



District Governor Joe Hamilton's October 2012 Newsletter

Wed Nov 14, 2012

[Home](#)



QUESTIONS AND

SUBMISSIONS TO

CHARLIEWASSER@ATT.NET

District Events

District Cabinet Meeting and TRF Drawing

DoubleTree Hotel
Dec 05, 2012 06:30 PM - 08:30
PM

District Cabinet Meeting

DoubleTree Hotel
Jan 09, 2013 06:30 PM - 08:30
PM

Pre-Pets

Dolce Hayes Mansion
Jan 26, 2013

District Cabinet Meeting

DoubleTree Hotel
Feb 06, 2013 06:30 PM - 08:30
PM

District Cabinet Meeting

DoubleTree Hotel
Mar 06, 2013 06:30 PM - 08:30
PM

District Conference in Napa

The Meritage Resort and Spa
Mar 21, 2013 - Mar 24, 2013

District Cabinet Meeting

DoubleTree Hotel
Apr 03, 2013 06:30 PM - 08:30
PM

District Cabinet Meeting

DoubleTree Hotel
May 01, 2013 06:30 PM - 08:30
PM

District Cabinet Meeting

DoubleTree Hotel
Jun 05, 2013 06:30 PM - 08:30
PM

Stories

District Governor Joe Hamilton's October Message

Posted by Joe Hamilton on Nov 04, 2012



The devastation of Hurricane Sandy is on all of our minds. I sent out the following message to club Presidents and District Leadership Team members:

We at District 5170 are deeply concerned for the suffering caused on the East Coast by Hurricane Sandy. While Rotary is not set up as a first responder group, we are, nevertheless, concerned for the welfare of those in the affected areas who have suffered great loss. We encourage you and club Rotarians to make donations. One approach open to anyone is to donate funds to the [Red Cross](#), [AmeriCares](#), and other organizations that are on the ground helping with the initial wave of relief efforts.

I have had several requests that the District help clubs to organize a donation effort. Whether it is by "passing the hat" in a Rotary meeting or any other approach, I will set up an account in the District 5170 Foundation for Hurricane Sandy Disaster Relief. Individuals or clubs can make out checks to: **Rotary 5170 District Foundation** and note it is for "Sandy Disaster Relief." Mail checks to: Rotary District 5170, Attn: Disaster Relief, 2570 N. First St., Suite 200, San Jose, CA 95131.

Once we have information from the impacted Rotary zone or districts regarding specific disaster relief needs, the accumulated funds will be sent there. If every District Rotarian put in \$2, we would collect nearly \$10,000 to send on behalf of District clubs. As we have learned with previous natural disasters, the cleanup and recovery work will be ongoing for the next few months and years. We will be following up with those clubs on the East Coast with whom we have connections on how best District 5170 can help with recovery efforts as their long-term needs become more apparent.

If you or your clubs have contacts with other clubs on the East Coast, please send a note to [Brittany](#) in the District Office and let us know how we can contact them and offer our support in the weeks and months ahead. Don MacKenzie will be heading up our District's effort. Many of you have wondered what his D.U.N.C.E. title stands for. It stands for Director of Unscheduled Needs, Celebrations, and Experiences. I asked him to assume this position with just such an occurrence as Hurricane Sandy in mind. More information will follow in the Monday Morning Message and in the November District Newsletter.

Many district Rotarians have asked how they can get involved. My suggestion is to pass along the message above and if you want to participate in the district effort, "pass the hat" around in your club at your next meeting. Your club can then write a check as indicated above. The funds will be accumulated and within a few weeks sent to one of our Rotary contacts in the impacted area.

The need is great. I received a phone call from Piedmont/Montclair Rotarian Mark Delventhal who had been in phone contact with a PDG on Staten Island who was in distress and describing the devastation and need. On hearing about the disaster, PDG Ron Sekkel wrote to a Rotarian in the area he knows:

"Dear Helen,

You might remember me. You and I worked on a script together when we were at the First Rotary Global History Institute in Chicago. I sure enjoyed working with you.

When I heard of all the tragedy going on in New York and when I heard that our Governor was starting to collect monies to assist, I thought that you would be the person to contact due to your vast experience back in 2001.

You were the first woman president of the Rotary Club of New York City and you served during the year of America's great tragedy...9/11.

If you are aware of what the monies could be used for during the current tragedy, then I am sure that it will increase the amounts that Rotarians will feel like giving.

Please let us know what you find out is needed and we will see what we can do to help.

Rotarily Yours,

Ron"

Her reply was:

"Dear Ron,

Yes, of course I remember you!!

It is so good to hear from you and thank you for your genuine concern and outreach at this significant time. It is "déjà-vu."

I escaped last night from my freezing house in Northern Westchester where there has been no power for days, no water, food running out, live wires and fallen trees on roads, etc. Three giant trees fell on my front lawn. Our Governor had to call in an emergency team as the electric company could not handle it.

I had to find 2 other people so that we could attempt to drive back to NYC where they are only allowing 3 people in a car in order to enter. I am now safely in upper Manhattan at my daughter's apartment....that is where most of the NYC devastation is due to the terrible flooding. 5 hospitals had to evacuate all their patients. I could not even reach my own apartment which is further south.

New York Downtown Hospital, who worked with me during "9/11," and saved numerous lives, is dealing with a damaged emergency room which is completely flooded.

Regardless of everything, we are going ahead with "Rotary/UN Day." I am a RIRep to the UN and my team has been preparing for days to proceed.

Your generous offer is wonderful. I am gathering information to see where the worst situations are.....there are so many in so many areas.

I will get back to you after I manage to get my New York Rotary Club and our "partners" on board.

Thank you so much!!!!

Warm regards,

Helen"

Helenbreisler@aol.com

Karen McNamera, President of San Lorenzo Valley was concerned about a member who was caught in the storm area. She wrote:

"One of our newest Rotarians, Cameron Haste, has a home and 2 sons on the Jersey Shore. He was there when Sandy hit - I was in contact with him on Sunday, but didn't hear from him again until last night. His home has minimal damage which he thinks will be covered by insurance, but most importantly - Cameron and his sons are all okay. I assured him that we will help in any way possible - that's what Rotarians do. Peace through SERVICE, Karen"

The storm's ravages are more than just what we watch on T.V. They are personal. Hopefully all Rotarians will respond by helping in one of the ways I have described in my message above.

Let me end by saying congratulations to all of your involvement in bringing in new members and contributing to The Rotary Foundation. While membership as of July 1, 2012 dropped down to 3733, which is way below what we had originally thought, as of this writing, we are up to 3783. The good news is that your effort to bring in new members this year is working. Please keep up your efforts. For Foundation Giving, your response has been good. We are ahead of donations when compared to this time last year. Through October here is the data:

2009-2010 \$152.3K

2010-2011 \$148.3K

2011-2012 \$195.5K

2012-2013 \$199.3K and counting.....

Finally, don't forget to turn in your Rotary Foundation ticket stubs. They can be given to your Foundation Chair or any Assistant Governor. They need to be placed in the receptacle for the drawing at the December 5 cabinet meeting.

[Read more...](#)

TRF Donations Give Raffle Prize Possibilities

Posted by Charles Wasser on Oct 28, 2012

Your Contribution to the Rotary Foundation Annual fund Makes it all Possible



Don't Miss Out on the 2012 TRF Donor Ticket Drawing! Click [here](#) for details on how to enter and win either of two prizes - flight for 2 and 5 nights accommodation in Lisbon at the Rotary International Convention 2013 or flight for 2 and 3 nights accommodation at the Uniendo America Project Faire in Sonsonate, El Salvador.

[TRF News Today for October](#)

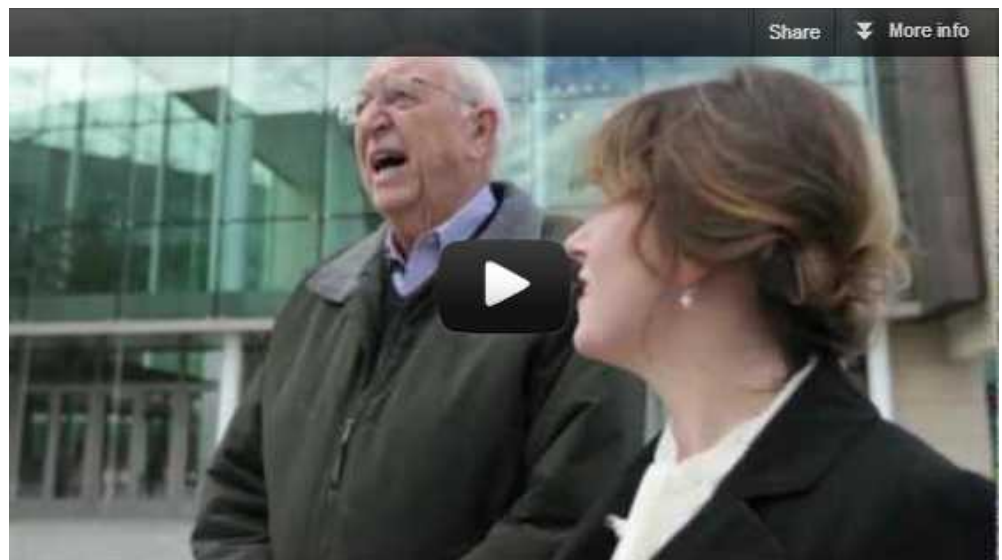
Posted by Timothy Lundell on Nov 04, 2012

The district is in the middle of fund raising for the Rotary foundation (TRF). [Click here to read the October edition of the TRF News Today.](#)

[Yes, You Belong in Rotary!!!!](#)

Posted by Charles Wasser on Oct 27, 2012

Asking yourself if Rotary is for you? Checkout this video and then get in touch with Brittany whose phone number and email address are located on the top left hand corner of this HOME page.



[Districtwide Membership Trends Shown by Club](#)

Posted by Russell Hobbs on Nov 06, 2012

The membership numbers are rising for our District.

[Click here to see the Monthly Membership Trends as of October 1, 2012](#)

[Technology Corner](#)

Posted by Charles Wasser on Nov 04, 2012

The Avenues of Service seminars at the Double Tree were simply incredible. Over 700 district

Rotarians signed up. They were able to attend seminars and view the projects on display in the Project Fair. New this year, the Communication Technologies Committee held mini-seminars in the Project Fair area.

We were in the back corner with the rows of chairs set up in front of the screen. I was expecting to have 4 tables for the setup and presentation. Rich Bennett, handling the facilities part of the Fair, went above and beyond



expectations as always, and surprised me with the mini-auditorium.

The attendance at the 5 talks was good. The problem however was the audio. We were not ready for the noise level and it was hard to

hear parts, especially the video conferencing and Skype call. We held the seminars to whet Rotarians' appetite for more in depth discussion and meetings to learn about what these areas of

technology have to offer. The response from the attendees at our seminars was overwhelming and they requested that we have the more involved seminars.

The seminars should happen after the New Year. The topics we will expand on include using the district and club versions of Club Runner, tools that are being developed to assist in getting maximum use out of Club Runner, social media, video conferencing, and most effective techniques for using the Internet for your club's PR campaign.

Please send an email to



seminars5170@wassergraphics.com indicating that you are interested in the seminars and which are of particular interest. This is simply for planning purposes. I will send out more formal announcements which will request final headcount once we have firm dates for the seminars.



District 5170 Yellow Page

Posted by Gary Citti on Nov 04, 2012

Did you know that District 5170 started providing Yellow Pages on our District Web Site? The objective is to give our Rotarians the capabilities of listing their businesses so fellow District Rotary members would have a place to look up services they may need.

We encourage all of our Club President to promote this great opportunity to your club members. You may even consider adding this information to your club website or newsletter.

Remember, the Yellow Page listing is completely free!

You simple go to rotarydistrict5170.org and at the top of the home page you will see the Yellow Page link. Just click on Yellow Pages.....it's pretty self explanatory and very easy to add a listing. **Plus it's FREE!**

If you have any questions please contact me at Garycitti@cittisflorist.com or call 408-371-9600 ext 2.