

# The Toolbox



Barb Wyllie ~ Editor

Send submissions to: [THETOOLBOX7190@GMAIL.COM](mailto:THETOOLBOX7190@GMAIL.COM)

Deadline: 15<sup>th</sup> of the month

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[www.Rotary7190.org](http://www.Rotary7190.org)



## From the Governor's Chair

### DG Toolbox Article - December 2011

Happy December, Rotarians, we trust that it's a joyful month for all!

December is Rotary Family Month, and we begin our 2011 rendition of that with the presentation of our District Foundation Event, the family-oriented play "**A Wonderful Life - the Musical!**"

All are welcome to join us for plentiful hors d'oeuvres, cash bar and a Silent Auction to get your Holiday shopping underway, followed by the play performance. Friendships abound in the pleasant atmosphere of an evening at the Cohoes Music Hall. It's all about being together and supporting a cause that clearly makes a difference, The Rotary Foundation.

**When:** Wednesday, December 7 at 5:30 PM at the Music Hall, 58 Remsen Street, Cohoes.

**Ticket Purchase:** Adults \$35, Foundation Program Alumni \$20 and Children \$10. Family package for 2 Adults and 2 Children, \$80 complete. Available at 237-5858 or [trivera@cohoesmusichall.com](mailto:trivera@cohoesmusichall.com)

**Honorary Committee recognition** is available for a contribution of \$100 or more to The Rotary Foundation. The form can be found on page 7 of this edition for you to make a gift. Please advise on the form if you have already made a contribution of \$100 or more to The Rotary Foundation since July 1, 2011 or if you are on the TRF-Direct automatic deduction program. Those both qualify for Honorary Committee listing. If you're due for a Paul Harris Fellow award

and would like it to take place that evening please advise asap.

Your \$100 gift fulfills RI's Every Rotarian, Every Year goal. More importantly, it enables the programs that "Save and Change Lives," leading to world understanding and peace. A wonderful expression of the Holiday feeling!

A special consideration is offered by the Century House Hotel: overnight accommodations for \$99, including theater transportation and a breakfast buffet. Reservations at 785-0931.

**Update on Tropical Storms Irene and Lee:** an AG tour took place on November 5 to Middleburgh, Rotterdam Junction and Amsterdam. The destruction was witnessed at visits to the Maple Downs Dairy Farm in Middleburgh and homes in both Rotterdam Junction and Amsterdam. A photographic journal will follow soon.

Area 6 AG Garry Wilkens summarized Middleburgh's situation in a letter stating that businesses were being restored; what is needed are shoppers to avail themselves of the many offerings those businesses have. Well, your DG and spouse Betty ARE shoppers; a visit was made and we found both Middleburgh and Schoharie full of surprises! To name a few: Middleburgh Hardware Store is amazing, Artisans Gallery, The Conglomerate Store and The Apple Barrel each have beautiful gifts and artwork, Barbers Farm Stand has superior produce even at this time of the year, and the best lunch anywhere is at The Carrot Bam. We also saw The George Mann Tory Tavern for fine dining.

Garry and Carolea would be happy to assist Rotarians seeking an unusual Holiday shopping experience in a beautiful country setting!

An additional visit was made to participate in the Mechanicville club's distribution of Coats for Kids, a project that received financial support of 33 District clubs. The gratitude of the school leadership for these good looking winter coats was heartwarming. Including a District Simplified Grant over \$5500 was

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raised, providing 340 brand new coats for children in need. Congratulations for a great result of a club effort!

**District Membership contest:** All out for new members by January 1; \$500 toward a club's Polio Goal for the most new members! Several clubs are off to a great start, but there's plenty of time for more! Follow-up contests will be for most new members January 1 - March 1 and March 1 - May 15. There is also RI recognition of membership growth for clubs of less than 20 members. Your club President or Area AG has more information on both programs.

All the best as we join in the special spirit of this time of the year.

DG Bill



### Chestertown Rotary Introduces it's 2011 Holiday Memory Tree

This is an opportunity for you to remember those important people in your life who you love and miss. Whether they are relatives, close friends or people who you shared a brief moment with that changed your life here is a chance to recognize their impact on your life.

Take a moment to remember those folks this year by lighting a light on the Chestertown Rotary Club Memory Tree.

Your \$5.00 contribution will not only light a light for all to see, but will go even further by supporting local families, all in the name of that person who meant so much to you.

In addition to a light being lit on the Memory Tree, your loved ones name(s) will be part of an evergreen tree design that will be placed in a local paper for all to see the person(s) who made a difference in your life.

Please click on the Application Link or contact John Hagmann ([Hagmann@chestertownrotary.org](mailto:Hagmann@chestertownrotary.org)) to receive a copy of the Holiday Memory Tree Application.



### The Annual Northville Rotary Community Christmas Party December 9th at the Sport Island Pub in Northville

The party will begin at 6:00 with a social hour and include a prime rib buffet dinner for \$35.

*We are raffling a large Basket of Spirits and many items in a Silent Auction.*

To purchase tickets contact Chas Owens at 883-3338 or [cowens2@nycap.rr.com](mailto:cowens2@nycap.rr.com). We hope to build friendships and memberships.

Come join us.

*Santa will be there!*

## DISTRICT EVENTS AT A GLANCE

- **NOW** - Order your *Wonderful Life tickets now!* Details on pg 1 & Honorary Comm form on pg 7.
- **NOW** - Order your *End Polio Now Tee Shirts!* See page 5 for details.
- **December 25<sup>th</sup>** - *Merry Christmas*

## CLUB EVENTS AT A GLANCE

- **NOW** – *Holiday Memory Tree*  
Sponsored by Chestertown Rotary
- **December 9<sup>th</sup>**- *Community Christmas Party* Sponsored by Northville Rotary

### The Northville Rotary Lends a Helping Hand to Flood Victims



Within days of the devastation that occurred as a result of Hurricanes Irene and Lee, the Northville Rotary authorized a \$1000 donation to the flood victims in Middleburgh and Schoharie. The check was delivered to Rotarians from Middleburgh Club. A number of our members had seen the devastation first hand and conveyed the incredible losses and needs of the people living in the Schoharie Valley. Jim Casey our President, along with Rotarians Bob and Beth Smith traveled to Middleburgh with food and the check. The money was to be used to purchase gift cards to be distributed to those who were affected by the floods so they could purchase what they needed the most.

The Northville Rotary also joined with the Rotary Club of Mechanicville and eight other Rotary Clubs in donating \$100 towards purchasing new warm winter coats for children in Schoharie County who had lost so much as a result of this disaster. Through a Rotary grant, the District will be able to match this money and 100 new coats will be purchased through a partnership with Operation Warm.

Our club continues to help when the need arises keeping with our motto "Service Above Self". If you would like to join us in our attempt to make a difference in our community, please come to one of our meetings at the Sport Island Pub each Thursday at 5:30. All are welcome. By Susan Owen

## Rotary Clubs Provide a Gift of Warmth

When Tropical Storm Irene swept through upstate New York, it left thousands of families in chaos. Many lost all of their belongings, their homes, their memories. Schoharie County was one of the hardest hit by the flooding that followed the storm. As many people joined the disaster relief and clean-up, it became clear that many children lost all their clothing. With winter only a few weeks away Rotarians looked for ways to help. And help they did.



DG Bill Helps Unload



Cobleskill Presentation

Led by the dynamic duo of Jim Leyhane (Southern Rensselaer) and Matthew Hosek (Mechanicville) thirty-three Rotary Club Presidents from around District 7190 jumped into action raising almost \$4000 in two short weeks to acquire new warm winter coats from Operation Warm for children in the flood-ravaged areas in Schoharie County. Thanks to a District 7190 Simplified Grant from The Rotary Foundation this money was proportionately matched, bringing the total to \$5500.



Middleburgh Students



Gilboa Conesville Presentation

Operation Warm, founded 10 years ago by a Rotarian in Pennsylvania, is one of the largest non-profits in the country distributing new winter coats to children in need through strategic partnerships with organizations like Rotary. For more information about Operation Warm go to [www.operationwarm.org](http://www.operationwarm.org). Operation Warm will provide its one millionth coat this year.

by Harriet Nobel



## The Hudson Falls Rotary Club BOCES House Sale

For the past 30+ years the Hudson Falls Rotary Club and the WSWHE BOCES center in Hudson Falls have partnered to build a 3 bedroom 2 bath modular home. The big win for this project is for the students who learn, first hand, the skills needed to be successful in construction trades. The club pays all expenses for the house; once completed the sale of the modular home funds the next year's building and supplements scholarships to help students continue their studies.

The home has no interior finishing but is water tight and ready to be moved to a buyer's lot. This year the club has not been able to sell the home and is asking for anyone who might be interested, or know someone who is, to contact Howard Denison at 518-361-3240 for more details. \$27,000 is the low asking price.



## First Report | By Bat-Erdene Gombosuren Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar 2011-12 1 From Mongolia to United States of America

I have been admitted at University at Albany, SUNY as a MRP (Master of Regional Planning) student. As an Ambassadorial Scholar I always focus on the knowledge and skills of urban and regional planning that I can bring home to Mongolia. MRP program at SUNY Albany focuses on professional planning practice, researching and publishing on planning-related issues, and applying planning methods to improve the quality of life in communities and regions – for my case that would be Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia specifically the poor area called ger district. Studying in a graduate school in United States as an international student, I find it not easy. One of those classes that I took for the first semester was History and Philosophy of Planning. In this class it would talk more about American history which I have very limited understanding. I did have some problems following the lecture, but I have talked with the professor and we came up with a way to work it out. Indeed, I am very glad that I have done that. He was glad that I was interested in his class and eager to learn more. During the class of Planning Processes, Plans, and the Design of Communities we would normally talk on the situation or the scenario or even the whole comprehensive plan of certain towns in the United States. However, I would always connect that information back to Mongolian situation or scenario. That way I was/am able to think what I could do when I get back to Mongolia. I started making notes of different things that I should keep in my mind as a professional planner.

My sponsor Rotarian Marc Watkins helped me to prepare for my study in the United States tremendously. He is the past president of Rotary Club of Ulaanbaatar. Since he was from New York City it was very helpful to understand the

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American culture, what to expect and what not to expect. I worked with him about two and a half years even before I applied for Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship. He's also one of the reasons that I am a Rotaractor. Things that he has taught about United States helped me a lot to understand people and their culture in America, especially in New York State. However, there are many more things that I don't know and I am eager to learn about those.



The day that I had visited Albany, NY, my host districts governor and my host counselor picked me up at the bus station. That was very welcoming. The district governor Bill Nathan has invited me to the Yankees game in New York City. We went to the Yankee Stadium in the Bronx, NY and it was very interesting to see one of those biggest stadiums and one of those greatest baseball teams - New York Yankees.



After a few weeks I got an e-mail from Rotary Club of Schenectady that they wanted me to speak at their club meeting. The specific date was set and my host counselor and I went to that meeting together. It was a great success. Thanks to Rotarian Dick Blackmer of Rotary Club of Schenectady.

My host counselor has been very helpful so far. He and I went to their club meeting to introduce myself and to meet my host clubs Rotarians. The exact date for me speaking at Albany Club is been set on November 16. One of the interesting activities as an Ambassadorial Scholar was to attend Northeast Link orientation for inbound and outbound Rotary scholars in this area. I met many different scholars from all over the world – South Korea, Japan, Australia, Italy, and of course United States. It was held in Holiday Inn in Boxborough, Massachusetts. Getting there on time early in the morning was quite adventurous. However, with good coordination between Rotarians who were organizing the event and my host counselor I made it there on time from Albany, NY without any problem. Lots of good practices of scholars have been shared among us. I find those very helpful.

My first impression about United States was very interesting. I came through Los Angeles to visit my friend there. In other words I made a stop in Los Angeles,

CA for a few days on the way to Albany, NY. My friend and I went to the Griffith Observatory. On the same day we decided to drive down to Las Vegas, NV. I have checked out how American entertainment city looked and it was a lot of fun. However I did not gamble at all which I am still happy about. Afterwards, I flew to New York City. And I spent there about two weeks discovering the capital of the world as they say. Eventually, it was time to go to Albany, NY. After all those big cities Albany, NY was a great contrast. I still find Albany as an interesting town to discover and learn as a planner. Adding on to that let me list down the cities that I have visited so far. Those are:

- Utica, NY
- Boxborough, MA
- Worcester, MA
- Amherst, MA
- Northampton, MA
- Providence, RI

Most of them were visited for American Planning Association's different chapters' conferences. As a graduate student in planning field there are many chances to attend conferences and those are always helpful.

The first few months of my host country have been great so far. I do enjoy living in the United States.

However, one of the things that I realized was I should know and learn more what to do so that could make my experience here even better and comfortable. Thanks to the Rotary Foundation and Rotarians here in my host country and back home for allowing me to study and experience the different part of the world.



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**Editor's Note:**

Thank you for sharing your events, recaps, pictures, good deeds, and stories with us by sending them, by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to publication, to me at

**[TheToolbox7190@gmail.com](mailto:TheToolbox7190@gmail.com)**

**Barb Wyllie**  
*Editor*

## Award Winning Author

**Margie Palatini**

### Visits Lake George Elementary School

On October 24th the Lake George PTSO along with the Lake George Rotary Club sponsored a visit from award winning author, Margie Palatini. In preparation for her arrival the entire school came together working collaboratively to design projects around Palatini's famous books. Allison Darbee, art teacher at Lake George Elementary, worked with each level to create different art projects. Students made clay sculptures of Palatini's well-known character "Oliver" who has terrible "bedhead", while other grades created their own variation of her famous character "Moosestache". In music class, Ken Schenk worked with his students on creating a tune to go along with a verse in Piggie Pie, which they shared with Palatini on the day of her visit. She was very impressed and loved the idea of putting music to her stories! In Physical Education, Heather Usher, read the authors unique version of the "Farmer in the Dell" and then taught children in the lower grades how to play the timeless game of "Farmer in the Dell". Of course with all the preparation going on throughout the school, you cannot leave out the sharing of Palatini's stories. Bridget Crossman, Library Media Specialist, pushed into classrooms and shared Palatini's stories with each of the classes. By the time Palatini arrived the school was buzzing with excitement.

On the day of Palatini's visit, she met with each level and presented a custom performance for each level. The author discussed everything from how she comes up with her ideas to how a book gets made. The students learned a great deal about creating good characters and the process of writing, but the thing that most students took away from her presentations was the experience of being read to by Palatini. As Jon Marchello, Intermediate II student said to Palatini, "You do voices so well, you should make cartoon movies." One of the highlights of the author visit was a special lunch with Margie Palatini. The author had lunch with 10 students, during which she shared some of the books she is working on, discussed details about her writing, and took part in question and answer type conversation with the students. The students created a special menu for Palatini based on different themes from her books, which she was delighted about.

After a busy day of presenting and enjoying lunch, Palatini signed and personalized over 200 books for the students of Lake George, which was a perfect ending

to a perfect day. A special thanks to the Lake George Rotary Club for their generous donation and their commitment to enhancing Literacy for the students of the Lake George School District. Their support is greatly appreciated!

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## Veterans Day Observation

On 11/11/11 at 11am the Glenville Rotary Club sponsored its annual Veterans Day Observation, at the Schenectady County Veterans Memorial Park. The event was organized by David Hitchcock and the Master of Ceremonies was club President Barb Wyllie. The event featured a Color Guard from the 109<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing located in Glenville. 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. John C. Shakeshaft, Flight Nurse 139<sup>th</sup> Air Evacuation Squadron, 109<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing addressed the crowd as did his son PFC John C. Shakeshaft Jr. who has just finished Marine Corp basic training. There was also participation by veterans groups along with Boy and Girl Scouts, students from Scotia-Glenville High School, and various local government and civic organizations. The event also included an invocation, the singing of the national anthem, God Bless America, the Pledge of Allegiance, and the playing of Taps. Three members of the Glenville club also participated, Ed Culhane read a patriotic poem that he authored, Lt. Col Frank Quinn, Army, retired, and Glenville Town Supervisor Chris Koetzle spoke to the crowd of about 80 people. By David Hitchcock

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## Polar Bear Plunge Tee Shirts!!! Get in the Fun!! Get in the Picture!!!

DISTRICT 7190 IS ORDERING **RED TEE SHIRTS** WITH **END POLIO NOW FOR THE POLIO PLUNGE** IN LAKE GEORGE ON JANUARY, 1<sup>ST</sup> 2012.

GET YOUR PICTURE TAKEN WITH OUR FINGERS HOLDING UP THE SIGN "WE ARE ALMOST THERE." ANYONE WITH THE END POLIO NOW TEE SHIRT CAN BE IN THE PICTURE, SUPPORTERS AND PLUNGERS.

PLACE ORDERS WITH ANNE CARGILE, [annec@nycap.rt.com](mailto:annec@nycap.rt.com) COST IS \$10.00 EACH, MENS SIZES ONLY SMALL, MED, LG, XLG or XXLG.

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## Rotary UN Day



Seven Interact and four chaperons had a great trip to New York City and the Rotary U N Day event, Saturday, November 5. The Interact were from the Amsterdam and Southern Saratoga Interact Clubs.

The program was emceed by a DJ who kept the program dynamic and fun. The transitions from presentation to presentation were up beat and entertaining with fun trivia polls on U N and Rotary history. The common thread through the presentations seemed to be that we as individuals can accomplish wonderful results changing and saving lives if we maintain focus on our goals. This was the first meeting where smart phones, social media, power point presentations, music and the spoken word were effectively used to focus, encourage and inspire.

I would like to thank District 7190 New Generations Committee for underwriting much of the cost of transportation. Thank you also to the Amsterdam Rotary and their connections with the school district and Brown's Transportation. The three came together to facilitate a seamless, comfortable transportation experience from our area to the U N Plaza, and home. I also want to thank the Shenendehowa and Twin Bridges Rotary for reimbursing our youth's registration fees and chipping in for the transportation costs.

## RI Convention in Bangkok Exhibition Booth

Dear Rotarians:

Greetings from Evanston! I am writing to advise you that RI is now accepting applications from Rotarians interested in hosting a project exhibition booth at the 2012 RI Convention in Bangkok, Thailand (6-9 May 2012). You may access the application by visiting [www.rotary.org/convention](http://www.rotary.org/convention), or by clicking on the following link:

[http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en\\_doc/c12\\_pex\\_application\\_en.doc](http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en_doc/c12_pex_application_en.doc) (in English)

The projects exhibition is a great opportunity for Rotarians to share their successful projects and activities with thousands of Rotarians and their guests. RI President Kalyan Banerjee and the Convention Committee are eager to showcase a wide array of Rotary projects and activities at the project exhibition in Bangkok, so we invite you to share this message widely and encourage Rotarians who have never exhibited before to consider participating in the exhibition.

For booth applicants: Please carefully read the online terms and conditions document and guidelines before filling out and submitting an application form.

Terms and conditions for project booths: [http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en\\_pdf/c12\\_pex\\_terms\\_conditions\\_en.pdf](http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en_pdf/c12_pex_terms_conditions_en.pdf) (in English).

For your further reference, please review the following guidelines related to Rotary's name and trademarks. Exhibit organizers are asked to carefully observe these policies in displaying their projects.

Project guidelines for Rotary name and emblem use [http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en\\_pdf/rotary\\_marks\\_usage\\_project\\_guidelines\\_en.pdf](http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en_pdf/rotary_marks_usage_project_guidelines_en.pdf) (in English)

Completed applications should be sent directly to RI's International Meetings Division, as indicated on the application form. Any questions you may have regarding the booth exhibition should be directed to Kimberly Braam, Exhibition and Shipping Supervisor at [exhibitor@rotary.org](mailto:exhibitor@rotary.org).

Please note that the deadline for booth applications is 28 November 2011. Booth space is limited, so we advise you to submit your applications as soon as possible.

Best regards,  
Jesse Allerton  
Supervisor, Rotary Service  
Rotary International  
[rotary.service@rotary.org](mailto:rotary.service@rotary.org)



## DISTRICT 7190 ANNUAL FOUNDATION EVENT 2011-2012 HONORARY COMMITTEE CONTRIBUTION FORM

NAME OF DONOR \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I/We wish to make a donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_.  
Minimum donation for Honorary Committee listing is \$100.00.  
Enclose check, made payable to The Rotary Foundation.

Rotary Member Number, if available \_\_\_\_\_  
(This number can be found on the mailing label of "The Rotarian" magazine)

I/We wish to be listed on the Honorary Committee as follows: \_\_\_\_\_  
(\$100 donation may be listed with spouse/partner name.)

Mail check with this form to:  
**PDG Anne Cargile**  
**8 Burning Bush Boulevard**  
**Ballston Lake, NY 12019**

**If you have previously given since July 1, 2011 please complete the above and indicate as follows:**

I have made a donation of \$100 or more to The Rotary Foundation since July 1, 2011\_\_\_\_\_.

I am on the TRF-Direct automatic deduction plan as of \_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/2011.

The form may be e-mailed to PDG Anne at [annec@nycap.rr.com](mailto:annec@nycap.rr.com).

***THANK YOU FOR YOUR VALUED SUPPORT***

Bill Nathan  
District Governor

PDG Dan Stec  
District Foundation Chairman

16 Pine Hollow Road  
Slingerlands, NY 12159

## District 7190 Fundraiser...



Come join the fun and help the District while bonding with fellow Rotarians and friends.  
*Details on page 1; Honorary Committee form on page 7.*