



Rotary Club of Pearl River, P.O. Box 252, Pearl River, NY 10965  
District 7210 - Region 8 - Zone 32 - Club #4982 – Charter Date December 12, 1935

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

**CAROL McGRATH - President - 2011-2012**  
**"Reach Within to Embrace Humanity"**

Rotary Club  
Of  
Pearl River

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**Rotary Meeting Greenhouse Cafe - Pearl River, New York**

**Date:** April 19, 2012 – The meeting was opened by President Carol @ 12:15

**Pledge:** Jay (watch your step & feet) Hellman ---Excellent Job !

**Invocation:** Ann (Ms. Personality plus+) Taylor ---Terrific & Meaningful Prayer!

**Special Announcements:** Welcome back! **Dorothy** – We all missed you ! and a thought to **Kathy Shepard** on her remarkable recovery from her temporary illness & set-back! **Way to Go! "Ladies"**. The entire club was rooting both of you on to recovery! **Prayer's worked !**

**Visiting Rotarians:** Kimball Parker – **South Orangetown Rotary Club**

**Guests:** Chris Smith by Nancy B. & Rita Hannon by George W. (**Welcome**)

**Birthdays:** Tom Bertussi – 4/19 & Jim Murphy 4/20 (American- Idol Type Talent led this birthday song) No glass was broken or shattered !

**Anniversaries:** None announced that the editor heard! No-one admitted to???

**Announcements:** Performed & announced by President Carol

1. **April 25, Wednesday**—Rotary Wine Tasting Dinner to be held at the Kwan Thai Restaurant in PR. Price \$35.00 per person for 4 course dinner plus the Wine exhibit to be challenged by the lips of our Rotarians. Sign up **ASAP space limited!** See Pres. Carol
2. **Any Roster changes** or updates Please contact Pres. Carol or Pres. Elect Mr. Johnny B to make the appropriate changes to the Rotary Info.
3. **May 05, (Saturday) PR Rotary Fishing Contest** – An all hands on deck event for any volunteers please contact Jim Murphy, Jim Trojan or Pres. Carol for any time Rotary members are available to provide assistance.
4. **Special Thanks to John Buonadonna**—for his overseeing the PR Rotary project to re-create & repair the Paula Bohevsky Memorial Garden @ the Pearl River H. S. **"Thanks to his & Carols' community dedication to the project representing Rotary"**
5. **April 26<sup>th</sup>**- Rotoract Dinner Celebration-contact Pres. Carol for details!
6. **"Soap Box Derby" Hay Bale Signs** are available for advertising during the event! Please see applications at meetings or contact Mr. **Frank "the Sailor" Neeson** for the application or additional **INFO**.
7. **Soap Box Derby Report**—given by John B. everything in place a Driver's meeting was held and (40) Forty drivers's attended for the 1<sup>st</sup> informational meeting. Great turn-out!
8. **TBD – Joint Rotary Meeting** w/South Orangetown @ The O'Burg Armory? Possibly May 03<sup>rd</sup>. Details to follow for raising funds to supply Gifts to the **National**

**Guard** unit leaving for action in Afghanistan. Pres. Carol will inform club on options & dates! **ASAP**

**Rotary Challenge:** A Tremendous announcement by our Historian “**Jeffrey**” due to **visions & dreams** of the highest magnitude! A very large person (even taller & bigger than Jim Shepard) came in a dream from a mountain top & into a valley (**Moses?**) with a blank stone tablet that said “**Give it a rest**” there should be a suspension of the **Rotary challenge**” possibly to re-format! But then who is going to argue! **Therefore:** The Rotary challenge is taking an extended vacation! Until God sees fit to advise further!

**Queen of Hearts: Dr. Ed orchestrated the event:** Jaya picked their table # “**lucky**” but, An 8 of clubs was chosen by Dorothy from the “Ladies” Table. No card luck! But to all of us, Dorothy & all of the Rotary Ladies never looked better!

**Happy Bucks: Many dollars** to see Dorothy Filoramo return to our Rotary Meeting!

**Additional Dollars** for the birthdays, **Happy chips** to see Kimball Parker attend OUR meeting, **Engagement Dollars** for Steve P. daughter who became engaged, **Bucks** for Barbara B. for the announcement of her daughter’s wedding date in August! **Many Pesos’** for Neil O’Sullivan on the birth of his son! **Thankful Dollars** from Nancy B. on the club’s donation to the foundation organized by her grand-daughter for the re-funding of the “**Youth**” activities in the Town of Orangetown, which were removed from the present budget.

**Program:** Presented by **Vin Acocella** on the devastation & destruction during the historic upstate rainfall from Hurricane Irene. A video was shown to our club of all the historic devastation leveled against the upstate region by “**The Schohari Creek**”. Record rainfall fell which made a creek become a river which totally destroyed, moved & relocated everything in its path. Picture after picture displayed the total destruction and the incredible power of a creek which rose to beyond record heights to destroy the countryside, valley and all Towns in its path. Vinnie’s brothers house was pictured with the severe damage from not only the original Irene storm, but the following 2 week later storm which added to the already flooded areas. This recreated the excessive flooding and added to the magnitude of the 1<sup>st</sup> flooding. Hillsides became mudslides which poured into low areas and also into the overflowing creek/river torrent that washed away homes, roadways, Towns, all businesses and everything in its path. The total devastation was incredible and hard to fathom unless seen through this video. Cars buried in mud, buildings buried, houses moved from foundations and moved ½ mile away, houses completely destroyed were all part of the video taken by Vinnie. **Seeing is believing!**

The current situation has the people either trying to rebuild, stabilize or simply walking away from their homes & businesses from their complete loss. In some cases Insurance has covered much of the losses. In other cases, Federal funding has helped, in some cases funding was not available or was even denied for whatever terrible reason.

**Summary:** No one realized this was in our backyard & in our state until presented by these pictures. To see the enormity and gravity of the situation brought to our club, correctly stated the accurate scope of the storms power and destructive nature. We all dealt with the storm on our front, but nothing like the size & scope of the devastation dealt with by the upstate residents of New York. Our prayers for recovery go to the families of this region!

**Four Way Test: Dr. Anton Stenzler** gave it his best effort! **Bulletin Editor:** Jimmy Stewart