



News from District 7410

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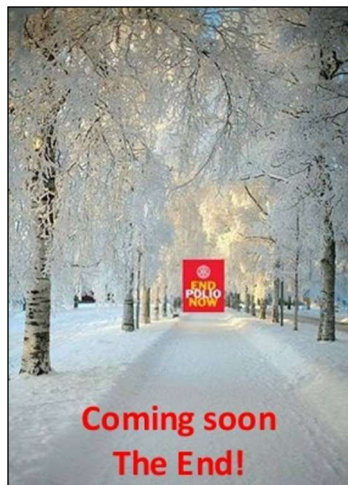
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Letter from the District Governor

Greetings, District 7410 Rotarians!

By the time you read this, the “big snow event” of January 22-23 will have become just distant memory. Even the aches and pains resulting from the shoveling will be long gone. With so much TV hype, you’d have thought that this was going to be an end-of-civilization type event. Of course, like every other snowfall in the northeast, the sun came out and the snow melted - - sort of a let-down, right?



One upcoming event that will not come with a let-down is when the world is declared to be polio-free. CDC scientists have recently revised their prediction of the “end-date”, taking months off their earlier estimates. Even Rotarians who have been donating, supporting, and cheering on the effort still have no complete grasp of what it will mean to us, collectively, when our 30+ year effort reaches its end point. But, know this: For the rest of your life, you can say that you were a part of this massive endeavor to rid the world of this crippling disease. No more paralyzed legs and arms. No more “crawlers”.

No more deaths that could have been prevented by two drops of serum.

And the legacy? A network of health outposts and individuals who can apply the same methods and approaches to controlling other disease outbreaks that were used with polio epidemics! National Ministries of Health that are connected globally. Hundreds of thousands of health workers who understand the power of working for the greater good. Now, that’s something for the history books!

Thanks to all the 7410 Rotary clubs that routed their “Change the World” donations to the “End Polio Now” campaign. You are pushing the world closer to that date when dictionaries change their definition from “Polio is...” to “Polio was...”.

Regards,
DG Barbara



Be a gift to the world

District Governor for 2018-19 Rotary Year Selected...

Congratulations to Roger Mattes of the Rotary Club of the Abingtons for his selection as the newest member of the "G-Team."

Currently, Roger is serving as the Assistant Governor for Cluster 6 (Abingtons, Dunmore, Mid-Valley, North Pocono, North Scranton, and Scranton).



On July 1st, Roger will become our District Governor-Nominee, and start his three-year journey through the governor track. Please help me congratulate Roger and wish him all the best as he takes on this major responsibility.

Congratulations to New Directors On District Board...

On Saturday, January 16th, the District Nominating Committee, chaired by PDG Kerry Nix, met to select individuals to fill the two open spots on the District Board of Directors.

Please help me congratulate Bob Chavey of the Rotary Club of Newfoundland and PDG Carol Hemphill of the Rotary Club of North Pocono for both their willingness to serve and for their selection. Bob will be serving a 1-year term, and Carol will be serving a 2-year term.

At the same meeting, the Nominating Committee appointed DG Barbara Belon to serve as the district's Vice Governor for the 2016-17 Rotary year. As a side note, the Vice Governor position was established to provide for smooth succession planning within the district, in case the sitting governor becomes unable to continue serving.

District 7410 Supports Another District's Global Grant ...

District 7410 pulls off some amazing projects in our communities of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

That's not news to you, but what is news is when our District provides assistance to another District's global grant. This spring, our district is providing

\$4,000 in financial support for District 7210's global grant project to Haiti. Our \$4,000 actually turns into \$8,000 since the Foundation's World Fund matches our donation dollar-for-dollar. The description of this much-needed, and large-impact global project follows.

Together with their co-applicant, the Cap Haitien Rotary Club ("CHRC"), the **Liberty Rotary Club ("LRC") of District 7210** is proposing a project to purchase and distribute 1,000 two-bucket water filtration systems to 1,000 families in the Cap Haitien region of Haiti. This project is anticipated to provide clean and potable water to over 5,000 residents. The two-bucket systems are manufactured by Gift of Water, a non-profit organization which only has one paid employee (www.giftofwater.org).

The budget for this project is \$105,000, of which at least \$30,000 will come from DDF (with 100% matching funds from the Foundation), with the balance (subject to the 50% matching funds from the Foundation) being raised by the LRC and the CHRC.

The families will be chosen by a water committee which is being created and which will be comprised of three members of the CHRC, one representative from Notre Dame D'Altagrace (a parish in Cap Haitien which serves that community and which was involved in a prior District Grant project of the LRC involving the purchase and distribution of 100 of the two-bucket water filtration systems to 100 families in Cap Haitien) and one member of the Cap Haitien community. The water committee will also hire, cause to be trained and pay up to five technicians, who will meet with the 1,000 families on a biweekly basis to test the water, obtain supplies for the families, answer questions, and prepare and provide monthly reports to the water committee (which reports will be shared with the CHRC and the LRC).

District 7410's modest donation from our Global Grant funds will help District 7210 reach their financial target for the project. By extension, our entire district membership can feel good about the fact that, even in a small way, we have played a major role in providing clean water for thousands of Haitians.

That's the power of our Rotary network in action!

For more information, contact Rotary Club of Liberty's President-Elect, Gary D. Silver at gsilver@stoloffsilver.com

District 7410 Rotarians: Here's How Our RI Director Will Be Chosen at Conference

At the 2017 RI Convention in Atlanta, USA, a director will be elected from among Rotarians in our Zone 32. RI Bylaws, section 12.020, provides that RI directors-nominee be selected by a zone nominating committee, comprising one member from each district in the zone. You are being advised of your responsibility for selecting District 7410's member of the **2016-17 RI Director Nominating Committee**.

Previously, all clubs in District 7410 were sent the guidelines for nomination. To date, two qualified candidates have been nominated by their respective clubs. As governor, I have asked each of them to write a brief statement of why they feel qualified to serve on our behalf. Those statements, along with the candidate's photo appear below.

Since the **voting** to select our district's representative will occur on **April 30th at our District Conference**, the following instructions are pertinent for your club's participation:

- **Voting:** The election vote is scheduled for **3:00 pm on Saturday, April 30th**. **Your club's delegate MUST BE PRESENT** to present your club's vote(s). The club delegate DOES NOT HAVE TO BE AN ATTENDEE at the district conference, but can come to the venue just to present the club's authorized vote.

- **Voting process:** Your club's vote must be made **in writing and signed** by the club president and secretary. That authorized vote is **handed in** at the 3:00 District Voting Session.

- **Authorized votes:** The size of your club determines the number of votes given to your club. The following is excerpted from the RI Manual of Procedures:

Each club shall be entitled to at least one vote. Any club with a membership of more than 25 shall be entitled to one additional vote for each additional 25, or major fraction thereof, of its members. Such membership shall be determined by the number of members in the club as of the date of the most recent semiannual payment, preceding the date on which the vote is to be held. However, any club whose membership in RI has been suspended by the board shall not be entitled to participate in the voting.

Thank you in advance, for taking this election seriously and sending your club's representative to the April 30th voting venue. --
DG Barbara



Candidacy Statement from PDG Paul Muczynski...

The experience and knowledge I gain over the last six years from serving on various Zone 24 & 32 Zone Institute committees, 2013 Zone 32 Nominating committee, and the 2013 Council on Legislation has given me a perspective on the qualities of a Zone Director. With this knowledge, I will be able to review each Director candidate's qualifications and make the hard decision as to which candidate would receive my vote.



Candidacy Statement from PDG Ted Silver...

I feel that I have a very strong understanding of Rotary. For many years I have been actively involved in Rotary both domestically and internationally. Over the years I have had the opportunity to work with Directors from our Zone as well as working with many Directors from the Zones of Latin America. It is my belief that with my knowledge I can be a valuable asset to the process of choosing that Rotarian who will be our next Zone Director by serving as a member of the Nominating Committee.

SEE THE DISTRICT CONFERENCE LINEUP AD— PAGE 21



Rotary District Conference Site Open for Business!

Be one of the first to read about this major event at:

<https://rotarydistrict7410conference.splashthat.com/>.

Check out the "Early Bird" conference pricing and our fabulous presenters, seminars, golf tourney, and other events. Don't forget to look for pre-conference contests, both in the District Newsletter and on our **Rotary District 7410** Facebook page – posted in the coming months.

You don't want to miss it! April 29-30, 2016. Mohegan Sun Conference Center, Wilkes-Barre, PA.



Hey, “Young Rotarians!” There’s a Session Just for You

Yes, that's all of you in the “40'ish and Under” category. We think you're special, and to prove that, we're designing a session just for you at this year's District Conference.

Two of your colleagues, Kendra Roderick (k_roderick3@yahoo.com) of the North Scranton club and Katie Ray

(raykatie2013@gmail.com) of the Weatherly club are hard at work, designing this Saturday morning session which begins at 9:15 on April 30th, right after the Plenary session is called to order.

Watch for more info on this specially-tailored session in the March newsletter. Want to get involved in the planning?

Just email either Kendra or Katie.

They'll be glad for the help. Check out our District Conference website for full info on the conference and for online registration.

The link to the site is in the article above.

Bagpiper Wanted

We need someone who plays the bagpipes for something special during the Saturday night gala. Ask your fellow Rotarians. Ask your friends. Help us out by identifying a “likely suspect” that we can contact.

Send any leads to Conference Chair Ruth Ann Rocchio at rocchio@harsco.com.

Why Not Raise Your Voice in Song?

That's right! Here's your opportunity to participate in the conference, not just observe, on Friday, Saturday, or both, April 29th and 30th. If you can read music and have sung in performance/audition choirs, then this is the gig for

you! Email DG Barbara right away with the following info:

- Voice part (SATB)
- Preferred email address
- Conference availability

(Friday, Saturday, or both).

SEE, “CHOIR, PAGE 7.



Community Calendar

What it Is?

With a new take on an old classic, the Rotary Community Calendar event coordination and management platform was created to make it easier for clubs and districts to let the members of the community know when things are happening.

How it Benefits the Clubs?

- Up-to-date calendar featuring fundraising, workshops, sporting events and more
- A single, unifying repository of all activity in the district
- Safe and secure payment processing system
- No more double-booking
- Increase attendance & decrease costs
- User-friendly & professional registration that maintains the identity of your club & district
- Customizable registration forms
- Mobile event registration
- Safe and secure payment processing into your bank account via PayPal
- Year, Month & Day views
- Comprehensive list of event categories
- Accurate directory of clubs & districts contributing to the calendar
- Advertising Opportunities

www.rotarycommunitycalendar.com

What are the Costs?

- Posting events to the calendar is FREE
- Paid Events – We charge a small fee per ticket which can be passed on to ticket buyers.

How It Works

The Rotarycommunitycalendar.com platform includes an easy-to-use enhanced directory, ensuring that clubs and the district can effectively communicate with current and potential followers by posting events with descriptions, contact info, galleries, start and finish times, dates, location, presentation documents and more. You can event register and purchase tickets to the events through the platform.

Features

- Subscription Management
- Membership Management
- Document Management
- E-Commerce
- Social Media Integration
- Video & Audio Streaming
- Customizable Reporting
- Event Sponsorship Tracking
- Event Photo Galleries
- RSS Feed by Business, Event Type or Date Range
- Event RSVP
- Event Ticketing



The Rotary Club of
Wilkes-Barre
Presents...

Mardi Gras
Party
With A
Purpose

February 4th, 2016
\$20 per person in advance
\$25 at the door



WHAT TO EXPECT:

Great Food!

(Shrimp and rice, Cajun pasta,
mesquite roasted chicken and more!)

Entertainment!

50/50 Raffle!

Wine and Beer Tasting!

Basket Raffles!

*Benefiting the Kids of the
Wyoming Valley Children's Association*

5:30 - 7:30 at Genetti's Best Western in Downtown Wilkes-Barre

Tickets are available by calling (570) - 714 - 1246 x306
or by emailing Sedor.d@gmail.com

Rep. Karen Boback Honored by Rotary International

State Representative Karen Boback was recently presented with her second Rotary Paul Harris Fellowship. Past Rotary District Governor Paul Muczynski presented the fellowship to Representative Boback noting her continued support of the welfare of the citizens of Pennsylvania.

In addition, Representative Boback was able to get a House Resolution passed recognizing Rotary International's efforts to eradicate Polio from the world through a comprehensive vaccination program, making good on a promise it made in 1985.

When the campaign began, there were more than 1,000 new cases of Polio every day. As of December 31, 2015, there were just 70 cases in two countries. The World Health Organization (WHO) predicts the last case of the wild Polio Virus infection will occur this year. When Polio is eradicated it will be the second disease eradicated, Small Pox being the first.



State Representative Karen Boback was presented with a prestigious Rotary International Award at a recent meeting of the Dallas Rotary Club at the Appletree Terrace in Dallas. Rep. Boback is flanked by Past District Governor Paul Muczynski (left) and Dallas President Jason Jolley.

Rotary Club of the Stroudsburgs

Stroudsburgs Dub Ramsden for Lifetime Achievement

The Rotary Club of the Stroudsburgs will honor the Rev. William E. Ramsden with the Alex "Buzz" Bensinger Lifetime Achievement Award at its annual auction at Shawnee Inn on March 24.

Ramsden will be the second recipient of the Rotary Club's Alexander Bensinger Award, which recognizes Monroe County residents who are successful in their vocation and known for their community service, selflessness or philanthropy. The award was established last year in the name of well-known Stroudsburg attorney and Rotarian Buzz Bensinger. John J. Riley was the first honoree.

Ramsden has been a Rotarian since 1996. He served as Chaplain for the Rotary Club of the

Stroudsburgs and received two of the club's highest honors -- he was named a Paul Harris Fellow and the 2007 Rotarian of the Year. Over the years, his donations of a week's vacation at an exotic or overseas timeshare have been popular items at the Rotary auction.

Ramsden and his wife, Elsa, retired to the Poconos in 1995 after serving 40 years in ministry. He became a pastor at Zion United Church of Christ in Stroudsburg in 2003, where he served until his 2014 move to Moravian Hall Square in Nazareth.

Stroudsburg Rotary Club president Dennis Jeter said, "We miss Bill at our weekly meetings. He does visit occasionally. His presence, as always, brightens the day. He epitomizes our Rotarian value -- Service Above Self."

Stroudsburgs Rotary Club's auction takes place 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. on March 24 at Shawnee Inn and will have a Mardi Gras theme, with entertainment by the Julliard Jazz Ensemble. The public is invited.

Reservations can be made at stroudsburgsrotary.org. The cost is \$50. For more information, contact Rotarian Holley Kearns at 570-242-5773 or emailnotjustanotherauction@gmail.com.

CHOIR...

CONTINUED FROM 4.

You'll be sent the scores and links to audio files to help you master your part.

Email DG Barbara now at bjbelon@gmail.com. Conference rehearsals are scheduled for 4:00 pm Friday and 4:15 pm Saturday, for polishing of music, *NOT learning parts*. Questions? Call DG Barbara at [610.377.6103](tel:610.377.6103). Know a really good Rotarian singer? Pass it on.



District 7410
June 5, 2016

“Rotary Day at the Ballpark”

When: Sunday afternoon, June 5th, 2016
Where: RailRider’s Stadium, 235 Montage Mountain Road, Moosic, PA

UPDATE: RailRiders management has agreed to run one of the professionally-made RI videos during the pre-game time *AT NO COST TO US*. This is very generous of them, and an opportunity for us to be prepared to “talk Rotary” to anyone in the stadium! Great marketing for District 7410! Ten (10) clubs have already purchased Kost tickets and five (5) clubs have committed to the service project. **COME and be a part of this awesome day.**

Food Collection Service Project – Even those who don’t want to attend the ballgame can participate in this worthy activity! Participating clubs will be assigned to a table (supplied by the RailRiders), set up outside the stadium entrance. Clubs are expected to bring empty boxes in which to deposit the cans/boxes of food donations. Each donor receives a ticket for the 7th inning drawing for the “Rotary Basket”. For those who forgot to bring food, they can make a donation (\$1.00 minimum) and receive a ticket for the basket drawing.

Fellowship – The Kost Pavilion has been reserved for Rotary District 7410 for the afternoon. The cost of \$30 includes food, non-alcoholic beverages, and the entrance ticket. As of 1 Jan, 2016, 150 Kost tickets are available.

For those who prefer just the entrance ticket, **stadium seats** adjacent to the Kost Pavilion are available for **\$10.00**.

2nd Call for KOST tickets and 1st call for \$10 stadium seats:

The Rotary/Interact/Rotaract Club of _____ commits to staffing a table prior to the ballgame on June 5th, 2015

We request advance purchase of _____ tickets to the Kost Pavilion

We request advance purchase of _____ tickets for the \$10 bleacher tickets

Send checks to **District Treasurer, John Regula**, *CLEARLY INDICATING numbers for either Kost OR Stadium seats*. **MAILING ADDRESS:** 327 Baker Lane, Clarks Summit, PA 18411.

Looking at Fundraisers and Rotary's Policies

It has come to the attention of Rotary International that some Rotary clubs are sponsoring or hosting gun and knife shows, shooting tournaments and hunts **and are using Rotary's trademarks on materials** for these events. As a reminder, the RI Board has set forth guidelines for use of the Rotary Marks by Rotary clubs for sponsorship and cooperative relationship purposes, and this policy prohibits clubs from accepting relationships that support the use of harmful products, including weapons and other armaments; see the relevant *Rotary Code of Policies* Section below.

RI Board would not take kindly to learning that Rotary clubs have ignored this policy and are sponsoring or hosting gun and knife shows or that the clubs are hosting or sponsoring shooting tournaments and hunts. If your club has already started planning for such an event, sponsoring or hosting gun/knife shows, shooting tournaments and/or hunts, that you cease such activity immediately

From the Rotary Code of Policies:

11.020.6. Guidelines for Use of Rotary Marks by Rotary Clubs, Rotary Districts and Other Rotary Entities for Sponsorship and Cooperative Relationship Purposes

a) 20. No Rotary club(s), Rotary district(s) or other Rotary Entity shall accept a sponsorship or a cooperative relationship that

a. **Conflicts with Rotary's ethical and humanitarian values**

b. Undermines internationally recognized standards for human rights

c. **Supports the use of addictive or harmful products and activities including but not limited to alcohol (when inappropriate in a specific cultural context), tobacco,**



gambling, and weapons or other armaments

d. Promotes a particular political or

religious viewpoint

e. Involves abortion

f. Unfairly discriminates based on race, ethnicity, gender, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, or birth or other status

g. Weakens the autonomy, independence, reputation, or financial integrity of Rotary International, The Rotary Foundation, or the specific Rotary club, district or other Rotary entity

h. Involves any subject matter which is not in accord with the Object of Rotary

It is also important to know that the U.S. Rotary club and district liability insurance program *does not provide coverage* to its insured for activities that are in conflict with the *Rotary Code of Policies*.

Rotary Club of Wyalusing



Welcoming New Members

Wyalusing Rotary Club President Burnie Sheldon welcomes new members Wendy Gaustad (center) and Elaine Poost at a January Club meeting. The induction ceremony was conducted by AG Norm Kelly, whose home club of Tunkhannock sponsored the Wyalusing club.

Rotary District 7410 Event

District 7410
Rotary
Northeast PA



Your Special Invitation

**ROTARY DISTRICT 7410 CONFERENCE
GOLF TOURNEY**

Wilkes-Barre Municipal Golf Course
1001 Fairway Drive, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702

Friday, April 29th, 2016

FORMAT: Captain 'n Crew – shotgun start
START TIME: 9:00 AM
PRICE: \$27 Includes 18 holes, cart, lunch, and prizes

Spend the day in this beautiful setting
with fellow Rotarians and friends.

REGISTER BY: April 15th

Send this form and cash or check (payable to Rotary
District 7410) to PDG Budd O'Malia, 133 Greenwave
Blvd., Larksville, PA 18704.

Questions? Call PDG Budd at 570-814-3918.



Team Captain:		Phone:	
Rotary Club:			
Names of Players:			

Don't have a foursome? No problem! We'll match you up with others.



Upcoming Club Events

The Rotary Club of the Smithfields

Sampling Assorted Brews at The Chateau in Tannersville

The Rotary Club of the Smithfields is sponsoring a fun and entertaining night of Beer tasting/sampling at its Second Annual Beer Tasting fundraiser on Friday, February 5, 2016 from 7 pm to 10 pm at the Chateau Resort and Conference Center, 475 Camelback Road, Tannersville, Pennsylvania. Come and sample a variety of brews from premier local, regional and Pennsylvania breweries, including Shawnee Craft (Gem and Keystone), Barley Creek Brewery, Susquehanna Brewing Company, Yuengling, Yards Brewing Company, Straub Brewery, Lion Brewing (Stegmaier), Stoudt's Brewing Company, Victory Brewing, Evil Genius, Wood Chuck Cider and many others. This is a great chance to sample and compare a variety of great beers in one place for one price for a good cause.

Beer tasting is designed to be a fun event with one simple rule: have fun



Beer tasting is about sampling, comparing flavors. There is more substantial fare elsewhere.

sampling some really great beers and discovering new tastes and styles. Light food will be available to help compare flavors. More substantial fare will be available through the Chateau Resort.

The band Crop Circle Agents will be on hand to provide live music and round out the evening. Sample beer, dance, and listen to great music, this is what the evening is all about.

The cost is \$25 a person in advance and \$30 at the door.

You must be at least 21 years of age to participate. This is a fund raiser by the Rotary Club to help support its local charities and programs that provide service and aid in our community.

The Chateau Resort and Conference Center is located on Camelback Road, just off the Tannersville Exit (Exit 299) of Interstate 80 in Tannersville, Pennsylvania. Check out our ad on page 19 for the basic information.

For information or tickets please contact Scott Amori at (570) 350-9246, or visit:

www.rotaryofthesmithfields.org,
www.chateaurort.com,
www.facebook.com/rotaryclubofthesmithfields or
www.facebook.com/rotarybeertasting

High School Juniors and Seniors Invited to Show Off Drawing Skills

This past fall, our District sponsored a "Short Story" contest, which challenged fourth through sixth graders to write a story that involved an ethical decision affecting the main character and many other people. Those results are in and a collection of the top ten stories has been assembled. This current contest gives high school juniors and seniors the opportunity to create illustrations for the stories and/or the cover page for the collection of stories.

Files containing the ten short stories, the directions and timeline for the contest, letter to participating high school faculty, contest poster, and eligibility certification form will be emailed to club officers as well as posted on our District website under the "New Generation" tab (look for "Illustration Contest").

Illustrations for short stories due on March 15th, 2016...

In addition to their inclusion in the 2016 Short Story Booklet, winning illustrations will be posted on our District Facebook page and published in our May and June District newsletters.

Help your area's young artists gain more exposure for their talent by encouraging them to enter one or more drawings in this illustration contest. Deadline for submissions to the clubs is March 15th, 2016.

The Rotary Club of Hazleton



New Rotary Club Inductees (seated, from left) are Betsy Urzillo, Joan Buffington, Joseph Meiss and Charles DeCosmo. Their respective Hazleton Rotary Club Member Sponsors behind them are John Beltrami, Kathie Oh, Donna Barna, Pat Ward (standing in for Ron Avellino) and Program Chair Lew Dryfoos.

Hazleton Inducts Four

Past President Lew Dryfoos inducted four new members into the Hazleton Rotary Club at the weekly meeting held on Wednesday, January 13 at Genetti's. He encouraged new members to take advantage of their club membership and become active members taking part in fundraisers and special events, as well as enjoying club social activities.

New Rotary Club Members are Betsy Urzillo sponsored by John

SEE, "HAZLETON," PAGE 20...

The Rotary Club of Sayre



School Superintendent Inducted

The Sayre Rotary Club is pleased to welcome their newest member, Sherry Griggs. Sherry recently accepted the position of Superintendent of Sayre Area Schools, coming from South Williamsport, PA. Her background education is very impressive with various degrees from Bloomsburg University, Bucknell University and the Pennsylvania State University where she most recently received her Doctor of Education (D.Ed.) in Educational Leadership. She and her husband, Joe, have two grown sons, Jarett and Jordan and his wife Brittany as well as their Yellow Labrador Retriever named Cooper. Shown with Sherry is the club's current president, Nancy Brittain. The Sayre Rotary Club meets every Tuesday at the Rail House Restaurant in Waverly, NY.

The Rotary Club of Tunkhannock



New Members in Tunkhannock

The Tunkhannock Rotary Club welcomed two new members in January: Susan Kelly and Dan Whipple. Susan, who is in the insurance business, was inducted into Rotary by District Governor Barbara Huffman de Belón (above) during her visit to the Club on Jan 7. James Welch, Sr., Susan's sponsor, is shown at left.

Rotary Club of Hamlin Comedy Night

Benefits Community Projects

Friday, February 12, 2016

Main Lodge at The Hideout

Live from the NYC Comedy Circuit



Joe List

A 2015 Finalist on NBC's "Last Comic Standing" and his own Half Hour Comedy Special on Comedy Central, network TV debut on the Late Show with David Letterman.



Greg Stone

Sharing his true and funny stories, Greg has performed on ... NBC's "America's Got Talent" Tru TV's "Friends of the People" AXS TV's "Gotham Comedy Live" Sirius/XM Radio's "The Bennington Show"



Andy Fiore

A recent Headliner at Caroline's on Broadway, Andy is a resident comic for Comedy Central Radio and produces The Bonfire.... He has been featured in New York Magazine, seen on Fox's Good Day NY

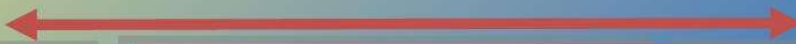


Doors Open 6:30 PM

Buffet Dinner and Show with Preferred Seating - \$25.00

Show Only with General Seating at 7:30 PM - \$15.00

Showtime: 8:00 PM



Cash Bar
50/50 Raffle
21 and over please

Tickets Available
from any Rotarian,
The Hideout Clubhouse
or call 570-499-2793

Cash Bar
50/50 Raffle
21 and over please



Our Clubs in Action

A Tall but True Tale of Tunkhannock's 10,000 Books

Once upon a time, there was a Tunkhannock Rotarian named Lou Jasikoff, who hosts an internet talk radio show (Jasikoff & Friends) on Twigs Café Radio and has founded and published several Independent Gazette newspapers. In late November, Lou interviewed Dean Debra Pellegrino of the University of Scranton's Panuska College of Professional Studies (PCPS) and two of her colleagues regarding illiteracy issues in the region and nationwide. During the discussion, Dean Pellegrino briefly described the "Blessing of the Books" Program of the PCPS, where children's books are collected and distributed to organizations and children's programs to promote literacy.

Lou immediately challenged Dean Pellegrino to a friendly competition between the University and the Tunkhannock community to see who could collect the most new or gently used children's books.

Club's Up to Challenge

After the radio interview, Lou brought this challenge to the next Tunkhannock Rotary Club meeting and before Lou could get back to his seat, the club had voted to buy \$100 worth of children's books from the Tunkhannock Public Library (TPL) book store. So on Dec 3, the Club presented Lou with 200 books for this program.

But the Rotary Club's involvement did not stop there, Terry Furman, Chair of the Club's Literacy Committee and a teacher/trainer for H.A.N.D.S. of Wyoming County, called upon Tunkhannock Area School District (TASD) Superintendent Frank Galicki to promote this program in the four elementary schools



A mountain of books under the Christmas tree above Twig's Restaurant— and that's only part of the thousands gathered by Tunkhannock Rotarians.

in the District. Superintendent Galicki recorded a message that was sent out to all parents of the elementary school students through the District's automated call system. They also decided to hold a home room competition in each of the schools to see which homeroom could collect the most books. The winning home room in each school would be treated to a pizza party courtesy of the Tunkhannock Rotary Club and TASD.

Lou then spoke at a meeting of the Tunkhannock High School Interact Club and the Interactors immediately embraced this project as well. They too held a homeroom competition for the most books collected.

Additionally, purple "Blessing of the Books" bins were placed in area businesses and locations in Tunkhannock so that the community could also become involved. Lou promoted this event



University of Scranton's Dean Debra Pellegrino seems overwhelmed by the number of books collected.

on his talk show and in print.

As the elementary schools were closing for the holidays, Rotarians Ron

SEE, "BLESSING OF THE BOOKS," PAGE 15.

BLESSING OF THE BOOKS (CONTINUED)

Furman, Terry Furman, Wayne Krause and Lou Jasikoff made the rounds of the four elementary schools gathering up all the books. They then had to carry the books up four flights of stairs to the third floor of Twig's Restaurant where the books were being stored.

On Jan 13, Lori and Jerry Bogedin, owners of Twig's Restaurant, hosted a reception on the second floor for representatives of the PCPS and organizations and businesses that contributed to or supported the book collection. Over 500 books were stacked throughout the room and under the Christmas trees. Lou introduced Dean Pellegrino, who thanked everyone for participating in this program. Rotarian Terry Furman presented the Dean with a book bag that was received in the collection that read "Every child deserves a good book".

Wonderland of Books

Lou then invited the Dean and the assemblage to join him on the 3rd floor of Twigs. As the Dean climbed the two flights of stairs, she noted that there were books stacked on every step. But she was not prepared for the wonderland of books that greeted her on the 3rd floor. As people climbed the stairs behind the Dean, they could hear her exclaim "Oh my God!" several times, and "I just can't believe it." Books were piled all over the floor, under and in the Christmas trees and on every available surface in the room.

After the reception, Lou Jasikoff interviewed several of the participants involved in the book collection on his internet radio talk show "Jasikoff & Friends" ([http://](http://twigscaferadio.com)



Tunkhannock High School Interactors are (from left) President Gabrielle Frigano, Vice President Dana Kuffa and Faculty Advisor Tommasina Fiorillo.



Lou Jasikoff with Dean Pellegrino and at right Jasikoff, Treasurer Sandy Lane and President Ron Furman with 200 children's books purchased for the Blessing of the Books campaign

twigscaferadio.com).

The interview ended with Lou talking with Dean Debra Pellegrino describing the founding of the Blessing of the Books program that is now in its 9th year (nearly 20,000 books distributed in the first eight years) and the next steps for the books collected.

Oh, in case you are wondering who won the friendly book collection competition between University of Scranton and the Tunkhan-

nock Area. The University collected 3,500 books. Tunkhannock Area collected 10,000 books (6,500 from the Elementary schools, 400 from the High School, over 200 from the Rotary Club and the rest from the community who responded very generously to Lou's call for action on

"The real winners are the children who will receive these books," noted Dean Pellegrino..



Sponsored by:



Hazleton Rotary
Presents

A NIGHT AT THE RACES



Saturday, April 16, 2016
J.J. Ferrara Performing Arts Center
212 W. Broad St., Hazleton
Doors open at 6 p.m.

Lots of Good Food—Eat Like a Horse!

Tickets are \$8 in advance; \$10 at the door
Limited number of horses available for sale @ \$10 each!
Winners take home \$50 !!!

Call Jason Brenner (570-454-8706) or
Jane Danish (570-578-6220) for details
...or ask any Rotarian.

Proceeds from the event support local projects such as Kidz Coatz, Dictionaries for 3rd Graders, Scholarships for High School Students, and funding for many local non-profit agencies.

Hazletonrotary.org

[The Rotary Club of Tunkhannock](#)

Winefest Uncorks Big Bucks for Local Causes

Due to the outstanding success of the October 2015 Tunkhannock Rotary Harvest & Wine Festival, the Club has been able to increase its support for a variety of community organizations.

During the Jan 14 and 21 Club meetings, checks were presented to several organizations, including: The Tunkhannock Public Library, the Dietrich Theater, H.A.N.D.S. (Helping Area Needs for Diverse Early Care and Education Services) of Wyoming County, the D.A.R.E (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) Program and the Tunkhannock Ambulance Association.

Additional checks will be distributed over the next two months.



At the Jan 14 meeting, Rotarian Kristin Smith-Gary, Director of the Tunkhannock Public Library, accepted a check at left from President Ron Furman for \$10,000 to fund various programs at the library, including a summer reading program. At right, Erica Rogler, Director of the Dietrich Theater, received a check for \$6,000 to support various cultural and youth programs at the Theater.



At the Jan 21 meeting, Annette Smith, Director of H.A.N.D.S. of Wyoming County, accepted a check from President Furman for \$5,000 to help fund a children's summer camp. At right, Rich Seaberg, Resource Officer for Tunkhannock schools, received a check for \$1,300 to buy T-shirts and provide a prize for the winning essay in the 5th Grade 10-week D.A.R.E Program.



Rotarian Mike Markovitz (left) accepted a check on Jan. 21 from President Ron Furman (right) for the Tunkhannock Ambulance Association to upgrade the lighting on their rescue boats.

Club Welcomes Junior Leadership Visitors

Dallas Rotarian, Representative Karen Boback attended the Jan 21 meeting of the Tunkhannock Rotary Club. Rep. Boback has been working with the Tunkhannock Area School Board to organize a Junior Leadership Wyoming Program to develop strong

SEE, JUNIOR LEADERSHIP," PAGE 18..

Rotary Club of Tunkhannock Election of Officers and Directors for 2016-2017...

Please congratulate our new officers and directors for 2016-2017 elected at the Dec 3 Tunkhannock Rotary Club Luncheon. Ann Way, President-elect for 2016-2017 will begin her term as Club President on July 1, 2016.

President-Elect (2017-2018) – Samantha Maruzzelli

Vice President – Don Streby

Secretary – Carol Ziomek

Treasurer - Sandra Lane

Directors (8): Norm Kelly, Karen Fuller, George Gay, Stephanie Holdt, Tom Kukuchka, Michael Markovitz, Bill Milligan and Matt Pompey.

[The Rotary Club of Tunkhannock](#)

Candy Cane Day Pays Off in Toys for Kids in Need



Mary Foley (Interfaith Friends), Ron Furman, Cindy Francis and Kelly Riley (Children & Youth) with a check brightened Christmas for local children.

In photo above (from left) Tunkhannock Rotarians John Proctor, Mike Markovitz (Candy Cane Day Chairman) and Don Streby, Interact President, along with Interactors Gabrielle Frigano and Chris Frigano collected money from shoppers at the Tunkhannock Walmart Plaza during the recent holidays.

On a relatively mild Candy Cane Day (Black Friday - Nov 27), Tunkhannock Rotarians, their families, friends and members of the Tunkhannock High School Interact Club were stationed in shifts at entrances to several shopping centers in town. They were collecting money to buy Christmas gifts for deserving Wyoming County children. Shoppers were offered candy canes as a thank you for their donations. This has been an annual event for the Club for for over 25 years.

As a result of the success of this year's Candy Cane Day, Tunkhannock Rotary Club President Ron Furman presented checks for \$1,000 each to Mary Foley, Executive Director for Interfaith Friends, and to representatives of Wyoming County Children & Youth. They'll use the money to buy Christmas toys/gifts for children in need or in foster care in Wyoming County, making Christmas a little happier for a group of deserving children.

JUNIOR LEADERSHIP AT ROTARY CONTINUED FROM 17...

youth leaders. This program is modeled after one that is ongoing in the Dallas Schools. The program is for select High School Juniors and Seniors, who will carry out a variety of leadership-oriented, community activities over the course of 6 months.

One of the activities for the students is to attend a meeting of a service organization, such as Rotary. Therefore, two of the students in this program (Kaitlin Markovitz & Thea Tomlin) were also in attendance at the Rotary Luncheon for: the presentation of the checks to community organizations, the business meeting and to hear Jon Buxton present on "From the Bahamas to Cape Cod in a Sailboat."

Previously, another student in the program, Ashley Wertman attended the Dec 10 Rotary Luncheon to complete part of her required activities.



Shown (from left) are Kaitlin Markovitz, Rep. Karen Boback, Thea Tomlin and Rotary President Ron Furman. Kaitlin and Thea attended on behalf of Junior Leadership.

THE ANNUAL
ROTARY CLUB OF THE
SMITHFIELDS

Beer Tasting

Friday, February 5, 2016 at 7:00pm

**Chateau Resort & Conference Center
475 Camelback Road, Tannersville, PA 18372**

Tickets \$25.00 in advance or \$30.00 at the door

For more information:

www.rotaryofthesmithfields.org
www.facebook.com/rotarybeertasting

smamorirotary@gmail.com



Rotary Club
Of the Smithfields

[The Rotary Club of The Abingtons](#)

Looking Back at the Scourge of Polio

Rotary Column, *Abington Journal*, by Eileen Christian, *Abington Journal* Columnist. The writer can be contacted at eileenchristian1835@gmail.com.

Our Rotary resolution each year remains the same, to end polio in the world. That resolve will continue until there is not one more case of polio on our planet.

The World Health Organization defines Poliomyelitis, commonly called polio as a highly infectious viral disease, mostly affecting young children. The virus is transmitted person-to-person or by contaminated water or food. The virus multiplies in the intestine, gets into the nervous system and causes paralysis. The first symptoms do not appear alarming at first with fever, fatigue, headache, stiff neck and pain in the limbs. When those symptoms grow worse, the patient is often left paralyzed. There is no cure for this disease only prevention of it through immunization through the Salk vaccine, a little pill that slips under the tongue.

Fifty years ago polio was considered one of the most frightening public health problems in the world.

In 1952 the United States epidemic was the worst outbreak in our history with 58,000 cases reported; 3,145 people died and 21,269 were left with disabling paralysis. The most famous victim of polio was President Franklin D. Roosevelt, who started the March of Dimes Foundation to develop a vaccine. First called the Mothers March of Dimes, women were encouraged to go door-to-door to collect dimes. I remember my own mother going to her neighbors and school drives where children placed dimes in large cards, all to end polio. The drive was really called the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, an organization which funded research for a vaccine.

Jonas Salk was a physician who gathered a skilled research team and for seven years worked diligently on development of the vaccine. News of the success of the vaccine became public on April 12, 1955, Salk was hailed as a miracle worker.

Countries around the globe started campaigns using the Salk

vaccine. Salk considered public health as a moral commitment. He was not interested in personal financial gain and would issue no patent, saying, "Could you patent the sun?" His focus was on a mandatory vaccination for every person. Rotary is still working on that in the remaining countries where polio is still a threat.

Great New from Nigeria

On September 25, 2015, the World Health Organization (WHO) announced that Nigeria is polio free and has been removed from the list of countries where polio is endemic. To get this status, Nigeria had to prove it had been 14 months free of any new cases of polio. That leaves only two countries, Afghanistan and Pakistan where the transmission of the virus has not been stopped. This accomplishment by Nigeria came about through large national and international financial commitment, and the dedication of thousands of professional volunteers who put together new strategies to reach children who had not previously been immunized.

With Nigeria now polio-free, Rotary's focus will be placed on vulnerable children from Afghanistan and Pakistan, while still continuing to immunize the children in polio-free countries.

Michael K. McGovern, chair of Rotary's International Polio Plus

HAZLETON...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12.

Beltrami; Joan Buffington sponsored by Kathie Oh; Joseph Meiss sponsored by Donna Barna and Charles DeCosmo sponsored by Ron Avellino.

For more information on the Hazleton Rotary Club visit www.hazletonrotary.org and/or the Hazleton Rotary Club Facebook page.

SEE, "POLIO," PAGE 22.

Rotary District 7410 2016 CONFERENCE



April 29 & 30

Mohegan Sun Conference Center
• Wilkes-Barre, PA •

the 2016 lineup...



District Conference Highlights Include:

FRIDAY - APRIL 29th

- 9am
Golf Tournament
- 1pm- 4pm
Educational Seminars
- 6:30pm
Keynote Speaker - Mike McGovern,
Rotary Foundation Trustee
& Paul Harris Recognition Ceremony

SATURDAY - APRIL 30th

- 2pm
Speaker - Kevin Cogan, Rotarian DGE District 7390
- 2:30pm
La Diva Dietitian - Marty Davey, MA, RD, LDN
- 6:30pm
Keynote Speaker - Nate Lombardi, Actor, Entrepreneur

SUNDAY - MAY 1st

- 8am
Breakfast with the Governor

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!

For a complete schedule of events and accommodations please visit rotarydistrict7410conference.splashthat.com



Is Your Interact Club Eligible for Presidential Citation?

Your Interact club is making a positive difference in your school and community. Make sure your members get the recognition they deserve by earning a Presidential Citation for your club.

Your sponsor Rotary club president must verify that your club has qualified for the citation by **15 April 2016**. He or she will receive instructions from RI for reporting the names of qualifying Interact clubs by 1 March.

Charitable Rollover Returns

The law that allows you to make a tax-free gift from your individual retirement account (IRA) directly to charity has been reinstated and made permanent! Known as the IRA charitable rollover, this law no longer has an expiration date so you are free to make annual gifts to The Rotary Foundation from your IRA this year and well into the future

The recently reinstated law allows individuals 70½ and older the ability to transfer up to \$100,000 from their individual retirement accounts directly to a qualified charitable organization without being subject to federal income taxes on the distribution.

Are you eligible?

You must be at least age 70½ or older at the time of the gift.

You may transfer up to \$100,000 directly from your IRA. This opportunity applies only to IRAs and not other types of retirement plans.

You may transfer the funds outright to one or more qualified charities.

The legislation does not permit direct transfers to charitable trusts, donor advised funds, charitable gift annuities or supporting organizations.

An IRA charitable rollover gift can satisfy all or part of your minimum distribution requirement, and is a great way to meet your Paul Harris Society goal through a gift to the Annual Fund!

Mandatory activities

Your club status must be active. Ask your sponsor Rotary club president to confirm your status in the Listing of Club-Sponsored Organizations report in [Rotary Club Central](#).

Work with your sponsor Rotary club on your activities throughout the year.

Additional activities

Complete at least **five** of the following activities between 1 July 2015 and 1 April 2016:

Participate in at least one activity that promotes international understanding.

Introduce your members to other Rotary opportunities for young leaders, such as [RYLA](#) or [Rotary Youth Exchange](#).

Participate in an event to build awareness of, or to raise funds for, the [polio eradication campaign](#).

Submit a video for the [Interact Video Contest](#).

Participate in a school or community service project or fundraiser that supports one of [Rotary's areas of focus](#).

Collaborate with one of [Rotary's service partners](#), such as YSA (Youth Service America).

Participate in a career day or mentoring activity.

Connect graduating Interactors with a university- or community-based Rotaract club so they can maintain their Rotary connection. Search for Rotaract clubs in [Club Finder](#).

POLIO...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20.

Committee said recently, "With a fully funded program and global commitment to ending this disease, we have the opportunity to interrupt transmission of the wild poliovirus in Pakistan and Afghanistan in 2016 and opening the door for certification of a global eradication in 2019. With Rotary members' continued support, we will soon see our dream of a polio-free world realized."

Every week when the Rotary Club of the Abingtons meets, the campaign for the eradication of polio continues. We have a container where loose change can be dropped, a reminder of the March of Dimes. As we partner with Rotary Clubs nationally and then internationally we are able to come up with a sizeable chunk of change. To that the Gates Foundation adds two dollars to every one of our dollars, increasing the original loose change to grow to the millions needed for immunization for every person in the world.

New Rotarians

Hazleton	Joan	Buffington
	Kimberly	Mazin
	Joseph	Meiss
	Betsy	Urzillo
Montrose	Katrina	Colvin-Stilts
Mountaintop	Christopher	Smith
New Milford	William	Townsend
Plains	Michael	Prushinski
Towanda	Aime	O'Connor
	Brad	Vasey

**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 — 2016 Club Data

Club	Total Mem	New Mem.	Attend.
Abingtons	64		
Athens	15		
Blakeslee	10		30.77%
Dallas	43		
Dunmore	16		94.00%
Forest City Area	12		58.30%
Freeland	8		
Hamlin	30		65.67%
Hawley	19		61.00%
Hazleton	86	4	57.56%
Honesdale	38		52.00%
Jim Thorpe	23		
Kingston	20		80.00%
Lehighton	10		73.00%
Mid-Valley	6		42.00%
Milford-Matamoras	23		
Montrose	22	1	67.00%
Mountaintop	16	1	64.00%
Mt. Pocono	16		
New Milford	13	1	
Newfoundland	39		62.88%
North Pocono	19		
North Scranton	26		75.00%
Pittston	13		
Plains	20	1	70.00%
Plymouth	22		70.00%
Pocono Mountains	21		
Sayre	15		89.00%
Scranton	38		0.00%
Smithfield	21		48.00%
Stroudsburgs, The	98		67.64%
Towanda	14	2	64.00%
Trail	13		62.00%
Troy	24		80.00%
Tunkhannock	66		48.08%
Weatherly	9		100.00%
Wellsboro	44		0.00%
West End	29		
Wilkes-Barre	30		
Winola	16		
Wyalusing Area	27		56.00%
Wyoming	18		48.60%



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
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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