



Rotary Review

The Award Winning Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Plainfield and North Plainfield

Volume 8 Issue 1

July 2008

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

| | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| Linda Persichino | President |
| Addy Bonet | President-Elect |
| | Vice-President |
| Michael Townley | Secretary |
| Linda Todman | Treasurer |
| Thomas Reedy | Sgt. at Arms |

DIRECTORS

| | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Dave Hollod..... | Service Projects |
| Marilyn Birnbaum..... | R.I. Foundation |
| Paul Henry | Club Administration |
| Michael Townley | Public Relations |

Editor - Michael Townley

President, Rotary International DONG-KURN LEE

Rotary Club of Seoul, Korea

"Make Dreams Real"

Governor, District No. 7510 JOE SCANDARIATO, SR.

Rotary Club of Hamilton Twp.

Assistant Governor

Bev Howard

Rotary Club of Plainfield-North Plainfield

What Paul Harris Said...

"As long as grass continues to grow green, as long as water continues to flow downhill, so long Rotary will continue to worship its ideal, the ideal of service."

Paul Harris, RI Founder
Message to RI Convention
Detroit, MI - 1934

81st Annual Track & Field Meet

Rain Postpones Meet to Alternate Date

After a gloomy day on June 4 that resulted in postponing our 81st Annual Track and Field Meet, we managed to have a gloriously beautiful rain date of June 11 for the Meet.



Harry Allen watches intently as the first runner crosses the finish line.

The sun was shining brightly and the soft breezes were blowing to make it a perfect afternoon for our special



Where do you "put" the shot? There it is, just above the official.

project for area athletes. The occasional cumulus clouds provided brief periods of shade to soften the sun's rays, which did become a little warm after an hour or so at the track or the field events.

Not only were we blessed by great weather, but we also enjoyed a visit from District Governor Julie Ann Juliano. What a treat to have her visit our club at this special event.

And not only did she stop by to visit, but DG Julie Ann also pitched in and helped President Linda and her crew officiate at the long jump event.



DG Julie Ann assists with the measurement for a long jump attempt while Linda records the results.

A total of 219 athletes from the following schools were registered for the Meet, as listed

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.



SERVICE Above Self

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

Track Meet

below:

| | |
|----------------------------|----|
| Valley View Watchung | 75 |
| Maxson Plainfield..... | 70 |
| N. Plainfield Middle | 46 |
| Queen City Academy | 28 |

Unfortunately, Queen City Academy athletes were unable to participate on our rain date due to a schedule conflict.



*The gun sounds and off they go!
Bob Murphy served as our Starter.*

Newcomers helped officiate at the Meet this year, including Carly Stoeckle at the Awards Tent; Mauro Altizio, Timer; Sara Hardy and Damaris Feliciano (YMCA), Judges.



Three Maxson athletes swept the 100 meter event for 13 year old girls..

We give a special thanks to our Interact Club and to all of the non-members who helped officiate. Without their assistance, our Meet would not have been possible.

Annual Dinner Meeting

A successful year was celebrated on June 18 at the Club's Annual Dinner meeting.

In fact, President Linda and her crew did such a great job that they were given the opportunity to repeat their efforts, and were sworn in for new terms of office.



Assistant District Governor Roz Shaw served as the presiding officer for the induction ceremony

As membership numbers decrease, officers were asked to take on their responsibilities one more time. This two year plan actually is a better way to approach our Rotary business, especially in a smaller club.

In the typical Rotary procedure, officers and directors serve one-year terms. Some will rotate to other positions, and some will move up to eventually become club president.

However, just as these

officers and directors get used to their responsibilities, they usually trade them off to another member in a new slate.

With fewer members, each officer and director has the opportunity to continue to build on what each has learned and to learn even more over the next twelve months.

Roz Shaw, our Assistant District Governor for 2007-2008, served as the presiding officer and inducted the following club officers:

- President..... Linda Persichino
- Pres.-Elect Addy Bonet
- Vice Pres. Vacant
- Secretary/ Michael Townley
- Treasurer
- Sgt. at Arms..... Tom Reedy
- Directors:
- Club Projects ... Dave Hollod
- Club Admin..... Paul Henry
- Foundation Marilyn Birnbaum
- Public Rel. Michael Townley
- Membership ... Vacant

Rotarian guests at the dinner included District Governor Julie Ann Juliano and Past District Governor Andy Calamaras.

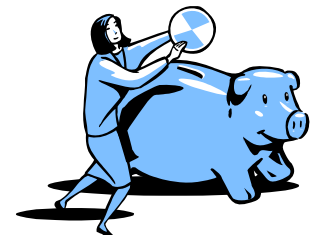
We also enjoyed a presentation by Bill Mealia, District Polio Chairman. Bill spoke about the District's accomplishments and its goals in the effort to eradicate polio.



District Polio Chairman Bill Mealia, himself a victim of polio, addresses guests at the dinner.

Also attending the dinner were some of our friends who helped at Rutgers games, the Track and Field Meet, and other Club activities.

Polio Piggy



*Feed your piggy every day
And you will be surprised
How quickly its big belly fills
Up to its beady eyes.*

2008-09

YMCA Dinners -

- Sept. 16 - Bill, Janice and Michael
- Dec. 1 - Bill, Dave and Marilyn

Sign up at any Club meeting - three or four people needed for each event.

Dictionary Project -

It's not too soon to start thinking about handing out 900 or so dictionaries to third graders in September. We need a chairperson to order books and to organize teams to distribute them. Any volunteers?

Jack Townley's Corner



Jack concluded his baseball season, and is signed up for tennis, then baseball and soccer summer camps & fall baseball. Oh, he's also been accepted for the Rutgers Children's Choir. What a guy!



Exchange of Club Banners

One of the colorful traditions of many Rotary clubs is the exchange of small banners. Rotarians traveling to distant locations often take banners to exchange at make-up meetings as a token of friendship. Many clubs use the decorative banners they have received for attractive displays at club meetings and district events.

The Rotary International Board recognized the growing popularity of the banner exchange back in 1959 and encouraged participating clubs to ensure that the design of their banners is distinctive and expressive of the club's community and country. It is recommended that banners include pictures, slogans, or designs portraying the territorial area of the club.

The Board was also mindful of the financial burden such exchanges may impose upon some clubs, especially in popular areas where many visitors make up and request to exchange banners. In all instances, clubs are cautioned to exercise discretion and moderation in the exchange of banners so that the financial obligations do not interfere with the basic service activities of the club.

Exchanging club banners is a pleasant custom, especially when a creative and artistic banner tells an interesting story of community pride. The exchange of banners is a significant tradition of Rotary and serves as a tangible symbol of our international fellowship.

Sharing Rotary - New Members

Are you aware of the responsibility or obligation most

Rotarians fail to perform? Paying their dues? Attending meetings? Contributing to the club's service fund? Participating in club events and projects? No — none of these!

Of all the obligations a person accepts when joining a Rotary club, the one in which most Rotarians fail is "sharing Rotary." Rotary International clearly supports the position that every individual Rotarian has an "obligation to share Rotary with others and to help extend Rotary by proposing qualified persons for Rotary club membership."

In every club, there are many Rotarians who rarely share their positive experiences of Rotary membership with other individuals. They are missing many opportunities to inform others about Rotary and the benefits of membership.

The Rotary International Constitution states with respect to club membership: "Each club shall have a well-balanced membership in which no one business or profession predominates." One merely has to glance through the pages of the local telephone or chamber of commerce directory to realize that most clubs have not invited qualified members of all businesses and professions into Rotary.

One of the founding principles of Rotary is a fair and equitable representation of the professional and business population of the community it supports. To remain relevant, Rotary clubs must be inclusive of all professions and businesses within a community.

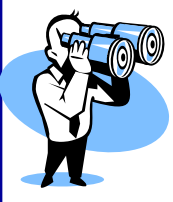
Only a Rotarian may propose a customer, neighbor, client,

July thru August Meeting Schedule

- ◇ June 25 - Last meeting of year
- ◇ July and August - no speakers scheduled during summer months. We will have our regular meetings!
- ◇ **Vacation Make-ups** - you can keep your attendance up by making up at any Rotary club meeting throughout the world. Doing a make-up is a great way to learn about what other clubs are doing, to meet friendly Rotarians, and to gain local insight and assistance, if needed during your travels. You can find the day, time and location of any club throughout the world by either asking Michael or checking the RI website, whichever is easier.

[Note: Paul Henry will prepare and distribute a speaker schedule over the summer. Please let Michael know when speakers are arranged so certificates can be prepared and ready.]

supplier, executive, relative, business associate, professional, or other qualified person to join a Rotary club. Have you accepted your obligation to share Rotary? The procedures are very simple, and everyone must know at least one person who should belong to Rotary.



Who's Who and What's New

Beverly Howard has become a member of a new "club" - the fraternity of people who are recognized as Paul Harris Fellows.

Beverly received her recognition at the Annual Dinner Meeting on June 18. Introduced by Michael Townley, who read a brief history of the Paul Harris Fellowship, the medallion, pin and certificate were presented by President Linda and District Governor Julie Ann.

The Paul Harris Fellow recognition is granted to any individual who donates, or in whose name is donated at total of \$1,000 for the Rotary Foundation.


Beverly was an assistant governor this past year, and has accepted the same responsibilities in the current Rotary year. In fact, she will be our Club's ADG.



District Governor Julie Ann Juliano pins Beverly with the Paul Harris Fellow recognition while President Linda holds the certificate and medallion.

Bill Parenti has resigned his membership in the Club. Citing increased demands on his time and other obligations pulling in many directions, Bill expressed his appreciation for his five years of Rotary membership. He also said that he valued his association with Rotary and the friendships he made in the Club.

Bill was a valued member who exemplified our motto of "Service Above Self". He was often the first one to volunteer for a project, and participated in just about every activity in our club. He will be missed.



Get your tickets now for our latest fundraising effort to benefit our scholarship program.

Priced at \$20 each, prizes are 25%, 15% and 10% of total sales.

The drawing is set for September 10 at our regular weekly meeting.

Board Meeting Update

Budget - approved preliminary budget. Will develop separate budget for Rotary PNP, Inc., our non-profit corporation, by splitting some revenue and expense from the regular budget.

Interact Scholarship and Awards - approved establishing an annual scholarship, dedicating revenues from the lacrosse tournament at Rutgers. An award will also be presented, based on input from Interact Club advisor.

YMCA Dinner - Bill Parenti has a commitment from an anonymous donor for funding the last two dinners of the year. The

Board approved using Nanny's Kitchen and Somerset KFC for these two dinners. Both businesses donated food for earlier dinners.

Certificate of Appreciation - a certificate will be presented to Dr. Howarth, a North Plainfield dentist who donated toothbrushes and toothpaste for homeless children.

Wine Tasting Dinner - approved scheduling the event for October 22 to avoid teachers', municipal workers', and school board members' annual conventions.

Current Members and Classifications

| | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| Allen, Janice | Child care administration |
| 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 |
| 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 |

Join us for a free lunch!

Clip this coupon (or bring the newsletter) and use it as your invitation to meet our members and to learn more about our Rotary Club and about Rotary International.

**Any Wednesday at 12:15 PM
Giovanna's Restaurant
1462 South Avenue
Plainfield, NJ**

**THE 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 Goodwill 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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