morning
District 7770

No Pressure, Please

People who are invited to speak at our meetings may or may not be interested in membership.

We have an opportunity to hear them speak, to chat during lunch, and to quietly learn a little bit about the person we have invited to our meeting.

The guest speaker has an opportunity to do all of the same. This may be their first exposure to Rotary, and they may need to learn a bit more before they become interested in joining.

One thing that speakers are most likely not interested in is **PRESSURE TO JOIN!**

Consider that this person has just enjoyed lunch with business and professional leaders of the community. Leave the speaker with a good impression. Don't press membership - let the member who invited the speaker broach that subject as appropriate.

A friendly "thank you" will go a long way to encouraging further interest in our Club.

Membership

(Continued from page 1)

about Rotary.

In other cases, the prospective member may be someone invited to give a program at one of our weekly meetings. This first exposure to Rotary may lead to further interest, and the speaker may become a candidate.

We have several tools to help introduce someone to Rotary. Our Club brochure, for example, highlights some of our projects and activities. It also provides a place for an interested candidate to submit their name, address and phone number to the Club for consideration.

An RI brochure, *How to Propose a New Member*, is also in our inventory. It provides general information on membership and an information tear-off panel.

We also have our "free lunch" tickets - you do still have yours, don't you? After chatting about Rotary and what you have gained from membership, give one to your contact as their invitation to join us for lunch and to learn more about Rotary.

Proposing a member

The candidate's sponsor should submit the name of the candidate to the club's membership committee or chairman (ours is our vice-president, Bill Parenti) or to any Board member.

The Board of Directors then considers the whether the candidate meets the requirements for membership and whether there is an open classification and, if so, will announce the candidate's name at two consecutive meetings. If there is no objection, the candidate is invited to join the Club.

[NOTE: Club and RI brochures are available from our "box" - see Tom Reedy. And ask Michael if you need more *free lunch* tickets.]



Wine Tasting Dinner

Date is Set for Annual Scholarship Fundraiser

The Board of Directors has set Wednesday, November 7th as the date for our annual event.

Held each year for the past eight, this fun evening has been our first big fundraiser of each Rotary year.

The evening starts with a cocktail hour at 6:00 PM, during which our first wine is served, along with hot hors d'oeuvres. This is a good time to mingle, and to look over the items in our Silent Auction.

Club members are asked to obtain suitable items for auction.



We have had items ranging from designer dresses to jewelry to professional services. The auction typically

adds about \$1,000 or more to the event. Bev Howard will chair this aspect of the event.

After the cocktail hour, members and guests are treated to a delicious dinner, with wines selected specially for the courses being served.

Our hosts at Giovanna's do a great job, with Angelo leading the

group by ladling out a wonderful soup.

During the meal, we have the long arm of the law selling our fifty-fifty tickets. People have a hard time resisting Bill Parenti's smooth sales pitch (either that, or the fact that he carries a gun!)



This year, Bill has agreed to chair the dinner. He'll be looking for help, so please pitch in.

Each year, we steadily built up attendance to over 100 people, raising over \$3,000 with this event.

Last year, attendance slipped a little, and we need to get it back up to the 100+ mark.

Every member is asked to sell as many tickets as possible. Put together tables of friends or relatives, or both. Ask your business to take a table of 10, or perhaps share a table with another business. A final price has not been set, but expect prices near the \$65 or \$70 mark.

Dictionaries!

School has begun, and its time for us to get moving on our Dictionary Project.

Presenting a dictionary to every student in the third grades in Plainfield and in North Plainfield's public schools is a great project, of which we can all be proud.

Last year, we handed a book to 787 students, giving them each their own source of knowledge. Shaking hands and receiving the warm smiles and heartfelt "thank you" from the students was a reward in itself.

But we will all be rewarded if our simple gift helps these students learn more and increase their vocabulary and their language proficiency.

We have already committed to the program by purchasing 480 more English dictionaries and 120 Spanish/English books. Added to the 428 we have left from last year, and we will have plenty.

Mindy Scarlett has agreed to chair this committee. We have already sent a letter to the interim superintendent of schools in Plainfield, and of course have Marilyn's approval for the NP schools. A great project awaits your helping hands.

2007-2008

YMCA Shelter Dinner -

Next dinner is Monday, September 17 - co-chairs Linda P. and Beverly will again have a great dinner arranged. Volunteer now to help with this important community service project.

Wine Tasting Dinner -

the annual fundraiser for our scholarship program will be coming up soon. Get your business to buy a table this year and help raise our scholarship commitment of \$5,000. We need a committee - volunteer now!

RU Basketball -

the football team may be getting all the press, but the basketball teams are our favorites. The season will start in early November, and we will be staffing the concession stand again this year. Be ready to volunteer.

Polio Eradication

Through PolioPlus, Rotary leads private-sector participation in the global effort to eradicate polio. The value of the half-billion-dollar program is multiplied by thousands of volunteers immunizing children.

Rotary's volunteer and financial assistance in vaccination efforts means polio will disappear in nation after nation and region after region. Polio eradication will not occur until the disease disappears from all nations and all regions.

Rotary's community-based leadership in target countries was a deciding factor in the World Health Assembly's goal of polio eradication. Rotary International is the key private partner in the global fight to eradicate polio.

Progress of Polio Eradication

Rotary's top philanthropic goal is to eradicate polio worldwide. Since establishing its PolioPlus program in 1985, Rotary members have helped to immunize more than 2 billion children in 122 countries, and have contributed more than US\$500 million toward a polio-free world.

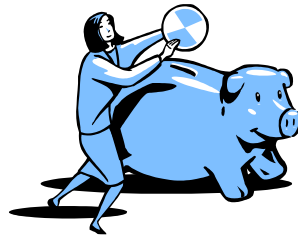
Partnerships

- The remarkable progress made toward eradicating polio today is due to the unprecedented partnerships between national governments, UN agencies, the private sector, non-profit service organizations, foundations and civil society.
- Rotary is the lead private sector contributor and volunteer arm of the partnership dedi-

cated to eradicating polio, which includes the World Health Organization, UNICEF, and U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Rotary's Contributions and Continued Challenges

- Rotary's 20-year commitment to end polio represents the largest private-sector support of a global health initiative ever.
- To date, Rotary has committed more than US\$500 million towards that end.



Feed your Polio Piggy every day!

September/October Meeting Schedule

- ◇ Sept. 5 - Club Assembly
- ◇ Sept. 12 - Jeff Scheckner, United Way - Tom.
- ◇ Sept. 17 - YMCA Dinner
- ◇ Sept. 19 - Marc Dashfield, City Administrator - Michael.
- ◇ Sept. 26 - Donna Amilani, Casino Night - Paul.
- ◇ Oct. 3 - Club Assembly
- ◇ Oct. 10 - Charles Lepore, Wine Appreciation - Linda P.
- ◇ Oct. 17 - Speaker by Bill.
- ◇ Oct. 24 - Speaker by Dave.
- ◇ Oct. 31 - Speaker by Bev.

[Note: If you have a program, please contact Paul Henry and let him know.]

District 7510 Events/News

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|-------------|---|
| Sept. 29 | Rotary Foundation Seminar, Quality Inn, Somerset. |
| Sept. 29 | Membership Seminar, Quality Inn, Somerset |
| Oct. 8 | Multi-district Vocational Assembly, Atlantic City |
| Nov. 7 | Rotary Leadership Institute, Parts I, II, III and Graduate level - Pines Manor, Edison. |
| Nov. 12 | District "Eat, Drink and Share" at the Pines Manor, Edison. |
| Feb. 9, '08 | PR & Fundraising Seminar, Quality Inn, Somerset. |

Rotarians Travel to Ecuador for Homes of Hope

Twenty-five volunteers, mostly Rotarians, returned to the US recently after an 11-day mission to Ecuador. The group included doctors and nurses, educators, laborers, translators and college students.

The Rotary Homes of Hope-Ecuador project began in 2002 when Branchburg Rotarian Doug Merritt traveled to Ecuador to build homes for the inhabitants of Guayaquil who were displaced by the El Nino storms of the late 1990s.

Over the ensuing years, a small community named *Ciudadela Rotaria Rio Guyas* was established near the town of San Pablo for displaced persons.

This year's trip consisted of the largest contingent of Rotarians and volunteers to date. Their skill sets enabled the group to accomplish the following projects: providing medical and dental care; educational classes; food tunnel construction; housing and building

improvements, and assessing the children and families in the Sponsor Me program.

Almost 600 children, women and men from *Ciudadela Rotaria Rio Guyas* and from San Pablo received free medical and dental care. The physicians, nurses, and clinic assistants achieved their goal of improving the health and well-being of some of Ecuador's chronically poor.

Educational classes embraced improving the family aspect of life. These classes focused on life skills and family health. They also identified skills already possessed by villagers in the hospitality and cooking industries.

Villagers also received lessons on clean water, with demonstrations of how to chlorinate water and build rudimentary filters using 2-liter bottles, stones and charcoal.

To enhance nutrition, two 40-foot tunnels were constructed, soil and nutrients mixed, more than 600 vegetable crops planted, and

gravity watering systems installed. Volunteers then instructed the villagers on maintenance and care of the tunnels, with the hope that a successful crop will enable construction of more tunnels next year.

Children and families participating in the Sponsor Me program were interviewed to ensure that they were following the program guidelines. The goal for this program is to provide all 85 children in the village with a healthy breakfast, an education, clothes and school supplies, and two doctor and two dental visits a year.

Sponsor Me costs \$420 per year, a small price for US Rotarians to pay and a real bargain for the children of *Ciudadela Rotaria Rio Guyas*. Our Club sponsors Carlos Santana, who is in the first grade. He suffers from a skin disease, and cannot spend too much time in the sun. He does well in school, and has an older brother with the same affliction.

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?

Four Avenues of Service

Based on the [Object of Rotary](#), the Four Avenues of Service are Rotary's philosophical cornerstone and the foundation on which club activity is based:

- **Club Service** focuses on strengthening fellowship and ensuring the effective functioning of the club.
- **Vocational Service** encourages Rotarians to serve others through their vocations and to practice high ethical standards.
- **Community Service** covers the projects and activities the club undertakes to improve life in its community.
- **International Service** encompasses actions taken to expand Rotary's humanitarian reach around the globe and to promote world understanding and peace.

<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
McNally, Richard	Office machine sales
Parenti, William	Municipal police service

<i>Current Members and Classifications</i>	
Persichino, Linda	Banking
Rainear, Frank	Funeral home
Reedy, Thomas	Social service
Scarlett, Mindy	Mentoring services
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

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