



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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Carol McGrath  
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Director

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Director

Larry Vergine  
Director

Ex Officio  
PDG Jeffrey  
Keahon

**Pearl River Rotary Meeting -- Greenhouse Cafe - Pearl River, New York**  
**Date: June 17, 2012**

The Meeting was opened @ 12:15 by our Lovely **President -- Carol McGrath**

**Pledge:** Marti Erickson

**Invocation:** Gibby Sweet

**Visiting Rotarians:** 0 -- None

**Guests:** **Ms. Wendy Williams** the better half of Russ, **Robert Zuppe** a guest of Larry Vergine jr., The talented **Lauren & Mark (3) Griffith**, the young adults of Mark Jr. and of Grandfather Mark Sr. and our guest speaker **Patricia Dempire** who will be featured later!

**Birthdays:** 6/19- **Doreen Buonadonna** and 6/20- **Jonathan Bellush**

**Anniversaries:** 6/15- **Wendy & Russell Williams**

**New Member Induction:** Past District Governor Jeffrey Keahon, Pres. Carol McGrath & the wonderful sponsor Nancy Bergerman inducted the club's newest Member "**Chris Smith**" to the PR Rotary Club.

**Announcements:**

- 1) **June 30<sup>th</sup>- Installation Dinner-** Invitations are out and responses are requested ASAP. The Event is being held at the Park Ridge Elks Club. The new EI-Presidente is **Mr. John Buonadonna & Doreen** as 1<sup>st</sup> Lady.
- 2) **Annual Rotary International-** The Club members were sent a letter to outline the yearly annual contribution by the PR Rotary Club to the International Foundation. Where does the contribution go? **Mr. Jeffrey Keahon** explained that the money remains in Chicago for 3 years, then, ½ of the entire donation returns to the District for special International Project Grants.
- 3) **Pearl River Rotary Foundation-** Carol gave a summary on our Scholarship Program which issued **(20)** scholarships to the lucky Pearl River School District candidates. The PR Rotary club has raised over \$460,000K, through the PR Rotary Golf Outing coordinated by **Jeff**

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The **FOUR WAY TEST** of things we think, 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?

**Keahon** and his committee. Note: The **1<sup>st</sup> 2012 Golf Committee Meeting** is to be held @ the magnificent Louie's on the Ave. Restaurant -- **Meeting @ 6 pm.** Cocktails/Dinner after meeting --TBD

- 4) **Rockland County Hospice Golf Outing & Dinner** - Which was sponsored by our own **Dr. Ed Fisher, his lovely wife Raselle & Dr. Varsha Reddy** was an over-whelming success to **benefit** the **Hospice Foundation**. This event was attended by many of our club member's inc. an auction coordinated by **Mr. Jeffrey** and an additional celebration of **Dr. Fishers' Birthday (June 11<sup>th</sup>)** -- sponsored by **Donald & Betsy Brenner**. This event raised in contributions over **\$ 95,000K** --To alleviate the expenses of the Hospice Foundation. At the Dinner Event a video of the facility was shown to the participants of the magnificent "Joseph Raso Hospice Facility" that was built by strictly by donations of those people who care including "**Our Own**" above mentioned Rotarians.
- 5) **Ray Hayes Annual Golf Outing**—This day was a fellowship event to celebrate the life and Rotarian dedication of Mr. Ray Hayes the PR Rotary Clubs' longest serving Rotary member of over **62 years**. This **June 13<sup>th</sup>** event was coordinated by a committee led by **Ed Grant & Gibby Sweet** and was well attended by our club members & guests with the dinner hosted by Louie's Restaurant on the avenue. The possession of the Ray Hayes Annual Club Members Trophy went to **Mr. Gibby Sweet** who earned the title with a Hdcp. net score of 73 winning by 1 stroke over the charging **Jay Helman**. Other Awards were Closest Shot to the Flagstick—Lakeside #5 Hole – **Jimmy Solesky** (Guest of **Jim Shepard**). Pines #5 – **Larry Vergine Sr.** Long Drive #Lake 9 & Low Guest Score – **Jim Solesky** (81). Long Drive on Pines #2 – **Mamet Erzen** (Guest of **Jay Helman**). **Jimmy Trojan** won our most dedicated Golfer Award for participating in the Golf Event & Dinner Party. All participants enjoyed a fantastic day & dinner party.

**Queen of Hearts:** The lucky ticket # was drawn by our Greenhouse Honor Table, but Wendy Williams drew the 9 of Hearts, but she did draw a lucky husband in Russ for their anniversary.

#### **Happy Bucks:**

- Many Happy Dollars for the **Ray Hayes Celebration** Event & Dinner.
- Happy Bucks for the **Hospice Foundation** Event & **Dr. Ed's Birthday Party**.
- Happy Big Dollars for Our New Member **Chris Smith**.
- Prayer Dollars for our **U.S. Troops** who always protect our freedom.
- Mucho Dollars for the anniversary of **Wendy & Russ Williams**.
- Many Pesos for the **Rotary Foundation's** Scholarship Awards Program.
- Abundant Lire' to the **Dominican College** Rotoract Club for winning a Community Service Award.
- Happy PR Rotary Bucks for the District Conference presentation by **Dr. Ed Fisher** which outlined his Guatemala Health Rescue Trip representing "Our Club".
- Proud Dollars for **The Pearl River Club** which was presented with the zone Health/Hunger Award at the district conference.
- **Birthday Bucks** for the birthdays especially from our Pres-elect for his wife's Doreen's B-Day.



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**The Program:** Brought to our Club through Kirk (Happy to be Here!) Flynn presented by Mark (To the Rescue!) Griffith Jr.

**Ms. Patricia Dempire** – Who graduated from Spring Valley H.S. decided to make a difference in her native homeland of Haiti. After the original **January Earthquake in Haiti** devastated the Island, **Patricia** assisted the children of Haiti by providing desperately needed education that was lost by the tragedy. She started an **Educational Camp** that was a way to supply the kids with some of the learning experience that was lost and now unavailable. The new educational camp began in a Church where the pews were used as the school benches. Additionally the pews were used as tables for the hot meals they received while attending the day's activities. Eventually through various personal and family donations a few tables & chairs were acquired for the students to help with their eating & learning experience. These camp students also were able to learn the French language from a teacher hired by the church who promoted the teaching/learning skills. These **Haitian Children** are living in (1) room shacks where food is hard to come by on a regular basis.

The **Question** that needs to be answered is all the tremendous relief work and donations provided by the United States, Where does the relief "**Money**" Go! Even the great work provided by the **Bill Clinton-George Bush "41"** Presidential combined relief effort needs to be re-evaluated to direct the aid to those truly in need.

**Patricia** provided the additional necessary education in teaching English along with other social and life organizational skills. In addition to her personal time dedication, she has been using her own, relatives and parent's personal donations to supply additional items for the children's education.

In the future Patricia will be attending her **Graduate Education at City College** majoring in **Education** and eventually hoping to complete a Masters degree ASAP. **Patricia** is a wonderful, caring and dedicated person making a difference for the children in her native country of Haiti.

**Thank You** to Mark Griffith who brought Patricia to our Rotary Club.

**Four Way Test:** The Entire Club led by Pres. Elect -- Here's Johnny !! \*Bulletin Editor: Jimmy Stewart