



“Rotary Connects the World”
A Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Mechanicsburg - North
January, 2020



From the President’s desk

Today as I attended mass at my local church, the priest spoke on how the Roman Catholic church celebrates the day after Christmas as the Feast of the Holy Family. It is a time to reflect on family life including its messiness, disagreements, and call to rise above the struggles and love each other. As I sat in the pew, I thought a lot about how our Rotary club is a family. We are all very different.... different political affiliations, different faith traditions (or no faith traditions), but all a shared humanity marked by challenges with aging parents, health issues, and the drama that sometimes isn’t something we would necessarily give a dollar to brag about. What helps us rise above this “messiness” is our unified call to service... and not just the needy stranger but each other. I have heard more than once from club members who have gone through medical challenges, how our club supports them in so many ways. Sometimes it is just attending a meeting to detach from work and home pressures. Sometimes it is serving food in line at Bethesda mission to realize how blessed they are. Life is tough for sure... but seeing a young child holding on to the hand of a tired, cold, and hungry diner quickly puts life into focus.

As we start 2020, I can’t help but focus on the good we as a club do, and also all the good we do as part of a bigger international Rotary family. Our District Governor Paddy Rooney is currently in India as part of a Rotary speaking engagement. (See his Facebook page for his adventures.) He just shared today that 9 new Rotary clubs totaling 300 members have been developed in India in the last six months while RI membership as a whole continues to decline. As we move into 2020 let’s make a New Year’s resolution to bring ONE person to a club meeting, event, or volunteer activity. Why do you enjoy Rotary? Share that WHY with someone and give them a gift they will come to appreciate in the years ahead. Thank you all for being part of my family. Looking forward to a great 2020 in service together!

Happy New Year!

Yours in Rotary, Juliet

Juliet Altenburg
2019-2020 President
Rotary Club of Mechanicsburg North
president@mechanisburgnorthrotary.org

December Memories



Christmas Party at Nolo's

This year our club tried out a new locale for our Christmas Party – Nolo's at Rich Valley Golf. We had a great time! Thank you, Sandy Box, for organizing the event!



Local Project Service Days at Lamp Post

Members dedicated three of their Saturdays in December to refurbish a residence for teens aging out of the Foster system. More work days are planned for 2020! Thank you, Dan Flint, for leading this project!

Salvation Army Adopt A Family

Our club sponsored two families in the collecting \$1060. The money was used toward Christmas gifts for the families. Thank you, Glen Osborn, for leading this event!



Four Way Speech Contest Finalist hosted by RCMN!

Our club hosted three students from East Pennsboro High School (EPHS) to compete in the Rotary Four-Way Test Speech Contest at Shippensburg University. EPHS Junior Mrem Megahed was the winner of this mid-level contest. Mrem and will compete in the finals at the District 7390 Conference in May! Thank you, Sal Franqui, for spearheading this activity with EPHS! (Photo Left to Right: PDG Una Martone, Mrem, Sal Franqui)

Committee Meetings

1. Tuesday, 1/07, 7:30 AM – Membership Committee @Panera on the Pike (near Wegman’s)



Chairperson: Myra Badorf – mbadorf@homelandhospice.org

This meeting is open to ANY club member

2. Friday, 1/10, 7:30 AM - Communications Committee @ Denny’s on the Pike



Chairperson: BJ Small – bjsmall@comcast.net

This meeting is open to ANY club member

3. Wednesday, 1/15, 7:30 AM - RCMN Board of Directors @ Pa Trauma Systems Foundation Office, 3907 Hartzdale Drive, Suite 702, Camp Hill

- Board President: Juliet Altenburg - president@mechanisburgnorthrotary.org
- All club members are welcome. If attending, email Juliet to receive materials in advance.

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Mark Your Calendars

Club Events

- **Saturday, April 19, 1 PM: 5K Rotary Run for Education**
 - Location: Cumberland Valley High School
 - Chairperson: Ken Hugendubler

District Events

- **Thursday, February 13, 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM - Rotary Means Business**
 - Hosted by RCMN, West Shore Rotary Club, and Mechanicsburg Rotary Club,
 - Location: Buhrig’s Gathering Place, 25 E Main St, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
 - RCMN Contact: John Anthony
- **Saturday, February 15, 7:30 AM – 1:30 PM – Rotary Listens Leadership Summit**
 - Location: Messiah College
 - Cost \$30.00
 - Topic: Inspiring Rotarians to Achieve More by Listening Better!
 - Register at: <https://rotary7390.org/event/district-training-assembly-leadership/>
- **Friday, May 1 and Saturday, May 2 - District Conference**, Heritage Hills Golf Resort and Conference Center, 2700 Mount Rose Ave, York, PA
 - Cost: Before 2/15: \$140, 2/15 and after: \$155
 - Information and Registration: <https://rotary7390.org/page/district-conference>

Club Service Activities

All dates of activities including committee meetings and volunteer activities can be found on the RCMN website at <http://www.mechanicsburgnorthrotary.org/>

Bethesda Mission (1st and 3rd Thursday of the month, 4:15 PM – 6:00 PM)

Two club members help Bethesda Mission staff serve food to Bethesda Mission residents (4:30 PM) and needy families in the area (5:15 PM). Location: 611 Reilly Street, Harrisburg.



- 1/02: Juliet Altenburg plus one more volunteer needed
- 1/16: Two volunteers needed!
- Sign up/view the volunteer schedule at <https://www.timetosignup.com/simpsonlibrary/view/52245>

New Hope Ministries Food Pantry (3rd Saturday of the month 9 AM – 12:30 PM)

5228 E Trindle Rd, Mechanicsburg, PA



More volunteers are needed! Please consider joining fellow club members at the food pantry. Contact Chair Amy Spotts at amyspo@hotmail.com.

Thursday Morning Club Meeting Calendar

Thursdays, 7:15 AM Bethany Village West Community Center, 5225 Wilson Lane, Mechanicsburg. December speaker coordinator: Ken Hugendubler



January 2 - Students of the Month and Tim Fatzinger, President of the United Way of the Capital Region

Topic: United Way's new strategic focus.



January 9 - Lia Furlas, Executive Director of Launch Pad

Launch Pad aims to help launch older youth into adulthood by providing: safe and supervised housing, transportation, daily meals, mentoring and independent living services as prescribed by the Foster Care Act. RCMN is proud to support the work of Launch Pad through its local projects work.



January 16 - Sara Palmer - "Being Selfish Saves Lives"

Sara describes herself as "a recovering addict/scrappy survivor who triumphed over abuse, assault, and addiction. As a veteran public-school teacher, professional consultant, and lay minister she has helped over 20,000 children and adults gain success and serenity by tapping into their innate strengths and rising above limited expectations."



January 23 - Amy Kaunas, Executive Director, Humane Society of the Harrisburg Area. Topic: New PA and federal animal cruelty laws.



January 30 – Kevin Kulp, President of the Harrisburg Senators Baseball team

Wednesday Evening Club Meeting Calendar

Wednesdays, 5:15 PM at The Coliseum Megaplex, 410 St. John's Church Rd, Camp Hill

- January 1: No Meeting. Happy New Year!
 - January 8: Students of the Month from East Pennsboro High School and Jeffrey West, Managing Partner, Freedom Financial Wealth Management, Inc on Financial Literacy



- January 15: Pending
- January 22: Pending
- January 29: Pending

Current AM Meeting Location

We are currently holding our AM meetings in **the Community Center at Bethany Village West** as we explore all options for a new venue. Bethany is located at **5225 Wilson Lane, Mechanicsburg**. We are in the Springfield dining room of “Door 1” noted on the map below. Look for the flag poles that face Wesley Drive!



Have locations for us to try out? Email Jeanne Troy at JeanneLTroy@gmail.com who is chair of our club's relocation committee. We will be trying out new locations in January so please check out our website for any changes to our meeting location:

<http://www.mechanicsburgnorthrotary.org/>

Thank you for your patience during this time of change!

2020-2021 RCMN Board of Directors

Last month we finalized our Board of Directors leadership for the 2020-2021 Rotary Year. Effective July 1, 2020, our **2020-2021 Board of Directors will be as follows:**

President	Jeanne Troy
President Elect	Glen Osborn
Vice President	Dawn Sizer (new officer)
Secretary	Steph Acri
Treasurer	David Blain
Board Member	Brian Peters (new board member)
Board Member	Rob Whitaker (new board member)
Board Member	Rod Silvis
Board Member	Sal Franqui
Past President	Juliet Altenburg

We also finalized elections **for Chair and Vice Chair of the PM Meeting** for the 2020-2021 Rotary Year. PM members elected the following members as Chair and Vice Chair starting July 1, 2020:

Chair: Kim Istvan
Vice Chair: Brenda Robinson



RCMN Member Spotlight



Brenda Robinson
PM Meeting Member
2020-2021 Vice Chair of PM Meeting
Joined Rotary and our club: April 19, 2018

Occupation: Assistant Computer Systems Administrator for the Federal Public Defenders Office. I've been working in the computer field since 2000.

Family Background: I grew up in New Jersey. Ken and I have been married since 1986. We have three children, Zachary, Melanie, and Jacob. We have lived in Hampden Township since 1991, and in our current home since 1992. I am a member of Saint Katharine Drexel parish, where I serve as a Eucharistic Minister

Education: I am a graduate of Harrisburg Area Community College and Elizabethtown College. I earned an AA in Computer Information Systems and a Bachelor of Science in Information Systems with a minor in Accounting.

Rotary Experience: I've been in Rotary approximately 18 months and was introduced to Rotary by club member Dave Getz. The reason I stay in Rotary is that I like serving my community. Truth be told, I probably receive more than I give.