

JANUARY 2025



A Message From:

DISTRICT GOVERNOR
Bill Skinner



Hello fellow Rotarians of District 7410. I hope everyone had a safe and wonderful Holiday Season and a great start to the New Year. Hard to believe that 2024 is over and 2025 is already begun. Time seems to go quicker now, but maybe that is just an age thing (as I smile writing that). Half our Rotary year is over. It has been a busy one so far and I know the second half will be also.

January on the Rotary Calendar is Vocational Service month. When we think of Vocational Service, we can think of many things that can come under Vocational Service. Our mantra "Service Above Self" can incorporate Vocational Service as a lot of what we do as Rotarians. Service projects that we do with the vast amount of knowledge and experiences we have in our Clubs can improve access for people to learn new skills and perhaps help them to find a new vocation.

Working in 2 of our areas of focus may enhance vocations in our communities. If we think about our area of focus of Basic Education and Literacy, there are some things we could do to increase our vocational service. By taking the skills of our Club Members, start a vocational training team to offer skills training in underserved areas. Offer vocational training and supplies through other non-profits, or a school that has no vocational training program.

Another one of our areas of focus where vocational training can be applicable is Community Economic Development. Using the skills of Club Members again, you could have appropriate members teach people how to create a business or mentor local entrepreneurs/business owners on improving their business. If you have the right members maybe even help an entrepreneur find financing or new hires if needed. Another Vocational Service opportunity.

As with all our projects we should be using them to further the Action Plan. Increasing our Vocational Service will Increase Our Impact, Expand Our Reach and perhaps Enhance Participant Engagement with Club Members. It is also an opportunity to collaborate with other Clubs with members of varying skill sets, and other organizations. Good tactics for the Action Plan.

Wishing you all a Healthy, Happy, Safe, and Prosperous 2025!

Yours in Rotary
Bill

District Essay Contest



December 11, 2024

Dear Club Presidents, Secretaries, and Youth Activities Coordinators

The time for the Rotary District 7410 District Essay Contest for 2024-2025 is upon us. The contest is open to students who are high school juniors or seniors. The goal of the contest is to gain visibility for Rotary in your community, and to foster student creativity and positive outlook.

The district winner will receive \$1,000.00. There will be a second place prize of \$500.00 and a third place prize of \$250.00. Each club may only submit one essay from each high school in its service area. It will be up to your club to judge your local entries, and to determine if there will be a local prize. Many clubs invite the local winner and his or her family to a Rotary meeting to read their essay and be recognized. It is also up to club membership to determine if a local winner should receive a monetary award.

A club deadline of February 7th, 2025 suggested. This year's theme is Rotary's Four Way Test, which guides all Rotary projects, including these questions:

-Is it fair to all concerned?

-It asks, "that we use empathy to see other points of view, in the context of problems to be solved."

-How can we use teamwork, inclusion, empathy, acceptance, belonging, and accountability to solve problems or achieve the goals we set?

The length of the essay should be 1,000 words. In addition, student names must only appear on a title page. Essays must be completed and saved as a PDF. Google Docs cannot be used for this contest.

If your club has made consistent contact with a teacher, school counselor, or administrator, I would recommend contacting that individual as soon as possible to request their participation. Essays may be submitted by the club chair as an attachment to my personal email, but only with Essay/Club name/Club Chair name/Student name in the subject line. Essays may not be embedded in the email.

Entries must be received by me on or before March 7th, 2025.

Please ascertain if the Student Guidelines and poster may be delivered to the school, or if they should be emailed. Those materials will be updated on the district website.

Thank you so much for your continued support of this Rotary District 7410 Youth Program.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Kate Farrell Kurosky, District Essay Chair New Milford Area Rotary

kfarrellkurosky@gmail.com (570) 309-8087

Polio Plus Society

HAZELTON ROTARIAN JOINS THE POLIOPLUS SOCIETY

Booty's Place Italian Restaurant and Pizzeria in Hazelton was the scene of a PolioPlus Society pin presentation on December 11, 2024, during the Hazelton Rotary meeting. Timothy Genetti District Governor Elect becomes a member of a growing society in the Rotary District 7410, now numbering fifty-one PolioPlus Society members. This unique group is dedicated to the elimination of vaccine preventable diseases in the world, especially Polio.

Fellow Rotarian and Rotary District 7410 Governor Bill Skinner presented the pin and welcomed Timothy as the newest member to this society. Only two countries remain endemic to the wild polio virus in the world, because of this long thirty-five plus year dedicated effort. The PolioPlus Society is a group of Rotary members and non-Rotary contributors who agree to donate at least \$100 to the Rotary Foundation's PolioPlus Fund each fiscal year.

If you would like to join this Rotary District 7410 PolioPlus Society, contact David Palmer at newmilfordparotary@gmail.com

District Grants



District Grants

Any Club expecting to submit a District Grant proposal for 2025-2026 must complete annual GRANTS MANAGEMENT TRAINING.

This training is provided by the District to certify Clubs to meet the Rotary Foundation's requirements for District Designated Funds (DDF).

The training also certifies the District to be able to administer local grants. This process ensures The Rotary Foundation maintains its financial transparency and anchors its 4-star rating with Charity Navigator.

Dates and Time

March 8, 2025	Sand Springs Country Club 10 Clubhouse Rd., Drums, PA 18222	10AM
<i>*lunch will be served</i>		
March 12, 2025	Hilton Inn 100 Adams Ave., Scranton, PA 18503	6PM
<i>*dinner will be served</i>		
March 15, 2025	Tri-County Insurance Agency 5513 SR6, Tunkhannock, PA 18657	10AM
<i>*lunch will be served</i>		

To qualify your club to apply for a grant 1 person from the club must attend:

- 1 In-Person Training
- 1 In-Person OR Virtual Training

Pre-PETS will be conducted following each Grants Training.

President Elects are highly encouraged to attend in-person.

Rotary District 7410 Polio Plus Application



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

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

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

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

E-mail or mail the donation acknowledgement you receive from Rotary International and this form to me the District PolioPlus Society Coordinator at davesolopalmer@gmail.com or Dave Palmer, 443 Mateer Road, Hop Bottom, PA 18824. Contact Dave for questions at 570-498-6637.

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

Name:

Signature:

Date:

Club Name:

Phone Number:

E-Mail:

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

Upcoming Events

Calendar

January 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 January Bingo	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 2025 Chili Cook Off (Hamlin)	20	21	22	23	24	25 Night at the Races (Slate Belt)
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8

- Board Meeting Event
- Club Event
- Club Meeting
- Committee Meeting
- Deadline
- District Event
- Fundraiser
- General
- Official DG Visit

[1/8 - Newfoundland - Bingo](#)

[1/19 - Hamlin/Lake Ariel - Chili Cookoff](#)

[1/25 - Slate Belt - Night at the Races](#)

See You There!

Don't see your event on the calendar?
Email jpoperotary@gmail.com for instructions on how to add it!

Submit to the Newsletter!

**Thank you to everyone who contributes to the
monthly Newsletter!**

Instructions to submit your articles and photos to the newsletter:

Please send submissions to the email box:

RotaryDistrict7410Newsletter@gmail.com

Please remember to keep your content:

- Simple & Brief, Limiting all articles to a total of 2 pages.
- Connecting to trending topics or events if possible

Also, please submit your newsletter articles in **one Word Document with photos attached separately, not in the body of separate emails or in the document.** This helps assure that all of your articles are included in the newsletter and nothing gets lost.

District Directory

**The 2024-2025 District Directory is available
to view on our website**

[Please click here to view a copy](#)

*The District Directory is housed under the
District Info drop down menu on our
website homepage.*



District Directory
2024-2025

Serving 11 Counties in Northeastern Pennsylvania, USA

Public Image Committee

Don't forget!

Visit the [Public Image page](#) to:

-Download a printable/fillable ["Connect With Us" business card](#) to pass out to prospective Rotary members.

-Find a link to take you directly to [Rotary Internationals Brand Center](#). Here you can create and download videos, images, brochures, logos, business cards, flyers and much more.

-Download a copy of the [District Directory](#).

-Download your [club logo](#).

CLUBS IN ACTION



Dallas Rotarians ring the bells for the Salvation Army

On December 13 and 14, more than two dozen members of the Dallas Rotary once again spent a December weekend taking turns ringing the bells for more than 12 hours for the Salvation Army. They raised hundreds of dollars to help the Salvation Army fulfill their mutual mission to serve others. Rotarian Ted Horn was once again this year's chairman of this annual event. From left: Todd Buckley and Jason Jolley.



Leggio's, Dallas to Host Boundless Playground Fundraiser

The Dallas Rotary invites everyone to join them on January 14th from 5PM to 8PM, at Leggio's Italian Restaurant at 64 E. Center Hill Road, Dallas.

Leggio's is hosting a dining event to help the Rotary raise funds for their Boundless Playground Project for children with special needs. The specially designed playground will be located on the campus at the Dallas Intermediate School.

Ten percent of the evening's proceeds will be donated to the Dallas Rotary Boundless Playground Project. There will also be a basket raffle with many creative basket themes to choose from.

Come and enjoy a delicious dinner, enter to win a basket, and help our children have a safe and educational place to play.

For more information, please visit www.rotaryclubofdallaspa.org.



Paul Harris Award

On Monday, November 25th, Club President Bill Rockafellow distributed \$1,365 each to St. Paul's Lutheran Church Food Pantry, Wallenpaupack Our Kids Food Pantry, and BVM Queen of Peace Food Pantry, for a total of \$4,095. Of that amount, \$2,400 was from a Rotary District 7410 District Grant, \$500 from the Hawley Club, and \$1,195 from community donations at the November 20-23 Club food drive at the Lake Region IGA. Additionally, the drive produced 10 doubly loaded shopping carts of food (about 1,200 pounds) for the St. Paul's Lutheran Church food pantry.



Salvation Army Bell Ringing

On Saturday, December 7th, The Hawley Rotary joined by WAHS volunteers Paige, Isabella and Miranda ring bells for the Salvation Army at the Lake Region IGA, raising a total of \$701.





Hazleton Rotary Inducts New Members

Hazleton Rotarians recently attended a new member induction at Booty's Place, Hazleton, December 11, 2024.

Hazleton Rotary held a new member induction at a special meeting on December 11th at Booty's Place, 1087 N. Church Street, Hazleton.

Past President Pat Ward called the meeting to order. President Alan Whitaker welcomed everyone and thanked Kathie Oh for organizing the event.

Paul Harris Awards were presented by President Elect Joan Buffington and Vice President Paul Oswald to Mark Ondishin, Michelle Genetti, Tim Genetti (4th) and Nina Bonus.

Dave Palmer, District Polio Plus Chair, presented Tim Genetti with a Polio Plus Society Pin which is given to recognize Rotarians who commit to End Polio by giving a recurring \$100.00 donation each year. Any Rotarian can join by simply filling out an application which Hazleton Rotary can provide to any interested member.

Rotary District 7410 Governor Bill Skinner inducted the following new members: Craig Bonham, Melissa Boham, Kevin Brobst, Peggy Durako, Michael Gaizick, Michael Larocca, Dishmey Lissett, John Niles, Michael Screenock and Laura Stancu.

District Governor Elect Tim Genetti introduced the group to the "ABCs of Rotary". "New members are encouraged to take advantage of their club membership and become active participants in meetings, fundraisers and special events, as well as, enjoying club social activities." said President Whitaker. "Congratulations and welcome to our new members! I'm so excited for our club and the growing potential to do more great things."



Christmas Shopping

Since 2012 Hazleton Rotary has been able to fulfill the wish list of 30 children, to help make their Christmas/Holiday more joyful.

This year we were able to provide a Christmas/Holiday party where the children were able to enjoy snacks, juice and opening a small gift given to them by Santa (Greg Kurtz). Santa brought a few helpers along, Elf (Kathie Oh), playing Christmas music on the piano Jim Kelshaw and a few Jolly Crew, Donna Dougherty, Anne Frey and Nina Bonus.

Special thanks to George Hayden and Neal DeAngelo III for graciously donating the use of the lobby at The Hayden Tower/Markle Building and to all of the Hazleton Rotarians who helped with the shopping and wrapping.

We wish everyone a very Merry Christmas!!!





Paul Harris Fellowship Award

On Wednesday December 11th the Milford-Matamoras Rotary Club presented Joe Kosierowski and Arlene Quirk with Rotary's Paul Harris Fellowship Award. The Paul Harris Fellowship Award is one of the highest honors Rotary can bestow upon a person. Recipients are Rotarians and community professionals, recognized for their outstanding contributions, exemplifying the highest ideal in Rotary in placing "SERVICE ABOVE SELF." Their commitment to excellence has been an inspiration to us all. Our club is very proud and thanks you.

Pictures left to right Shaun Burger Rotary President, Joe Kosierowski Member, Jamie Dykstra Member, Dean Quirk Member, Arlene Quirk Member and Shaun Burger. Milford Matamoras Rotary Club meets every Wednesday at 12:15 PM at the Dimmick Inn in Milford. Anyone interested in becoming a member contact Shaun at 570-517-6654 or come visit us at a meeting.



Rotarian of the Year

On December 18th the Milford Matamoras Rotary Club presented Bill Kerstetter with a plaque honoring him as the Rotarian of the Year for 2024. Bill has been a Milford-Matamoras Rotary Club member since 1988 and truly enjoys all the community service projects that Rotary has been involved with. Bill is the current Treasurer for the club and has been in this position for 19 years. The Rotary club is very lucky to have him as a member.

Milford Matamoras Rotary Club meets every Wednesday at 12:15 PM at the Dimmick Inn in Milford. Anyone interested in becoming a member contact Jamie Dykstra at 201-388-7107 or come visit us at meeting.



Club News

On Wednesday December 18th, Milford Matamoras Rotary Club presented Shaun Burger with a plaque honoring his 18 months serving as president of the club. Our local Rotary club has grown significantly and has helped a lot of people, and Shaun has shown true leadership and dedication. With pride and excitement, Shaun now passes the torch to Jamie Dykstra as our new President and Candace Mahala as Vice President.

Pictured left to right Candace Mahala, Shaun Burger and Jamie Dykstra. Milford Matamoras Rotary Club meets every Wednesday at 12:15 PM at the Dimmick Inn in Milford. Anyone interested in becoming a member contact Jamie Dykstra at 201-388-7107 or come visit us at a meeting.





New Milford Area Rotary Welcomes New Member

The Inn at Montrose in Montrose was the setting for the most recent new member induction on January 2, 2025. Saige Perry of the Borough of Susquehanna Depot was formally accepted to the New Milford Area Rotary club in the traditional form used to welcome new membership. Saige is a graduate of Susquehanna Community Schools and a current matriculating medical student pursuing a degree as a Doctor of Psychology. Saige is also an alumni of the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) program and a Rotary Rotaract member in college. Saige brings a welcome young adult attitude of service and devotion to community, which will enhance the New Milford Area Rotary focus on family health and disease prevention in the community. New Milford Area Rotary President Peggy Foster-Kelemen officially pinned Saige accompanied by Rotary District 7410 District Governor Bill Skinner and Assistant Governor Mary Tempest, at the January 2nd club meeting.

The club currently consists of thirty-seven members actively serving the community and world and welcomes new membership. Contact information can be found at newmilfordparotary@gmail.com.



New Milford Area Rotary Welcomes New Member

The Inn at Montrose in Montrose was the setting for the most recent new member induction on January 2, 2025. Thomas Cahill, co-owner of Lucky Dog Grooming and Pet Supply in Montrose, was formally accepted to the New Milford Area Rotary club in the traditional form used to welcome new membership. Thomas' membership is as the primary representative of the corporate membership of Lucky Dog Grooming and Pet Supply located on Main Street in Montrose. Thomas resides in Tunkhannock with his wife and children. Prior to opening his business Thomas worked as a Congressional Staff Member for a series of U.S. Congressmen representing the 9th Congressional District. Thomas brings a welcome attitude of public service and economic development to the community, which will enhance the New Milford Area Rotary focus on community development and service.

New Milford Area Rotary President Peggy Foster-Kelemen officially pinned Thomas, accompanied by Rotary District 7410 Governor Bill Skinner and Assistant Governor Mary Tempest, at the January 2nd club meeting.

The club currently consists of thirty-seven members actively serving the community and world and welcomes new membership. Contact information can be found at newmilfordparotary@gmail.com.





Plains Rotary Children's Party

The Plains Rotary held their annual Christmas party for special needs children. This was their 75th Children's party. The party was held at the Woodlands Inn in Plains. The Rotarians treated their guest to dinner and entertainment by strolling minstrels. The highlight of the evening was Santa giving each child a special gift. As the families were leaving they were given a gift bag filled with special treats and a Christmas ham.



Plains Rotary Supports WVCA

The Plains Rotary presented a \$500 check to the Wyoming Vally Children's Association in recognition of their help with the annual Christmas party for special needs children. The party was held at the Woodlands Inn in Plains. The Rotarians treated their guest to dinner and entertainment by strolling minstrels. The highlight of the evening was Santa giving each child a special gift. As the families were leaving they were given a gift bag filled with special treats and a Christmas ham. Pictured L-R are Buddy the Elf, Robert Esposito Club President, and Nina DeiTos Zanon Executive Director of the Children's association.





Rotary Club of Plymouth supports Salvation Army

The Rotary Club of Plymouth recently conducted their Bell Ringing project at Plymouth Hometown Market on December 14th. Rotarians and friends of Rotary weathered the cold to raise need monies for the Salvation Army and their projects. Pictured left to right are Sherry Cordes, Brian Dubaskas(Rudolph) and Susan Dubaskas.





Club News

We had our annual Salvation Army Bell Ringing, our annual holiday party with our Paul Harris award recipients, Satellite's 10th yr Anniversary, a white elephant gift exchange, an ugly sweater contest and a birthday song for Pres. Stacy.

ESASD Purple Pantry

A last minute request came from Kate Lee the organizer of the ESASD Purple Pantry.

A few years ago Sanofi installed water refillable stations at the school.

Stroudsburgs Rotary grant & a semi match from the District was used to help get rid of the stigma of poverty and provide all students at the school with water bottles imprinted with their logo and the Rotary logo. Pres. Stacy Rodriguez and V.P. Mike Raub along with help from the students, handed out the majority of custom water bottles to the ESASD students at their pep rally right before Christmas break. The Purple pantry is very conscientious to make everyone feels welcome to receive food or supplies. The water bottle grant was one more way to help students be in the same playing field and also help save the environment from the over consumption of plastic.

Stroudsburgs Rotary District Grant - ESASD PURPLE PANTRY



Service Project

Thank you, PA Polio Network and Rotarian Leslie Underhill for spearheading the service Project of the Preparation of the Pediatric Vaccine Information Packets for daycare centers and doctor offices. All materials received were funded by the PAAAP and the PA Immunization Coalition, through a grant received by the PA Polio Survivors Network. Thank you Polio survivor Carol Ferguson for sharing this project with us. We have 550 packets ready to be delivered and an additional 200 in the works. This project supports Rotary's focus on disease prevention.



Christmas Food Boxes

Rotarians Leslie Underhill and Gene Prospero were able to volunteer some time to Valor and assisted in the preparation & delivery of 530 Christmas food boxes including turkey and all the trimmings for our community Veterans.

Valor Food Drive - boxing and delivering



Stroudsburgs Interact President
Aimee Garcia &
Advisor Moira Loughman



At the end of the month we had our annual Red Cross Blood Drive in honor of Past Rotarian Bob Wehe.

Stroudsburgs Interact President Aimee Garcia and Interact Advisor Moira Loughman spoke at our lunch meeting and shared their experiences with us. Their latest fundraising effort was: "CAN THE PRINCIPAL" FOOD DRIVE....thank you Ms. Loughman and SHS's Interact Club for once again doing their annual food drive for those in need during the holiday season and beyond. The high school collected nearly 1500 food items that filled Principal Sodl's office for PVEN. Great job giving back to the community SHS!



Stroudsburg High School:



HAPPY
NEW YEAR
2025