



News from District 7410



2018

— Happy New Year —



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Letter from the District Governor

My Fellow Rotarians:

Happy New Year! Welcome to Vocational Service Month! In this month, we are asked to spend a little extra effort to promote this aspect of Rotary, which is often overlooked. This organization was founded on the basis of strength in the diversity of our professions and how we can use those skills to make our communities and our world a better place. I urge you to talk about this in your clubs. Take a look at your club's emphasis on Vocational Service. Do you offer a mentorship program? Have you promoted a Career Fair? Have you visited the businesses of your members? Does your club offer a business directory? If you need ideas, go to www.rotary.org and check out the Rotary Showcase and see what other clubs have done. This would also be a great opportunity to go to the district

website at www.rotarydistrict7410.org and update your professional profile. Also, this might be a great month to join the Rotary Means Business Fellowship! This might be a time to put an offer (for free) on Rotary Global Rewards from your business. There are plenty of ways to celebrate our professions, and I hope that you take advantage of them.

I am personally looking forward to 2018. We have recently lost some Rotarians, who were very active on the District level. PDG Ray Wilmarth, PDG Bob Wehe, Past AG Al Kobe, and Hamlin Rotary's Jeff Hathaway, passed away and have left a legacy for us to follow. We will not forget them, and we will continue to work to strengthen Rotary in Northeast Pennsylvania.

We are sending our best wishes to

CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE...

Rotary



**ROTARY:
MAKING A
DIFFERENCE**

DISTRICT GOVERNOR CONTINUES....

DGE Roger Mattes as he goes to International Assembly in San Diego this month. When he returns, he will be holding the Pre-PETS and Foundation Training events. It shows a great respect for our organization and our clubs to get training. The side benefit is that the training one receives through Rotary helps to hone skills that are applicable for your professions. I am always amazed at the skill set which has been my privilege to acquire through my 10-year association with Rotary. Don't forget to register for Rotary Leadership Institute on March 4, 2018 at www.rlinea.org. Rotarians are leaders, by definition, and this additional training helps to develop skills in organization, public speaking, strategic planning, and team building.

I also ask that you remember that the district conference is April 22-24, 2018, which is a Sunday through Tuesday, at the fabulous Kalahari Resort. Don't forget to ask for two days off now! Registration is open. We have a great line up of speakers and activities planned. Golfing will be on Tuesday, and the Memorial Service will take place on the first evening at sunset. We are seeking committee members for this year's conference. Watch your snail mail for additional information.

I wish for you a blessed and prosperous New Year!

Yours In Service,
DG Karin



Losing Two of Our Best on Christmas

We have lost two more active Rotarians in our district, both on Christmas Day.

First, Al Kobe, immediate past AG from Cluster 3, of the Honesdale Rotary, passed away on Christmas Day. I do not have service information at this time. He was a dedicated member of our organization and had high hopes of getting more active again. Sadly, this never came to be. I really loved our off-beat conversations, especially at District Conference.

Second, E. Jefferies (Jeff) Hathaway, founding president of Hamlin Lake Ariel Rotary, died after a short fight against small cell lung cancer. Jeff was always upbeat, loved to golf, loved his martinis, LOVED his profession as a veterinarian, and REALLY loved Rotary. The Hamlin Lake Ariel Rotary is planning to put together a memorial service for Tuesday, January 9, in the evening. I will post details as I know them.

Of course, PDG Bob Wehe's service is today at 3:00 p.m. with calling hours from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church on Main Street in Stroudsburg. It has been requested that Rotarians wear clothing/shirts that have a logo or a pin, just to show support.

With Sadness,
DG Karin



Rotary District 7410

Youth Conference

Sunday, April 22, 2018 ~~Kalahari Resort Pocono

This conference is an opportunity for youth around our district to have a day of team-building, group discussions, meeting new people, and to learn how to make a difference. The program includes presentations from young entrepreneurs, a top motivational speaker, and a US Congressman.



Agenda



- 9:30- 10:00 a.m. - Gathering and Welcome
- 10:00 - 10:30 a.m. - Team Building and Ice Breakers
- 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. - Breakout Sessions, Group Discussion, Club Project Presentations
- 11:30 a.m. - Bethany Kuster and Color For Kids
- 12:00p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Pizza Lunch
- 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. - Speaker Jeff Abella and project
- 2:30-4:00 - BREAK -
- 4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. - Youth Exchange Jacket Presentations
Congressman Matt Cartwright



There will be an optional Escape Room Activity on Saturday, April 21 in the evening. Attendees are eligible to stay at the Kalahari Resort for a reduced rate of \$199/night, which includes up to four water park passes per room. There must be at least one attendee per room. Attendees will be asked to bring art supplies to be donated to Color For Kids.

Registration fee: \$25.00 plus \$19.00 for the Optional Escape Room Activity

Contact Andy Lane Chapman at lanesix@hotmail.com or 570-470-9042 for Reservations or Questions

Rotary
District 7410



Karin-Susan Brwilanch
District Governor



ROTARY:
MAKING A
DIFFERENCE



[The Rotary Club of Tunkhannock](#)

Rotarians Celebrate Holiday with Their Families

On Dec 21, the Tunkhannock Rotarians invited family members to a celebration of the holidays at Purkey's Pink Apple. Although the Rotary moto is "Service above Self," this was a day for fun, fun and more fun.

After a special holiday lunch and happy bucks, professional storyteller and Rotarian Pastor Lou Divis ran into the room dressed like a child with pigtails, jumped up on a chair and did an amazing interpretation of "Twas the Night Before Christmas." Lou had previously enacted this tale at the 2017 Tunkhannock Library Christmas Show in early December to thunderous applause. Lou stayed in character throughout her performances until little Lou ran out of the room at the end.

After Lou, 11 members of the Tunkhannock High School Chorus under the direction of Tara Kasperowski, performed a selection of Christmas music for the entertainment of the members, their guests, the restaurant staff and the diners in the restaurant.

Although some of the songs were unknown to many, they

ended their performance with some traditional carols to which everyone was invited to sing along.

Following the choral performance, everyone wearing a Christmas sweater was assembled for the ugly sweater contest, except for officers Samantha Maruzzelli (President), Carol Ziomek (Secretary) and Sandy Lane (Treasurer), who had almost blinded everyone with their flashing lighted necklaces and multi-color flashing lighted head pieces during the luncheon.

Although there were a lot of competitors, many were eliminated as too traditional or too pretty. The three ugly Christmas sweater finalists were selected by judges Glenn Holcombe and Ron Furman (neither was in Christmas attire).

The placement of the finalists was determined by audience applause.

First place went to Mike Markovitz for his outstanding jacket decorated back and front by his daughter Kaitlyn.

Second place went to Ruth Gorski and third place to Norm Werkheiser (who incidentally was last year's winner).



"Little Lou" gets everyone into the spirit by reciting a Christmas classic.



Ugly sweater winners from first to third were Mike Markovitz (left), Ruth Gorski and Norm Werkheiser.



President Samantha Maruzzelli (left) with Secretary Carol Ziomek (center) and Treasurer Sandy Lane in their best Christmas attire. Yes, Carol's earrings also lit up with green LED lights.

[The Wyalusing Area Rotary Club](#)

Talented Teen Savoring His Time in Chile

Greg Boatman is a multi-talented young man with outstanding social skills, the curiosity to be willing to try just about anything if he thinks he'll learn something from it and the ability to make friends easily. These assets have all served him well after just four months as an exchange student in Chile. The Wyalusing Valley High School student who is sponsored by the Wyalusing Area Rotary Club is living just outside the mid-sized city of Valdivia,

“Valdivia is thought to be one of the most beautiful cities in Chile, owing to both its location (near the juncture of the rivers Calle-Calle and Cau-Cau) and its architecture,” Greg reported on Christmas Eve.

He said that there are a lot of people in that area of German heritage “who tend to be a bit taller than the rest of the country.” Since Greg is a pretty tall teen himself, topping six feet, he should feel right at home there — and apparently he does.

As a rural denizen from the tiny village of Herrickville in the Pennsylvania Northern Tier county of Bradford, Greg conceded that the most dramatic and exciting transition for him has been coping with urban life:

“I'm not sure it's so much of a difference between countries, but I think the biggest change for me has been the shift to living in a city. Before coming I had never stopped a taxi or a bus on



Rotary Exchange students in Chile with the flags of the countries they represent. Greg Boatman is the one wearing the stocking cap behind the U.S. flag. He poses at right with the flag of his host country.

my own, and now I do it frequently. In fact, with my host family being somewhat busy during the school year, I've often had to mobilize myself.

“It's been an interesting and exciting change. And fortunately, if I ever start to get overwhelmed, I always get to go back to my host family's house (in a more pastoral setting a few minutes outside of the city) where I have a connection to a more rural environment again.”

The summer season is approaching now but when Greg arrived in Chile near the end of



winter (late August/early September) it seemed to be raining much of the time.

“While rain is not very constant in the summer, I remember arriving in the winter and hearing rain tapping on the tin roof almost incessantly, sometimes soft and light, sometimes very hard,” he recalls.

Although they are now on a summer break from the school he attends in the heart of the city, the Instituto Inmaculada Concepción (Institute of the Immaculate



[The Rotary Club of Dallas](#)



: Several members of the Dallas Active Adult Center gathered for this photo

Seated from left: Sally Steinkirchner, Jean Duda, Laura Ryzewski, Joe Malak.

Standing: Director Nancy Restaino, Betty Karwaski, Lucille Wasilewski, Marion Blessner, Alf Malak, Don Stanczak.

Meet Tunkhannock's Newly Elected Officers/Directors

At the December 7 Annual Meeting of the Tunkhannock Rotary, the Officers and Directors for the 2018-2019 Rotary year were elected. Please join us in congratulating the new officers and directors, who will take office on July 1, 2018.

President: Mike Markovitz; Immediate Past President: Samantha Maruzzelli; President-Elect (President 2019-2020): Sandy Lane; Vice President: Ryan Visneski; Secretary: Carol Ziomek; Treasurer: Sandra Lane

Directors:

Jon Buxton, Norm Kelly, Patricia Ehrenzeller, Albert Noble, Karen Fuller, John Proctor, Ron Furman & Ann Way



Rotarians and friends hosted the 5th annual Christmas party for the Dallas Active Adult Center.

Seated from left: Eric Martin, Joan Martin, George Bacon, Kate Pitkat, Maureen Doerfler, John Doerfler.

Standing: Sandy Peoples, Santa played by Richard Burkhardt, Peyton Porch, Randi Teed, Kim Reynolds, Vanessa Botzman, Ted Horn, Art Peoples, Fred DiMaria.

Entertaining Our Young at Heart

On December 8th the Rotary Club of Dallas provided a beautiful Christmas party luncheon and gifts for 60 members of the Dallas Active Adult Center at Fred DiMaria's Appletree Terrace in Dallas.

They were entertained by Santa played by Richard Burkhardt and were led in the singing of Christmas carols by Rotarian Eric Martin.

Rotarians Team Up to Ring for Salvation Army

The Rotary Club of Dallas



Rotarians Tom Botzman and Vanessa Botzman from Misericordia University accept a donation from Dr. Glen Tellis (center), also from Misericordia, as part of their bell ringing tour of duty.

Enlisting in Salvation Army...

On December 8th and 9th several members of the Dallas Rotary Club rang the bells for the Salvation Army bringing in hundreds of dollars to help with their seasonal mission to provide a nice holiday for families in need.



Rotarians Joe Stager and Jon Pomrinke rang the bells in a snow storm in front of the wine and spirits shop on Rt. 309 in Dallas.

The Rotary Club of Hazleton



Rotarians Dr. Peter Spohn and Marie Ernst rang in the Holiday season by taking part in the Greater Hazleton Salvation Army Kettle Drive at Wal-Mart on Saturday, December 16th.

Lot of Hands in Hazleton...

Hazleton Rotarians/family/friends have been active participants in this annual project emphasizing the Rotary Club motto of "Service Above Self" for a number of years.

This year's project chair was Alan Whitaker. Store entrances were manned on behalf of the Salvation Army from 8AM-3PM.

Participants, in addition to Ernest and Spohn were John & Brenda Beltrami; John Sr. & John Patton Jr.; Bernie Rudegear; Dorothy Anderson; Terry Jones; Lew, Maura, Evan & Madeline Dryfoos; Paul Malone; Tim Genetti; Michele Ustynoski; Paul & Ella Oswald; Pat Ward; Pat Owens; Joanna Santiago; George Hayden & Daughter; Steve Seach, Esquire; Mary Malone; Joe Cammisa and Project Chair Alan Whitaker.

More Ringers on Page 8...

The Rotary Club of North Scranton



The North Scranton club braved the snow and cold to ring the bell for the Scranton Salvation Army on December 9th, 2017.

The Rotary Club of the Plymouth



Rotary Ringers in Edwardsville

The Rotary Club of Plymouth recently conducted their Annual Salvation Army Bell Ringing project at Kmart in Edwardsville. Pictured are Rotarian George Meeker, President-Elect Brian Vnuk and PDG Budd O'Malia.



[Rotary Club of Dunmore](#)

To Those Who Fought and Died on Foreign Soil

BY JIM DAVENPORT

It is the 100-year anniversary of our nation's entry into World War I. Dunmore Rotarians, discovered that there were no monuments in Lackawanna County that included each of the names of Lackawanna County residents who made the ultimate sacrifice during that war. And there was no publicly available list of names that we could find.

Club members decided to perform the necessary research to find the names of the 262 brave men who died from Lackawanna County.

The 9 a.m. ceremony on November 11, 2017 was covered by the Scranton Times, WNEP Channel 16 and WBRE channel 28.

Our program, attached, included inspiring speeches by PDG Congressman Matt Cartwright, State Senator John Blake and Majority Commissioner Patrick O'Malley.

We were overwhelmed by the generosity of our friends and neighbors and so many more that donated labor, materials and large checks. We installed 12x12-inch blue stone pavers with names of \$500-plus donors and 4x8-inch bricks for \$100-plus donors.



Our District Governor, Karin-Susan Breitlauch was kind enough to attend and accept our thanks for her leadership.

We are happy to share everything that we learned from this good project with you, our fellow Rotarians. Next year, 2018, is the 100 year anniversary of the signing of the armistice ending WWI. ***Other clubs in the district may choose to erect similar monuments.***

Good people asked us, "Why are you undertaking this expensive project?" Our research taught us that many of our brave soldiers were buried in France. We wanted a memorial to them on their home soil. They deserved it. We received letters from great nieces and a nephew describing their fallen uncles. Then there were grandfathers who survived, but "always suffered the effects of that experience." Sen. John Blake



showed us battle plans given him by his WWI veteran grandfather. I showed a picture of my favorite WWI pilot-my grandfather. This generation is close.

Why did we do it? I paraphrased Abraham Lincoln: "So the descendants of the fallen may read the names of their relatives on our monument, and reap the solemn pride that must be theirs alone to have laid so costly a sacrifice upon the altar of freedom".

We were honored to complete this work and would be happy to support other clubs if they choose a similar project.

[The Rotary Club of North Scranton](#)



Rotarians Pass Out Annual Donations to Local Causes

The North Scranton Rotary gave out their yearly donations on December 20th. A member from each organization was there to accept the donation and spoke about what their organization does.

SAVORING CHILE...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE FIVE.

Conception), he started going to school almost as soon as he settled in with his host family. The school day starts with a prayer at about 7:50 a.m. and ends about 4 p.m. Classes are much longer than in Wyalusing at about an hour and a half, and the schedule is different every day, he reports, confessing that “it took a while to get used to these changes.”

“Generally, school seems to be a little more rigorous here. However, I feel very closely connected with all of my classmates, and they have helped me out with any difficulties I've had.”

Then there is the Rotary connection, which has added to the excitement and adventure of those first four months.

“The kids in my Rotary District (No. 4355) are also a great group! We don't always get the chance to meet up as often as we'd like, but when we're together, we enjoy every minute. We milk the fun out of every second! We have three big trips this year. One of them we just had in

early December — a trip to Patagonia, the extreme south of Chile. Next, in March, we'll take a trip to the north and visit the Atacama Desert — the driest desert in the world. Finally, in May we'll take a trip to the famous Easter Island!”

Greg, a talented musician and performer at Wyalusing Valley High where he qualified for the PMEA's All-State Chorus and played lead roles in high school musicals his sophomore and junior years, hit the ground running in Chile. He sings with the school choir, as well as a local community choir, in Valdivia and even played in a rock band. He also plans on doing some sailing there, has practiced with the school volleyball team and plans to get involved with the Environmental Club.

“So far I've loved my experience,” he says. “I feel I've developed more independence and self-confidence. Furthermore, I feel very comfortable with the language now, which was one of my goals going into exchange.”



Our Clubs in Action

The Rotary Club of Dallas

Sending Kids on a Holiday Shopping Spree

On Saturday, December 2nd the Dallas Rotary Club invited 45 children on a "wishes come true" shopping spree at the Bon Ton in Wyoming. On the way to their shopping destination via a big yellow school bus provided by the Davis Bus Company, the children were treated to a free breakfast sponsored by McDonald's in Shavertown. Then they shopped for two hours at Bon Ton, followed by a party, with more gifts, sponsored by the employees of the store.

Several Rotarians and other volunteers came out to help the children purchase their gifts with a generous allowance provided by the Dallas Rotary Club. More than two dozen students from Misericordia University helped the children select their treasures, and students from the Dallas Key Club and Lake-Lehman were also on hand to help.

This was a day to remember because the children were so happy to take home their large bags of clothes, coats, boots and whatever else they needed for school. When the children returned to Wycallis, it was a joy to just stand back and watch the children all talking at once as they showed their gifts to their family members who picked them up.

The children's shopping spree and other Rotary projects are made possible by community members who support and attend their annual wine festival in June at the



Rotarian John Doerfler, center, helps Santa lead the children in singing Jingle Bells.

fairgrounds and their annual golf tournament in September at the Irem Country Club in Dallas.

This is Dallas Rotary's 91st year of service to the Back Mountain and 50 plus years of sponsoring the shopping spree for children.

The Rotary Club of Plymouth

Distributing Holiday Food Baskets For Dozens of Needy Families

The Rotary Club of Plymouth, in conjunction with the Wyoming Valley West Student Council, recently donated 50 holiday food baskets for needy families in and around the Greater Plymouth Area. The baskets were donated between Thanksgiving and Christmas. Pictured are Helen Karavis (JK's mom), Mike Chmoila(WVW student advisor), President JK, Rotarian Mike Klopotoski and numerous students who donated time preparing baskets for this endeavor.



[The Rotary Club of New Milford](#)

Year in Thailand, Paul Harris Highlighted

At its meeting on December 7th, the New Milford Area Rotary Club hosted Ben Galvin, a student from Mountain View High School, and his family. Ben spent the past year as a Rotary exchange student in Thailand.

He presented a slide show about his time there where he lived with three Thai families, attended a Thai school, learned to speak Thai and cook Thai food.

He became an accomplished badminton player, and traveled extensively in Thailand, Laos and Cambodia.

Also on the agenda was a presentation of a Paul Harris Fellow certificate and pin to Club President David Palmer by Rotary Assistant District Governor Norman Kelly. .



Milford Rotarians hosted Exchange Student Ben Galvin (center front) with mother, Karen Galvin, and sister, Holly. In back are Paul Harris recipient New David Palmer, AG Norman Kelly, and Jamie Galvin

Santa Comes Bearing Gifts For Head Start Kids



The New Milford Area Rotary Club brought the spirit of Santa Claus to the children of the New Milford Head Start Program on December 21,

.Twenty-seven students ages three months to four years each received a gift provided through the kindness and collaboration of a local business, the Olde Church Emporium, Jackson, PA. Pictured are Club Secretary John Reynolds serving as Elf helper to Santa Claus, a.k.a. David Palmer, Club President.

[The Rotary Club of Tunkhannock](#)

Improving Lives of Single Women with Children

Katherine Pohlidal, Director of Misericordia University's Ruth Matthews Bourger Women with Children (WWC) Program was a guest speaker at the Dec 14 Tunkhannock Rotary Luncheon at Purkey's Pink Apple.

Katherine described the WWC program, which was started in 2000 by Sister Jean Messaros, a Sister of Mercy and Vice President of Mission Integration at the University. The program empowers economically disadvantaged single women and their children to realize their full potential through higher education. The women must first be accepted into Misericordia and then can apply for the program that will provide them with four years of free housing and various types of assistance and enrichment programs for themselves and their children.

They can currently accommodate 16 single mothers and their children.

Women, who have graduated from this program, have become successful professionals and their children are going on to college.

Two of the women currently in the WWC program, Caitlyn Thomas and Regina Croto, related their own experiences in the program and the significant differences it has made in their lives and that of their children. They both acknowledged



Thomas, Regina Croto, Sandy Johnson (WWC Program Coordinator), Katherine Pohlidal (WWC Director) and Rotary President Samantha Maruzzelli.

the tremendous support that they have received from the staff and from the other women in the program.

Each of the WWC participants are expected to work at least 10 hr per week while studying full time to help meet their expenses for tuition and personal needs.

That does not leave much money to buy gifts for their children for Christmas. To help ensure that these children have a great holiday, Tunkhannock Rotary President Samantha Maruzzelli presented them with a check for \$500 to buy gifts for the children of the WWC participants.

Summer Camp Gives Kids Needed Assist

Recently Cathy Franko, Director of H.A.N.D.S. of Wyoming County, spoke to the Tunkhannock Rotary about their summer FANS camp. The six-week camp is for children 5-12 years of age from low income families or who have disabilities.

The children learn how to interact with each other, as well as, learn about nature, science, math, engineering, art (including sidewalk art) and more.

SEE, "FANS CAMP," PAGE 14.)

The Rotary Club of Tunkhannock



Cathy Franko (left) receiving a check for the 2018 FANS Camp from Tunkhannock Rotary Immediate Past President Ann Way.

FANS CAMP...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13.

They do yoga and learn about good nutrition and healthy lunches. There are also field trips, at no cost, such as to the firehouse to see the fire trucks, equipment and gear worn by the Triton firefighters.

There is always a fun outing for the participants near the end of their six-week camp.

Rotary provided \$5,000 toward the 2017 FANS camp, which enrolled 36 children.

For 2018, they hope to increase enrollment to 40 participants. As a result of the very successful 2017 Rotary Harvest & Wine Festival, Rotary presented HANDS with a total of \$5,000 toward the 2018 FANS camp.



Al Noble presents Jeannie Brady with her Paul Harris +4.



Karen Fuller receives her Paul Harris +3 from Al Noble.

Pair of Paul Harris Recipients

Two Tunkhannock Rotarians, Jeannie Brady and Karen Fuller, received Paul Harris recognition from Tunkhannock Foundation Chair Al Noble. Jeannie Brady received her Paul Harris +4 pin at the Rotary District 7410 Gala for Peace at the Kalahari Resort. Karen Fuller received her Paul Harris +3 pin at a Nov 21 meeting.

Candy Canes Result In Sweet Success

On Black Friday, Nov. 24, members of the Tunkhannock Rotary and the Rotary-sponsored Tunkhannock High School Interact Club collected monetary donations from shoppers at four locations in Tunkhannock (Gay's, Walmart, Weis and Tractor Supply Plazas) from 8 AM to 1 PM to buy toys for kids for Christmas. Shoppers were offered candy canes as a treat for their donations.

—Candy Cane Photos, Page 17—

This fund-raising activity has been undertaken by the Tunkhannock Rotary for more than 25 years. This year the candy canes were donated by Northeast Data. The volunteers were also very grateful for the hot coffee, cocoa and donuts provided by Dunkin Donuts.

Over \$2,500 was collected from the very generous public.

SEE, "CANDY CANE DAY," PAGE 17.

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[The Rotary Club of Hazleton](#)

Rotarians Take Kids on a Shopping Spree

It was a morning filled with the Christmas spirit for some lucky area youngsters and Rotary Club members and their families/friends who got together on Sunday, December 10th, at Boscov's for a special holiday shopping spree.

Sponsored and supported by the Rotary Club of Hazleton, the project is a co-operative effort by the Rotary Club, the United Way of Greater Hazleton and Boscov's. Over 30 children whose names were provided by the Salvation Army, Catholic Social Services and Commission on Economic Opportunity were given an hour to purchase gifts for themselves and/or family members.

Special thanks is extended to Boscov's for opening their store early for this community service project and for providing refreshments for everyone once the shopping was ended.

The following Rotary Club members, as well as some family members/friends, served as chaperones helping the shoppers:

Pat and Mike Korb, Corrine Chabot, Juleann Petrole, Ron Avellino, Tim & Michelle Genetti, Pat & Kathy Ward, John & Brenda Beltrami, Betsy Urzillo, Carla Thaller & Daughter, Toni Ruggerio, Lex Sloom, Joanne Santiago, Stephen Seach-Esquire, Rosalie Rudegear, Barbara Layne, Mark Ondishin, Marty Gallagher, Pat Owens, Michele Ustynoski and Donna Barna.



Speaking of Shopping Sprees— See the next Page...



[The Rotary Club of Jim Thorpe](#)



Continuing a Holiday Tradition in Jim Thorpe

For the 19th year in a row, the Rotary Club of Jim Thorpe has led the way to provide clothing for children in need in the Jim Thorpe area.

The process started by having counselors at five schools including Head Start and GED students (another club project) ask parents what clothing all the children in their family needed. These names and needs were consolidated by faculty members in the marketing classes of the Carbon Career and Technical Institute. Each child had an individual Foreman Mills bag paired with a list specifying gender, age, size, and type of clothing desired. Simultaneously, club members asked for financial support from various individuals and businesses. This year we were able to gather \$5050 from nine donors ranging from \$1500 from

an anonymous donor to \$50 from a local pharmacy.

On shopping day, December 11, 30 shoppers invaded Foreman Mills in Whitehall when they opened at 9 a.m. The "thrifty 30" included 8 club members and spouses, 16 CCTI marketing students along with 3 faculty and 3 volunteers. Most appear in the accompanying photo. By 1 p.m. we had purchased 871 articles of clothing for 109 children from 46 families averaging 8 items per child. After a 10 percent discount from Foreman Mills, the total spent was \$5595 for an average of \$51.33 per child. With an additional \$250 for wrapping bags, supplies, and pizza, the grand total came to \$5845. The remaining \$795 came from the club. But had the number of children been closer to the historical average of around 125,

the club's contribution would have been more.

The following morning, all 109 individual bags were brought to the Jim Thorpe High School where 19 National Honor Society students helped 5 club members put each stack of clothing neatly into holiday bags. Following a pizza lunch, bags were delivered to the five locations for final distribution to each family. Another pizza party will be scheduled for the CCTI shoppers after the holidays.

About 70 individuals and businesses chipped in time, money or discounts to make Christmas a little happiness. If you'd like to be part of this next year, (shameless request) send your tax deductible contribution to the Jim Thorpe Rotary Foundation, P.O. Box 103, Jim Thorpe 18229!

The Rotary Club of Tunkhannock



Shown from top left clockwise are the Candy Cane Day draws of Dan Gay (left) and Matt Pompey at Gay's True Value and the foursome of Jeannie Brady, Ann Way, Patty Ehrenzeller and John Proctor at Walmart Plaza. At bottom left, are the beneficiaries of the Black Friday fundraiser: Mary Foley, Mike Markovitz (center) and Howard Heise.



CANDY CANE DAY...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14.

At the Nov 30 Rotary Luncheon, Candy Cane Day chair Mike Markovitz presented checks for \$1,300 each to Mary Foley of Interfaith Friends and Howard Heise of Wyoming County Children and Youth to buy gifts for Christmas for deserving children in need or in foster care in Wyoming County.

New Members in Tunkhannock

Four new members were recently inducted into the Tunkhannock Rotary by District Membership Chair Ron Furman. Dan Gay (sponsored by George Gay), Maribeth Angeli (Marie Stevens sponsor), Kenda Peck (Dave Wilson sponsor) and Alison Messina (Maylene Gregory sponsor) were pinned by their sponsors or by President Samantha Maruzzelli, who also presented all new members with welcome packages and yellow work hats.



President Samantha Maruzzelli (left), George Gay, Dan Gay & Ron Furman



Anne Marie Stevens, Maribeth Angeli, Kenda Peck, Ron Furman, Dave Wilson and President Samantha Maruzzelli



Samantha Mauzzelli (left), Alison Messina & Ron Furman



Another Year,
Another Yule
Sing-Along



The Rotary Club of North Pocono



The North Pocono Rotary Club hosted their annual sing-along and dinner at Saint Mary's Villa in Elmhurst. From left clockwise, RYLA senior team leader Josh Danna playing a medley of Christmas Carols, and Rotarians lead members and guests, including St. Mary's Villa residents (below), in song.



The Rotary Club of the Abingtons

Doing Her Best to Make a Five Year Old Happy

Finding Real Superheroes for Christmas

BY EILEEN CHRISTIAN

At our Thanksgiving dinner held at the regular Rotary Club meeting at the Ramada in November, a paper was passed along for Rotarians to sign up to buy presents for children in the Early Childhood Program at the North Scranton Head Start School.

Only a few children were left when the paper came to me, so I chose a five-year-old boy who wanted super hero toys for Christmas. I thought of the many super heroes this boy would probably know all about, like Spider Man, Superman, and Iron Man. I wondered if anyone ever told him there were real superheroes around him every day. And they did not wear capes. Heroes like his mother

and father or like his teachers or the crossing guard. Heroes like the local policeman, or fireman. These super heroes have no ability to climb walls or fly through the air. They are ordinary people who do super hero jobs when a crisis comes. But all superheroes, whether real or imagined have the same mission, to help others in need.

I will buy presents for this child. Although I am not much good at picking out gifts for a five year old looking for a superhero, I will do my best. I am sure I will not find presents that show the fireman and policeman saving lives and I will have to resort to the imaginative hero dolls that can do anything. I will wrap my gifts with Christmas paper and tie them with ribbons.

On the appointed day, I will bring in my gifts for the chosen boy, only knowing his first name, his class and what his magic wish is. I will hope that the superheroes he wants for Christmas will inspire him.

The teachers from the North Scranton Head Start, the REAL super heroes, will be our luncheon guests. Lists will be checked to be certain that no child is left behind and every child will have a Christmas present.

Red Kettle Campaign

Besides the individual gifting of presents for the children at Head Start in Scranton, every Rotarian will take at least a two hour stint, stand in front of the Pennsylvania Liquor Store on Rts. 6 and 11, begging for pass-

SEE, "ABINGTONS," PAGE 20.

[The Rotary Club of Hazleton](#)

Third Graders Enjoy a “Defining” Moment

The Rotary Club of Hazleton has been purchasing and donating new dictionaries, annually, to area students since 2001. Third graders at all of the Hazleton Area Elementary Schools (Freeland is covered by Freeland Rotary) are the student recipients, as well as third graders from Holy Family Academy and Immanuel Christian School.

This is a yearly event done as a way for the club to introduce young people to the “wonder of words”. Many local children lack internet access, and these dictionaries give them all a common starting point, while making classroom dictionary exercises possible. Project Chairman Joe Lettiere says, “People think today’s youngsters only use computers and wouldn’t have a use for dictionaries, but we are finding that a lot of



Hazleton Rotarians Toni Ruggerio, President Toni Christman, Donna Barna and Carla Thaller delivered dictionaries to McAdoo Elementary School on Dec. 8th.

students enjoy the dictionaries and appreciate the ability to physically open a book and look up a word. It’s really neat to see their reaction when they first receive one.”



The Rotary Club of the Abingtons



ABINGTONS...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18.

ers-by to contribute to the Red Kettle project of the Salvation Army.

Veronica Dende is a new member of Rotary and she recently did her first two hour assignment at the Liquor Store collecting. She brought her two teen children with her, Chis and Kate Dende. She said she wanted them to see Rotary in action and she hoped they would get involved. She said that one person put money into the kettle and told her that when he needed help most, the Salvation Army was there.

Our Salvation Army Kettle program is once again headed by Gail Cicerini and Diane Calabro who monitor the money from the kettle; arrange for someone to be on hand to collect every two hours for every weekend in December; account for all the money collected for the Salvation Army and keep a steady flow of Rotarians ringing the bell for a great cause. We, Rotarians, have done this project every year for more than forty years. We are bolstered by the fact that no other service organization raises this much money for the Salvation Army and that all the money raised stays here, helping the poor among us.

Mountain of Christmas Gifts

Members of the Rotary Club of the Abingtons made Christmas a lot merrier for 63 children in the Head Start program. Shown with the mountain of gifts are (from left) Jess Davailus, Carol Walters of Head Start, Ryan Campbell, John Hambross.



Helping Out Food Pantry

Debbie Lohnes, Director of North Pocono Dry Goods, accepts donations from North Pocono Rotary Honorary Member Ralph Foytack. The food pantry has been struggling financially in helping needy families in Moscow and surrounding communities.

New Rotarians

Dallas Elaina DaLomba
 Pasquale Guarnieri
 Wilma Guarnieri
 Heidi Maning

Hamlin Sonya Verton
 Michael Verton

Honesdale David Green

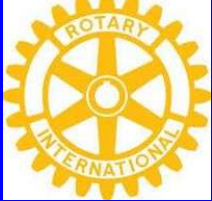
Pittston Nicholas Perez

Tunkhannock Alison Messina
 Kenda Peck

District 7410 — 2017 Club Data

Club	Total Memb.	New Memb.	Attend. %
Abingtons	49		47.96%
Athens	18		0.00%
Blakeslee	11		60.00%
Dallas	45	4	
Dunmore	13		70.00%
Forest City Area	14		
Freeland	6		
Hamlin Lake Ariel	32	2	46.12%
Hawley	23		
Hazleton	73		40.06%
Honesdale	40	1	42.00%
Jim Thorpe	22		
Kingston	25		
Lehighton	9		
Mid-Valley	2		100.00%
Milford-Matamoras	32		
Montrose	16		
Mountaintop	22		66.00%
Mt. Pocono	18		
New Milford	17		
Newfoundland	36		78.68%
North Pocono	17		
North Scranton	26		79.00%
Pittston	18	1	49.00%
Plains	18		40.00%
Plymouth	19		
Pocono Mountains	17		
Sayre	17		85.00%
Scranton	38		
Slate Belt Rotary	20		70.00%
Smithfields	23		39.58%
Stroudsburgs, The	101		
Towanda	12		
Trail	18		
Troy	22		
Tunkhannock	72	2	47.00%
Weatherly	10		
Wellsboro	44		
West End	14		
Wilkes-Barre	30		
Winola	11		
Wyalusing Area	24		
Wyoming Rotary	20		50.00%





District 7410

President – Rotary International 2017-2018

Ian H.S. Riseley (Victoria, Australia)

District Governor 7410 – 2017-2018

Karin-Susan Breitlauch

PO Box 700

402 Garfield Way, Saylorsburg 18353

Email: ksbvet@ptd.net

610-390-0351

District Officers

Roger Mattes, Jr., DGE 2018-2019

Email: matteslaw@epix.net

Karen DeMatteo, DGN 2019-2020

Email: karenandrotary@gmail.com

Marcia Loughman, IPDG

Vice Governor 2017-18

Email: madio@epix.net

District Treasurer

John Regula (The Abingtons)

Email: johnregula@aol.com

Newsletter Editor/Public Image

Wes Skillings (Wyalusing)

Email: wes@skillunlimited.com

Administrative Assistant

Newsletter Publisher & Webmaster

Brenda Allen

Phone: 570-767-1187

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. James Pierce (Hawley)

Maryandjim.pierce@gmail.com

Hamlin, Hawley, Honesdale, Milford-Matamoras, Newfoundland

4. Bill Skinner (Slate Belt)

skinww@gmail.com

Blakeslee, Mt. Pocono, Pocono Mountains, Slate Belt, The Smithfields, The Stroudsburgs, West End

5. Paul Brenner (Hazleton)

paul.brenner.54@gmail.com

Freeland, Hazleton, Jim Thorpe, Lehighon, Mountaintop, Weatherly

6. Joseph Loughman (North Scranton)

ctssm@epix.net

The Abingtons, Dunmore, Mid Valley, North Pocono, North Scranton, Scranton

7. John John, (Pittston)

johnj@goldenbusiness.com

Dallas, Kingston, Pittston, Plains, Plymouth, Wilkes-Barre, Wyoming

