



News from District 7410

Contents

Deadline Nears to Elect Club Officers— Page 2

RLI Experience Re-counted— Page 4

Rotarians Team with Salvation Army— Page 5

District Membership Numbers Rising— Page 9

Lessons Learned at Rotary UN Day— Page 10

Plains Rotarians Bring Winter Coats to Needy Kids— Page 11

District's ShelterBox Used in Nepal— Page 13

Wyoming Club Takes Manhattan— Page 11

Tunkhannock Rotarians Reap Awards— Page 16



Letter from the District Governor

District 7410 Rotarians,

Yesterday, I participated in my church's annual Advent cantata. Even without a calendar or hearing the "Black Friday" and "CyberMonday" advertisements on the TV, I can always tell that the holidays are close at hand just because of when this annual, and much anticipated event is scheduled. (Who doesn't like singing with a professional orchestra!)



Now is the time of year when folks are wondering whether they're on Santa's naughty or nice list. But for Rotarians, our lists are very different. If you were to have a peek at the lists of our various clubs, you'd see lists of bell-ringers for next Saturday, or lists of which member is taking what child shopping for that warm winter coat, or lists of who has signed up for caroling at the Senior Center, or who would be distributing holiday meals for those who don't expect to experience much holiday cheer. These and a host of other Rotarian-led activities bring smiles to many faces. Some clubs work all year 'round to raise funds for that one special event which touches the lives and lifts the spirits of those in the community who need it most.

Yes, that's what Rotarians do. It is in our corporate DNA, but we always have choices of what to do and whom to serve. So, in this season of "peace on earth to men of good will", I wish all of you in the District 7410 family of Rotarians clarity of vision and discernment to continue seeking what needs to be done in our respective communities, and the vigor and creativity in making northeastern Pennsylvania a place of peace, hope, and opportunity.

Joy to the World!
DG Barbara



Be a gift to the world

More News to Use From DG Barbara...



Triple your Foundation Donation?

...here's how...

For all clubs who are participating in the “**Change the World**” district program this year, consider routing the funds you’ve already collected to the **End Polio Now** campaign before the end of the year and have it matched 2-to-1 by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Now that the cost of the injectable polio vaccine is down to 50 cents per dose, you will be protecting six children for every dollar donated.

Remember your \$100 becomes \$300 immediately! Now, that’s leverage!

Election & Reporting of Club Officers

This is your reminder that as per the RI and your club’s constitution, clubs should be scheduling the election of their 2016-17 officers in December. Why so early? **PLANNING!** Help your incoming president and club officers have sufficient time to prepare their plan for the coming year along with the club’s budget that will support all your planned fundraisers, fellowship, and service projects. Also, incoming presidents need sufficient time to clear their calendar for **March 18-19 PETS** training in Whippany, New Jersey.

31 December 2015 is the deadline for election of officers and **1 February 2016** is the deadline for reporting the officers to Rotary International. That is your obligation as a Rotary club! Current club officers can submit this information via My Rotary, approved vendors (DACdb, ClubRunner, etc.), or by sending the information to data@rotary.org.

NOTICE: YTD District Financial Statement uploaded to website...

For those club presidents and other club representatives that attended the 2015 PETS assembly, you may remember that the request was made to post quarterly financial budget-to-expense comparisons, in support of financial transparency. Frankly, there wasn’t much to report at the end of September

(1st quarter), but sufficient expenses were posted in October to warrant an interim report. All interested Rotarians of District 7410 can download a copy of the “November YTD Expenses-to-Budget Report” from our District website. The file can be found by logging on to the website (<http://portal.clubrunner.ca/50202>) and accessing **District Files / District Operating Budgets**.

Regards,
DG Barbara

Creative People and Party Fanatics...

Are you the person always sought after to arrange parties that are talked about for months afterwards? Does your creativity need an outlet in a high-visibility venue?

If so, then pick up the phone and call (570) 982-4293 or email District Conference Chair, Ruth Ann Rocchio (rrocchio@harsco.com) right now and join her dynamic team that is planning all the “fun injects” for our April 29th and 30th gathering. Don’t wait ... Call now!

June 5 Rotary Day at the Ballpark...

Great Way to End Our Year!

A big thanks to nine of our district clubs that have pre-ordered their Kost Pavilion tickets for the Sunday, June 5th RailRiders game and have also committed to man food collection tables prior to the start of the game. As of November 18th, 80 tickets have been purchased.

For those of you who wanted to wait, a second call for the \$30 Kost Pavilion tickets and the first call for the \$10 stadium seat tickets will go out in January. Keep in mind that pavilion ticket sales are on a first come-first served basis. Once the pavilion is sold out, the only other option will be the stadium seats.

We’d love to see you there for an afternoon of Rotary service and fellowship. What a terrific way to end our 2015-16 year!



The Rotary Club of Lehighton

District 7410
February, 2016

International Service Project

Have you ever wanted to truly and personally help those most in need in our world? Well, here is your opportunity. Led by the Rotary Club of Lehighton and in partnership with Operation Honduras, a team of District 7410 Rotarians will travel with this extraordinarily successful operation (for 18 years!) to bring the gift of hearing, medical services, and sweat-equity (i.e., building projects) to this impoverished country.

The objectives of this week-long trip are as follows:

- to help finish partially-complete service projects, including work begun on new school, delivery of medical and dental supplies to local orphanages and impoverished communities, oral surgery, and auditory testing of patients who will be fitted with hearing aids (9,500 served to date)
- to meet with members of the Sula Rotary Club for fellowship and discussions on local needs
- to find out, first-hand, the viability of constructing a global grant, and what specific assistance our District could provide

Two options for club participation:

- 1.) Become a co-sponsor of the proposed District Grant application. Cost for sending one member is \$600, with a matching amount requested in the grant, or
- 2.) **Contribute a minimum of \$100 to the trip fund, to be spent "in country" on school or medical supplies, as observed by the trip members.**

NOTE: Either of the above options satisfies the international project criteria listed in the 2015-16 Presidential Citation.

COMMITMENT DATE for club financial support only: January 8, 2016

Questions? Need more information? Contact DGE Barbara at bjbelon@gmail.com

Learning from Each Other at RLI in Scranton

BY WES SKILLINGS

The Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) was held at Lackawanna College in Scranton on Saturday, Nov. 14— a program available to over 350 Rotary Districts around the world. Offered were courses I, II, III and graduate-level. In order to register for Part II, for example, you need to attend and receive a certificate of completion for the previous part. Graduate-level courses feature various themes relevant to Rotary leadership with each session, and, of course, you need that Part III certification to register.

RLI is regarded as an investment for Rotarians “to increase leadership skills and understanding of the Rotary world beyond local clubs.”

As a new Rotarian and member of the newest club (Wyalusing) in District 7410, I wasn't quite sure what to expect from the Part I curriculum, beyond learning more about Rotary International and the Rotary Foundation. Although that turned out to be true enough, I discovered it was more an exercise in sharing and benefiting from what other clubs are doing, in terms of service projects and fund-raisers. More importantly, the facilitators lived up to one of the definitions of the word facilitate, which is “to increase the likelihood of a response.” And respond we did, learning from each other with



Shown during one of the Part I sessions at the Rotary Leadership Institute of Northeastern Pennsylvania are (from left) Kathleen Williams, Kingston; JoAnn Hallesky, Scranton; Mike Washko, Scranton; Cleo Jarvis, the Stroudsburgs, and Ed Gallagher, West End.

the guidance of veteran Rotarians with outstanding leadership credentials like Art and Sandy Peoples, Mike McCarthy, Karin-Susan Breitlauch, Irene Carey and Gary Fedorcha.

Members of the class were not necessarily new Rotarians like me. Some had been in Rotary for years, involved in projects and serving as club officers. Two of about a dozen classmates (one of two Part I classes) were presidents of their respective clubs and despite being RLI newbies, there was a wealth of Rotary experience there.

These were no lectures. It was about getting the most out of everyone in a half dozen classes spanning about seven and a half hours, including breakfast, lunch and breaks between classes that were generally about 50 minutes in length.

Saturdays are valuable days for most of us, and there are only 52 of them a year, so the goal is that nobody leaves RLI feeling the day has been wasted. In many ways, because of the approach, participants have only themselves to blame if they walk away without sharing and learning.

Throughout the day, there was a multitude of comments and advice, fueled by questions, in sessions that included creating service projects, engaging members, ethics and vocational service, where to find the needs in the communities you serve and, of course, “insights into leadership.” Following, in no particular order, are some of the wit and wisdom expressed throughout the day:

- “Keep your members involved and make them feel appreciated.”

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5.

[The Rotary Club of the Abingtons](#)

'Tis the Season for Giving People a Second Chance

**BY EILEEN CHRISTIAN
ABINGTON JOURNAL COLUMNIST**

In the summer just past, a friend of mine, John, was in his apartment in the Green Ridge section of Scranton. It was a leisure Saturday on the Memorial Holiday weekend. He slipped his shoes off and turned on the television. He heard a fire alarm go off but was not alarmed. Often, in his building of five apartments, located next to a bakery, the alarm would sound in error. He slipped his shoes back on, grabbed his cell phone in his hand and

checked that his wallet was in his back pocket. He smelled smoke in the hallway and thought maybe it really was a fire. With his neighbors, he left. Sirens screamed as fire trucks screeched to a halt in front of the door. His home was indeed on fire. He stood outside of the building with others gathering at the scene. He watched as professional fire fighters risked their lives, entered the building and did their best to extinguish the fire. Much effort went into the lifting of hoses and the dousing of that old, large structure



with water but in the end the building could not be saved and no resident was allowed to re-enter the building.

John checked his resources. He was wearing a T shirt and shorts, had a cell phone with no charger and a wallet with a few dollars in it. That's all! Every picture of family and friends, every useful thing he owned, every kitchen item he needed, every bit of extra clothing, every tool he had ever used, even his bicycle, had gone up in smoke.

When the loss of every single thing he owned dawned on him, the Salvation Army arrived. They offered clothing. They offered shelter. They offered food. Most of all the Salvation Army offered a friendly hand and hope for the future.

We, Rotarians of the Abingtons, have begun our drive for the collection of funds for the Salvation Army for 2015. Our kettle is emptied many times as we do our two hour shift work in front of the Pennsylvania Liquor Store on Rtes

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8...

RLI...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4.

That includes making a big deal out of new members and Rotary accomplishments...

- Believe what you do matters and don't just go through the motions...

- The reason most cited for being a Rotarian was "community service"...

- Sharing stories of service projects, such as providing winter coats for children in need or just taking a family shopping as part of a holiday outreach...

- "Get off your ask" by inviting people to your club meetings...

- How well do you know fellow club members? "Classification talks," or inviting fellow Rotarians to speak about their profession or a special interest, a hobby or a mission project...

- Sponsor a "Student of the Month" award at your local school and invite the student to weekly meeting for a month, bringing parents if they choose, and on the last meeting of the month, have them speak about "what you learned about Rotary"...

- Find another service club in your area and join forces in a community project...

- Sponsor "shelter boxes" to be used for emergency situations locally, in other states and other countries. They may include everything from tents, blankets, first aid and sanitation supplies...

And that's just a sampling of stuff we shared with each other. The Rotary motto "Service above self" was definitely center stage.

[The Rotary Club of Dallas](#)



A Holiday Welcome from Dallas Rotarians

Some of the members of the Rotary Club of Dallas recently spent a Saturday morning placing Christmas decorations on the triangle at Routes 309 and 415 in Dallas. It has been a club tradition for several decades to welcome everyone home for Christmas and to wish them a happy holiday season. Kneeling: Nick Stredny. Standing from left: Todd Buckley, Ken Chapple.

Raising Money for Back Mountain Food Pantry

Dozens of Families Benefit

The Rotary Club of Dallas recently dedicated an evening to helping their neighbors with the most basic of human needs.

They held an auction and raffle to raise funds and food to help the Back Mountain Food Pantry meet the needs of dozens of families for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

The auction and raffle raised \$2,000 and more than 450 pounds of food.



From left, Rotarians on the event committee were: Becky Yurko, Ted Horn, JoAnn Prohaska, Jerry Reisch, Kim Reisch, Ashley Wagner, Jason Jolley, Sandy Peoples, Vanessa Botzman, Todd Buckley, Ann Marie Konek, Kate Pitkat, Eric Martin.

More Dallas Rotary News & Photos on Pages 7 & 9...

Rotary Club of Dallas



Kneeling from left: Antonia Wagner, Germany; Nicoline Gaardsse, Denmark; Julia Pinturier, France, and Julia Alonso de Souza, Brazil. Standing are Dallas Rotarian Paul Saxon; Youth Exchange Program Chair Melissa Saxon; Mario Macicak, Slovakia; Louis Metens, Belgium; Henrique El Laden Rechetello, Brazil; Chen-Hsi Li (Takun), Taiwan; Teng-Lu Yu (Frank), Taiwan; Anne Sehne, youth officer, Rotary Club of Tunkhannock; Dallas Rotary Club President Jason Jolley; Past District Governor Paul (Budd) O'Malia.



First row, from left: Derek Rizzo, Keith Hughes, Ashlyn Chesonis, Cora Finn.

Second row: Rotarian Jerry Reisch, Dallas Elementary School Principal Thomas Traver, Rotarian and Dictionary Project Chairman Ken Chapple.

Dictionaries Distributed To Students

All third grade students in the Back Mountain area schools were recently given their own copy of a dictionary.

The Dallas Rotary Club dictionary project committee distributed more than 350 books to Dallas and Lake-Lehman School District students.

The third grade teachers and their students welcomed the Rotarians and thanked them for their dedication to literacy and education.



International Flavor At Dallas Event

At a recent meeting of the Rotary Club of Dallas, the club hosted youth exchange students from around the world.

While the students are in the United States, they attend local high schools and live with host families under the supervision of Rotary Clubs throughout District 7410 which encompasses ten counties in Northeastern Pennsylvania.



Whose Shoe Is It?

Jason Jolley, president of the Rotary Club of Dallas and 2005 Dallas High School graduate, stands on the sidelines in photo above waiting to award the Old Shoe trophy to the winner of the decades old rivalry game between Dallas and Lake-Lehman.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9...

Rotary Club of North Scranton

Dictionaries for Third Graders and a Tasteful Fundraiser

On November 4th, The North Scranton Rotary Club donated and delivered a dictionary to every third grader in Scranton for the 13th consecutive year.

They delivered over 900 dictionaries this year to the 17 public, private, and parochial schools of Scranton. Since launching this project 13 years ago, it is estimated that they have delivered over 12,000 dictionaries.

"The Dictionary Project is an important priority to the North Scranton Rotary as it shows our club's commitment to community service," a spokesperson reported.

On November 12th, The North Scranton Rotary held their 2nd annual Wine/Beer Pairing Dinner at Sidel's Restaurant.

The very tasty five course dinner was paired with selections from Nimble Hill's winery and brewery.

"Not only did we raise money for our 2015 appropriations, we also had a great night out with fellow members of our community."



SECOND CHANCES IN THE ABINGTONS...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5...

6 and 11 every weekend in December. We raise between \$8000 and \$10,000 each year and give every cent of it to help local people through the Salvation Army. We have been collecting every December for almost fifty years. We hold the unique distinction of having raised more money for the Salvation Army than any other service club in the United States. We are very proud of that fact.

The mission of the Salvation Army is to feed, to clothe, to comfort, to care. Their web site states their mission, "To rebuild broken homes and broken lives. By walking with the addicted, we can lead them to recovery. In fighting hunger and poverty, we can feed and nurture the spirit. And, in living and sharing the Christian Gospel by meeting tangible needs, we give the world a lasting display of the love behind our beliefs.

The Scranton based Salvation

Army Center is one of 7,546 in communities across the United States. These include food distribution, disaster relief, rehabilitation centers, anti-human trafficking efforts, and a wealth of children's programs. Their work is funded through kettle donations, corporate contributions, and the sale of goods donated to Salvation Army Family Stores. Eighty-two cents of every dollar collected supports the various missions. When the CEOs of many service agencies are making salaries of more than \$300,000, the Salvation Army's chief executive gets a modest house and a salary of \$30,000.

The Salvation Army, an international movement, is an evangelical part of the universal Christian Church. Its message is based on the Bible. Its ministry is motivated by the love of God. Its mission is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human

needs without discrimination.

As the months passed since the devastating fire that led to my friend, John's home being demolished, I saw the results of the good things that the Salvation Army helped him do. He has a new place to live. His furniture was selected from the local Salvation Army store. The hope they extended to him on the day of the fire, has given John the courage to live without all those things he saw go up in smoke.

On December 20, 2015, in the afternoon, I will don my Salvation Army vest. I will stand at the kettle, like my fellow Rotarians have done all through this month. I will ring the tiny bell, hoping to draw attention from those going in and out of the liquor store to contribute to the large red kettle. I will be there in whatever weather arrives on that day. Stop by. Help me fill up the kettle.

Rotary Club of Dallas

Membership... still moving in the right direction

The report just in from RI shows beyond a doubt that District 7410 continues to add to our membership. Here are the stats since 2013:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Membership</u>
July 1, 2013	1033
July 1, 2014	1059
July 1, 2015	1115
November 30, 2015	1121

Of the 20 districts in Zone 32, 11 have a net gain for the first five months of this Rotary year. Looking across the past three years, only four districts in our zone have had a net gain since 2013, and District 7410 has posted the highest gain. Yay, us!

So, what's your club's plan to push this membership number higher?

OLD SHOE...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7...

The backyard rivalry began in 1948 when Dallas School Board President and Rotary President Red Ambrose, with the assistance of Principal and Coach Robert Dolbear, picked an old shoe out of a pile and had it bronzed and mounted on a plaque.

At the end of the evening, President Jolley was able to deliver the trophy to his alma mater, Dallas High School.



Dallas Rotary Club Welcomes New Member

At a recent meeting of the Rotary Club of Dallas, Shavertown resident, JoAnn Prohaska, was inducted as the club's newest member. She joins the club's 43 other members who are dedicated to serving the citizens of the Back Mountain. From left: Past President Todd Buckley, President Jason Jolley, JoAnn Prohaska, Rotarian Sponsor Becky Yurko.



District Governor Visits Dallas Rotary Club

At a recent meeting of the Rotary Club of Dallas, District 7410 Governor Barbara Belon made her official visit to the club to discuss the talents of the members of the club and how their talents benefit our community. From left: President Jason Jolly, District Governor Barbara Belon, Past District Governor Art Peoples, Assistant Governor Jerry Reisch.

[The Rotary Club of the Stroudsburgs](#)

Rotary UN Day in New York City: Leaving an Impact

Rotarians from the Stroudsburgs Rotary Club, Karen DeMatteo and Bob Wehe and his wife, Doris, attended Rotary UN Day, Nov. 7, along with High School Senior and RYLA staff member Leila Bouchekouk and ESU Rotaractor Madison Petro.

The Rotary Club of the Stroudsburgs is the sponsoring club of the East Stroudsburg University Rotaract Club. Madison received second place for her essay written about the Rotaract UN Essay Ethics contest. Maddie was presented with a certificate and a check for \$1,000.

But this is not all. Maddie would like to share her experience of the day in the accompanying reflections and a couple of photos...

BY MADISON PETRO

On Saturday, Nov. 7, I attended Rotary UN Day at the United Nations in New York City. I was invited to Rotary UN Day after I won second place in the 2015 Rotaract ethics essay contest, which centered on female genital mutilation. I worked hard on the essay, so I am extremely proud of this accomplishment. I was presented with a \$1,000 prize and an award certificate at Rotary UN Day.

While there, I attended panels led by Rotary members who help people in need all around the world. I learned that Rotary is working to completely eradicate polio, with only two countries left with cases. They opened my eyes to the problems and people struggling around the world, not just where I live.

I learned that slavery still exists in the form of human sex trafficking, which is mostly of poor women and



children. I held back tears listening to a sex trafficking survivor tell her story. I also learned about scared refugees from war-torn nations who need our help. I heard firsthand accounts of the pain the refugees showed from two Rotaract members, one from Greece and one from Bulgaria, who witnessed the refugees on the streets of their countries. Not only did I learn that these inhumane problems exist, but I learned that there are actually people taking action to stop them. These people include Rotary and its global partners.

Before I attended Rotary UN Day, I felt like something was missing from my life. I looked back on everything I accomplished in my 19 years of life and I felt like I had not lived. I would tell my friends this and they would say words like “but you made it to college” or “you won this award,” but they did not understand. To me, those are not impor-



tant accomplishments. I knew I would go to college before I even graduated kindergarten. So many Americans go to college that it was more of a given than an accomplishment to me. And when I win awards, I feel proud, but besides that feeling, nobody really gains anything from it.

Then, after Rotary UN Day, I realized what was missing.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11...



Upcoming Club Events

Rotary Club of Wyoming

New York City Rotarians Host Wyoming Club



UN DAY...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10...

I have not left an impact. Although 19 years may not seem like a long time for some, for me it is too long to live and not leave an impact. And when I say "impact," I mean being part of a movement that changes the world one step at a time. I mean helping those who are worse off than I am and impacting their lives for the better. For example, I may start by volunteering at soup kitchens. Eventually, though, I want to help eliminate the need for soup kitchens altogether. I know I cannot do something this great on my own, but I would love to be part of such an impactful movement.

And knowing there are groups, like Rotaract, who actually take part in these kinds of movements, has changed my outlook on life. I realize now that there is so much I can do to help those in need. I realize that leaving an impact is actually possible. That is why I am grateful to be a Rotaract member. After visiting the UN, I know it is about more than just community service. It is about world service. And I cannot wait to join in on all the other opportunities Rotaract has to offer.

The Rotary Club of Wyoming visited the Rotary Club of New York City on the evening of October 15, 2015. The meeting was held 22 stories up on the rooftop patio of one of the members of the New York City club. Wine and hors d'oeuvres were served under a tent, accompanied by violin music. Both clubs thoroughly enjoyed each other's company and the hosting Rotarians said they are going to visit Wyoming at one of their meetings. The trip also included a visit to the top of the new One World Trade Center and the 911 memorial site. Of course, being the Wyoming Club, an overnight stay was required.

Plains Rotary Donates New Winter Coats



Shown are Pauline Makoski, Food Pantry Supervisor, Al Bartoli, Club President, and Ben Berrini, Treasurer.

The Plains Rotary Club donated 55 new winter coats to children in the Plains area on November 20, 2015.

The Saint Peter and Paul Food Party identified the families in need of a coat. Plains Rotarians

CONTINUED PAGE. 12



Our Clubs in Action

Rotary Club of Jim Thorpe



Reading Their Way Into the Hearts Of Children

Bob Stevenson and Mary Mulligan of the Rotary Club of Jim Thorpe headed up their club's participation in this year's "RotaryReads" service project.

Pictured at left in the historic Dimmick Memorial Library in Jim Thorpe, Mary and Bob were just as entertained by the children and their antics as the children were by the stories! Books purchased for and read at the library included "Morning Sounds, Evening Sounds", "Night Animals", and "Night World."

Great service project, Jim Thorpe Rotarians!

Rotary Club of Wilkes-Barre



PLAINS...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11...

raised the funds to purchase the coats at its two fundraisers, Pasta-in-the-Park and its Annual Golf Tournament. If you are interested in finding more about the Plains Rotary Club, email to plainsrotary@gmail.com



District Governor Barbara Huffman de Belon spoke before the Rotary Club of Wilkes-Barre on November 3. In the picture, she presented Club president, Robert Lawrence with a certificate that recognizes the Wilkes-Barre Club's 100-Year Anniversary in 2016.

Rotary Club of Kingston



Past District Governors Come to Kingston

The Rotary Club of Kingston recently hosted PDG Melanie Tek-Visgilio and PDG Tom Visgilio to their meeting. PDG Melanie spoke about the End Polio Now initiative and the milestones reached in India, Nigeria, Afghanistan, and Pakistan. PDG Tom talked about the Rotary Foundation and projects worldwide to help people. November is Rotary Foundation Month. Pictured are Joseph Mitchnick, Rotary Club of Kingston Board Member, Chris Sauchak, Rotary Club of Kingston Secretary, PDG Melanie Tek-Visgilio, PDG Tom Visgilio, Kathleen Williams, Rotary Club of Kingston President, and Robert Kopec, Rotary Club of Kingston Board Member.

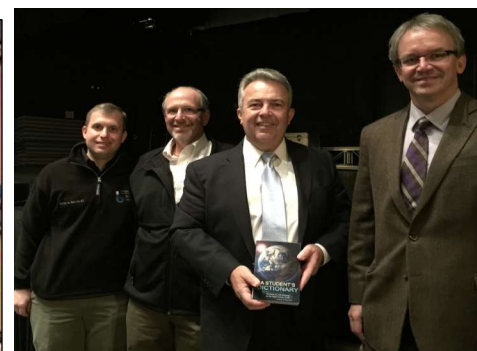
Our District Brings Relief To Nepalese

The ShelterBox sponsored by the District through a District Grant was sent to Nepal. At their moment of greatest need a family in Nepal is now living in the tent we provided. They are using the life-saving equipment we sent them. They are out of the elements. They are warm. They are together.

Every year, ShelterBox provides support to families around the world who have survived the tragedy of an earthquake, tsunami or other disaster. Working with supports like us, they are able to provide tents and cookware,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

The Rotary Club of Hazleton



Third graders at Hazle Elementary and Middle School happily accepted dictionaries delivered to Acting Assistant Principal James Hudock by Hazleton Rotarians Jason, Paul and Tom. Above the Rotarians with Hudock. Heights sTerrace Elementary and Middle School were also included.

Rotary Club of the Abingtons

Literacy Thrives on Clarks Summit's Depot St.

BY EILEEN CHRISTIAN

ABINGTON JOURNAL COLUMNIST

Six months or so ago, our Rotary Club of the Abingtons opened a Pocket Library on Depot Street in front of the Pocket Park in Clarks Summit, Pennsylvania. Since that opening day, a continuous flow of books have come and gone out of the tiny door. You, the readers of our community, stop by, check out the current supply of reading material, and add to the books or remove other books you want to read. In that participation we all promote literacy, which is one of Rotary's goals.

The Library of Congress took note of the network of small libraries popping up all over the United States and recognized them with the Literary Award for best practices in literacy and reading promotion for 2015. The acting Librarian of Congress, Davis S. Mao, signed

SHELTERBOX...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13...

blankets, stoves, water purifiers – all the equipment necessary to allow families to begin rebuilding their lives. From Haiti to Japan, from Kenya to the U.S., the green box has come to represent home.

Your contributions to The Rotary Foundation Annual Fund (Shared) enable us to help those in need not only in our area, but around the world. Please make a donation to The Rotary Foundation Annual Fund (Shared).

the commendation on October 22, 2015. The award reads thus:

THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS HEARBY COMMENDS

Little Free Library

FOR ITS EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF BEST PRACTICES IN LITERACY AND READING PROMOTION

The Library of Congress sponsors privately endowed programs that honor achievement in the humanities and creativity. Through these awards and prizes, the world's greatest repository of human creativity honors those who have advanced and embodied the ideals of individual creativity, conviction, dedication, scholarship and exuberance.

Our Little Free Library is #17238 in this international organization of 32,000 tiny libraries. We are included on the little free library world map, and we are open 24 hours a day for business.

On June 11, 2015, the day our Pocket Library opened, the very first book that went in was my own family Bible. The book was leather bound and much taller than the other books that quickly filled the shelves. My family Bible took up the room of perhaps 4 small books and I wondered if it would remain there, taking up so much space. In that first week, as

steward of the library, I checked out the pocket library by stopping by almost every day. I could see my big brown Bible still in the library as far away as the road. Other books seemed to be moving but not the Bible. Perhaps people in the community thought that one book was not for exchange. After about a week, I drove by and stopped. My Bible had moved out and I was glad. About a month later, the Bible was returned. I wondered where the book had gone and who had brought it back. On this second entrance, the Bible remained in place for about a week or so and then, again, it was gone.

Books rarely stay a week. In fact, some times the tiny library looks very different in the morning than it does in the afternoon. Authors like Danielle Steele may be right next to Shakespeare on one day and then just a day later, neither of their books is there at all. Children's books seem to move the quickest, rarely staying more than a few hours.

The Library of Congress Literacy Awards were established as a program to help support organizations working to alleviate the problems of illiteracy, both in the United States and worldwide. The awards reward organizations, like the Little Free Library, for doing exemplary, innovative and easily replicable work over a sustained period.

Rotary Club of Tunkhannock

Dictionaries Distributed to Tunkhannock District Schools

On November 10th, Tunkhannock Rotarians distributed 240 dictionaries to third grade students at the four elementary schools (Mill City, Evans Falls, Roslund and Mehoopany) in the Tunkhannock Area School District.

The Tunkhannock Club's participation in the Dictionary Project was started by Rotarian Don Sick (deceased) approximately 13 year ago. The club has purchased and distributed over 3,802 dictionaries to third graders over this period. Even in this age of technology, the third graders are always excited to receive their own dictionaries.

The Rotarians are always gratified by the enthusiasm of the children and amazed when they ask "Do you mean this is my new book and I can keep it forever?" Their teachers plan games and activities that encourage the students to use them, like having them find the longest word and try to pronounce it.

The dictionaries are more than a traditional dictionary. They contain information on: weights and measures, science elements, sign language, the world, the states, the presidents, the planets and much more. The dictionaries help the students complete the school year as better writers, active readers and creative thinkers.

After the event, club members are entertained by the thank you notes that come from many of the students, in which they detail how they are using their new dictionaries, in some cases to actually write their thank you notes. Some of the students have commented that they especially like the section on sign language.

The Tunkhannock Rotary Dictionary program is one of the community youth services projects funded by the proceeds from the annual Harvest and Wine Festival.

Tunkhannock Welcomes Two

The Tunkhannock Rotary Club inducted two new members in the month of November. On November 5th, Annette Chickey became a Rotarian, she was sponsored by Ruth Gorski.

Annette was raised in Old Forge. She has two grown children, Rachel and Ron.

Annette likes to travel. This past summer she went to Jamaica and she is taking her sister to Las Vegas next year. Annette is a LPN and a Personal Home Care Administrator. Gardening is also some-

thing that she enjoys in her free time. She has been in the healthcare field since 1983. She is very happy to be part of the United Methodist Homes in Tunkhannock.

On November 12th, Steve Franko became a Rotarian, he was sponsored by President Ron Furman. Steve Franko grew up on a family farm in Falls with seven siblings. He attended Wilkes University and the University of Pittsburgh where he obtained Juris Doctor, Litigation & Health Law.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16.



Recently inducted into the Tunkhannock Rotary Club were Annette Chickey and Steve Franko. Annette (above center) is shown with sponsor Ruth Gorski and President Ron Furman. Franko is shown at right with his sponsor, Furman.



Rotary Club of Tunkhannock

Tunkhannock Rotary Club Hosts High School Interact Club

In Celebration of World Interact Week, the Tunkhannock High School Interact Club Officers and Faculty Advisor Tomasina Fiorillo attended the Tunkhannock Rotary Club

Luncheon on Nov. 5th. President Ron Furman presented the Interact Officers with a Certificate of Recognition for their outstanding work and cooperation with the club. All of the members thoroughly enjoyed listening to their presentation and were quite impressed with the projects they have already completed since the beginning of the school year, as well as the projects that they have planned for the upcoming year.



From left are Dana Kuffa, Elliott Hamersley, Josh Beman and Tunkhannock High Interact President Gabriele Frigano with President Ron Furman.



Paul Harris +1 Pin

David Wilson (left) was presented with his Paul Harris +1 pin from Tunkhannock Club President Ron Furman on November 19th. Dave has also been active with the Foreign Exchange student program and serves as one of two Rotary mentors for the Interact Club.

Tunkhannock Rotarians Reap Awards at High Tea

The Rotary Foundation Recognition High Tea that was held on October 25th recognized three members from the Tunkhannock Rotary Club.

Fran Turner was recognized as a Longest Serving Rotarian, 65 years. Norm Werkheiser was also recognized

as a Longest Serving Rotarian, 40 years of service. Anne Sehne was presented with her Tunkhannock Rotary Club-designated Paul Harris at the High Tea. Anne is the Youth Exchange Officer for the Tunkhannock Rotary Club. In addition, Anne is also the Inbound Coordina-



DGN Karin-Susan Breitlauch (left) is shown with Anne Sehne at the Recognition-High Tea.

NEW MEMBERS...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15...

Steve Franko is married to Abba and they have a nine year old son, Adrien. The family is active in their church, St.Mary's of the Lake in Lake Winola. He also earned a Pennsylvania State Gold Medal in Greco-Roman wrestling and represented our country in international competition.

tor for the district.

The Tunkhannock Rotary Club received an EREY Banner from the Rotary Foundation and a Membership Development Award from Rotary International for bringing in the most members in District 7410.

New Rotarians

Abingtons	Jose Briceno William Fleming
Hamlin	Bonnie Yablon
Honesdale	Tegan Holl
North Pocono	Madlyn Buckland.
Pocono Mtn.	Noel Daniels
Stroudsburgs	Zerla Bartolome
Tunkhannock	Annette Chickey Stephen Franko
Wilkes-Barre	William Hudson

**Share Your Speaker with Us...**

Rotary Club speakers are often the headliners when it comes to our weekly meetings. They can be informative, uplifting and entertaining, with messages worth delivering to a wider audience. If you'd like to share one of those messages with other Rotarians in District 7410, feel free to email it this way.— **Editor Wes at skill@epix.net**.

District 7410 — 2015 Club Data

Club	Total Mem.	New Mem.	Attend. %
Abingtons	64	2	
Athens	15		
Blakeslee	12		70.00%
Dallas	44		60.00%
Dunmore	16		94.00%
Forest City Area	12		77.80%
Freeland	8		70.00%
Hamlin	25	1	59.54%
Hawley	19		60.00%
Hazleton	87		59.24%
Honesdale	36	1	54.00%
Jim Thorpe	24		
Kingston	20		66.00%
Lehighton	10		
Mid-Valley	6		54.00%
Milford-Matamoras	23		
Montrose	22		79.00%
Mountaintop	16		65.00%
Mt. Pocono	15		
New Milford	12		
Newfoundland	39		61.62%
North Pocono	18	1	
North Scranton	27		73.00%
Pittston	12		0.00%
Plains	21		52.00%
Plymouth	22		
Pocono Mountains	20	1	74.00%
Sayre	14		78.00%
Scranton	36		0.00%
Smithfields	23		53.00%
Stroudsburgs, The	102	1	68.11%
Towanda	12		
Trail (Factoryville)	13		
Troy	24		75.00%
Tunkhannock	67	2	
Weatherly	12		100.00%
Wellsboro	51		0.00%
West End	28		80.28%
Wilkes-Barre	30	1	
Winola	17		
Wyalusing Area	27		
Wyoming	19		



District 7410



President - Rotary International - 2015-2016

- K.R "Ravi" Ravindran (Colombo, Sri Lanka)

District Governor 7410 - 2015-2016

- Barbara Huffman de Belon
820 Coal Street
Lehighton, PA 18235
P: 610.377.6103
E: bjbelon@gmail.com

District Officers

- Marcia Loughman, DGE 2016-2017
E: madio@epix.net
- Karin--Susan Breitlauch, DGN 2017-2018
E: ksbvet@ptd.net

District Treasurer

- John Regula (The Abingtons)
E: johnregula@aol.com

Newsletter Editor/Public Image

- Wes Skillings (Wyalusing)
E: skill@epix.net

Administrative Assistant, Newsletter Publisher & Webmaster

- Brenda Allen
P: 570.767.1187
E: rotarydistrict7410@gmail.com

Assistant Governors by Cluster

1. Nancy Brittain (Sayre) nbrittain@stny.rr.com
Athens, Sayre, Towanda, Troy, Wellsboro
2. Norm Kelly (Tunkhannock) normkelly@sbcglobal.net
Forest City, Montrose, New Milford, Trail,
Tunkhannock, Winola, Wyalusing
3. Al Kobe (Honesdale) Jacques2.49.ak@gmail.com
Hamlin, Hawley, Honesdale,
Milford-Matamoras, Newfoundland
4. Karen DeMatte (The Stroudsburgs) karenandrotary@gmail.com
Blakeslee, Mt. Pocono, Pocono Mountains,
The Smithfields, The Stroudsburgs, West End
5. Shane East (Mountain Top) shane@shaneeast.com
Freeland, Hazleton, Jim Thorpe, Lehighton,
Mountaintop, Weatherly
6. Roger Mattes (The Abingtons) mattes@epix.net
The Abingtons, Dunmore, Mid-Valley,
North Pocono, North Scranton, Scranton
7. Jerry Reisch (Dallas) gjr01@aol.com
Dallas, Kingston, Pittston, Plains, Plymouth,
The Greater Nanticoke Area, Wilkes-Barre,
Wyoming



Be a gift
to the world