



**District Governor
John D. Mitchell**

Governor's Newsletter

District 7490

**Serving Bergen, Hudson
& Passaic Counties**

New Jersey, USA

January, 2020



Governor's Message for January.

As a "Recovering Politician" myself, I have found Rotary to be a wonderful refuge from the blood sport the political arena has morphed into.

Interestingly, Rotarians come in all stripes and have every political position across the spectrum. That's a good thing but we must not allow differing political positions to influence the need for ALL of us to carry out our "Service Above Self" mission.

The good news, of course, is that our varying political experiences enriches the diversity of our Clubs and District as long as we respect each other and avoid personal recriminations. My own experience has been very positive in this area and my Club and our District have been the beneficiary of the extraordinary talents we have at our disposal.

"Because we are doing philanthropic work together, our political differences must not interfere". This is a great quote from my friend, PDG Bonnie Sirower, and they are words that we should all heed along our road to success.

As 2020 moves along to Election Day, there is no doubt that the political rhetoric will escalate but we as Rotarians need to stay above the fray while performing our Rotary duties. Easier said than done sometimes, but I'm confident that District 7490 will stay in tune with the Four Way Test. It's worth repeating here:

Is it the truth?

Is fair to all concerned?

Will it build good will and better friendships?

Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

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Newsletter Editor

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Membership Corner.

*By Past District Governor Leonard A. Agrusti
Chairman, District Membership Committee*



Past District Governor Leonard A. Agrusti, Chairman of District 7490's Membership Retention Committee.

Every year at this time the Rotary International Assembly convenes bringing in all incoming district governors from all over the world (over 200 countries). It gives these new governors the strategic plan of Rotary International and how they can incorporate their District Strategic Plan with that of the Rotary International Strategic Plan.

It is remarkable how this assembly energizes these governors who use what they learned here to reinforce their Strategic Plan to coincide with that of Rotary International. At the International Assembly which was held in San Diego, California the incoming President reveals his Presidential theme.

RI President – elect Holger Knaack's theme for 2020-21 is, ***Rotary Opens Opportunities***. "He asks Rotarians to create opportunities that strengthen their leadership, help put service ideas into action, and improve the lives of those in need."

He also urged members to embrace change so Rotary can expand and thrive.

Knaack is asking clubs and districts to think about how to grow and sustain membership. He wants clubs to focus on keeping current members engaged and adding new members who are the right fit for their clubs.

We are halfway through our Rotary Year, and I am sure by now you all have your club goals in place in *My Rotary*.

You should be looking into *My Rotary* and see what your progress has been for the past six months and on how your club stands in achieving these goals. We have emphasized how to put your goals into *My Rotary* and our District Governor has gone over these goals that you have submitted when he visited your clubs.

Now is the time to think about receiving the prestigious award for your club, the Rotary Citation.

Each club's strategic plan should be built around the citation's goals. To see what is necessary to receive this award go to *My Rotary* or just Google, Rotary Citation, and you will see what is necessary to achieve this award.

You will note that your achievements are only those that you put into *My Rotary* via Club Central. Please look at your goals and make every effort to achieve your goals.

With a little effort, each and every club has an opportunity to receive this award.

My email is: mealen26@gmail.com

Yours in Rotary,
Lenny

Leonard (Lenny) Agrusti, PDG
District Membership Chair

Phil Wilson Discusses PolioPlus Campaign at District Staff Meeting.



Philip E. Wilson of the Rotary Club of the Palisades speaking on Jan. 6 of Rotary International's PolioPlus campaign as Chief of Staff Patricia Gallagher holds the microphone for him.

In a discussion of the campaign to eradicate polio, Philip E. Wilson of the Rotary Club of the Palisades spoke of setbacks in the campaign, noting the resistance to vaccinations in some areas of the world. Discussing what he called a paranoia that some people may find puzzling, however, Phil spoke of the resistance in the United States to mandatory vaccination of children against measles, which he attributed to misinformation about the dangers of inoculations, with some arguing that the vaccine causes some children to develop autism.

Speaking of the progress made in eradicating polio, Phil noted that with Nigeria having been free of polio for the past three years, Africa may soon be declared to be polio-free. But then he spoke of setbacks: with 143 cases of polio reported in 2019, as opposed to only 22 cases reported in 2017. All of the new cases last year, he added, were reported in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Using a slide presentation to illustrate his remarks, Phil attributed some of the setbacks to what he called "misguided religious beliefs, political manipulation and groundless false science".

With the world realizing that polio has not yet been conquered, Phil said that international donors pledged to contribute \$2.6-billion at an international donors' conference in Abu Dhabi two months ago, in November. With fundraising of \$1.7-billion so far in the decades-long struggle, Phil added, Rotary pledged another \$150-million in that conference.

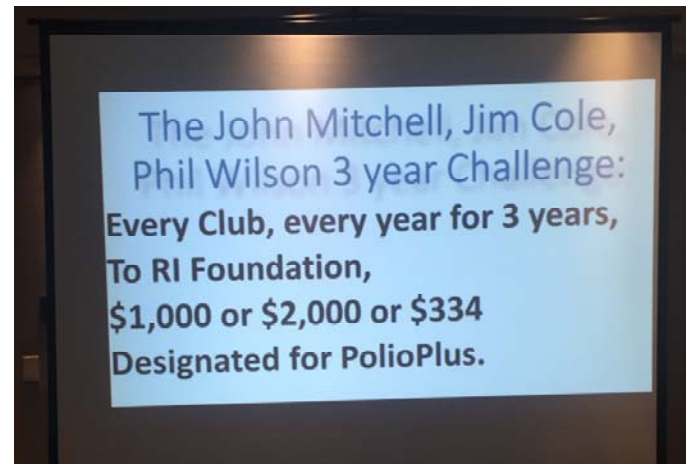
But, Phil said, insofar as Rotary District 7490 is concerned, its donations to the PolioPlus campaign have been disappointing, with our District having contributed the least amount of all of the 18 districts in Rotary Zone 32. The District's contributions in the year ending last June, he said were \$6,596, the District's biggest contribution in five years.

As District Governor John D. Mitchell proposed earlier this year (2019 – 2020) Phil suggested that each Rotary club in the District contribute at least \$400 to PolioPlus, with those contributions totaling \$20,000 in one year, or \$60,000 over a three-year period.

In closing, he thanked Dr. James Cole of the Englewood Rotary Club, who Phil said, has kept awareness of the disease "front and center" in the mind of Rotarians, and who has participated in international immunization drives. He also spoke of \$9,000 in contribution to the polio campaign that has been generated by clubs in District 7490 in the first six months of the current Rotary year.



A slide showing an increase in new cases of polio from 2017 with 22 new cases, to 2019 with 143 new cases.



A slide illustrating the challenge posed to the District by District Governor John D. Mitchell, Dr. James R. Cole of the Englewood Rotary Club and Philip E. Wilson of the Rotary Club of the Palisades, for clubs in Rotary District 7490 to increase the amount of their contributions to Rotary International's PolioPlus campaign.

Reports and Activities of the January 6 District Staff Meeting.

Geoff Garlick Introduces RYLA Team at Staff Mtg..

Geoff Garlick, Co-chairman of District 7490's RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) program, spoke on January 6 of the program in which high school students participate in a four-day program in which they learn leadership skills and of the need for people to both work together, and to rely on each other.

In his remarks, he said that there is a "real need" for Rotarians to participate in the program, saying that RYLA needs a steering committee of 18 people. He also asked if at least five Rotarians could participate in the four-day program this June.

During his remarks, he introduced four other Rotarians involved in the program, including Will Farlie, the RYLA Co-chair; and Steve Calalpa, Brooke Gorsica and Marlyn Santana.



District Governor John D. Mitchell with members of District 7490's RYLA team. From left-to-right are: RYLA Co-Chair Will Farlie, Steve Calalpa; RYLA Co-Chair Geoff Garlick, District Governor John D. Mitchell, Brooke Gorsica and Marlyn Santana.

'March Madness' Against Hunger to be on March 14.

Speaking at the Jan. 6 District Staff Meeting, Past District Governors Bonnie F. Sirower and Dan Shiver spoke of a food collection drive – the March Madness Against Hunger, which will take place on Saturday, March 14, in Paterson at the Christopher Hope Community Center, located at 60 Temple Street. Adapting the name from the annual "March Madness" basketball competition, Bonnie said the goal of the drive is to prepare and distribute at least 20,000 food packages for people in need.

In order to proceed, however, she said that the organizers of the drive will need \$7,000 in seed money, with Dan asking that each Rotary club in District 7490 donate at least \$150.00 toward that goal. The money, Dan added, would need to be in hand by Feb. 29, with checks to be written to the Outreach Program, and which can be given to either him, Bonnie or Allen Lee of the Rotary Club of Passaic Valley/Little Falls/Woodland Park/Totowa.

(Continued on Page 5, Col. 1).



The co-chairs of Rotary District 7490's RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) Geoff Garlick and Will Farlie of the Rotary Club of Passaic Valley/Little Falls/Woodland Park/Totowa,

Reports and Activities of the January 6 District Staff Meeting.

'March Madness' Against Hunger to be on March 14. (Continued from Page 4, Col. 2)

Volunteers ranging in age from four to 94 are needed, Dan and Bonnie said, with members of Interact and Rotaract clubs being encouraged to participate.

To register to volunteer, please either watch your e-mail for a direct link or go to <http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=8tqi67cab&oeidk=a07efhmk0t182e93e5c>.



At the Jan. 6 District Staff Meeting, Past District Governors Bonnie F. Sirower and Dan Shiver spoke of the March 14 "March Madness Against Hunger" project, to be held at the Christopher Hope Community Center, located at 60 Temple Street in Paterson.

Second New Member Orientation to be on March 7.

Speaking again at the District Staff Meeting, this time on behalf of Past District Governor Leonard A. Agrusti, Bonnie discussed the District's second Membership Orientation program that will be held on Saturday, March 7 at the Care Plus facility in Paramus. The program will apply especially, Bonnie said, to Rotarians who have been installed since May.

PDG Joe Dino on Presentation of District Awards.

Past District Governor Joseph Dino, Jr. said at the Jan. 6 District Staff Meeting that several awards will be presented to Rotarians of District 7490 at this spring's District Conference in Lake George, N.Y. Among the awards to be presented, he said, will be the Arthur A. Fennimen Award, the Florrie Scialla Award, the District's Vocational Service Award and a "secret surprise award".

Sponsored by the Maywood Rotary Club, the Arthur A. Fennimen Memorial Award is presented to the one Rotarian who in a given year best exemplifies Rotary's motto of "Service Above Self" and its Four-Way Test. Arthur A. Fenniman, for whom the award is named, was a member of the Maywood club and was involved in a wide-range of service activities.



Past District Governor Joseph Dino, Jr. speaking on Jan. 6 of awards that will be presented at this spring's District Conference, to be held in Lake George, N.Y.

Reports and Activities of the January 6 District Staff Meeting.

PDG Joe Laurenì on May 14 – 17 District Conference.

Past District Governor Joseph Laurenì this month spoke of this spring's District Conference which will take place at Lake George, N.Y. Joe, the Conference Chairman, announced that the registration fee will be \$300.00, with 36 people having registered thus far. He is hoping, Joe said, that between 80 and 100 people will ultimately participate.

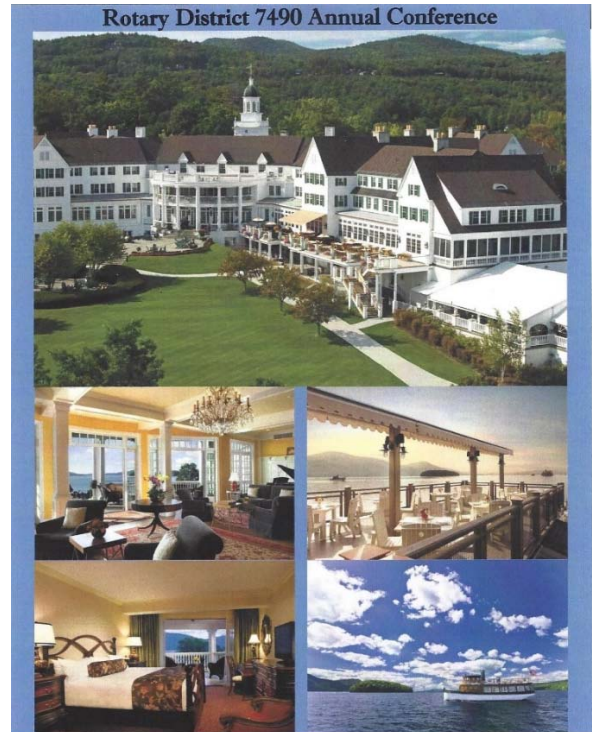
The conference costs will be either \$1,050.00 or \$1,350 depending on whether one selects a single-occupancy or double-occupancy hotel room. The fees will be for a three-night stay beginning on the evening of May 14 and will include registration and breakfast on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, lunch on Friday and a closing banquet on Saturday evening.

The conference will be held at the Sagamore Resort at the Bolt Landing in Lake George, and will begin on the afternoon of Thursday, May 14.



Past District Governor Joseph Laurenì speaking on Jan. 6 of this spring's District Conference, to be held on May 14 – 17 at Lake George, N.Y.

Payments can be made to Joe by either checks made payable to Rotary District 7490 and mailed to his home address of 576 Schaeffer Avenue, Oradell, NJ 07649, or by credit card. Final payments are due by April 1, 2020.



The Sagamore Resort
Bolton Landing Lake George, NY
May 14-17, 2020

A page from the brochure announcing this spring's District Conference, to be held on May 14 – 17 at Lake George, N.Y.

PDG Jim Boyer Speaks of Gift of Life Surgeries.

In a discussion of the Gift of Life program, Past District Governor James Boyer said that in next month's medical mission, 32 people in the Philippines and 20 in Vietnam will undergo life-saving cardiac surgeries. In the Philippines, he added, members of the mission will also provide eyeglasses to people in need as part of a Right to Sight program.

In response to a question, Jim said that additional two people, one from Jamaica and the second from the Philippines, will undergo heart surgeries in New York.

(Continued on Page 7, Col. 1)

Reports and Activities of the January 6 District Staff Meeting.

PDG Jim Boyer Speaks of Gift of Life Surgeries. (Continued from Page 6, Col. 2)



Past District Governor James Boyer speaking on January 6 of planned Gift of Life medical missions to the Philippines, where 22 patients will undergo lifesaving surgeries in February and 20 will undergo similar surgeries in Vietnam.





Jack DeStefano, a member of the Paterson Great Falls Rotary Club, speaking at the Jan. 6 District Staff Meeting of the upcoming Gift of Life medical missions planned for the Philippines and Vietnam.

Gift of Life Dinner to be Held Feb. 20 at Venetian.

In celebration of these surgeries, and those of last year, the Gift of Life Foundation will hold its annual Gift of Life Celebration dinner on Thursday, Feb. 20 at the Venetian, located at 546 River Road in Garfield with tickets costing \$120.00. Cocktails will begin at 6:30 p.m. that evening, with dinner following about an hour later.

Checks can be mailed to the Gift of Life Foundation at Post Office Box 400, River Edge, NJ 07661-0400.

	The Gift of Life Foundation <i>a project of the Rotary Clubs of District 7490</i>	
Annual "Gift of Life Celebration"		
Thursday, February 20, 2020 Cocktails 6:30 – 7:30 PM Dinner and Dancing 7:30 – 11:00 PM \$120.00		
The Venetian 546 River Road Garfield, New Jersey		
Make checks payable to: THE GIFT OF LIFE FOUNDATION, DISTRICT 7490 P.O. Box 400 River Edge, NJ 07661-0400 Tear off and return with your payment.....		
Name: _____		
Address: _____		
Telephone No.: _____ Club: _____		
Number Attending: _____ Amount Enclosed: _____		
EACH CLUB IS ENCOURAGED TO MAKE RESERVATIONS FOR ITS MEMBERS AND GUESTS PLEASE PROVIDE A LIST OF ALL MEMBERS AND GUESTS ATTENDING TO: GOLCelebration@optonline.net		
Reservation Deadline: February 14, 2020 <small>Note: Seating requests will not be guaranteed unless reservations with payment are received by the deadline. Thank you for your continued support.</small>		

A flyer announcing the annual Gift of Life Celebration, to be held on Thursday, Feb. 20 at The Venetian, located at 546 River Road in Garfield.

Reports and Activities of the January 6 District Staff Meeting.

Forest Elliot Reflects on His 'Rotary Moment'.

In his Rotary Moment, Forest Elliot, the co-District Secretary, spoke of a time when he was among Rotarians and Marines who collected toys in the United States Marine Corps Reserve "Toys for Tots" program. With a Marine gunnery sergeant and Rotarians presenting the toys to a Hackensack Meridian cancer ward, Forest said, they were approached by a the father of one child, who asked if they could give his daughter a toy then and there.

Although the gunnery sergeant said the toys would be presented to the children in a little while, he agreed to the father's request and gave his daughter a toy, with the child expressing a delight that no one can describe. Unknown to the gunnery sergeant, but known all too well to the father, his daughter had only moments to live, and died shortly after receiving the toy.



Forest Elliot, co-District Secretary and a member of the Secaucus Rotary Club speaks on Jan. 6 of the presentation of a toy to a child who died within minutes after receiving it. Knowing she had only minutes to live, the child's father had asked Rotarians and Marine Corp Reserve Toys for Tots volunteers to give her a toy then and there, making her last moments as happy as they could be in such circumstances.

Governor John on Training Rotarians in Narcan Use.



District Governor John D. Mitchell speaking on Jan. 6 of planned efforts to teach Rotarians how to administer Narcan to victims of drug overdoses.

In an overview of Rotary District 7490's service program, District Governor John D. Mitchell spoke of efforts to lend assistance to people affected by wildfires in Australia.

He also spoke of a training program involving the use of Narcan, which can save the lives of people who receive overdoses of heroin and other drugs. Calling the prospective training a "really big thing", Governor John said that members of the Oradell/Emerson Rotary Club have begun training in the use of Narcan, with several other Rotary clubs expressing an interest in undergoing the training.

Narcan Training Feb. 25 at Bergen New Bridge.

Rotarians of District 7490 will receive training in February on the proper administration of Narcan in order to revive victims of drug overdoses.

The training will take place at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 25, at the Bergen New Bridge Medical Center, located at 230 East Ridgewood Avenue in Paramus.

Details will follow.

Paramus Rotary Club Hosts Spelling Bee in Which All Five City Grammar Schools Participate.

The Rotary Club of Paramus was the main sponsor for the annual 4th-grade spelling bee that was held on Jan. 15 at the Paramus High School auditorium. The student participants were 4th graders representing the five Paramus Grammar Schools. Twenty five students participated - five top spellers from each school. The top three finalists qualify to go onto to the county level spelling bee.



Welcoming remarks were made by Superintendent of Schools (and Rotarian) Michele Robinson followed by Rotary Club of Paramus President Fred Rohdieck who provided all the attendees (students and parents) with a brief history of Rotary, explaining our Motto of Service Above Self, and sharing information on the many Rotary global and community projects and activities.



Students of the five grammar schools of Paramus participating in the citywide spelling bee that was held on January 15.



The first place Spelling Bee award went to DJ Rampersad from Midland School. Second place went to Nikhil Shah from Ridge Ranch School, and third place went to Karina Shah from Stony Lane School.

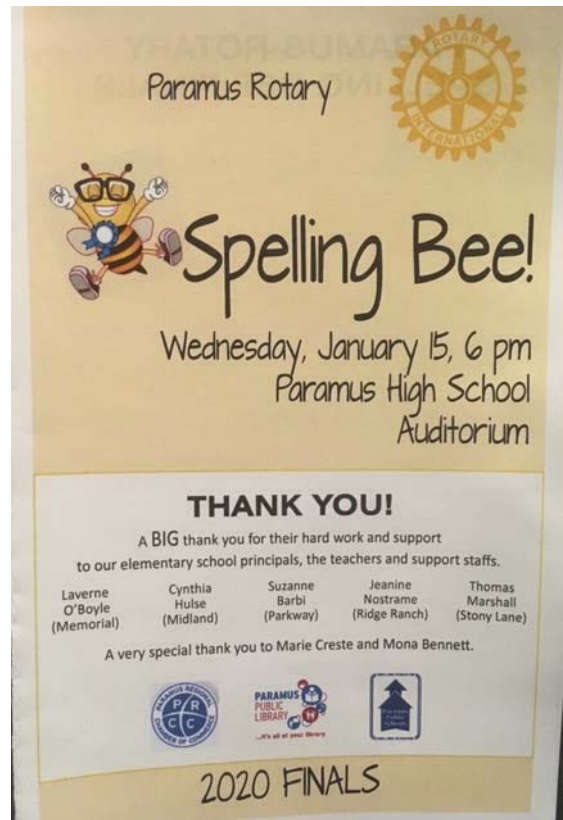
Great job in organizing the event by chairperson Len LoPinto and members of the Spelling Bee Committee.

Congratulations to these and all the students who did a great job.

It required 20 rounds before the final winners qualified.



Rotary Club of Paramus Rotarians Debbie Cibelli and Sheila Criscione participated as judges. Also many thanks to Elaine Rovetto who handed out programs and manned the refreshment table.



The announcement of the Paramus spelling bee that was hosted by the Paramus Rotary Club on January 15.

Jersey City Rotary Club Installs Three New Members in Eight Days.

The Jersey City Rotary Club installed three new members in the span of eight days in January, when it welcomed Kevin J. Murray, Dennis Ortiz and James Vangelakos.

Jim, a detective with the North Bergen Police Department and President of its Police Benevolent Association, was installed on January 16, with Joseph E. Branco serving as his sponsor. In the following week, Kevin, a lawyer in private practice, and Dennis Ortiz a retired police officer were both installed on Jan. 23 with Joe serving as Kevin's sponsor and Aaron D. Forman serving as Dennis'.



James Vangelakos, a North Bergen Police detective, listens on January 16 as Gina Verdibello, the Club's President, installs him as a member of the Jersey City Rotary Club. Looking on is Joseph E. Branco, who sponsored James' invitation to apply for membership.



Joseph E. Branco on January 23 as he presented Kevin J. Murray, a lawyer in private practice, with a lapel pin signifying his membership in the Jersey City Rotary Club.



Aaron D. Forman presenting Dennis Ortiz, a retired Jersey City Police officer, with a lapel pin announcing his membership in the Jersey City Rotary Club at its Jan. 23 meeting.

Welcome New Rotarians to Rotary District 7490's 2020 New Member Orientation.

As District Governor of Rotary District 7490 in Bergen, Passaic and Hudson Counties in New Jersey, I want to officially welcome you into our Rotary family.

Last Rotary year, we had two wonderful New Member Orientations under the leadership of our District Membership Chair PDG Lenny Agrusti.

District 7490 will hold its 2020 District-wide New Member Orientation for all of our new family who have joined us since May of 2019, plus those who could not make it to our last Orientation.

Our Membership Chair Past District Governor Lenny Agrusti, and PDG Bonnie Sirower are inviting a wonderful array of District Chairs for various programs and projects in our District to join all of you. These Rotarians will share what they do in our District and with Rotary International so that you will understand much more about Rotary than you may have already learned as a Club member.

You will get a chance to expand your Rotary horizons by learning all about projects such as Gift of Life, Alliance for Smiles, the Rotary Foundation, Disaster AID USA, Military Family Assistance Council, Walter D. Head Foundation and many more. Plus, you will have the opportunity to meet Rotarians new and old from all over the District and even from Rotary International.

There will be no cost for you to attend the session, although we do request that you pitch in \$10 for any guests you bring. We will serve a light breakfast and pizza lunch. To register, please e-mail PDG Lenny Agrusti at mealen26@gmail.com or call him at 973-768-4969.

When: Saturday, March 7 from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Where: Care Plus - 610 Valley Health Way, Paramus
(the orientation will be held in the cafeteria)

The Executive AG's Corner.

By Glenn Gross, Executive Assistant Governor

As we enter a new year as well as a new decade, I thought a little look back in history might be in order. I'm not sure how many of us realize that the very first Rotary meeting took place in February of 1905 - 115 years ago.

From the beginning, Rotary has been based upon a sense of community. Founder, Paul Harris, missed the small-town way of life and business of his childhood. A smaller town allowed businessmen to gather and to benefit from a shared knowledge of each other and their varied businesses. Mr. Harris thought that such a gathering of professional and business people could happen, even in Chicago.

For the first gathering in February 1905, Mr. Harris included three other businessmen, each representing a different business or profession. The group met in one of the men's offices and agreed to meet regularly and to rotate among their offices. The name Rotary came from this concept of rotating meetings from office to office of the Rotary members.

Rotary quickly spread throughout the United States and then crossed borders and oceans. By 1920, Rotary had 45,000 members and clubs in 12 countries.

The number of languages spoken by Rotarians increased as well, reflecting Rotary's growing popularity across Europe and Asia. Despite a dip in membership during the Depression, there were almost 210,000 Rotarians by 1940.

A second membership decline occurred during the Second World War. But the Rotary ideals thrived in the postwar era, when people were searching for ways to build international understanding, and many countries were readmitted to membership.

From the 1950's through the 1970's, Rotary spread throughout Africa, the Middle East, and the Caribbean region. Then events took Rotary to a part of the world where it had not been welcome for many years, with extensions throughout Central and Eastern Europe during the 1990's. Today, membership exceeds 1.2 million with over 33,000 clubs in 200 countries. Rotary truly reaches around the world.

There is a lot more that I can add regarding our history but I want to end this month's column with a challenge to all Rotarians in our District. It's easy to get in a rut, doing the same stuff week after week, same projects each year, fund raisers, dinners, events, you get the idea.

As an Assistant Governor I have the opportunity to visit other clubs, I get to hear what they are doing within their meetings as well as projects and events. I get to take those ideas back to my club and share them with the members, some we even added into schedule.

Go out, visit other clubs within our district or abroad; try to get to a different club a few times a year. After all, we are all family.

Enjoy being a Rotarian, I know I do.

Excerpts from; The Basics of Rotary International, by Gay Maloney

Kearny Rotary Club Provides Medical Equipment Designed to Save the Lives of Pet Animals.

Less than a month ago, the Kearny Rotary Club connected with Breaths For Pets, a Non-Profit Organization that helps get medical equipment into the hands of first responders to save the lives of animals.

Together, the two non-profit organizations raised enough funds to outfit the East Newark Fire Department with three pet oxygen kits. Each oxygen mask kit is reusable and contains small, medium and large oxygen masks for animals, o2 tubing and kennel leads along with training for first responders.

With these kits, firefighters can treat rescued animals for smoke inhalation. The oxygen kits were delivered to the ENFD (East Newark Fire Department) on Saturday, December 21 by the Kearny Rotary & Breaths For Pets.

Founded in 2014, Breaths For Pets was started when they made the discovery that most fire departments, even ones from well-funded towns, do not have access to rescue equipment for animals.

Part of their mission is to change this.

More information can be found at www.breathsforpets.org and at facebook.com/breathsforpets



A news article highlighting the Kearny Rotary Club's donation of medical equipment to save the lives of animals.

The first paragraph in this article is the text of the caption in the above photograph. In the photograph at the left, are, from left-to-right: Deputy Chief Allan Yudichak (East Newark Volunteer Fire Department), Anthony DeLuca (President, Kearny Rotary), Elaine Unnasch (Vice President, Breaths For Pets), Nelly Albizu (Kearny Rotary), and Chief Kenneth Graham (East Newark Volunteer Fire Department).

Aletta Frezzell is Honored by State Legislature and at National Action Network MLK Awards Dinner.

Aletta Frezzell, a member of the Englewood Rotary Club, was honored on Jan. 27 at the National Action Network's MLK Keeping the Dream Alive awards dinner.

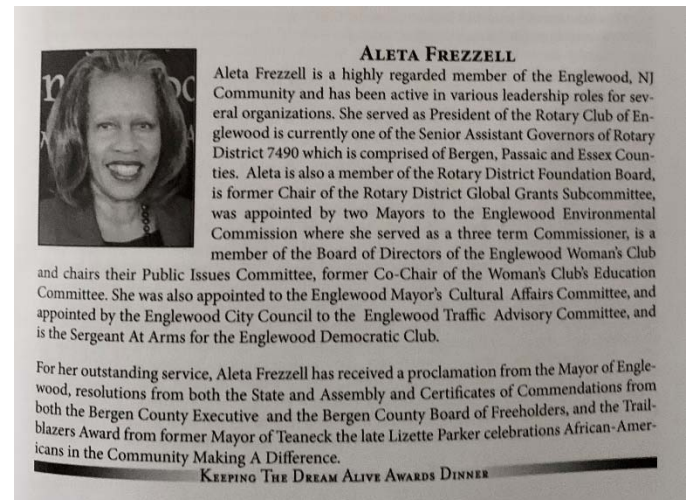
She was also honored in a joint resolution adopted by the State Senate and Assembly and in a proclamation issued by Mayor Michael Wildes of Englewood.



A joint resolution adopted by the State Senate and General Assembly honoring Aletta Frezzell. The resolution was introduced in the Senate by Senate Majority Leader Loretta Weinberg and in the Assembly by Assemblywoman Valerie Vainieri Huttel and Assemblyman Gordon M. Johnson.



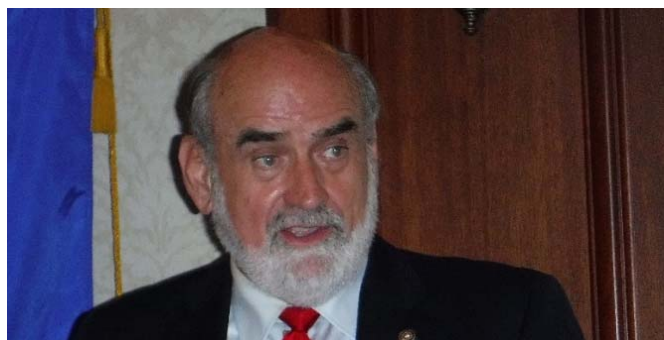
Aletta Frezzell of the Englewood Rotary Club is flanked on her left by District Governor John D. Mitchell and on her right by Past District Governor Dan Shiver as she was honored on Jan. 27 at the National Action Network MLK Keeping The Dream Alive Awards Dinner.



A biographical profile of Aletta Frezzell published in the dinner journal of the National Action Network's MLK Keeping the Dream Alive Awards dinner on Jan. 27.

Report of the Rotary Foundation.

*By John C. "Jay" Fowler
Chairman, District Rotary Foundation*



John C. "Jay" Fowler
Chairman of District 7490's Rotary Foundation Committee.

Club Donations to the Rotary Foundation.

Through January 31st, Clubs in our District have donated \$72,682 to the Foundation, including \$36,475 for the Annual Fund, \$20,336 for PolioPlus and \$15,670 to Global Grants. The donations for PolioPlus surpassed last year's total of \$7,500 which was the highest total of the last five years.

The top five clubs in total giving are:

Fair Lawn AM Rotary Club	\$14,095.00
Paramus Rotary Club	\$12,875.00
Ridgewood AM Rotary Club	\$11,345.00
Secaucus Rotary Club	\$4,330.85
Park Ridge Rotary Club	\$2,380.00

The top five clubs in donations to Polio Plus are:

Paramus Rotary Club	\$10,000.00
Secaucus Rotary Club	\$2,285.85
Wayne Rotary Club	\$2,000.00
Ridgewood AM Rotary Club	\$1,970.00
Oakland Franklin Lakes Rotary Club	\$1,000.00

Idea for Paul Harris Fellow Polio Donations.

Governor John and the End Polio Now Committee proposed that clubs name a Paul Harris Fellow for each of the next three years to benefit the End Polio Now Campaign.

The goal is for each club to name one or more Paul Harris Fellows with the fund designated for Polio Plus in each of the next three years.

By doing so we will have significantly increased our support of the Polio Plus Campaign.

A number of clubs have adopted a policy of donating the proceeds from their weekly 50 – 50 to the campaign.

If you have not done so already, request an End Polio Now program from Jim Cole (201-417-5346) or Philip Wilson (201-956-8509) and learn why it is important to support the Polio Plus campaign now.

District Clubs in 22 Global Grant Programs.

Global Grants support large international projects with long-term, sustainable outcomes in one or more of Rotary's Six Areas of Focus. They range from \$15,000 to \$200,000. Clubs in our District are currently involved in 22 Global Grant programs: 12, as an International Partner and 10 where they have provided resources to another district's Global Grant. If your club is interested in a Global Grant project, please contact Jay Fowler (jaycfowler@aol.com).

The District still has funds available to assist you.

Wyckoff/Midland Park Receives \$10,000 for Water Project.

At our last Committee meeting, we awarded \$10,000 from our District Designated World Fund for the Wyckoff/Midland Park Club's proposed Global Grant project. Their project is the creation of a Fresh Water Well and Storage Facility at Obukpa, Enugu, Nigeria.

The \$10,000 from the District will be matched dollar-for-dollar. In addition, the club has raised \$20,000 for the project which will be matched 50-cents to the dollar by the Rotary foundation, bringing their total project funding to \$50,000.

Awarding of Paul Harris Fellowships.

Many clubs present Paul Harris Fellowships at the end of the Rotary year. Do not wait until the last minute to place your orders.

If you need help in ordering the Paul Harris Fellow, please contact Jay Fowler at his e-mail address of: (jaycfowler@aol.com).

Request Club Programs from Foundation Group.

Remember to request club programs from the members of the Rotary Foundation Committee.