



Message from the District Governor Mary Ellen Bentler

Wow it is hard to believe that the magical month of December is here. As we change the calendar to a new year, we will be halfway through the 2021 -22 Rotary Year. I can tell you that I have really enjoyed being your District Governor and visiting our clubs. Our District has great Rotarians that are always looking for service projects to help our communities and all around the world.

December is Disease Prevention and Treatment month in Rotary. The pandemic unfortunately has schooled most people on the toll that Disease takes on our communities. But Fighting Disease is something that Rotarians around the world have been doing for decades. In fact, it is one of Rotary’s seven areas of focus.

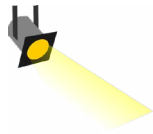


As you can see District Conference Chair Ted Silver and I are having some fun preparing for the conference in Ithaca New York on May 5th, 6th and 7th, 2022. Since the conference will start with a Cinco de Mayo celebration, we thought we would get in the mood at the Hamlin Lake Ariel Clubs Chili Cookoff. We are working on having a informative conference while having a lot of fun so “SAVE THE DATE”.

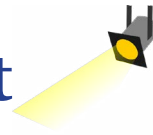
In November we had a Celebration for the Charter of the E-club of International Innovators and I want to Welcome each of these new Rotarians to the District. This club was chartered with 20 members and 19 of them are under the age of 30 so if your club could find a way to support this new club it would be great. Please check out their Facebook page and web site and reach out to them to see how your club can help.

I will end with a word about membership. I have talked at club visits about RI President Shekhar Mehta’s initiative “EVERY ONE BRING ONE”. We have grown our district membership to 1,144 as of this morning. Now is the time to engage our members, both old and new, get them involved in service projects and committees and make every Rotarian feel welcome in the club. Also remember to add Fun into the mix.

In Service to Rotary,
Mary Ellen



New Member Spotlight



Meet Katherine Silfa! She was born in the Dominican Republic, and is married with 3 wonderful boys; 21, 19 and 8 years old. She came to live in the United States 11 years ago. Her and her family originally lived in New Jersey for 10 years until moving to Hazleton, Pennsylvania, one year ago.

Katherine took ESL classes to become proficient in the English language, has completed the Child Development Associate Program, where she became a Preschool Assistant Teacher. She continued her professional development to include Family Services and Human Development with a concentration in Family Services, a Master's in Clinical Advanced Social Work to be completed in 2023, and currently becoming a Social Work Intern at Hazleton Integration Project in Hazelton.

Her interest in becoming a member of the Hazleton Rotary Club arose from the nature of her professional career. The humanities aspect of Rotary along with Hazleton's relationship with the environment was her selling point to joining. She is looking forward to using her professional background to help benefit the Hazleton Club and push Rotary's mission further.

Please join us in welcoming Katherine to District 7410!



New Member Spotlight

Past President Lew Dryfoos inducted four new members into the Hazleton Rotary Club at the weekly meeting held on Wednesday, December 8, 2021 at The Pines Eatery & Spirits. He encouraged new members to take advantage of their club membership and become active participants in fundraisers and special events, as well as enjoying club social activities.

Lew was assisted by Past Presidents Donna Barna, Tim Genetti, Katrina Lennartz and Pat Ward.

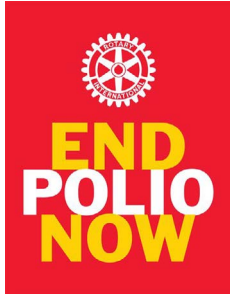
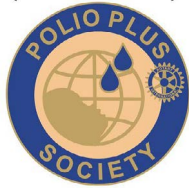
New Rotary Club Members are Eileen Perchak, sponsored by Donna Barna, Katherine Silfa, sponsored by Clara Garcia and Peter Bard and Tony Columbo sponsored by Mike Cammisa.

For more information on the Hazleton Rotary Club visit www.hazletonrotary.org and/or the Hazleton Rotary Club [Facebook page](#).



Row 1 L to R: Hazleton Rotary inducted four new members at their meeting on December 8.
L-R Mike Cammisa-sponsor, Donna Barna-sponsor, Eileen Perchak-new member, Katherine Silfa-new member, Clara Garcia-sponsor.
Absent from photo new members Peter Bard and Tony Columbo

ROTARY DISTRICT 7410 POLIOPLUS SOCIETY APPLICATION



As a Rotarian and supporter of Polio Eradication, Rotary's #1 international priority, I wish to participate in this child focused humanitarian effort as a member of the PolioPlus Society of Rotary District 7410.

I hereby commit to making an annual donation to the PolioPlus program of the Rotary Foundation as follows: (select one)

- \$100 per year to PolioPlus (this is the minimum amount to become a PolioPlus Society member)
- A contribution of \$_____per year to PolioPlus (more than \$100)
- A contribution of \$_____ only this year; unfortunately, I cannot do this every year

Society members will receive a PolioPlus Society membership pin and Paul Harris credit. Make your donation online at www.rotary.org/donate and select the Polio Fund, or through your Rotary Club. If made on-line, one can establish a recurring donation.

E-mail or mail this completed form to the District PolioPlus Chair at davesolopalmer@gmail.com or Dave Palmer, 443 Mateer Road, Hop Bottom, PA 18824. Contact Dave for questions at 570-498-6637.

Until the last child is immunized, and the world is certified polio-free, every child is at risk.

Name:

Signature:

Date:

Club Name:

Phone Number:

E-Mail:

Your PolioPlus Society pin will be presented to you at your club meeting or other appropriate meeting you might desire, to insure you are recognized for your commitment to eradicating polio from this earth.

Passport Club

Looking to offer a flexible, accessible and affordable format to individuals who want to be Rotarians but find that traditional Rotary Clubs don't fit their lifestyle, the newly reinvigorated District Passport Club is looking for your help!

The unique elements of a Passport Club:

- Members are encouraged to participate in service projects organized by other Rotary clubs.

- Rotarians are invited to visit other Clubs and participate in their Club activities regularly.

- Relaxed attendance policy.

- Fewer in-person meetings.

- Innovative concept designed to give members a more flexible Club experience while supporting the mission of both local District Clubs and Rotary International.

Our Club members, currently small in number, want to help support District service projects wherever possible either in person or virtually which in turn may help us to grow our membership.

Please contact Club president, Chip Jaeger, at Rotary7410passportclub@gmail.com if you have an upcoming project or know of someone who may be interested in joining the Passport Club.

Thank you in advance for your support!

Save the Date!

2021-2022 District Conference



Save the Date

2021-2022 District Conference

SERVE TO CHANGE CHILDREN'S LIVES

Ithaca, NY

May 5th, 6th, and 7th

event information to follow



CONNECT

RotaryDistrict7410@gmail.com



Neighborhood Food Drive



We will be collecting stocking stuffer toiletries such as bath soap, body wash, shampoo, toothpaste, and toothbrushes. These items are needed and not generally donated and the pantry director suggested them.

Thursday December 9, 2021

11 AM - 1 PM

**Clarks Summit Fire House
Bedford Street in Clarks Summit.**

Donations may be dropped off at that time or in advance at:
PSBank, 100 Old Lackawanna Trail
or
Community Bank, 931 S. State Street

Monetary donations accepted:

Rotary Club of the Abingtons
"Service Above Self"
PO Box 392
Clarks Summit, PA 18411



This endeavor is conducted in honor of Rotarian Eileen Christian, who started this initiative in 2020, and continues to be an integral part of Rotary and our community.



Buck Pole/Chili Cook Off

Buck Pole/Chili Cook Off – Hamlin/Lake Ariel Rotary

If you were looking for a place to escape the cold, there was a safe bet in Wayne County on Sunday, November 28th.

The Rotary Club of Hamlin hosted a “Buck Pole” in conjunction with their returning Chili Cook-Off event at R Place on 590.

The hunter who harvested the heaviest buck took home a grand prize of \$300. The maker of the winning chili recipe took home a \$100 prize.

Club members hoped to attract hunters coming in from the cold.

“Just to have fun, that was the basis of today’s event. We know hunters are out there freezing their hineys off doing the fun stuff. We thought we’d give back to the community with a little band and a little chili cook-off to help them when they come in and hopefully bring their deer in,” said Tatiana Black, one of the organizers of the event.

The club had a great time hosting the event & there was an excellent turn out.





Hawley's Thanksgiving Food Drive

Hawley Rotary held its annual Thanksgiving Food Drive for three local Hawley food pantries on November 17 – 21 at the Lake Region IGA. The very successful event provided St. Paul's Lutheran Church with over a dozen carts of food and Hawley United Methodist Church and Queen of Peace Catholic Church each with \$780 for their voucher programs.

Those Rotarians who staffed the drive included Karen & Bill Rockafellow, Bill Samford, Jim Pierce, Judy Newhoff, Beth Crowley, Jeannette & Tom Bates, Melanie & Tom Visgilio and our friends from Hemlock Farms Joel Korwin, Bob Cavagnino & Frank de Mascola. Jill Hessling duplicated the food lists handed to customers who provided large donations of food each day. Very grateful St. Paul's Food Pantry members came promptly at the end of each last shift to collect the food and expressed both surprise and thanks for the amounts collected.



Barbara Cleveland and Carol Monson Co-chairs of St. Paul's Lutheran Church Food Pantry are handed a cartful of groceries by PDG Thomas Visgilio.

Hawley Rotary Delivers Just Jackets

During the past few weeks Hawley Rotarians have been busy delivering new jackets to school in the Wallenpaupack Area School District.

This year 51 WASD students in South Elementary, Primary, North Intermediate and I Schools will be wearing the brand new jackets thanks to Hawley Rotary. Due to Covid during the past two autumns, there have been no public collections made and the entire 51 jackets were purchased by individual Hawley Rotarians and by the club.

Just Jackets project chair Melanie Tek-Visgilio commented, "While October and November days have been milder than usual, we are pleased that jackets were delivered just in time for the cold weather. Hopefully, in 2022 we should be able to have more jackets available than this year."

In the 17 years of the Just Jackets project, Hawley Rotary has delivered over 1350 jackets to WASD schools.



Hawley Rotarians show jackets delivered to WASD schools this month. Form left are Karen Rockafellow, Bill Rockafellow, Beth Crowley, Jim Pierce, Judy Newhoff, Jeannette Bates, Jill Hessling, Susan Rowe and Thomas Visgilio.



Rotary Club of Hazelton Continues Kidz Coatz Project

Rotarians Katherine Silfa-co-chair, Tim Genetti, Jason Brenner, Lisa Marie Halecky, Anne Frey, Michele Ustynoski, Eileen Perchack, Rossanna Gabriel Olivares, co-chair and Barb Caccese sorted and distributed coats for HASD students in need.

Some needy children in the Hazelton Area have been provided with warm, winter coats thanks to the Hazelton Rotary Kidz Coatz project.

Ever since the Kidz Coatz project took off in 2007, Hazelton Rotary has continued the work and effort put into purchasing and delivering winter coats to area children.

Working with local retailers, primarily Boscov's, brand new coats were purchased for children in need from all elementary/middle schools in the Hazelton Area School District.

Children who received coats were confidentially identified by their teachers.

This winter season, more than 300 coats were given to elementary and middle school youngsters.

Coats were delivered to Hazle Township Early Learning Center, Arthur Street, Drums, Heights Terrace, West Hazelton, Freeland, McAdoo Kelayres, Maple Manor. Valley Elementary and The Castle



Hazleton Rotarians Assist the Greater Hazleton American Cancer Society

Hazleton Rotary took part in the 43rd Annual American Cancer Society telethon held at the Wiltsie Center and WYLN Studios on November 13th and November 14th. This is an annual activity for the Hazleton Club. Seated is Donna Barna and Anne Fry who answered phones. Standing is Pat Korb, a 25 year telethon veteran, who handles ACS publicity and Pat Warlick is a telethon announcer.





Ghost Walks

In Mauch Chunk

Enjoy intriguing tales of lore of reported ghoulish encounters and stories of historic properties and people along Broadway in Jim Thorpe.

The one mile round trip walks start in the basement of the Inn at Jim Thorpe, 24 Broadway. Led by a costumed storyteller, the walks, all outside, last about an hour, unless the spirits have other ideas!

Walks are generally planned for Fridays at 7 p.m. and Saturdays at 7 & 8:30, September-December. See our website for a complete list of dates and times. Walks are subject to change if the spirits call for rain.

Although walk-ins are always welcome, space on each walk is limited, so call the number below to reserve your spot. Private walks may be available on certain dates and times. Call for more information.

Look for your GhostHost in the basement of the Inn at Jim Thorpe to purchase tickets 15 minutes before walk time. First come, first served, without reservations which are strongly suggested. Knowledgeable individuals are welcome to share their own experiences.

Adults: \$12
Children: 7-12: \$6
Not recommended for
children under 7 years old.

jimthorperotary.org/ghostwalks.cfm

570-732-8699

A fundraising activity sponsored by The Rotary Club of Jim Thorpe.

Designed by Dimitri Diamant - dimitridiamant@gmail.com



Annual 5K Run/Walk

The Rotary Club of Mountain Top held their annual 5K Run/Walk on October 23, 2021. It's called "Conquer the Mountain"! Part of the proceeds will go to "Pathways to Recovery" for programming in the Mountain Top schools regarding drug use prevention. Also to NAMI (National Alliance for Mental Illness), who also provides programming in those schools.



Steam Train Excursion

The Rotary Club of Mountaintop is excited to announce our Steam Train Excursion is back July 9, 2022. Ticket price is \$70@ and can be purchased by mailing payment to PO Box 244, Mountain Top Pa 18707, or purchase in person at Century 21 Smith Hourigan Group located at 69 N Mt Blvd, Mountain Top Pa 18707 Weekdays between 9am and 4pm. Event Brite will be set up as well.

Enjoy a full day event traveling from Mountain Top to Jim Thorpe riding through the beautiful scenic Lehigh Valley Gorge. Additional details to follow.





Endowment



Bernice Louise and John Harry Palmer

Palmer Endowment Supports New Milford Rotary

Educational and literacy programs provided by the New Milford Area Rotary will be permanently benefited by the newly established John Harry & Bernice Louise Palmer Charitable Endowment. It was established by the Palmer family to support Rotary efforts such as providing dictionaries in local schools and foreign student exchange programs. Rotary International Student Exchange was a favorite of John and Bernice over many years. At their home they hosted students from Japan and New Zealand who continue to maintain loving relationships with the Palmer family to this day.

The New Milford Area Rotary exchange programs most recently hosted a student from France and they sent a student to Croatia. David Palmer son of John and Bernice explains that such exchanges create a foundation for positive international relations in the world. This endowment will also support area high school scholarships, the Rotary Youth Leadership Award, and the Interact Club program. These programs are building blocks for the development of leadership skills in our area's youth.

Your donations for these worthy local projects can be sent to the Palmer Charitable Endowment at The Community Foundation, or made online at community-foundation.org





PolioPlus Society Pin Presentation

The Sayre Rotary Club meeting at The Grille at the Train Station was the scene of a PolioPlus Society pin presentation on October 26, 2021. Nancy and Ed Brittain are the 29th and 30th PolioPlus Society members, and join a unique group dedicated to the elimination of vaccine preventable diseases in the world, especially Polio.

Sayre Rotary Club President Elizabeth Johnson was assisted by David Palmer, PolioPlus Committee Chair of Rotary District 7410 in presenting these pins. The PolioPlus Society is a group of Rotary members and non-Rotary contributors who agree to donate at least \$100 of the Rotary Foundation's PolioPlus Fund each fiscal year.

If you would like to join this PolioPlus Society, contact davesolopalmer@gmail.com or call 570-498-6637.



Left to right- Ed Brittain; Nancy Brittain; Elizabeth Johnson- Sayre Rotary President ; David Palmer, District 7410 PolioPlus



Gina Suydam Receives Paul Harris

At the Oct 28 Rotary Luncheon at Shadowbrook Inn & Resort, President Mary Tempest presented Rotarian Gina Suydam with a Club Designated Paul Harris Award for her services to the Club.

Gina is the President of the Wyoming County Chamber of Commerce and has been very helpful to the club in the social media arena, in facilitating many community-oriented activities undertaken by the Tunkhannock Rotary and providing networking opportunities to Club and all Chamber members.



*Gina Suydam (left) accepting her Paul Harris
from Pres. Mary Tempest*

Tunkhannock Rotary Candy Cane Day

Every year on Black Friday (Nov 26 this year), Tunkhannock Rotarians, Interactors, family and friends collect monetary donations from shoppers at five locations in Tunkhannock (Gay's, Walmart, Weis, Aldi and Tractor Supply Plazas) from 8 AM to 1 PM to buy toys for kids for Christmas. Shoppers are offered candy canes as a treat for their donations. This year's candy canes were donated by Northeast Data, Inc.

This fund-raising event has been undertaken by the Tunkhannock Rotary Club for more than 30 years and is known as Candy Cane Day or has been referred to affectionately as the "annual dodging of the cars" event.

The money raised is divided between Interfaith Friends and Wyoming County Children & Youth to buy Christmas gifts for children in need or in foster care in Wyoming County. The generosity of the shoppers has made this a highly successful fund-raising event for the Club and ensures that these children receive at least one toy/gift for Christmas.

The weather does not always cooperate with this event, but our Rotarians are a dedicated group and will not let cold temperatures or inclement weather stop them. However, they are very thankful for the coffee, donuts and hot chocolate delivered by Candy Cane Day Chair Mike Markovitz.



Rotarian Terri Detrick (left) collecting money from a generous shopper.

Valentines for the Troops

At the Dec 3 Club Assembly, Tunkhannock Rotarians prepared Valentines for the Troops, each with a special personal message from an attending Rotarian. Each card is signed and contains the Tunkhannock Rotary Club Logo in case the recipient wants to know more about the club. In addition, children from the Tunkhannock Area School District have been given the opportunity to add their own creations to this card collection.

All the cards will be delivered en mass to Goodies for Our Troops in Wellsboro, PA for delivery to our troops around the world. As Dawn Pietcher from this organization commented "Our Heroes so much appreciate ANYTHING they get, and close to the top of the list are cards/ notes/letters that kids and adults made!"

Support Local Bingo!

If you have been participating in the fun and exciting Local BINGO, winners will be announced this week!

You are free to use your coupon board up until the end of December.

All proceeds and sponsorships collected will be donated directly to Wyoming Valley Children's Association & the Osterhout Free Library, in support of local children's programs.

Please visit [Wilkes Barre's Facebook Event Page](#) for more details!



SUPPORT LOCAL BINGO!

Presented by: **WILKES-BARRE ROTARY CLUB**

B I N G O

PRE-ORDER YOUR BINGO BOARD TODAY

\$15.00

...and many more!

Nucleus Raw Foods	A&M Floral	Chackos	Oysters
Pour Coffee	Around Town Bikes	The Chill Grill	Hatchet Factory
Woodhouse Spa	Ocean's Juice and Seafood Bar	Rodanos Franklins	Abide Coffee
Circles on the Square	Jonathans Restaurant	Senunas Bar and Grill	Eleventh Element Spa
Theos Metro			Boozy B's



Rotary Club of Wyoming Awards Paul Harris +2 to Sobeck Brothers

The Rotary Club of Wyoming recently presented brothers Mark Sobeck and Frank Sobeck Paul Harris Fellow Awards, the most prestigious award of Rotary international. The club donated \$1000 for each recipient to Rotary Foundation.

The Paul Harris Plus Two Pin Is in appreciation of tangible and significant assistance given for the furtherance of better understanding and friendly relations between peoples of the world. They were honored for their commitment to the club and years of service.

Mark Sobeck 41 Years and Frank Sobeck 36 Years. They have recruited many members for the club throughout the years. The Paul Harris +2 pins were attached to the lapels by the sons of Mark Sobeck, Mike and Rich. At the awards presentation from the left are Jerry Cegelka, program Chairman and presenter, Frank Sobeck, Rich Sobeck, Mike Sobeck and Mark Sobeck.



*Merry Christmas,
District 7410!*

