



# Rotary Review

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

Volume 8 Issue 3

September 2008

## OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

### OFFICERS

Linda Persichino	President
Addy Bonet	President-Elect
Vicky Griswold	Vice-President
Michael Townley	Secretary/Treasurer
Thomas Reedy	Sgt. at Arms

### DIRECTORS

Dave Hollod.....	Service Projects
Marilyn Birnbaum.....	R.I. Foundation
Paul Henry .....	Club Administration
Michael Townley .....	Public Relations
Vicky Griswold.....	Membership

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...*

"Rotary must make haste even to keep up; but we must do more, we must lead."

**Message to RI Convention  
Atlanta, Georgia  
1917**

## RI President Thanks Rotarians

### Issues Letter to All Rotarians in Thanks for Support

Dear Friends:

Thank you very much for your good wishes and kind congratulations welcoming me as RI president. It is heartwarming to see the outpouring of messages that my wife, Young, and I received. We appreciate and are humbled by the attention.

I am honored to have been chosen as the 2008-09 Rotary International president. Young and I look forward to the opportunity to continue serving Rotary.



We feel that with the continued support of dedicated Rotarians around the world, we can truly *Make Dreams Real*.

I am particularly pleased by the response to my RI theme, *Make Dreams Real*. It is gratifying to hear that my call for

Rotarians to make the world a better place for children has resonated with so many of you.

I am glad you are ready to embrace this theme and to stand shoulder to shoulder with me to achieve this goal.

United in Rotary, we can *Make Dreams Real* for all of the world's children by reducing child mortality.

As we begin this new adventure of Rotary service, Young and I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible and visiting your many worthy projects.

Stop by my Web pages monthly to see the various places we have visited during our RI travels.

Sincerely,  
Dong Kurn (D.K.) Lee  
President, Rotary International



**Wine Tasting Dinner  
Re-scheduled! More  
information on Page 3.**

*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

When I went to my first Rotary lunch in 2001, my host asked me to join but couldn't give me too many details about Rotary, so I went home and looked it up on the internet.

Reading the mission statement, the object of Rotary, the Four Way Test and what Rotary was doing around the world grabbed me and said, "This is you, this is what you've been looking for all your life, you have to be a part of this, these people think the same way you do."

I never knew there was an organization like Rotary that believed in serving others, working together across borders and cultures; all the things that I held so dearly. I immediately called my sponsor and said, "Yes, I can't wait, I want to be part of Rotary!"

In the past six years I have never been disappointed. Rotary is everything it claimed to be and more. I have found the best of friends in my community, across the U.S., and internationally.

My family has jumped right in with me. My oldest daughter is Past President of our Interact Club and helped start an EarlyAct Club at my youngest daughter's school so she too could be involved.

All of us traveled to the Chicago convention where we met so many people who believe in Service above Self. Our family has visited an orphanage in Mexico and delivered school supplies, books and games, sundries and food.

We have been warmly welcomed in Rotary Clubs in other cities during our travels. We have painted purple pinkies and given away dictionaries and Thanksgiving food baskets. We have done RYLA, assemblies, and conventions. We are living the family of Rotary and couldn't be happier!

SANDY FLECK,  
Twenty-nine Palms, CA Rotary Club -  
District 5330 Secretary, 2002-2004  
President, 2005-2006  
Assistant Governor, 2006-2007

## Speakers

Looking for a speaker for your next assigned meeting? Here are a couple of ideas - people who have been in the news recently :

**Carol Presley, Executive Director, Plainfield Neighborhood House Association.** Located at 644 West Fourth Street, the agency recently opened six new day care classrooms on East Front Street to meet community needs. She could talk about the programs of Neighborhood House and their expansion. More information at <http://www.volunteersolutions.org/somerset/org/22200761.html>

**Randall M. Wood, Executive Director, Plainfield Housing Authority.** Some years ago, Richard Fox was executive director at the Housing Authority and a member (and past president) of this club. The Housing Authority is contemplating demolition of the Elmwood Gardens low income housing and replacement with townhouses. He could speak about these plans and about the Housing Authority in general. See <http://housingauthorityofplainfield.org/>

**Brian Bilal, Ed.D., Principal at Plainfield High School.** Newly-appointed, Brian Bilal is a PHS graduate who has set high expectations for his students. For more information, go to [www.mycentraljersey.com](http://www.mycentraljersey.com) and select News/Union/Plainfield from the banner on the home page. There is an article about Brian from 8/22/08.

## Survey

The Board of Directors is contemplating a change of meeting time.

The idea arose out of a recent discussion with a prospective member who wanted to join us but is unable to make any meetings on Wednesday at lunchtime.

A number of issues need to be evaluated, the first being current members' interests.

You will receive an email within the next few days, asking your opinion of a possible change. Nothing has been decided; we are just interested in gauging your interest.

Please reply to the mail when you receive it.

## Twelfth Annual Eat, Drink & Share

Nov. 10, 2008

6:00 to 9:00 PM

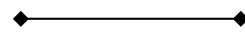
at

## The Pines Manor

2085 Rte. 27, Edison

Tickets - \$55 in advance

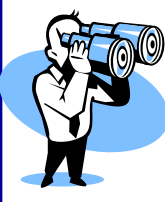
\$60 at the Door



Benefits the Humanitarian  
Efforts of the Rotary  
Foundation



**SERVICE Above Self**




## Who's Who and What's New

**Darlene McWilliams** has accepted our invitation to join our Rotary Club.

Sponsored by Vicky Griswold, Darlene will be inducted into membership within the next few weeks. She is a resident of Plainfield and has a daughter running for a Council seat in November.

Darlene is a realtor with Re-Max Competitive Edge in Warren.

**Sell your tickets now for our 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.**

## Polio Piggy



*Feed your piggy today. You'll be surprised how quickly it will fill and you'll reach your goal of \$100 for polio.*



**10th Annual Wine Tasting Dinner**  
**Thursday, March 26, 2009**  
**Cocktail hour at 6:00 PM**  
**Dinner at 7:00 PM**  
**\$70/person**  
 (anticipated pricing)

### *Sept. thru Oct. Meeting Schedule*

- ◇ Sept. 3 - Club Assembly
- ◇ Sept. 10 - Tom Reedy
- ◇ Sept. 17 - Dr. Steve Gallon, Plfd. Supt. of Schools - Michael
- ◇ Sept. 24 - Beverly
- ◇ Oct. 1 - DG Joe official visit
- ◇ Oct. 8 - Shelter Box Presentation - Paul Henry
- ◇ Oct. 15 - Sharon Goldner-Holistic health - Linda P.
- ◇ Oct. 22 - No Speaker
- ◇ Oct. 29 - Vicky

**Note:** Please let Michael know when speakers are arranged so Certificates of Appreciation can be prepared and ready.]

## News Flash!

The Board of Directors has rescheduled the Wine Dinner to March 26, 2009. The Board felt that the late October-early November time frame was too tight this year and elected to have a spring fling instead. Let your people know!

**2008-2009**

### **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, mom and dad attended a family birthday party in PA on Saturday, 8/30. As we walked from the car to the party, Jack sniffed the air and said "I smell kids!"

## Benefits of Proper Pricing

When your home sells faster, you save carrying costs, mortgage payments and other ownership costs. A quicker sale creates less inconvenience for you. If you've moved before, you know the energy it takes to prepare for showings: keeping the home clean, making childcare arrangements, and altering your lifestyle. Proper pricing reduces these demands on you, by helping your home sell faster. At market value your home will gain exposure to more prospects that can afford the price.

Sellers who list at a high price are looking for that one buyer who will pay it, often not realizing that they have discouraged many potential buyers who could have afforded the home. The final sales price is probably one that will be affordable by more purchasers. This is because sellers many times accept a much lower price at a much later date since that one buyer willing to pay the higher price never comes.

When salespeople are excited about a home and its price, they make special efforts to contact all of their potential buyers. Knowing that it is priced properly for its market, they expect it to sell soon and encourage their prospects to act quickly. Their excitement is contagious!



Ad calls and sign calls to REALTORS turn into showings when price is not a deterrent. Most serious prospects are well educated about asking prices in the areas they are seeking. They will not waste their time on a home they consider overpriced. Buyers fear they might lose out on a good home when it is priced right. They are less likely to make "low ball offers." Better pricing attracts multiple offers!

Bottom line, if a home is priced right, the excitement of the market produces higher sale prices. You net more both in terms of actual sale price and in less carrying costs.

Darlene McWilliams

## District Events

**September 2-7**  
Zone Institute  
Philadelphia, PA

**September 9**  
Governor's First  
Official Club Visit,  
Princeton Club,  
Princeton, NJ  
All welcome

**Sept 13**  
Membership  
and Foundation  
Seminars  
Quality Inn, Somerset  
8:00 am - 12:00 noon

**October 6**  
Vocational Assembly  
Parsippany

**October 15**  
Interact Leadership  
Program  
Quality Inn, Somerset

**November 10**  
Eat, Drink & Share  
The Pines Manor, Edison

**February 11, 2009**  
D7510 PETS I  
6:00PM-9:00PM

**March 7**  
D7510 PETS II  
7:30AM-4:00PM

**May 13**  
District Assembly  
2:00PM-8:00PM

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL  
1-800-xxx-xxxx

**CONNECTING LIVES, AFFECTING LIVES.**



**Rotary**  
Humanity in motion.  
rotarynj.org

## News from Rotary International

### Rotary makes first disbursement from Gates Foundation grant

Nine countries and two World Health Organization regions have received The Rotary Foundation's first distributions from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's \$100 million challenge grant for polio eradication.

WHO and UNICEF are using the funds, disbursed in January, to carry out immunization activities in the four polio-endemic countries - Afghanistan, India, Nigeria, and Pakistan - plus five others where "imported" polio cases have been reported. WHO is also funding surveillance and technical support in its African and Eastern Mediterranean regions.

Following the grant distribution, a team of 54 Rotarians and friends from Australia, Canada, France, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and the United States helped carry out India's National Immunization Days, reaching more than 170 million children in February. RI Director Kjell-Ake Akesson of Sweden participated in the NIDs, as did Rotary Foundation Trustee Carolyn Jones.

Joined by members of the Rotary Club of Delhi-West and almost 100 PolioPlus cap-wearing students from a local Rotary club-sponsored school, the team took part in a rally in Sohna to promote the NIDs. Many of the students, and one of the Delhi-West Rotarians, are themselves polio victims.

"It is the most amazingly exhilarating and dramatically humbling experience," reported Mark Brown, a member of the Rotary Club of St. John's Northwest, Newfoundland, Canada, on the team's blog.

"Immediately, we were poured on by people wanting their children vaccinated. No time to ponder. Just two drops in each child's mouth and a permanent marker on the finger to show they'd been done."

"Now is the time to step up the momentum to get polio out of India forever," says Deepak Kapur, chair of India's PolioPlus committee.

### Google gives Rotary \$3.5 million to help eradicate polio

In February, Rotary International received a \$3.5 million grant from the Google Foundation, a nonprofit organization managed by Google.org.

Like the Gates Foundation grant, the Google grant supports Rotary's top goal to eradicate polio worldwide. Rotary is raising funds to match the Google grant dollar-for-dollar over one year.

"Both challenge grants reflect strong confidence in Rotary's leadership role in working relentlessly to help achieve this vital public health goal for the world's children," said 2007-2008 Rotary Foundation Trustee Chair Robert S. Scott.

"This grant comes at a crucial time for the initiative, as more funds are needed to reach children in the most challenging regions of the world," adds immediate past RI President Wilfrid Wilkinson. "All we need is for the rest of the world to follow the Google Foundation's lead."

### New water well helps community in Haiti

Two years ago, the village of Nan Sema on the island of La Gonave, Haiti, had few sources of fresh water other than the rain. Villagers had to walk for more than four hours to find clean water.

Today, some 5,000 people from Nan Sema and surrounding communities are enjoying a clean water system that includes a 200-foot deep well, a 25,000 gallon cistern, and a drinking fountain funded in part through a Rotary Foundation Matching Grant.

Without the need to search for water, women can better care for their families, and farmers can dedicate more time to their livelihood. Everyone benefits from reduced water-borne disease.



**Current Members and Classifications**

Allen, Janice	Child care administration
Birnbaum, Marilyn	Public education
Bonet, Addy	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

**Inside This Issue**

- ◇ *RI President says "thank you"*
- ◇ *Selling your home with proper pricing*
- ◇ *Why I am a Rotarian*
- ◇ *Who's Who and What's New*
- ◇ *News from Rotary International*