



McMurray Rotarian

www.mcmurrayrotary.com



Dec 11 / Jan 12

The Four Way Test Of the Things We Think Say or Do...

- Is it the **TRUTH**?
- Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
- Will it build **GOOD-WILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
- Will it Be **BENEFI-CIAL** to all concerned?

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A Message From the President

As the days grow colder and as the anticipation grows for the impending blanket of white powder, I take a moment to reflect back upon these last 6 month of Rotary. With a mixture of excitement and anxiety I was passed the torch...or in this case a giant gavel, on June 22nd, 2011 at the President's Dinner from Past President Antonio Zuloaga. At that time I outlined the many goals that I had for our club to accomplish as they directly related to the Rotary 5 Avenues of Service. Although ambitious, it seemed as though I had no other choice given the height of the bar that has been set and achieved by my predecessors before me.

The club had hit the ground running in the early weeks sending volunteer members to the Veterans Wheelchair Games, assisting the Peters Township Parks & Recreation Department with the Fishing Derby, planning and attending my birthday party...I mean Family of Rotary Picnic, and supporting the township's Rally for America Event on September the 11th.

Taking a step back we spent time honoring our "Founding Fathers" and thanking them for their efforts in building such a solid foundation, on which we are standing strong. We took our "talents" to the Peters Township Career Fair to provide some vocational guidance to the future leaders of our township and beyond. You will all be happy to know that I didn't even get yelled at for being in the halls without a hall pass; must be those 3 gray hairs I have on my head, a sign of true maturation...or maybe because they thought David Bayne was my dad, in either case, I consider it a win!

One of our major targets this year has been to assist in the further development and growth of our close relative, the Interact Club. With membership expanding from 25 to over 75 in a few short months, and under the guidance and tutelage of their Interact Faculty Advisor Judy Alexander, they held their first Induction ceremony and are well on their way to becoming a valuable asset to our community and beyond.

This year we have also tried some unique meeting places to focus on fellowship and building goodwill amongst our current membership. I suppose the success of these cannot be measured, but that's o.k., our lives are filled with family, occupational duties, responsibilities, and the ever daunting logistical task of some recent retirees as to when they can fit in their daily afternoon nap; let us simply enjoy our time together and remember what core Rotarian task is driving us all.

Finally we were guided to one of our most successful Charity Gala's in the history of our club, and yet you still made time to join up with the Interact Club to carol through the streets of Peters Township and also to provide a little Christmas magic to some well deserved children from the Finleyville Food Bank.

My hat goes off to you all for the time, talent and treasure that you have given thus far; I look forward to a second half of the year filled with meaningful projects and activities that epitomize who we are as McMurray Rotarians. Merry Christmas to you all and best wishes to you and yours for a wonderful and prosperous New Year!

~Don Angel

Club Calendar

Upcoming Programs

- **December 29**—Karen Dempsey, Brothers Brother Foundation. Program sponsor, Tod Wilcock
- **January 5**—Nancy Clarke, Washington Area Humane Society. Program sponsor, Scott Anderson
- **January 12**—Daniel Jones will talk about fundraising tips. Program sponsor, Steve Morreale
- **January 19**—Don Franty tax tips. Program sponsor, Ellen Franty
- **January 26**—Michelle Bruce Cat Spay & Neuter. Program sponsor, Scott Anderson

Upcoming Events

- **January 10**—Board Meeting
- **January 14**—Philanthropy Requests Due
- **March 2**—PETS Training
- **May 5**—Health Awareness Fair
- **May 6-9**—RI Convention Bangkok, Thailand
- **June 1**—District 7330 Conference

Due to the closing of Rolling Hills Country Club, our January meetings will be held at the School District Administration Building next to the Middle School.



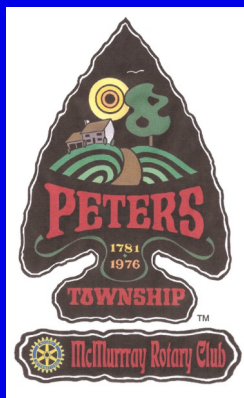
December is Family Month

January is Rotary Awareness Month

"In peace, harmony, and friendship, we will bring change – and a more joyful world."

Kaylan Banerjee,

RI President 2011-2012



Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

- 12/3 Fran Blazek
- 12/8 Polly Capots
- 12/8 Bill Holt
- 12/8 Grace Gullborg
- 12/10 Ellen Franty
- 12/10 Cheryl Bayne
- 12/13 Harry Funk
- 12/17 Colleen Pikras
- 12/20 Jim Audas Sr.

Club Anniversaries

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| • 01/03 Dick Mason | • 12/1 Ed Wisniewski 24 yrs |
| • 01/05 Sarah Kohl | • 12/31 Roy Crumrine 8 yrs |
| • 01/08 Dave Regina | • 12/31 Lew Irwin 12 yrs |
| • 01/12 Michele Barra | • 12/31 Brian Peck 12 yrs |
| • 01/16 William Castro | • 01/01 Mark Berkley 18 yrs |
| • 01/17 Russ Wylie | • 01/01 Dan Gabriel 29 yrs |
| • 01/19 Tod Wilcock | |
| • 01/27 Nina Zetty | |
| • 01/29 Cliff Milowicki | |

Wedding Anniversary

- 01/01 Mark Berkley

2011-2012 Club Officers & Directors

President—Don Angel

President Elect—Jamison Hardy

Vice President—Adam Provance

Treasurer—Michael Silvestri

Secretary—Ed Wisniewski

Sergeant at Arms—David Bayne

Past President—Antonio Zuloaga

Club Service—David Kramer

New Generations—Tim Pitschke

Vocational Service—Harry Funk

International Service—Jim Mortimer

Community Service—Al DeLucia

Director—Gary Rosensteel

District Governor—Jeanne Morrison

Club Happenings



75 (yes that's right, 75!) students were formally inducted into the Interact Club on Wednesday December 7th in a ceremony held in the High School Cafeteria. Several

Rotarians and parents of the Interact Officers were also in attendance to support the students. VP, Sarah Bootman welcomed the group and Treasurer, Mandy Ho led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. Former club sponsor, Mrs. Gloria Laux and Corresponding Secretary Marissa McKnight gave a history of how the club came to be. Recording Secre-



Rotary President Don Angel with the Interact Officers

tary, Julia Gauthier then shared a list of projects that the club has already accomplished. Rotary President, Don Angel gave an inspirational speech about the connections be-

tween the two clubs and how we can support each other. Current Interact Sponsor, Judy Alexander called everyone up while Rotary Club Advisor Marcy Santel attempted to pin the students. President Kelsey Kern talked about the current projects and future goals of the club and Judy thanked everyone for coming. Special congratulations to Judy for recently being awarded a \$15,000 Learn and Serve America grant through the state Dept of Education. The money will be used for various Learning Service projects that Judy coordinates.



Santa's Workshop

Our club and a group of Interact Students met at our weekly meeting on December 8th to temporarily turn Rolling Hills Country Club into Santa's Workshop. Sarah Kohl co-

ordinated the event with the Finleyville Food Pantry for our club, and the Inter-

act students identified several families in need. Requested items were bought by both groups and brought to the meeting for everyone to gather to wrap.



MCMURRAY ROTARY CLUB SEEKS REQUEST FOR PHILANTHROPIES



The McMurray Rotary Club is seeking requests from local organizations (Peters Township/Washington County area) for its 2011/2012 philanthropies. The Club annually assists local organizations in the McMurray/Washington County area. Most contributions are under \$1,000, although some are higher. Interested groups should send their request to the McMurray Rotary Club, 2012 Philanthropies, at P. O. Box 1291, McMurray, PA 15317. All requests must be received by January 14, 2012.

John Pikras is this year's Philanthropy Chair.

Christmas Caroling



On Sunday December 4th, a group of Rotarians and spouses, along with 35 Peters Township

high school students went Christmas Caroling in some local Peters Township neighborhoods. The event was a joint effort with Rotary and the Interact Club, although all students were invited to participate. Everyone met at the middle school cafeteria where they donned light up pins and yellow safety vests, gathered their songbooks and

donation cans and headed out in groups to various neighborhoods. Students sang and also handed out some Rotary information to the households that were home. Everyone met back at the cafeteria for pizza afterward. Almost \$1800 was collected. Proceeds will be shared with the Interact Club to help fund their activities.



President Don presents Rotarian Tod Wilcock with his Paul Harris +5 AND +6 pins. Congratulations Tod!



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McMurray Rotary Club

P.O. Box 1291

McMurray PA 15317

Meetings are held weekly on
Thursdays from 12:10-1:15
at Rolling Hills Country Club

The McMurray Rotarian
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District 7330
Chartered 1965
Marcy Santel, Editor

The Rotary 5 Avenues of Service

Community Service
Vocational Service
International Service
Club Service
New Generations



November & December Programs

November 17—John Dowling from **Operation Troop Appreciation** talked to us about the many ways that they do fundraisers and donation collections to gather items for the support and morale of our troops and the special challenges that they face in shipping these items to the soldiers. The organization does a great job in getting this done. Over 100,000 deployed troops have been served and they can proudly say that 98% of the proceeds that they raise directly benefit the troops. Learn more at Operation-TroopAppreciation.org



December 1— Every year our club sponsors two Peters Township High School students to attend the **World Affairs Council's Institute for Student Leaders** accompanied by teacher Mr. Mark Redilla. They join students from around the area to



discuss international issues through panel presentations and breakout groups. This year's students were Senior Allie Hussey and Junior Jeff Bergman and the theme was "The Arab Awakening: A Call for Change in the Middle East and Implications for U.S. Foreign Policy."



December 8—Our club turned Rolling Hills Country Club into Santa's Workshop. Sarah Kohl coordinated the effort with the Finleyville Food Pantry.

December 22—Holiday Happy Hour. What better way to spend the time you should be using to finish up the holiday "to do list" (or just starting it as the case may be for some of us) than socializing after hours with fellow Rotarians? This event was held at Table Restaurant.

