

Rotary Review

The Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Plainfield and North Plainfield

Volume 7 Issue 7

January 2008

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

| | |
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"ROTARY SHARES"

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Rotary Club of New Brunswick

What Paul Harris Said...

"This is a critical year. It is not easy to be optimists while storm clouds obscure the sky. Rotarians are especially sensitive to international disturbances because ties of friendship bind us together, ties which cannot be dissolved by governmental fiat".

Paul P Harris, "We Must Plan For Peace" *The Rotarian*, Feb 1940

Club Helps Make a Wish Come True

Courier News Wish Book Described Family's Needs

When the staff at the Second Street Youth Center Pre-school in Plainfield asked Orlando Saavedra what he would wish for if he had the opportunity, he didn't hesitate or even have to think twice about his answer: "For more of my children to sleep well and comfortably at night."

Saavedra's four children — 12-year-old Olegario Reyes, 5-year-old twins Orlando and Lucia Gonzales, and 4-year-old Carolina Saavedra — now share beds in the family's Plainfield apartment. His wish is for them to sleep more comfortably.

"They are a very hardworking family," said Sandra Castro of the youth center's pre-school. "Mom Isabel is from Mexico and is dealing with health issues. Dad

Orlando is from Guatemala and holds down three jobs to make ends meet. They have basically worked all their lives. They are dedicated parents who want to make sure their children have all they need."

"They are a close-knit family," she added. "They don't own a car, and I've seen them walking together through Plainfield. They don't have fancy clothing, but the children are always neat and clean. Their world revolves around their children."

Orlando does not speak English but he has told Castro that he has the same priorities for his children as any other parent — a roof over their heads, food on the table and an education for the children.

"Whatever they have they have for their children," Castro added.

That is why, when it came time to make a wish for the Courier News Wish Book, once again they thought first of their children. To make things more comfortable for the family in their small apartment, their wish is for a bedroom set of two bunk beds and dressers so that their children can finally sleep comfortably.

The Club's Board of Directors approved \$500 to help satisfy the family's wish, which cost \$1000. In speaking with a Courier representative, we were assured that their entire need would be met by our contribution and by other contributions made on their behalf.



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.

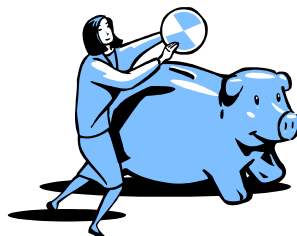
Some fail to understand my last statement. A man named Ernst Becker wrote a book back in the 70's. His thoughts parallel my thoughts on part of what Rotary gives back to me. To paraphrase him:

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



Feed your Polio Piggy every day!

Who's Who and What's New



Ivan Kosin has resigned his membership due to business pressures. Ivan did ask to be kept informed of Club activities in case he is able to help out.

Tom Reedy had his gall bladder removed on Wednesday, December 5 at Overlook Hospital in Summit. He went home on Friday, December 7 and recovered quickly.

Scholarships

Plainfield High School Guidance Department has a new scholarship coordinator.

Mrs. Jodi Mochel, one of the school's professional guidance counselors, will lead the school's scholarship effort this year.

Mrs. Mochel accompanied the first PHS *Student of the Month* to our awards luncheon last year.



Students of the Month from NPHS Receive Awards

The Club presented our *Student of the Month Awards* for October, November and December to three students from North Plainfield High School at our luncheon meeting on December 5.

The students are nominated by Amy Six, choral music teacher and Interact Club advisor. Amy introduced the students and summarized their activities.

“Tracy Mamuric, the October Student of the Month, is the Interact Club president and a senior at NPHS. She is an extremely involved, 4-year member of Interact who recently attended the Interact Leadership Training Workshop in Somerset. When Tracy is not do-

ing Interact-related things, she can be found serving the class of 2008 as treasurer, running Spanish Honor Society as co-President, helping another student as a Canuck Mentor, or doing a number of other things. Tracy is a four year member of all the high school’s choirs and serves as soprano section leader. In addition she is co-captain of both the fall color guard and winter color guard. Tracy loves to run the Interact Club meetings and wants nothing more than to make the club all it can be at NPHS. Tracy, who aspires to be a nurse, truly puts *Service Above Self*.

“Katie Fellin, a freshman at NPHS, is the November Student of the Month. Katie is very active in

the music department. She is a member of all the choirs, the concert band and the jazz band. Katie is a first year member of the marching band color guard and a two-year member of the winter guard. Katie also enjoys being part of the school's drama club. Outside of school Katie is a cadet in her Girls Scout troop and is an accomplished former horseback rider who has competed in five horse shows. Katie has jumped into Interact, becoming very involved in organizing projects and volunteering her time. Although only a freshman, Katie is one of the chairpersons for the Winter Clothing Drive.

“Sara Merendino is our Student of the Month for December. Sara is a freshman at NPHS but has already gone out of her way to become a very active Interactor. She is involved in the marching band, color guard, winter guard and jazz band. Sara plays clarinet in concert band and sings in the Vocal Workshop at NPHS. Sara too is a horseback rider and has competed in shows. Before getting involved with Interact, she was a volunteer at a nursing home. Sara's willingness to get involved is evidenced by her being the co-chair of the Interact Club's Winter Clothing Drive.”



Katie Fellin

Tracy Mamuric

Sara Merendino

2008 12-19-08

Holiday Meeting - We will meet with the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Rotary Club at Snuffy’s, Rte. 22 and Park Ave., on 12/19 at 12:15 PM. The program will be holiday songs by the Fanwood-Scotch Plains High School chorus.

RU Basketball - The season is well underway, and we have earned just over \$1,000 with our first two games. And the best games are still to come. Mark your calendars for 1/5/08, 1/13/08, 2/5/08 and 2/19/08. You’ll have a great time!

Jack Townley’s Words of Wisdom



Describing why Princess Peach runs slow in a video baseball game - “Dad, she’s a princess - they don’t like to get sweaty!”



The 4-Way Test

One of the most widely printed and quoted statements of business ethics in the world is The 4-Way Test. It was created by Rotarian Herbert I. Taylor in 1932 when he was asked to take charge of the Chicago-based Club Aluminum Company, which was facing bankruptcy. Taylor looked for a way to save the struggling company mired in depression-caused financial difficulties. He drew up a 24-word code of ethics for all employees to follow in their business and professional lives. The 4-Way Test became the guide for sales, production, advertising, and all relations with dealers and customers, and the survival of the company was credited to this simple philosophy.

Herb Taylor became president of Rotary International during 1954-55. The 4-Way Test was adopted by Rotary in 1943 and has been translated into more than 100 languages and published in thousands of ways. The message should be known and followed by all Rotarians. "Of the things we think, say or 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?"

Paul Harris - First but not First

Was Paul Harris the first president of a Rotary club? No.

Was Paul Harris the first president of Rotary International? Yes.

There is an easy explanation to this apparent contradiction. Al-

though Paul Harris was the founder and organizer of the first Rotary club in Chicago in 1905, the man selected to be the first president was one of the other founding members, Silvester Schiele.

By 1910, there were 16 Rotary clubs, which linked up as an organization called the National Association of Rotary Clubs. Two years later, the name was changed to the International Association of Rotary Clubs, as Rotary was organized in Winnipeg, Canada, and England, Ireland, and Scotland. In 1922, the name became Rotary International.

When the first organization of Rotary clubs was created in 1910, Paul Harris was selected as the first president. He served in this position for two years, from 1910 until 1912. Thus, the founder of the Rotary idea, who declined to be president of the first club, became the first president of the worldwide organization, Rotary International.

January/February Meeting Schedule

- ◇ Jan. 2 - Board Meeting and Club Assembly
- ◇ Jan. 5 - 8:00 PM - RU Basketball
- ◇ Jan. 9 - Speaker by Janice
- ◇ Jan. 13 - Noon - RU Bball
- ◇ Jan. 16 - Speaker by Frank
- ◇ Jan. 23 - Clergy Day
- ◇ Jan. 30 - Speaker by Dave
- ◇ Feb. 5 - 7 PM - RU B'ball
- ◇ Feb. 6 - Bd. Mtg. & Club Assembly
- ◇ Feb. 13 - Speaker by Addy
- ◇ Feb. 19 - 8 PM - RU B'ball
- ◇ Feb. 20 - Speaker open
- ◇ Feb. 27 - Speaker by Linda

[**Note:** Please let Michael know when speakers are arranged so certificates can be prepared and ready.]

District 7510 Events/News

| | |
|------------|---|
| December | Family Month |
| Jan. 13-20 | Rotary International Assembly, San Diego |
| Feb. 2 | President Elect Training Seminar I, Raritan Valley Community College - 8 AM to 1 PM |
| Feb 9 | PR & Fundraising Seminar, Quality Inn, Somerset. |
| Feb. 16 | New Members' Breakfast |
| Feb. 23 | Rotary International's 103rd anniversary |
| March | Literacy Month |
| March 29 | PETS II, RVCC, 8 AM to 4 PM |
| May 2 - 4 | District Conference, Mystic Marriott Hotel and Spa, Groton, CT. |

Bev's Award

On June 19th, over 100 guests joined in congratulating four honorees who were recognized for philanthropic and volunteer efforts on behalf of the Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center.

One shining star in the Muhlenberg galaxy was our own Bev Howard, RN, RVS, Director of Cardiovascular Services, who was presented with the *Edward J. Dailey Jr. Leadership Award*.



The award is presented annually to an employee who demonstrates fine stewardship, integrity and intellect embodied by its namesake, the late Edward J. Dailey, Jr., who served as President and Director of Muhlenberg Hospital.

Nancy Fiamingo, Sr. Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, presented the award and commented on Beverly's thirty year history with the hospital.

"Bev is a hands-on manager who rolls up her sleeves and gets the job done. This trait has earned her the respect and support of both peers and staff. I can't think of a more deserving employee," said Ms. Fiamingo.

Congratulations, Bev! We couldn't agree more.

Club Helps Homeless Family

HomeFirst, a locally-based interfaith housing and family services agency, participates in a shelter program with agencies and churches in Union County.

As part of their services during the holiday season, HomeFirst sought partners to help provide gifts for homeless families.

Contacted recently by Rick Porter, Deputy Director of Development at HomeFirst, President Linda brought their quest to the Board of Director's attention.

HomeFirst's goal was to have community partners "adopt" a family and provide one gift for each member, with total cost not to exceed \$200, and a maximum of \$50 per child.

The family's gifts were to be wrapped, labeled, placed in a large plastic bag and dropped off at the HomeFirst offices on Watchung Avenue. Santa Claus (a.k.a. Rick Porter) was set to give the gifts to the children at a special holiday party on Thurs-

day, December 20th at the United Presbyterian Church in Plainfield.

Board members stepped to the fore and volunteered to shop, wrap, and drop off the presents.

With but a week left until the Christmas holiday, however, there was little time to shop for the family of four we were assigned. Instead, gift cards were purchased (with HomeFirst's OK) for each of the three children and for their mother.

This was just one more way your Club helped those in need this holiday season.

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?

Joint Meeting

Seven Club members were guests of the Rotary Club of Fanwood-Scotch Plains on Wednesday, December 19th.

This joint meeting was a great opportunity to share fellowship with our neighboring Club, something that we have done for the past four or five years.

The highlight of the meeting was a program of holiday music by the Select Choir from Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School.

The food at Snuffy's was none too shabby, either.



Eighteen members of the 180-member Choir from SPFHS perform a program of holiday music.

Current Members and Classifications

Current Members and Classifications

| | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| Allen, Janice | Child care administration |
| Birnbaum, Marilyn | Public education |
| Bonet, Addy | Social service |
| Burgos, Ivan | Banking |
| 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 |

| | |
|--|--------------------------|
| Parenti, William | Municipal police service |
| Persichino, Linda | Banking |
| Rainear, Frank | Funeral home |
| 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
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