

ROCHESTER LATINO ROTARY LA ROTARIANA

August, 2016



President Julio Vázquez, Charol Ríos –Davis, Maycanitza Pérez, Wim Baars and Luisa Baars pose for a picture after cleaning the grounds around the new site of the Eugenio María de Hostos Charter School

Rotary Club supports charter school

The Eugenio María de Hostos Charter School is the oldest charter school in Rochester. It has been very successful in its dual language teaching model. Both English and Spanish speaking children receive instruction in both languages. The students fair very well in the state tests. Their scores in both English Language Arts and Mathematics surpassed those of the schools in the Rochester City School District. The students are selected by lottery from applicants. The school offers an extended school day. Parental involvement is encouraged. The school has partnerships with community organizations such as the Maplewood YMCA and the Rochester Latino Rotary Club.

Over the years the club has provided bilingual dictionaries to fourth grade students as well as books to kindergarten students. Tutoring and reading buddies have been provided as well.

Recently, the school acquired the former School No. 22 vacant building in order to expand its offerings to the twelfth grade.

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Rotary club supports, continued from page 1

In order to prepare the school to welcome the students in September, members of the RLRC spent some time cleaning the grounds around the school. This was a fun project that required no money, just the good will of the club members who gave a few hours of their weekend to pull weeds and removed garbage.

Maycanitza Pérez, executive director of the school, joined the club members in the cleaning project. The school has been approved to offer classes from kindergarten to high school.

Starting in September, the school will have two campuses, the new one on Zimbrich Street and the one on Joseph Avenue.

The club anticipates that it will continue supporting the school as this falls within the club's focus on literacy. It is no secret that Latino students drop out of school in alarming numbers. Any effort to increase the graduation rate among Latinos is favored by the club.

Plans for future service projects

Aida Veras and Charol Ríos-Davis, co-chairs of the Service Projects Committee, are eagerly planning future events to be sponsored by the club. Among these, the Mind, Body, and Soul event that is part of the Parent Academy at the Eugenio María de Hostos Charter School. It will be offered in October at the Zimbrich campus of the school.

On September 7th club members together with community leaders will be on hand to welcome students to both the Zimbrich and Joseph campus of the EMHCS.

The Foundation of the RLRC will have its traditional Thanksgiving service project; the details will be forthcoming soon.

A garage sale will be held at the Rochester Public Market to benefit the Polio Plus campaign.

New meeting place

The new meeting place of the club will be at 1069 Joseph Avenue. For the past few months the club has held the meetings at Ibero American Action League main office. We are very grateful to its CEO Hilda Escher for the support, however, access difficulties made the change necessary.

Club seeks speakers

One of the objectives of every Rotary club is to provide interesting speakers at the regular meetings. To such effects, President Julio asked members to submit the names of potential speakers. Among those are Deputy Mayor Carl Carballada, Jean A. Lowe, and Carmelo Ramos.

Getting to know the club members

President Elect Dr. Miriam Vázquez is a dedicated educator who worked for the Rochester City School District as a bilingual teacher, vice-principal and as principal. In 2000 she resigned from the RCSD to open the EMHCS of which she is a co-founder. She was its first principal for 9 years.

As a club member, she has been the chair of the Literacy Committee since she became a member. Single-handed, she was able to establish the Foundation of the Rochester Latino Rotary Club.

She is well-known for her dedication to her church, education, and her family. A member of the large Vázquez family, Miriam enjoys spending time with her husband, 6 children, 8 grandchildren and her 8 brothers and 4 sisters and their families. She is passionate about her faith in God, her family and quality education for all children.

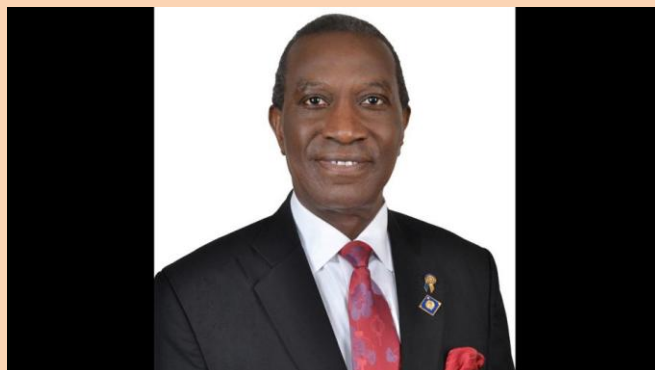
Immediate Past President Orlando Rivera, a native of Rochester, NY and a graduate of Bishop Kearney High School in Irondequoit, Orlando went on to attend the State University of New York at Potsdam where he graduated with a concentration in Spanish Literature. Currently a Licensed Real Estate Salesperson, REALTOR. Orlando's career began in 2002 with The Research Foundation of S.U.N.Y. as an ESL tutor and Outreach Recruiter across New York State. The challenge to grow as a non-profit professional led to a position with PathStone Corporation as the Placement and Career Services Developer and soon after the Regional Administrator with the PathStone Farmworker Training and Employment program's Wayne County office. A focus on assisting others and being active has led to many volunteer opportunities in the community. Orlando also received a certification in teaching "Native Language Literacy" from the Literacy Volunteers of America, Inc. and its Founder. He is the Website Master, and Membership Committee Chair. Orlando and his wife Terra have two boys and a new baby girl

Photos



Top, Dr. Miriam Vázquez with daughter Athena; middle, Miriam attended the Club's Masquerade Ball; bottom, Past President Orlando Rivera with lovely wife, Terra

Focus on Rotary



Sam Owori is selected to be 2018-19 Rotary President. He will be declared the president-nominee on 1 October if no challenging candidates have been suggested. Owori says he sees in Rotary "an incredible passion to make a difference." As president, he plans to "harness that enthusiasm and pride so that every project becomes the engine of peace and prosperity."

Owori's chief concerns as a Rotary leader are membership and extension. Since he served as district governor, the number of clubs in Uganda has swelled from nine to 89. He urges past, present, and future leaders to work together to engage more women, youth program participants, alumni, and community members to increase Rotary's membership in the coming years.

Owori is chief executive officer of the Institute of Corporate Governance of Uganda. Before that, he was executive director of the African Development Bank, managing director of Uganda Commercial Bank Ltd., and director of Uganda Development Bank. He has studied law, employment relations, business management, corporate resources management, microfinance, and marketing at institutions in England, Japan, Switzerland, Tanzania, and the United States, including Harvard Business School.

Since becoming a member in 1978, Owori has served Rotary as regional Rotary Foundation coordinator, regional RI membership coordinator, RI Representative to the United Nations Environment Program and UN-Habitat, and RI director. He has been a member or chair of several committees, including the International PolioPlus Committee, the Drug Abuse Prevention Task Force, and the Audit Committee. Most recently, Owori served as trustee of The Rotary Foundation, chair of The Rotary Foundation's Finance Committee, and a member of the Investment Committee. Owori is a Benefactor of The Rotary Foundation, and he and his wife, Norah, are Major Donors and Paul Harris Fellows.

NOTA: Information obtained from rotary.org

Board of Directors

President – Julio Vázquez
Immediate Past President – Orlando Rivera
President Elect – Dr. Miriam Vázquez
Treasurer – Idalia Chang
Secretaries – Wim Baars
Luisa Baars
Club Service Co-Chairs - Aida Veras
Charol Ríos-Davis
Vocational Service Chair - Dr. Constantino Fernández,
Dr. Timothy Malia
International Service Chair – Luisa Baars
Membership Chair – Orlando Rivera
Foundation Chair - Elisa DeJesús
Literacy Co-Chairs – Dr. Miriam Vázquez
Julio Vázquez
Club Webmaster – Orlando Rivera
Tera Rivera
Bulletin Editor - Luisa Baars
Program Chair – Orlando Rivera
Julio Vázquez
Fund Raising – Dr. Miriam Vázquez
Sergeant-At-Arms - To rotate among directors

Object of Rotary

The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

1. The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;
2. High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;
3. The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;
4. The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

Rotarian Code of Conduct

The following code of conduct has been adopted for the use of Rotarians.

As a Rotarian, I will

1. Act with integrity and high ethical standards in my personal and professional life
2. Deal fairly with others and treat them and their occupations with respect
3. Use my professional skills through Rotary to: mentor young people, help those with special needs, and improve people's quality of life in my community and in the world
4. Avoid behavior that reflects adversely on Rotary or other Rotarians.

