

# ROCHESTER LATINO ROTARY LA ROTARIANA

July-AUGUST, 2015



Alex Castro and Aida Veras were inducted as the newest members of the Rochester Latino Rotary Club by Club President Orlando Rivera

## CHANGE OVER PICNIC

On a beautiful July Sunday, members of the Rochester Latino Rotary Club met to witness the installation of the 2015-2016 Board of Directors. The setting was the home by Lake Ontario of Doug and Hilda Escher. Once more we were beneficiaries of their generosity. Club members brought their favorite dish to pass. Family members joined the festivity making the event a more memorable one. Our gratitude is extended to Doug, Hilda, members who cooked the dinner, family members, and all attendees.

Several things took place during the picnic. First of all, there was the installation of Orlando Rivera as club President. He addressed all those present and unveiled the Rotary theme for the year: Be a gift to the world, or as Spanish-speaking friends south of the border say: Enriquece el mundo.



Be a gift to the world

Second, Luisa Baars presented appreciation awards to members of the outgoing board members. Third, Orlando inducted Aida Veras and Alex Castro as active club members, and fourth, Luisa Baars presented a Paul Harris +1 award to Abraham Hernández.

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**ROTARY IS NOT AN  
OBLIGATION, IT IS  
A PRIVILEGE**

## Induction of new members

The ceremony for the induction of new members is a very meaningful one. It includes a brief biography of the individuals being inducted, a listing of the rights, privileges, and responsibilities of members, the reading of the Four Way Test and the Object of Rotary, and the presentation of the Rotary pin and the membership certificate.

Aida Veras was a charter member of the club. Due to her job responsibilities, she had to resign. Now, Aida has retired and she has the time to commit to Rotary once more. Aida was an educator, directing the Day Care Center of the Ibero American Action League for many years. Later on, she was in charge of youth services at the same agency and for a time had a fitness center. She has directed a folkloric dance group specializing in Puerto Rican dances.

Alex Castro, a young executive at PathStone Corporation, has been involved in providing housing to people with low income for a long time. From The Housing Council to the Rochester Housing Authority and now to PathStone, Alex has demonstrated his commitment to serving the community. His current position is Senior Vice-President of Corporate Operations.

A warm welcome is extended to Aida and Alex to the Rotary family.

## Paul Harris Award

Abraham Hernández has been involved with the club from the beginning. He was the MC during the charter dinner, and he immediately applied to become a member. He has been in charge of the website, the Program Committee, the Fund Raising Committee, President Elect, and President. Abe is an ambassador for Rotary. His enthusiasm and dedication to Rotary in general and the club in particular are contagious. He has been awarded two Paul Harris Fellow awards for his service. Congratulations Abe!

## Outgoing board members recognized

Luisa expressed her gratitude to the outgoing board members who during her President year worked tirelessly to advance the club's goals. Those recognized were Orlando Rivera, President Elect; Miriam Vázquez, Treasurer and Literacy; Wim Baars and Julio Vázquez, secretaries; Elisa DeJesús, Foundation Chair; Charol Ríos, Service Projects; Diana Hernández, International Projects and Membership; Antonia Scott, Fund Raising and Webmaster; Tricia Cruz, Public Relations; Tim McGrath, Youth Services and Gopher; Diana Irizarry, Oratorical Contest.

A heart-felt thank you for your service during the past year and may you continue your support in the year ahead.

## Focus on Rotary

**“WHATEVER ROTARY MAY MEAN TO US, TO THE WORLD IT WILL BE KNOWN BY THE RESULTS IT ACHIEVES.”**

—Paul P. Harris

The quote from Paul P. Harris, founder of Rotary, reminds us that our humanitarian efforts should be well thought out so that they result in the betterment of living conditions for the beneficiaries. Rotary International focuses on six areas: 1. promoting peace, 2. preventing diseases, 3. providing access to clean water and sanitation, 4. enhancing maternal and child health, 5. improving basic education and literacy, and 6. helping communities develop.

Projects addressing one or more of the areas of focus are developed by clubs in conjunction with the districts and the Rotary Foundation. Rotarians conduct need assessments, join efforts with Rotarians and community members locally and abroad, plan projects, develop budgets, and present proposals for funding to their respective district, and eventually to the Rotary Foundation. Below are some examples of projects undertaken by Rotary clubs.

1. More than 85 percent of Ghanaians now have access to clean water, far surpassing the 2015 goals set by the United Nations. Rotary, with its abundant resources and committed global membership has provided more sources of drinking water in Ghana than any other NGO.
2. Today, 42 million people are displaced by armed conflict or persecution. Rotary Peace Fellows develop the skills to strengthen peace efforts, train local leaders to prevent and mediate conflict, and support long-term peace building in areas affected by conflict. Rotary provides up to 100 peace fellowships per year at Rotary Peace Centers.
3. More than 100 million people are pushed into poverty each year because of medical costs. Rotary aims to improve and expand access to low-cost and free health care in underdeveloped areas. Rotarians educate and mobilize communities to help prevent the spread of major diseases such as polio, HIV/AIDS, and malaria. Many of the projects ensure that medical training facilities are located where the workforce lives.
4. At least 7 million children under the age of five die each year due to malnutrition, poor health care, and inadequate sanitation. To help reduce this rate, Rotary provides immunizations and antibiotics to babies, improves access to essential medical services, and supports trained health care providers for mothers and their children. The projects ensure sustainability by empowering the local community to take ownership of health care training programs.

## Board of Directors

President – Orlando Rivera

Immediate Past President – Luisa Baars

President Elect – Julio Vázquez

Treasurer – Dr. Miriam Vázquez

Secretaries – Wim Baars

Luisa Baars

Club Service Chair - Aida Veras

Maritza Buitrago

Vocational Service Chair - Dr. Constantino Fernández,

Dr. Timothy Malia

International Service Chair – Diana Hernández,

Mackenzie Malia

Youth Service Chair - Tim McGrath

Membership Chair - Diana Hernández

Foundation Chair - Elisa DeJesús

Public Relations Chair - Tricia Cruz

Literacy Chair – Dr. Miriam Vázquez

Club Webmaster – Orlando Rivera

Tera Rivera

Bulletin Editor - Luisa Baars

Program Chair – Orlando Rivera

Julio Vázquez

Fund Raising - Antonia Scott

Sergeant-At-Arms - To rotate among directors

Gopher – Tim McGrath

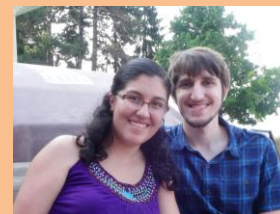
## OBJECT OF ROTARY

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.



## Photos



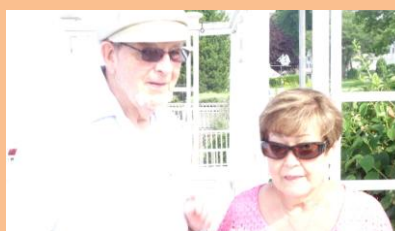
Clockwise: Abe receives Paul Harris Award, Mackenzie and boyfriend at the picnic. Rural & Migrant Ministries William McKee and Peter Mares came to speak about the work they do.



Garden at St. Michael's was tended by Julio, Aida and Miriam Vázquez



Aida Veras and guests at the picnic



Wim and Luisa Baars enjoyed the sunny day