

ROCHESTER LATINO ROTARY CLUB

LA ROTARIANA

October, 2017



Club president Miriam Vázquez posed with DG Don Milton during his official club visit

District Governor Don Milton visited the Rochester Latino Rotary Club on the 4th of October. AG Paul Minor did the introduction as follows: Don joined the Penfield Rotary Club in 1977. He served as its President in 2009. Don is a Paul Harris Fellow and a Rotary Benefactor. He was President of Monroe County Rotary Special Needs Camp Haccamo. Don has one daughter, Andrea and son-in-law Karl, a Paul Harris Fellow and two grandchildren. A faculty member at SUNY - Empire State College's School of Business, Don served as a majority leader of the Monroe County legislature, retired Commissioner of Public Works and Deputy Supervisor of the Town of Irondequoit and past trustee of Monroe Community College. Owner of a real estate and development company, he was Director and President of the New York Association of Realtors and past chair of the Family First Federal Credit Union in Rochester, New York.

Don is a recipient of a number of awards and honors including the REALTOR of the Year Award; the National Association of REALTORS Government Affairs Award; the State University of New York's Distinguished Alumnus Award, and the 2015 recipient of Rochester Rotary's "Building Bridges Award"

DG Don Milton message

DG Don indicated this was the 66th visit to clubs (there are 70 clubs in the District). He stated that at the International Assembly in San Diego DGEs meet for a week-long assembly to learn about how to conduct their year as DG. The theme for the year is Rotary Making a Difference. He stated that we are defined by what we do. It is important to realize that the money raised is used carefully and the majority is given back. It is important to pay attention to membership. That is why to qualify for the Presidential Citation; a club needs to add at least one new member (net gain) who is a female 40 or younger.

That is why clubs can satisfy the meetings requirement by having two meetings, one a regular meeting and the second could be a project meeting or board meeting. He said clubs need not be afraid of introducing changes. DG Milton acknowledged the presence of a child at the meeting, commenting that it was a good thing to make allowance for family needs.

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As to where to find potential members, he said that alumni (past member who is no longer a member), past Interact or Rotaract members, friends, family, co-workers, etc., can be good sources of potential members.

He indicated that the president should take a look at the strategic plan, realizing that small clubs may not be able to do a formal strategic plan. To do this, it is important to assess the projects and events done by the club and determine what worked/did not work; what to continue/discontinue.

It is important to groom new members for leadership roles. One way is to assign them to committees as soon as they join. Also, taking advantage of the learning opportunities offered by the district, such as the Assembly, Conference, and the like can help develop leaders. The Leadership Institute is a good way to acquire leadership skills that can be applied at work, the club, and interactions with others. This year it will be on November 4th in Canandaigua. The District Training Assembly will be on April 14, 2018 at Avon High School and the Conference will be on May 4-6, 2018 in Saratoga Springs.

He urged members to continue supporting the Polio Plus Campaign and the Rotary Foundation. To qualify for a global grant and District Simplify Grants, club has to be certified. This year if there are members, who have taken the full course, they can be recertified by going online. The training will be on October 14 from 10:00 to 11:30 on the District website.

It is expected that every club will plant trees. (Our club will do so, and the Service Project Committee will meet to choose place and date.)

The theme for the Conference in Saratoga Springs is the Kentucky Derby and there will be an Iron Chef Competition. The participants will have a team preparing a main dish of their choice. The final dish will be judged on presentation and taste.

He ended his remarks with the Bone Theory: A wish bone, a back bone to have the courage to make the wish come true and a funny bone.

The meeting continued with the presentation of certificates of appreciation to business owners who had contributed to the annual fund-raising event (dinner/dance) held in April. This event also celebrates the club's anniversary.

**Rotary is not an obligation,
it is a privilege**

World Polio Day

October 24th is World Polio Day. Clubs are being asked to have a project related to polio.

"The global eradication of polio has been Rotary's top priority since 1985. Rotary members have been the driving force behind the fight to end polio since its inception," said John Germ, President of Rotary International.

To this end, the RLRC has been raising money to help the cause. Over the years the club has held several activities such as bake sales, garage sales, donations from members, & this year a 50/50 raffle.

During this year Rotary International Convention in Atlanta held in June, donations from countries, organizations, and donors were announced. The over one billion dollars pledged will go a long way to cover the 1.5 billion dollars that are needed to eradicate this handicapping condition.

As reported by Ryan Hyland and Teresa Schmedding, some of the highlights about polio are as follows:

Bill Gates, co-chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, said ending polio would be one of the world's greatest achievements.

"Polio is the thing I spend the most time on. Every day I look at my email to see if we have a new case," Gates said. "I'm very inspired to be part of this. I'm also very humbled."

Rotary International President John F. Germ announced that Rotary would increase its commitment and raise \$50 million per year over the next three years. Rotary has raised more than \$1.7 billion to fight the disease since 1985.

Gates told the crowd of nearly 24,000 that, starting 1 July, his [foundation](#) will extend its 2-to-1 match to cover up to \$50 million in donations to Rotary for each of the next three years. The match and donations to Rotary would add up to \$150 million per year over the next three years, which will add up to \$450 million to the fight.

Business owners honored

Over the years the club has been the recipient of donations from different businesses in the community. These donations have been in the form of program advertisements, gift certificates, and items for the raffle that take place at the dinner dance celebrating the club's anniversary and constituting the mayor fund-raising event for the club.

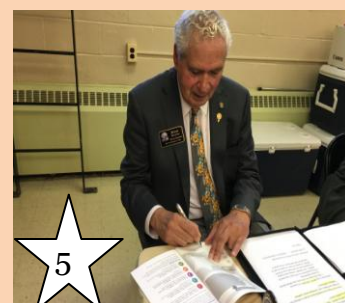
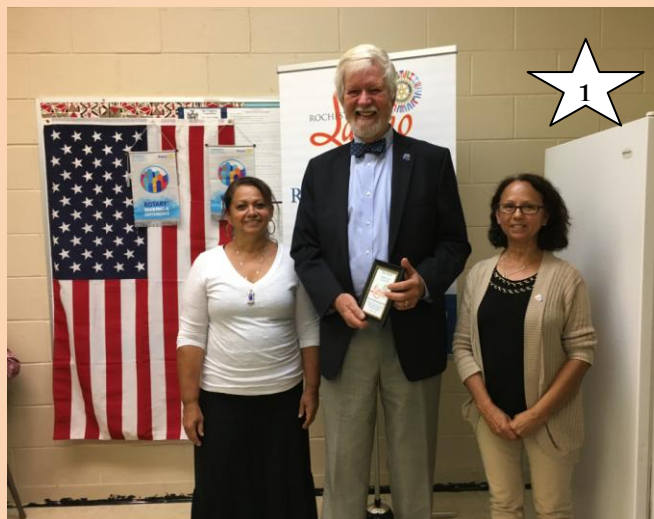
This year, invitations were sent to all those collaborators to attend a special club meeting where they would be honored. Though many of them were not able to attend, certificates were made to be delivered to them.

Among those able to attend the meeting were the following: Adelina Santiago from the Canandaigua National Bank; Yolanda Ríos from Dutcher and Zatkowski Law Firm; Marc Anthony Arena from Technosophy; Luisa Baars from MAS Translation Services; and Paul Minor, architect.

The complete list of supporters follows;

1. Wegmans
2. Burgos Income Tax
3. Hiram Hernández, Sr., First Capital Payments
4. Pathstone Corporation
5. Carlson Metro YMCA
6. Carmen DeJesús, Acupuncture Clinic
7. Hair Extraordinaire
8. Anna Kumkowski, Nails Technician
9. Maplewood YMCA
10. Paul Minor, Architect
11. Rochester Chiropractic Clinic
12. Ciccarelli Advisory Services
13. Jeff Drury, PrintPro
14. Heart Song Counseling and Healing
15. Monte Albán Mexican Grill
16. Teknosophy, LLC, Computers
17. Joseph Spinelli, Financial Advisor
18. Michael Ferron, Accountant
19. MAS Translation Services
20. Poder 97.1, Radio Station
21. Freddy Colón, DJ
22. El Pílon, Restaurant
23. CNY Latino, Newspaper
24. Santiago Berger, Attorneys
25. Puerto Rican Festival
26. Jackie Ortiz State farm
27. LaBella, Construction Company
28. Yolanda Rios- Dutcher & Zatkowsky, Lawyers
29. Canandaigua National Bank

Photos



1. The Foundation of the RLRC president Aida Veras and club president Miriam Vázquez present a certificate of appreciation to Paul Minor, AG, Area 13.
 2. Yolanda Ríos was recognized for her contributions to the club.

3. Marc Anthony Arena has provided support to the club for many years and was duly recognized.
 4. Luisa Baars has been recognized many times for her contributions to the club.
 5. DG Milton signs book to be donated to the Eugenio María de Hostos Charter School
 6. Adelina Santiago is recognized for supporting the annual fund-raising event that took place in April.

Future events

1. The RLRC has been invited to join Rochester Mayor Lovely Warren in preparing Thanksgiving baskets for families in need. The club has been asked to provide beans and help assemble the baskets.
2. Once more the club will provide turkeys for families served by the El Nuevo Día Church in November.
3. The Body, Mind and Soul event will take place in December.

Why a Rochester Latino Rotary Club came to be?

As originally conceived by then DG Mike Leone, the club would conduct business in Spanish. His idea was proposed to Luisa Baars while a group of Rotarians from the Irondequoit Rotary Club was in Pittsburg considering whether to celebrate the District Conference there.

Luisa agreed to explore the possibilities and invited several Latinos to a breakfast at her home in December, 2008. The group was enthusiastic and possible members were recruited. In April, 2009 the club was chartered by RI.

As it turned out, most of the members were English dominant. The club opened membership to non-Hispanic individuals, and decided the focus of their projects would be Latino communities locally and abroad. It has been the conduit to serve communities that usually were not served by existing clubs in the Rochester area.

Board of Directors

President – Miriam Vázquez
 Immediate Past President – Julio Vázquez
 President Elect – Dr. Jasmin Ruiz
 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 – Julio Vázquez
 Literacy Co-Chairs – Dr. Miriam Vázquez
 Julio Vázquez
 Club Webmaster – Orlando Rivera
 Tera Rivera
 Bulletin Editor - Luisa Baars
 Program Chair – Orlando Rivera
 Dr. Miriam 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.