



District Governor
Niurka "Nikki" Mederos

Governor's Newsletter

District 7490

Serving Bergen, Hudson
& Passaic Counties

New Jersey, USA

February, 2019



BE THE INSPIRATION

The Theme of Rotary International for the Year 2019 – 2020 – 'Rotary Connects the World'



Each year in January, the governors-elect from Rotary International's 530 districts from around the world gather in San Diego in order to undergo a week of training in preparation for their year of service as district governor – a year of service which begins on July.

At the same time, the President-elect of Rotary announces what will be the theme of RI for the coming year.

As this year's week-long International Assembly began on January 14, President-elect Mark Daniel Maloney, a member of the Rotary Club of Decatur in Alabama, announced that the theme of RI for the year 2019 – 2020 will be "Rotary Connects the World."

(The article on Mr. Maloney's Address Begins on Page 2)

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RI President-elect Mark Daniel Maloney Sets 'Rotary Connects the World' as Rotary's 2019-20 Theme.



Rotary International President Mark Daniel Maloney speaking on Jan. 14 at Rotary's International Assembly in San Diego where 528 district governors-elect from around the world underwent training for their year of service beginning on July 1.

The theme of Rotary International for the Year 2019 – 2020 will be "Rotary Connects the World".

Rotary International President-elect Mark Daniel Maloney announced the theme in January, while addressing 528 district governors-elect from throughout the world who began a week of preparation for their year of service as district governor.

In his remarks, delivered in a 21-minute speech on January 14, Mr. Maloney laid out what he called four emphases in the coming year: to increase Rotary membership; the inclusion of family in Rotary activities; the "building a viable path to Rotary leadership"; and, finally, to focus on "Rotary's historic and enduring relationship with the United Nations."

Speaking at Rotary's International Assembly in San Diego, he also suggested that Rotary would benefit from the establishment of more than one Rotary club in a given city or town and that district governors should not necessarily feel obligated to visit every Rotary club in the districts they serve. He also cautioned his listeners to not sacrifice their family obligations to their professional or Rotary responsibilities.

Mr. Maloney began by telling his listeners that "every journey is what you make of it" a theme he repeated throughout his address. "I know many people complain about traveling, and especially about air travel" he said "but I have always loved to travel." Regardless of the mode of transportation "whether it is a train, a plane, a car, or a boat" Mr. Maloney said: "I love going places. I love the sense of excitement and new possibilities, the chance to see things I have not seen and to meet people I have not met."

"You never know what is going to happen, once you pack your suitcase" he said "and walk out your front door" which, he added, "can be a good thing – or not."

As an example, he spoke of "one of those travel experiences that would strain the optimism of even the most cheerful traveler." He told how he and his wife Gay "found ourselves at an airport where we were not scheduled to be, on a day we had not planned still to be traveling, having woken up at a hotel that morning that we had never heard of the night before." It was, he said: "one of those days."

But, Mr. Maloney said again "every journey is what you make of it" suggesting that the traveler can either turn it into a pleasant or interesting experience or an ordeal, depending upon his or her disposition. He and his wife, Mr. Maloney said, decided to make it an interesting experience, by walking "all the way from one end of the terminal" at John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York "to the other and back again" he said: "looking at every gate, every destination, every group of people waiting for their flight."

Noting that the airport serves approximately 60-million passengers every year, with airlines traveling to most of the world's countries, Mr. Maloney said that in just looking at his fellow passengers, he could tell that "Those people were clearly heading to Taipei, or to Moscow, to Cape Town, or to Istanbul" with each gate "being its own island of humanity."

With "all of these different people, all of these different countries, all in one place" Mr. Maloney said he thought to himself: "This is like Rotary!" But in reality, he added, that was not so.

"Because" he said, "everyone in that river of people was heading for an island, and every island: he said "stayed an island." Passengers traveling to one country might speak to other people traveling to the same country, he added, but they would not be talking to people flying to other destinations.

"Contrast that to Rotary" he said.

"In the days ahead," Mr. Maloney told his listeners, "you will not only meet and talk with people from all over the world — but also you will work with them" adding "you will share with them, and you will become colleagues and friends as you prepare together for one of the greatest adventures in your lives."

Picking up on the theme that one never knows the outcome of his destination, Mr. Maloney said: "None of you knew, when you packed your suitcases and stepped out your front door, what lay ahead on this journey." And, he said, "None of us knows now" repeating his earlier remark: "But I can tell you one thing. Every journey is what you make of it."

Speaking of the coming week of preparation as a journey, Mr. Maloney told his audience "The journey that each of us begins this week — the journey that we will continue together, into, through, and beyond the 2019-2020 Rotary year — will be what we make of it, together." Regardless of "wherever we are from, whatever language we speak, whatever our culture or tradition, we are here together for one purpose."

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RI President-elect Mark Daniel Maloney Sets 'Rotary Connects the World' as Rotary's 2019-20 Theme.

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And that purpose, the President-elect declared is to: "To build a stronger Rotary so that more Rotarians and Rotaractors and all in our family of Rotary can serve our world better than ever before." To that end, he said, "I would like to talk with you this morning about our role in doing just that."

The goal of any leader, Mr. Maloney then said: "should never be (to) achieving the most that *you* can possibly achieve." Rather, he continued "The goal of a true leader should always be getting everyone around you to achieve the most that they can possibly achieve."

He exhorted his audience: "I want all of you to be focusing, this week and beyond, on what *you* need to do to get your district and your clubs to a place where *they* are doing their best work." Their role, he said should be in "supporting Rotary's members, in their clubs, and building a stronger organization." That, he said "is your role, it is my role, it is our *shared* role in the year ahead."

With a newly-devised strategic plan as their guide, Mr. Maloney said, "we will work together to do just that: to increase Rotary's impact, to expand its reach, enhance participant engagement, and increase our ability to adapt."

He then spoke of four emphases or goals that he will pursue in the 2019 – 2020 year that begins on July 1.

"The first emphasis" he said, "is to grow Rotary — to grow our service, to grow the impact of our projects, but most importantly to grow our membership so that we can achieve more."

Saying that Rotarians "talk so much about membership" Mr. Maloney added: "Every year, we talk about the same issues, perhaps in slightly different ways."

In some parts of the world, he said, "Rotary is growing rapidly" but in many areas of the world, he lamented: "we have not seen the kind of change we have hoped to accomplish."

He then spoke of a "a Rotary record nobody wanted to set" in the number of people who either died or resigned their Rotary membership. Some, he said, "left because Rotary was not the experience they had hoped it would be" while others "loved Rotary until the end of their lives." Regardless of the nature of their departure from Rotary, Mr. Maloney said, "they left, taking their ability, their experience, and their leadership with them."

Noting that while many people leave Rotary, many others join for the first time, Mr. Maloney said that simply "bringing in more members to replace the ones we lose is not the answer." That, he said, is "like pouring more water into a bucket full of holes."

Rotary, he said, must address the "root causes" of why people resign their Rotary memberships. He also said that Rotary must address the issues of "member engagement that is not what it should be" and the fact that Rotary's membership is becoming "steadily older."

Calling for what he called "fundamental changes" Mr. Maloney said that Rotary "already knows" what "barriers" create obstacles "to an engaged and diverse membership." It is time, he said, "to act on what we know" and that he said, is "creating new membership models, opening new paths to Rotary membership, and building new Rotary and Rotaract clubs where the existing clubs do not meet the community's needs."

It also means, Mr. Maloney said, that Rotary must assure itself that club presidents not only "understand why it is so important to grow their own clubs and membership overall" but that they also "have an effective structure for doing so."

With the realization that "membership is all that stands between a Rotary that serves and a Rotary that disappears" Mr. Maloney said that he is surprised at "how many" Rotary clubs do not have membership committees, "and whose entire approach to membership consists of exhorting existing members to invite their friends." Not only is that approach self-defeating, he said, in that it has resulted in no real growth of memberships in the last 20 years, but it is also "a sure path to clubs that all look the same" a sameness, he suggested that actually discourages people from joining.

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The logo of Rotary International's theme for 2019 – 2020 – *Rotary Connects the World* - that was unveiled during President-elect Mark Daniel Maloney's address to district governors-elect at RI's International Assembly in San Diego on January 14.

RI President-elect Mark Daniel Maloney Sets 'Rotary Connects the World' as Rotary's 2019-20 Theme.

(Continued from Page 3, Col. 2)

Saying that Rotary needs an “organized approach in membership recruitment, Mr. Maloney called upon districts throughout Rotary to appoint membership chairs and for a “formalized membership committee in every club” - committees, he said, which should be made up of people of diverse backgrounds and which will look “not at individuals, but at the community.” As an example, he suggested that in seeking to attract new members, clubs ask themselves: “what segments of the community” what professions “are not represented in the club?” Those, he said “are the people we need to find.”

Mr. Maloney then alluded to Rotary's classification system, which he reminded his audience “has worked for (the) 113 years” of Rotary's existence and which he declared “we need to rediscover” and use.

He also suggested that Rotary should look to form new clubs, not only in areas not represented by Rotary, but also in communities where Rotary clubs already exist. “We need to form new clubs not just where Rotary does not already exist” he said, “but in communities where Rotary is thriving.” He suggested also the creation of “new model clubs offering alternative meeting experiences and service opportunities” although he did not elaborate on what those models might be.

Mr. Maloney then spoke of his second point of emphasis, which he said “is even closer to home than our clubs” which is, he said: “our families.”

While serving as Governor of District 686 in Alabama, Mr. Maloney said, he was often asked how he balanced his family obligations with his professional responsibilities and those of Rotary. “The answer” he said, “was simple.” He and his wife, Mr. Maloney said, brought their two daughters with them. Speaking of his children, he said: “As much as they grew up in the Maloney family, they also grew up in the family of Rotary.”

“It was great for them” Mr. Maloney said. “It was great for all of us.” And it was “also great for Rotary”, he said, because “it meant that we did not have to choose between my club and our children.”

Rotary, Mr. Maloney said, “should never, ever expect” members to choose between it (Rotary) and their families. “We need to foster a culture” he said “where Rotary does not compete with the family but rather complements it.”

“We need to foster a culture” he said “where Rotary does not compete with the family but rather complements it.” That, he said, “means taking real, practical steps to change the existing culture: being realistic in our expectations, considerate in our scheduling, and welcoming of children at Rotary events” including, he added, to that of the International Assembly that had begun that morning.

Addressing his third area of emphasis, Mr. Maloney then focused on one segment of Rotary membership that has long been of concern to Rotary districts as well as to Rotary International itself: that of attracting younger members. “We cannot change our demographic in Rotary” he said, “if we ignore the daily realities of the very demographic we most need to attract: community-minded younger professionals.” Rotary, he said, needs “to meet them right where they are, at their stage of life — and welcome them.”

It also means, he said, that district governors and club presidents should not put their careers on hold for a year while they serve as the governors of their respective districts or as the presidents of their respective clubs. “The job of club president” he declared, “should never be seen as a time commitment too great for a busy professional to consider.” Moreover, he said, “the job of district governor should not come with the expectation that you must retire from your paying job first.”

Many of what he called “the barriers to Rotary leadership” Mr. Maloney said, “were barriers that we ourselves built” in a period “tailored to a different time and a different generation.” Two such barriers, he suggested, is the expectation that governors visit every club in their respective districts and the reluctance of some club presidents to share leadership responsibility with other Rotarians. Rotary, he said, must “change our culture, and to convey the message that you can be a great district governor without visiting every club individually, and a great club president without doing everything yourself.” He then urged his listeners to “take the lead in the year ahead — whatever stage of life you yourselves are in. Begin to change the culture of leadership in your own districts.”

Mr. Maloney then spoke of his fourth area of emphasis, that of Rotary's relationship with the United Nations.

While his three previous emphases focused on “the internal health of our organization: the structure and functions that will allow us to grow Rotary” Mr. Maloney cautioned that “Rotary does not exist in isolation from its communities.” Rotary “lives in the world it serves” he said: “and it serves to unite that world.”

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Rotary International President-elect Mark Daniel Maloney speaking on January 14 at RI's International Assembly in San Diego with RI's Vision Statement in the background

RI President-elect Mark Daniel Maloney Sets 'Rotary Connects the World' as Rotary's 2019-20 Theme.

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While Rotary will mark its 115th year of service in 2020, Mr. Maloney said, the United Nations will observe the 75th anniversary of the signing in 1945 of its charter in San Francisco. In celebration of Rotary's involvement in the U.N.'s founding, he said, Rotary will embark on "a series of planned presidential conferences around the world and a focus on the Sustainable Development Goals that Rotary does so much to support."

"Whether we are working toward clean water, better health, improved education, or economic stability for the world's least privileged people" Mr. Maloney said, Rotary shares the United Nations' commitment to what he called a "a healthier, more peaceful, and more sustainable world." Moreover, he continued, Rotary offers what "no other organization can match: an existing infrastructure that allows people from all over the world to connect in a spirit of service and peace and take meaningful action toward that goal."

Quoting Rotary's Vision Statement, Mr. Maloney said "Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change — across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves" adding: "We are people of action — people who not only want to change the world but also have the ability to turn inspiration into real and lasting change." That ability, he said, resides in "who we are and because of what Rotary allows us to do."

And what does Rotary allow us to do? "Rotary" Mr. Maloney said "allows us to connect."

Expanding on the coming year's theme – Rotary Connects the World – Mr. Maloney said that Rotary "allows us to connect with each other, in deep and meaningful ways, across our differences."

It also, he said, "connects us to people we would never otherwise have met, who are more like us than we ever could have known" and finally, Rotary "connects us to our communities, to professional opportunities, and to the people who need our help."

Returning to his comments regarding his walk through the Kennedy International Airport terminal at the beginning of his remarks, Mr. Maloney said: "Connection is what makes the experience of Rotary so very different from the experience of walking along that concourse at JFK airport." No one in Rotary, he continued, "is an island." Speaking of his fellow Rotarians, Mr. Maloney continued: "All of us are here together — whoever we are, wherever we are from, whatever language we speak or traditions we follow. We are all connected to each other, part of our communities, and members not only of our clubs but of the global community to which we all belong."

Then, announcing his theme for the Year 2019 - 2020, Mr. Maloney declared: "That connection is what lies at the heart of the Rotary experience. It is what brings us to Rotary. It is why we stay. It is how we will grow Rotary. And it will be our theme in the 2019-2020 Rotary year: *Rotary Connects the World.*"

"In this ever more divided world" Mr. Maloney said: "Rotary connects us all" and then holding his cell phone aloft, added: "This device in my hand allows us to connect with the world." Noticing how many of his listeners were photographing the scene with their own cell phones, he asked of his audience "that you share the theme on social media. Take a photo, post it on social media, and share how Rotary allows you to connect with the world."

Every year in January, the governors-elect from Rotary International's 530 districts from around the world gather in San Diego to undergo a week of training in preparation for their year of service as the governors of their respective districts: with that service beginning the following July 1. During that same training session, which RI calls an International Assembly, the incoming President of RI announces his or her theme for the coming year, which also begins on July 1.

This year, District 7490's Governor-elect, John D. Mitchell of the Fort Lee Rotary Club, joined 527 other governors-elect as he prepared for his year of service.

A member of the Rotary Club of Decatur in Alabama since 1980, Mr. Maloney is a principal in the law firm of Blackburn, Maloney & Schupert, LLC, which specializes in tax law, estate planning and agricultural issues. He served as Governor of Rotary District 686 in Alabama in 1989 – 1990 and as a Director of Rotary International in 1999 – 2001.



Governor-elect John D. Mitchell with Rotary International President-elect Mark Daniel Maloney and his wife Gay on January 14, the first day of RI's International Assembly in San Diego where John joined 527 other district governors-elect in a week-long training session in preparation for their year of service which begins on July 1. The theme for 2019 – 2020 stands in the background.

District 7490's Gift of Life Foundation Celebrates Heart Surgeries Performed Here and Abroad.

Rotary District 7490's Gift of Life Foundation held its annual Celebration Dinner last week, in which it highlighted 29 cardiac surgeries it sponsored in 2018.

At the dinner last Wednesday (Feb. 13) held at Seasons in Washington Township, the Foundation spoke of 29 cardiac surgeries that it sponsored in 2018, eight of which were performed at hospitals in New Jersey and New York and 21 of which were performed abroad. Of the surgeries performed abroad, 17 were performed in a medical mission in El Salvador while two each were performed by Foundation-trained native-born doctors in Myanmar and Ukraine.

Speaking at last Wednesday night's dinner, District Governor Niurka "Nikki" Mederos discussed the surgery performed on seven-year old Jonathan Cuela from Bolivia.

Holding aloft a copy of the dinner's journal, Governor Nikki said that when she first met Jonathan, she thought he might be four-years old. He was, however, seven-years old at the time, but a stunted growth resulting from his heart ailment made him appear almost half his age.

While he underwent surgery at Westchester Medical Center Children's Hospital in Valhalla, N.Y., and during his recovery, Jonathan's family was hosted by the family of Paul A. and Carmen Platek, with Paul being the President of the Wyckoff/Midland Park Rotary Club.

Referring to her career in health care, Governor Nikki contrasted health care in the United States with that of other nations. Noting that she is the Director of External Affairs/Community OutReach at Hackensack Meridian Health Palisades Medical Center in North Bergen, she said that hospitals in the United States are prohibited by law from denying people emergency care because of their inability to pay.

But she added: "there are so many around the world who are not as lucky" writing in the dinner's journal: "Many people around the world struggle to meet basic survival needs: shelter, clean water and food" with medical care, she continued, being "considered a luxury." She spoke also of her visit to a hospital in Santo Domingo last year, during District 7490's joint conference with District 7475, which she said, had to choose between cooling its operating theater or providing power during a cardiac catheterization procedure. It could not do both, she said.

In their remarks, and in a joint letter in the dinner's journal, David K. Whitlock and Jennifer Padolina, who chair the Gift of Life Foundation and the Gift of Life Committee, respectively, said that since its inception in 1987, the District's Gift of Life Foundation has sponsored 1,301 surgeries, with in the first 16 years, all of the surgeries being performed at hospitals in New Jersey and New York.

With a donation of \$125,000 provided to the Jersey City Rotary Club in 2003, however, 12 surgeries were performed in China, with seven taking place in 2003 and five the following year, in 2004. In that same year, surgeries were performed in Ukraine by native-born doctors who were trained in the procedure.

In their remarks, Dave, a member of the Ridgewood Rotary Club and Jennifer, a member of the Paramus Rotary Club, paid tribute to the David and Carol Lackland Foundation which in 2018 donated \$100,000 to the GOL Foundation, and to three hospitals in New Jersey and New York, which provide the facilities and equipment with which to perform the surgeries, and whose doctors perform the surgeries.

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Dr. Khan H. Nguyen of St. Joseph's Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center in Paterson, receiving the Gift of Life Foundation's highest award, the John D. Hartman Award on Feb. 13. From left-to-right are Jennifer Padolina, Chairwoman of the Gift of Life Committee; Dr. Nguyen; David K. Whitlock, Chairman of the Gift of Life Foundation; and Past District Governor Joseph Lauren, who previously chaired both the Foundation and the Committee.



District Governor Niurka "Nikki" Mederos holding aloft the dinner journal of the Gift of Life Foundation's dinner journal as she spoke of the seven-year old boy featured on its cover.

District 7490's Gift of Life Foundation Celebrates Heart Surgeries Performed Here and Abroad.

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The three hospitals, two in New Jersey and one in New York, they pointed out, are:

*St. Joseph's Children's Hospital and Reginal Medical Center
703 Main Street, Paterson, N.J.*

*The Valley Hospital
223 North Van Dien Avenue, Ridgewood, N.J.*

*Westchester Medical Center Children's Hospital
Valhalla Campus, Valhalla, N.Y.*



David K. Whitlock, Chairman of District 7490's Gift of Life Foundation, speaking at the Foundation's Celebration dinner on Feb. 13. To his right is Jennifer Padolina, the Gift of Life Committee's Chairwoman.



Jennifer Padolina, Chairwoman of District 7490's Gift of Life Committee, speaking at the Foundation's Celebration dinner on Feb. 13. David K. Whitlock, the GOL Foundation's Chairman, looks on..



Sherry Wilson, President of the Rotary Club of Bergen Community College, donates \$1,500 on the club's behalf to David K. Whitlock, Chairman of District 7490's Gift of Life Foundation during its Celebration Dinner on Feb. 13.



Dr. Khan H. Nguyen of St. Joseph's Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center in Paterson, speaking at the Gift of Life Foundation's Celebration dinner on Feb. 13 after having received the John D. Hartman Award, the Foundation's highest honor.

District 7490 Resolutions for District Conf., Governor's April 27 HomeComing, April 11 Rotary Assembly.

District to Vote on Three Resolutions at Conference.

The electors at the 62nd annual District 7490 Conference in May will vote on three resolutions, two of which were submitted by the Mid-Bergen Rotary Club and one by the Board of Trustees of the Rotary District 7490 Walter D. Head Foundation.

In the first resolution, the Mid-Bergen club “enthusiastically encourages District 7490 to continue the decades-old practice of supporting and participating in the Vocational Assembly each year.” In its resolution, the club notes the “highly motivated speakers and leaders representing service above self” at the assemblies who have “inspired many Rotarians to provide ethical vocational service and leadership.”

In its second resolution, the club calls upon incoming district governors and their trainers “to review adopted district resolutions and be guided by the resolutions while leading the District.”

In its resolution, the Trustees of the Walter D. Head Foundation write that at the time of its formation, the Military Family Assistance Council operated under the umbrella of the Foundaion's 501 (c) (3) status. The Council, however, the Foundatoin notes, has incorporated itself under its own 501 (c) (3) tax-exempt status and therefore no longer requires the protections that the Foundation had provided.

Bill's letter and the text of the three resolutions are appended to this newsletter following Page 11.

Governor's Homecoming Brunch to be on April 27.

The North Hudson Rotary Club will welcome one of its own - District Governor Niurka “Nikki” Mederos - at her “Homecoming Visit Brunch” to the Club, which will be held at 12:00 noon on Saturday, April 27, at La Reggia Restaurant, located at 40 Wood Avenue in Secaucus.

All Rotarians in District 7490 are invited to attend, with the cost of the brunch being \$45.00 per person. Responses should be directed to the club's president, Jorge deArmas, at either 201-725-9263 or at idearmas@lawwwwmm.com. with the responses being requested by April 22.



JC Rotary to Host 13th Hudson County Assembly.

The Jersey City Rotary Club will host the 13th annual Hudson County Rotary Clubs' Assembly at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday evening, April 11, at Ruth's Chris Steak House, located at 499 Washington Boulevard in Jersey City. All of the clubs in Hudson County - Bayonne, Hoboken, Jersey City Golden Door, North Hudson, Secaucus and the provision Kearny club – are invited to participate. The Assembly will cost \$60.00 per person.

Any other Rotarians are also welcome to attend and share ideas on meetings, service projects, etc.

PDG Joseph Dino Jr. Named Rotary Liaison to North America for the Freedom of Fistula Foundation.

Founder of the Freedom of Fistula Foundation, (FFFF) Ann Gloag, recently made a Dame Commander of the British Empire, has appointed Past District Governor Joseph Dino, Jr. to serve as the North American liaison to Rotary. Ann, who was a keynote speaker at the Rotary International Convention in Toronto, highlighted the Foundation's work in helping to reduce the prevalence of obstetric fistula and the rates of maternal and neo-natal deaths and Rotary's cooperation both in the UK and USA.

Rotary Clubs have played a significant part in both raising awareness of the Freedom from Fistula Foundation goals and also in raising vital matching funds.

The FFFF now operates in Sierra Leone, Malawi, Madagascar and Kenya and provides free surgeries to heal fistulas; free and accessible maternity care; children's outpatient clinics, family planning; and training for nurses, midwives and doctors.

In 2018, the FFFF celebrated its 10th Anniversary and has:

- delivered free treatment to 120,000 women and children across four countries in Africa;
- performed more than 6,500 fistula operations;
- delivered more than 10,000 babies;
- trained 500 nurses and doctors.

There are still an estimated 2 million women and girls suffering from obstetric fistula and need help. Rotarians have offered invaluable support during the last 10 years, in particular, by securing Global Grants to fund the training of 60 nurse midwife technicians in Malawi and the purchase of two land cruisers in Malawi which provide a lifeline for the FFFF team to access patients in the most rural areas and raise awareness of our work.

Rotarians have once again pledged their support through the launch of a new Global Grant, #GG 1981430, to help our Aberdeen Women's Centre (AWC) in Sierra Leone. The AWC is the biggest project – and is a perfect fit with Rotary's Maternal and Child Health Area of Focus.

Joe, who has been working with the Freedom From Fistula Foundation for over 4 years has been instrumental in providing informative programs to Rotary Clubs in New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Together with the current Fistula Foundation US director Angela McCabe, the foundation has benefited significantly from contributions and matched grants from Rotary.

Clubs interested in a program and/or more information should contact Joe directly at josephdinojr@optonline.net



Past District Governor Joseph Dino, Jr., who was named the Freedom from Fistula Foundation's North American liaison to Rotary.



Dame Ann Gloag, the founder of the Freedom from Fistula Foundation.

Jersey City Rotary Club Joins in Hostng Fundraiser for Shipment of Donated Police Cars to Villalba, P.R.

The Jersey City Rotary Club joined on Feb. 11 in a fundraiser to ship three police cars donated by the Hoboken Police Department to the City of Villalba in Puerto Rico. Along with the police cars, Hoboken also donated 360 bullet plates for bulletproof vests for Villalba police officers. The city was devastated by Hurricane Maria in Sept, 2017.



Two of the three Hoboken police cars that were to be delivered to Villalba, Puerto Rico, stationed outside the Texas Arizona Bar & Grill on Feb. 11 as the Jersey City Rotary Club hosted a fundraiser to pay for the cars' transport to Puerto Rico. The cars are decorated with both the flags of the United States and of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, along with a poster announcing the fundraiser.



Mayor Ravi Bhalla of Hoboken, congratulating Joseph E. Branco and the Jersey City Rotary Club on Feb. 11 for their work in organizing the fundraiser to ship donated Hoboken police cars to Villalba in Puerto Rico. Joe can be seen to Mayor Bhalla's left while Aaron Forman is to the Mayor's right. The fundraiser was held at the Texas Arizona Bar & Grill, in Hoboken.



The flags of the United States and of its Commonwealth, Puerto Rico, adorn the Texas Arizona Bar & Grill during the Feb. 11 fundraiser for the shipment of donated police equipment to Villalba.



Mayor Ravi Bhalla of Hoboken with members and friends of the Jersey City Rotary Club at the Feb. 11 fundraiser at the Texas Arizona Bar & Grill. From left-to-right are Dianne F. Vasquez, Keely Respass, Cynthia Vazquez, Mayor Bhalla, David Javadian Marianne E. Costello and Herminio Mendoza.

Paramus Rotary Club Hears of Drug Treatment Program and Hosts Brunch and Tricky-Tray Event.

Enlightened Solutions Advocate Talks of Drug Treatment.

Enlightened Solutions is a holistic substance abuse treatment center located in Southern NJ. It's mission is to help the addict recover the mind, body, and spirit through a holistic approach and 12-step philosophy.

Joe is a Treatment Solutions Advocate for them after dealing with his own addiction to opioids when he was recovering from an injury while he was employed with the Middlesex Dept. of Corrections. He was a functional addict but had yet to realize it.

Even with his addictions, he moved up the ranks. After getting hurt again with a torn labrum, his law-enforcement career ended with early retirement. He was dealing with PTSD, (post-traumatic Stress syndrome) depression and drug and alcohol addiction. A friend/coworker intervened and Joe reluctantly sought help with therapy.

He found out it was "OK" to talk to someone and his perception changed. He realized this was "not a tragedy but an opportunity". Joe received his Master's in Social Work, Mental Health - MSW, LSW at [Rutgers University](#). His biggest lesson from all this was that it's "OK not to be OK". Tell your employees that it's ok to talk to someone who can help when you are not ok. Joe is a licensed therapist in the field of addiction. Enlightened Solutions allows him to reach out to many more in the communities to do whatever he can i.e., interventions, Narcan training, etc.



Joe Chlebowsky, a Treatment Solutions Advocate at Enlightened Solutions, with Diane Vasile-Falcone, the Club's President, after addressing the Paramus Rotary Club at its meeting of Jan. 31.

Club Hosts Valentine Day Brunch and Tricky Tray.



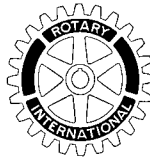
Members and guest of the Paramus Rotary Club at their brunch on Feb. 10.



Some of the tricky-tray items on display at the Paramus Rotary Club's brunch on Feb. 10.



Diane Vasile-Falcone and Dawn Feorenzo, who chaired the Paramus Rotary Club's Feb. 10 brunch.



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

Service Above Self - They Profit Most Who Serve the Best

WILLIAM F. RUPP, District Governor 1994-1995

District 7490

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March 25, 2019

re: District Conference Resolutions and Electors

Dear Club President,

By letter dated January 14, 2019, clubs were advised of the procedures to submit resolutions for consideration at Rotary District 7490's 62nd Annual District Conference scheduled for May 2-5, 2019 at the Wyndham Hotel at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. In addition, clubs were advised of the procedure for submitting proposed resolutions to the RI Council on Resolutions.

The Bylaws of Rotary International provide that "A district conference may adopt recommendations upon matters of importance in its district, provided such action shall be in accordance with the constitution and bylaws and in keeping with the spirit and principles of Rotary. Each district conference shall consider and act upon all matters submitted to it for consideration by the board and may adopt resolutions thereon."

Pursuant to district resolution #03-01 previously adopted in 2003, all resolutions must be submitted to the district resolution committee at least 6 weeks prior to the commencement of the district conference (on or before March 21, 2019) in order to be distributed to the clubs no later than 4 weeks prior to the district conference (on or before April 4, 2019).

In response to the foregoing, the Rotary Club of Mid-Bergen submitted two resolutions for consideration, copies of which are attached, along with resolutions to approve same. The first of these proposed resolutions encourages Rotary District 7490 to continue to support and participate in the Vocational Assembly each year. The second proposed resolution directs that the district trainer and District Governor review adopted district resolutions and be guided by the resolutions while leading the district.

There were no proposed resolutions for consideration by the annual Rotary International Council on Resolutions submitted within the required time period.

In addition, the annual meeting of the Rotary District 7490 Walter D. Head Foundation is held each year at the District Conference for Rotary District 7490. The Board of Trustees of the Rotary District 7490 Walter D. Head Foundation, at its meeting on March 18, 2019, approved an amendment to the Bylaws of the Foundation to except the Military Family Assistance Council from the tax exempt purposes of the Rotary District 7490 Walter D. Head Foundation. The foregoing amendment to the Bylaws is subject to the approval by a majority vote of the electors of the member Rotary Clubs present and voting at the annual meeting of the Rotary District 7490 Walter D. Head Foundation. A copy of the proposed amendment to the bylaws and a resolution approving same are attached.

Each club in the district is entitled to (1) elector. Any club with more than 25 members may select an additional elector for each additional 25 members or major fraction thereof. By way of example, a club is entitled to (2) electors when it has a membership of between 38 and 62 members. The membership of a club is determined by the number of members in the club as of the date of the most recent semiannual report and payment preceding the date on which the vote is to be held. An elector must be a member of the club and must be present at the district conference to vote. However, proxies are permitted as outlined below. Unless an elector demands a poll of electors upon any vote, every member in good standing of a club present at the district conference shall be entitled to vote on all matters except the selection of a governor nominee, member and alternate member of the nominating committee for an RI director, composition and terms of reference of the nominating committee for governor, election of the representative and alternate representative of the district to the Council on Legislation and the decision as to the amount of the per capita district levy.

In the absence of an elector, and with the consent of the Governor, a club may designate a proxy who may either be another member of the club or a member of another club within the district. The proxy shall be entitled to vote as the proxy for the non-attending elector(s) represented, in addition to any other vote the proxy may have.

The names of the electors and proxies (if any) selected by each club should be set forth on the attached electors selection certificate and signed by both the club president and club secretary and brought to the conference to be presented to the credentials committee.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours in Service,

William F. Rupp

William F. Rupp, PDG

Chairman Resolutions Committee

cc: Gov. Nikki Mederos
D.G.E. John Mitchell
D.G.N. Carl Hassett
D.G.N.D. John Susani

ROTARY DISTRICT 7490'S 62nd ANNUAL DISTRICT CONFERENCE at the
Wyndham Hotel at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania
(May 2-5, 2019)

SELECTION OF ELECTOR(S)/PROXIES CERTIFICATION

ROTARY CLUB OF _____

NUMBER OF MEMBERS _____
(as per the most recent semiannual payment to R.I.)

NUMBER OF ELECTORS _____
(One (1) elector per club for up to the first 25 members and, one (1) additional elector for each additional 25 members or major fraction thereof)

NAME OF ELECTOR(S) (must be a club member)

NAME OF PROXIES (may be a club member or a member of another club within the district)

_____ Rotary Club of _____
_____ Rotary Club of _____
_____ Rotary Club of _____
_____ Rotary Club of _____

I certify that the foregoing elector(s) and/or proxies have been duly selected to represent the above named Rotary Club at the District Conference.

_____ President Dated _____
(Signature)

_____ Secretary Dated _____
(Signature)

(Present this certification to the credentials committee at the District Conference)

Resolution

WHEREAS the leadership of Rotary International, the districts and clubs changes every year; and
WHEREAS Rotary is very diverse with many programs, activities and procedures; and
WHEREAS the experiences and knowledge of Rotary operations are different for all members;
and

WHEREAS the operation of Rotary District 7490 has evolved over time and has established unique operational procedures; and

WHEREAS these operational procedures have been refined and are codified in resolutions adopted at the annual district conference; and

WHEREAS it is impractical for all incoming district leaders to know of and/or understand these procedures through observation or experience; and

WHEREAS the training provided to district leaders through Rotary International programs such as GETS, while intensive, is very general in nature and does not cover the specific operation of the district; and

WHEREAS it is important to maintain consistency in the operation of the district;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the district trainer and incoming District Governor shall review adopted district resolutions and be guided by the resolutions while leading the district.

The resolution has been proposed by the Mid-Bergen County Rotary Club for 2019 Rotary District 7490 annual conference



Sonia Lauren
President

March 20, 2019



Mia Vilkos
Secretary

3.22.19

ROTARY DISTRICT 7490

RESOLUTION 2019-1

A RESOLUTION TO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT AND PARTICIPATE IN THE NEW JERSEY VOCATIONAL ASSEMBLY

WHEREAS, the Mid Bergen Rotary Club has proposed the attached resolution to continue to support and participate in the New Jersey Vocational Assembly and has submitted same for consideration at the 2018-2019 District Conference for Rotary District 7490;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Rotarians gathered at the 62nd annual district conference for District 7490 at the Wyndham Hotel at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania (May 2-5, 2019) that District 7490 continue to support and participate in the New Jersey Vocational Assembly.

RESOLUTION OF THE ROTARY CLUB MID-BERGEN COUNTY

WHEREAS, Members of the Rotary Club of Mid-Bergen County have been attending the annual Vocational Assembly regularly for approximately two decades; and

WHEREAS, the members have listened to the highly motivational speakers and leaders representing service above self at those Vocational Assemblies; and

WHEREAS, the ideals shared by those speakers have inspired many Rotarians to provide ethical vocational service and leadership in the spirit of Rotary; and

WHEREAS, the Vocational Assemblies have motivated Rotarians to give more of themselves as volunteers and civic minded citizens; and

WHEREAS, one of the Avenues of Service of Rotary is Vocational Service, ; and

WHEREAS, ; and the growth of Rotarians as ethical leaders in Vocational Service will be beneficial to all concerned and:

THEREFORE BE IT RECORDED AND RECOGNIZED that upon motion made and seconded at its meeting of March 19, 2019 the collective membership of THE ROTARY CLUB of Mid Bergen County voted to encourage Rotary District 7490 to continue to support and participate in the Vocational Assembly each year;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Rotary Club of Mid Bergen County enthusiastically encourages District 7490 to continue the decades old practice of supporting and participating in the Vocational Assembly each year.

Signed By:

Sonia Lauren Dated: 3/21/2019

Sonia Lauren, President

Signed by and Attested to By:

Mia Villon Dated: 03.21.2019

Mia Villon, Secretary

ROTARY DISTRICT 7490 WALTER D. HEAD FOUNDATION

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Article 2 – Purpose, Paragraph 1a of the Bylaws of the Rotary District 7490 Walter D. Head Foundation provide that a purpose of the Foundation is “to act as the tax exempt Foundation for Rotary District 7490 for the purpose of all activities consistent with the tax-exempt status of the Foundation with the exception of the District Gift of Life Program; and

WHEREAS, the District Gift of Life Program had heretofore separately incorporated and formed its own 501(c)3 foundation; and

WHEREAS, the Rotary District 7490 Walter D. Head Foundation has heretofore served as the Foundation for District 7490’s Military Family Assistance Council (MFAC); and

WHEREAS, MFAC has now separately incorporated and formed its own 501(c)3 foundation; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Rotary District 7490 Walter D. Head Foundation, at its meeting on March 18, 2019, approved an amendment to the Bylaws of the Foundation to except the Military Family Assistance Council from the tax exempt purposes of the Rotary District 7490 Walter D. Head Foundation; and

WHEREAS, the foregoing amendments to the Bylaws are subject to the approval by a majority vote of the electors of the member Rotary Clubs present and voting at the annual meeting of the Rotary District 7490 Walter D. Head Foundation to be held at the annual District Conference of Rotary District 7490;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by a majority of the electors of the member Rotary Clubs present and voting at the annual meeting of Rotary District 7490 Walter D. Head Foundation held at the 62nd annual district conference for District 7490 at the Wyndham Hotel at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania (May 2-5, 2019), that the amendment to the Bylaws of Rotary District 7490 Walter D. Head Foundation, as approved by the Board of Trustees on March 18, 2019, and which are annexed hereto, are hereby ratified and approved.

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE ROTARY DISTRICT 7490 WALTER D. HEAD FOUNDATION that the following amendments to the Bylaws of the Rotary District 7490 Walter D. Head Foundation are hereby approved and recommended for adoption by the Members of the Walter D. Head Foundation at the Annual Meeting to be held at the 62nd annual district conference for District 7490 at the Wyndham Hotel at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania (May 2-5, 2019)

1. Subparagraph a) of Paragraph 1, of ARTICLE 2 -PURPOSE. is hereby amended to read as follows: (additions underlined; deletions ~~strikeout~~)
 - a) To act as the tax exempt Foundation for Rotary District 7490 for the purpose of all activities consistent with the tax-exempt status of the Foundation with the exception of the District Gift of Life Program and the Military Family Assistance Council.