



# News from District 7410

Welcome...

March, 2019



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## Letter from the District Governor:

April is one month away and that means that our District Conference will soon be here. Your District Conference Committee, headed by Tim Genetti, has been working hard to bring to you a thoroughly enjoyable and affordable conference. The Annual District Conference is set for April 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> in Scranton at the historic Lackawanna Station. For more information on the District Conference please see the related article in this newsletter.

I am pleased to announce that your district is inaugurating a new program for every club to obtain a brand new retractable vinyl club banner. It is our intention that every club will have new modern club banners that they can display at any and all club functions. The banners will be custom made by the Russell Hampton Co. at a substantial district discount negotiated by you district leadership. The driving force behind this program is the realization that many of our clubs have either lost their banners or have faded, worn out, moth-eaten felt banners which project an image of age and decay. These new ban-

ners should spruce up your meetings a little, and project a more professional, modern appearance.

We have made great strides in reconciling the membership discrepancies with Rotary International. For years the districts membership rosters have been at odds with R.I. We have now identified all the discrepancies and are in the process of correcting R.I.'s records. This will need some help from the club secretaries, but should be fairly easy to complete now that we know where the mistakes are.

Last month's message was a little depressing, but necessary. Our membership must increase if our district is to remain viable. I'm asking every Rotarian to seek out and invite one prospective member this month. Make a point to invite people outside of your inner circles to Rotary events. Thank you!

*Roger*

## District Conference



This year's conference will be held at the historic Radisson at Lackawanna Station in Scranton on April 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. This year's theme is "History & Heritage". Come celebrate our past, as we forge into the future.

For years our members complained that the registration was too expensive, especially for our younger members, that the cost of hotel rooms was too high, that the distance of the conference in the Poconos was too far, that the speakers were unknown, that there was no time to socialize, that the conference was too long, the topics were boring, there was no entertainment, there was no fun, etc., etc., etc.

Well we listened!

This year the registration fee is only \$99!!

That includes two dinner banquets, a lunch buffet, a late

*SEE, "DISTRICT CONFERENCE," PAGE 18.*

[The Rotary Club of the Abingtons](#)

### CHARITABLE GIVING



The Rotary Foundation is our charitable arm. It is our life's blood! Every single project we do, which receives funding from R.I., either through Global Grants or District Grants, is done with the contributions we make to the Foundation.

Half of every dollar given is returned to our district. Simply put, the more we give, the more



we get.

We are now nearly three-fourths of the way through our fiscal year 2018-2019. Mary Ellen Bentler, our Foundation chairperson has reported that so far this year our Foundation giving has only reached \$44,000. This is less than half of our normal Foundation giving.

Giving to Rotary is so easy. It can be done simply by going online to [www.myrotary.com](http://www.myrotary.com) and clicking a button marked "DONATE". Every dollar donated will go towards your Paul Harris points, and will be credited towards your club's annual giving. You can make it simpler by signing up for automatic monthly payments in any denomination you choose. Less than ten dollars a month would fulfill your Every Rotarian; Every Year (EREY) commitment, and less than twenty dollars a week could earn a Paul Harris Fellowship in a year.

Please consider giving to the Rotary Foundation. It's time we all put our money where our heart is.



### DA Explains Opioid Crisis

At last Thursday's Rotary Club of the Abingtons meeting Lackawanna County District Attorney Mark Powell addressed the opioid epidemic in our area. He included the many coalitions that are working together. They include law enforcement, school districts and the drug court. The questions portrayed the deep concern that we have for this pervasive crisis.





Pictured from left are Harry Faux, FVFC President; Gregg Barber; FVFC Fire Captain & Secretary; Phil Saxton; FVFC Treasurer; David "Trapper" James, Benton Twp. Lions Club Treasurer; Dave Grunza, FVFC Vice President; Tony Saxton, FVFC Chief; Lisa Logan Clough, Trail Rotary Secretary; Mike Halmo - FVFC Trustee & Firefighter; Heinz Hoffmann, Trail Rotary Asstant Treasurer; Beverly Michaels, FVFC Life Member and Ladies Auxillary President, and Firefighter Andrea Halmo.

[The Rotary Club of New Milford](#)

## Powering Up Fire Station for Emergencies

Members of the Fleetville Volunteer Fire Company of Benton Township,, the Trail Rotary Club and the Benton Township Lions Club gathered for a check presentation on February 5 for funds earmarked towards the purchase and installation of a 20kw Generac Generator for the fire station.

The Trail Rotary, having provided support to community projects and organizations within the Lackawanna Trail School District, called upon the Fire Company and Lions Club to offer suggestions that would most benefit the citizens of Benton Township. Collectively, a generator located at the Fleetville Volunteer Fire Company Station to ensure the automatic delivery of



Pictured from left are Gregg Barber, FVFC Fire Captain & Secretary; David "Trapper" James, Benton Twp. Lions Club; Lisa Logan Clough, Trail Rotary Secretary, and Heinz Hoffmann - Trail Rotary Asst. Treasurer.

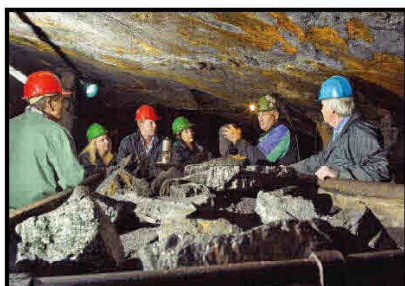
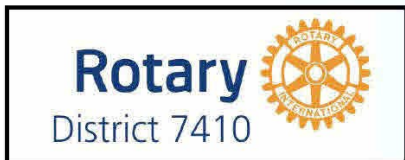
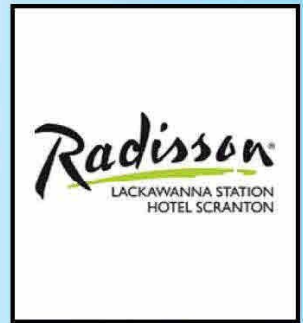
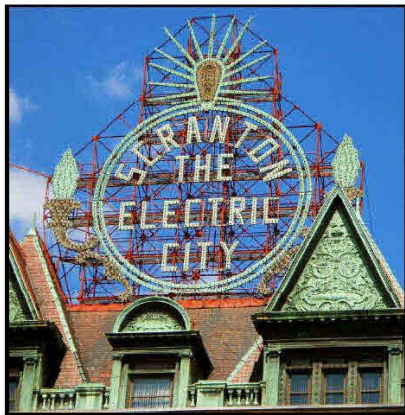
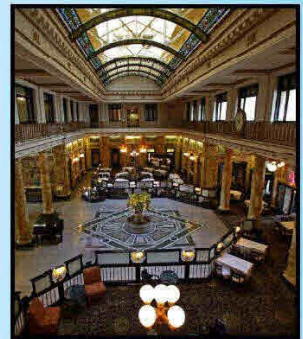
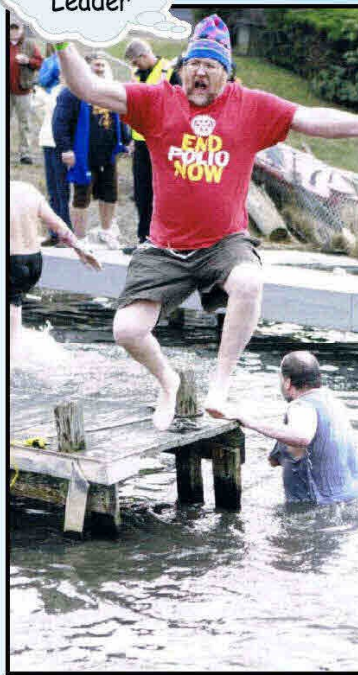
SEE, "FLEETVILLE FIRE," PAGE 6.





# THE FUTURE OF ROTARY IS IN YOUR HANDS

Our Fearless Leader



**District 7410 Annual Conference**  
Friday, April 5th & Saturday April 6th

**Hotel Reservations**  
Radisson Lackawanna Station Hotel  
700 Lackawanna Ave, Scranton

**\$105.00**  
*per night plus tax*

**Call (800) 333-3333 for room reservations**  
**code is DISROT**  
**or Online at [www.radisson.com/disrot](http://www.radisson.com/disrot)**





# Rotary



**THE FUTURE OF ROTARY  
IS IN YOUR HANDS**

## Registration Form

Rotarian Name \_\_\_\_\_ Name for Badge \_\_\_\_\_ Club \_\_\_\_\_

Guest Name \_\_\_\_\_ Guest Name for Badge \_\_\_\_\_

Rotarian E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Rotarian Phone \_\_\_\_\_

## Pricing & Packages

Package Description	Pricing until March 4th	Pricing March 5th or after	TOTAL DUE
<b>Total Package</b> (All meetings & meals on Friday & Saturday)	WDW 1 \$ 95.00 Limit for the first 100 registrars \$135.00 after	\$ 175.00	\$ _____
<b>Friday Only</b> (all meetings & dinner on Friday only)	\$ 55.00	\$ 65.00	\$ _____
<b>Saturday All Day</b> (All meetings, lunch & dinner on Saturday)	\$ 80.00	\$ 90.00	\$ _____
<b>Coal Mine Tour</b>	\$ 10.00	\$ 15.00	\$ _____
<b>Saturday Lunch Only</b>	\$ 30.00	\$ 35.00	\$ _____
<b>Saturday Banquet Only</b>	\$ 55.00	\$ 65.00	\$ _____
<b>Per room Credit for staying at hotel</b> (only 1 per hotel room)	\$ -6.00 per night	\$ -6.00 per night	
<b>Meal Plans</b> (please check one) <input type="checkbox"/> Regular <input type="checkbox"/> Gluten Free <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetarian			<b>TOTAL DUE</b> \$ _____

**Register Online: [www.RotaryDistrict7410.org](http://www.RotaryDistrict7410.org) Register by mail to - Rotary District 7410  
4052 State Route 706, Montrose PA 18801, Attn. Brenda  
Questions? Email Timothy Genetti at [tgenetti7410dc@gmail.com](mailto:tgenetti7410dc@gmail.com)**

## Schedule of Events

### FRIDAY, APRIL 5th, 2019

- 11:00 am - 6:00 pm - Registration begins
- 11:00 am - 7:00 pm - House of Friendship
- 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm - Rotary In Action
- 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm - Breakout Sessions Helping your Rotary Club
- 5:45 pm - 6:15 pm - Welcome
- 6:15 pm - 6:45 pm - Memorial Service
- 6:45 pm - 7:45 pm - Cocktail Hour
- 7:45 pm - 9:45 pm - Dinner
- 10:00 pm - Special Dessert & Cordials Banquet

### SATURDAY, APRIL 6th, 2019

- 8:00 am - 6:00 pm - Registration begins
- 8:00 am - 7:00 pm - House of Friendship
- 8:30 am - 9:15 am - Rotary Means Business / Business Card Exchange  
Free Mimosa or Bloody Mary
- 9:30 am - 10:30 am - Great Local Rotary Community Projects
- 9:30 am - 12:00 pm - Optional Coal Mine Tour
- 10:45 am - 11:30 am - Breakout Sessions Learning about District 7410
- 11:45 am - 2:00 pm - Lunch Buffet
- 2:15 pm - 3:30 pm - Youth program and Velarie Wafer
- 3:45 pm - 4:30 pm - Running a wine festival / Free wine tasting
- 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm - Cocktail Hour
- 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm - Dinner
- 9:00 pm - ??? - Hospitality Suite



[The Rotary Club of Tunkhannock](#)

## *Stepping Up to Find Cure for Spinal Cord Paralysis*



**Kevin Kitchnefsky**

### ***FLEETVILLE FIRE...***

*CONTINUED FROM PAGE THREE.*

power during any outage was the winning idea. This generator will not only provide uninterrupted power to the station for the apparatus and communications during these outages in the event of an emergency call, it will also serve as a resource for Benton Township residents to come to during these outages to meet their needs.

The joint project between The Fire Company, The Trail Rotary Club and the Benton Twp. Lions Club will split the costs of the unit and installation, contributing roughly \$2,500 each towards the project. Additionally, installation, labor and expenses is being donated and set up by Jack Curtis of Curtis Plumbing, Heating & Electrical in Peckville.

"It is wonderful to see local, civic-minded organizations come together for such a deserving item for the Fleetville Volunteer Fire Company and the residents on Benton Township." noted a Trail Rotary spokesperson.

The guest speaker at the Tunkhannock Rotary Luncheon on Feb 14 was Kevin Kitchnefsky, who is the founder of the Kevin Kitchnefsky Foundation for Spinal Cord Research (<https://www.themiamiproject.org/>).

His inspiring presentation started with a heart wrenching 10-minute video on the Miami Project to Cure Paralysis, which showed not only some of the rehabilitation work and research they are doing, but the ways that some people became paralyzed, including gymnastic accidents and car crashes.

Kevin has been paralyzed from the chest down since a work accident in 1996 in New Jersey. Twenty-seven improperly stacked pieces of chain link fencing (weighing 2,700 lbs), which slid off a truck pinning him against the tractor-trailer, resulting in his sustaining half a dozen broken vertebrae and damaging his spinal cord.

The doctors at the hospital told him there was only a one percent chance of his ever walking again. However, he is determined to get out of his wheelchair one day. Kevin is a quadriplegic, so he does not have full use of either his arms or legs. His legs are completely paralyzed, and he has only limited use of his arms.

After leaving the hospital, he came home to Tunkhannock to recover. Instead of just feeling sorry for himself, in 2000 he started a Foundation, the Kevin Kitchnefsky Foundation for Spinal Cord Research.. They raise funds for research into a cure for paralysis brought on by spinal cord injury. Between 70 and 80

***SEE, "SPINAL INJURY," PAGE 8.***



# NIGHT AT THE Races

SUNDAY • APRIL 7, 2019

Start time 4:00 <sup>P</sup><sub>M</sub>  
Post time @ 5:30 <sup>P</sup><sub>M</sub>

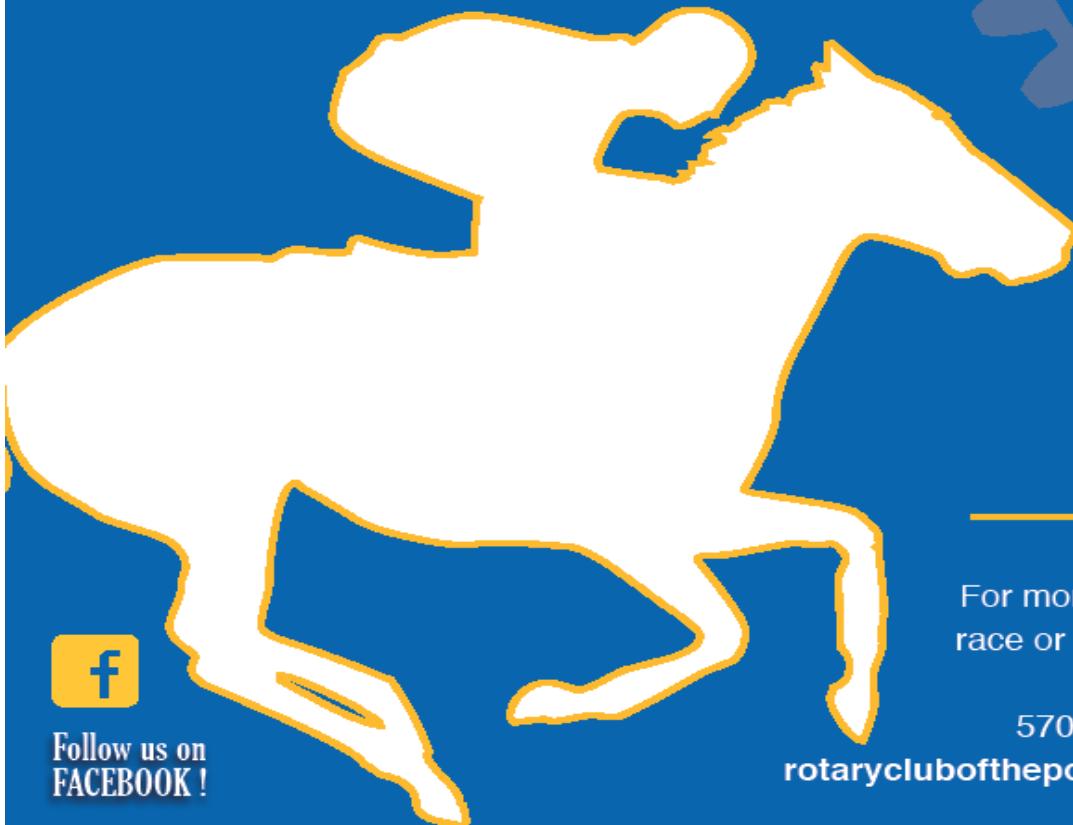
\$5  
suggested  
donation

Hosted @ The Pour House

RT. 390, MOUNTAINHOME, PA

Everyone is invited!

Enjoy a fun and exciting night of horse racing and raffles.  
Come out and play! It's easy... no experience needed!



Benefits Rotary of the  
Pocono Mountains

For more info on sponsoring a  
race or buying a horse contact

**Annie Messina**

570.590.6494 or visit us at

[rotaryclubofthepoconomountains.com](http://rotaryclubofthepoconomountains.com)



Follow us on  
FACEBOOK!



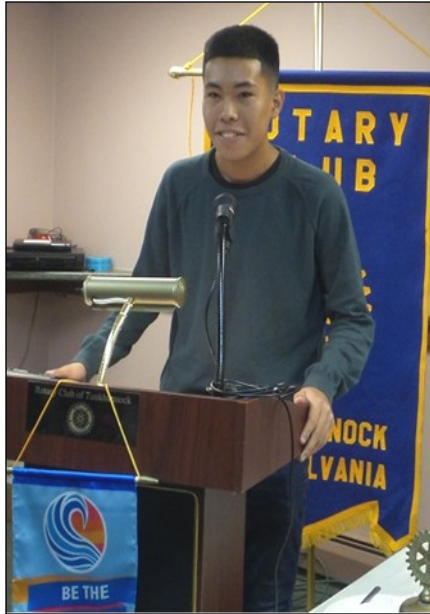
## The Rotary Club of Tunkhannock

### Club Welcomes Peruvian Exchange Student

At Tunkhannock Rotary's Valentine's Day Luncheon, the club had the pleasure of welcoming Kike (Enrique), our new inbound exchange student from Peru. Although he flew out from Lima Peru on Monday, due to delays and stops in Atlanta and Philly, he did not arrive in Scranton until Wednesday. It was his first time traveling by plane, so it was quite an experience for a novice flyer.

Since the club luncheon was on Thursday, it was an exhausted Kike who attended the club meeting on Thursday. He is staying with the Kozloski Family (Steve, Tami and son Kyle), who are also the new host family for our Polish inbound exchange student Andrzej Swietek.

Please join us in welcoming Kike to Rotary District 7410.



Kike speaks at luncheon.



### Dallas Interact Officers Give Progress Report

At a recent meeting of the Rotary Club of Dallas, the guest speakers were the officers from the Lake Lehman Interact Club who came to tell the Rotarians what is happening with their group. Interact Clubs are sponsored by Rotary Clubs who support, energize and inspire young leaders ages 12 to 18 through service and encourage them to become responsible citizens.

The Interact officers presented an articulate and well prepared program on the progress and successes they have made this year. They thanked the Dallas Rotarians for their support and itemized this year's events, fundraisers and projects designed to help others. Their 32 members meet every Monday after school. Two of their group recently attended Rotary Youth Leadership Camp and that sparked the interest for them to want to get involved in an Interact Club to help their community.

From left: Rotary advisers Jason Jolley and John Doerfler, and Dallas Rotary Club President Kim Reynolds; Interact officers Secretary Madison Lasinksi, President Maclyn Vasey; Vice President Lily Wood, Treasurer Morgan Masters.

### SPINAL INJURY...

*CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6.*

percent of the money they raise is used to fund research grants (Research K Grants) to leading research organizations such as the Miami Project. Between 20 and 30 percent of the money is passed on to NEPA residents (Individual K Grants), who need financial assistance due to spinal cord injuries or to organizations dedicated to helping serve these individuals. The Foundation has raised over \$600K to date.

Their two major annual fundraiser events are their Golf Tournament Fundraiser that is held at the Stonehedge Golf Course and the October HarvestFest Fundraiser for families and children at Tunkhannock's Triton Fire House. They are currently looking for business & corporate sponsors for this summer's Golf Tournament and, of course, teams to participate.

#### Every Day's a Challenge

In response to a question from President Mike Markovitz, Kevin briefly described some of the daily challenges with being paralyzed and living in a wheel chair all day.

He needs assistance doing many things able bodied individuals take for granted like dressing themselves, cooking their meals, etc. Bathroom functions are a challenge.

He does physical therapy every day. He has family and a professional aide to help him meet many of the challenges of daily living, but he admits that he does have his bad days.

He makes it through those days by realizing "there are people worse off than him".

The Rotary Club of Hazleton

# Interact Club Using Grant to Help Homeless and Seniors

A \$1,000 Hazleton Rotary Community Service Grant was awarded to the MMI Interact Club to use towards buying materials needed in completing their project that will help protect those in the area who could use an extra layer of warmth.

Interact club is a service club for youth ages 12 to 18 and is part of Rotary International, the world's first service club organization. Individual Rotary clubs sponsor the youth component, Interact clubs, by providing guidance and support. The first Interact club was founded in 1962.

Interact involves as many as 200,000 youth through more than 10,000 clubs in 109 countries and geographical areas. Each club varies according to its membership makeup. An Interact club may derive its membership from a single school or combine students from more than one school in a particular community. The size of Interact club memberships varies, as well. Members are known as Interactors.

The MMI Interact club has been in existence since 2002 and is sponsored by Hazleton Rotary and Freeland Rotary Clubs. It currently



**Kim McNulty (left), Hazleton Rotary Club Project Chairperson, and Jessica McClellan, MMI guest speaker, with Alan Whitaker, Rotary Club President-Elect.**

has 28 members

dent.

“We decided to do this project because the club wanted to distribute something of need to the elderly and homeless in our local community. Making these blankets, by hand, adds a personal touch, so hopefully, the recipients realize that others in the community care for their well-being, as well.” explains Jessica McClellan, club Presi-

dent. “We are really excited that this grant will allow us to buy enough material needed to make about 500 blankets and we hope to be able to complete the project and deliver the blankets as soon as we can.” Jessica continues. “We look forward to serving the community just as the Rotary Clubs have done for many years with all of their efforts.”



## May March Bring You... The Luck of the Irish





## NOT JUST ANOTHER AUCTION

PRESENTED BY: THE ROTARY CLUB OF THE STROUDSBURGS

Dear Sponsors,

The Rotary Club of the Stroudsburgs "Not Just Another Auction" is right around the corner again, March 14, 2019 at the Shawnee Inn & Golf Resort from 5:30-9:30 pm. The evening will feature a combination Silent & Live Auction coupled with live Irish entertainment, dinner, drinks, fellowship & fun.

All funds raised from this event will directly fund local & international projects of the Rotary Club of the Stroudsburgs through the Stroudsburg Rotary Foundation, our local 501(c) 3 corporation! Your support through funding a sponsorship is greatly needed for us to achieve our goals. Please consider one of our Sponsorship levels outlined as noted.

The focus of this year's effort will be on supporting education initiatives where we hope to build on last year's efforts. Based on this year's initiative the Rotary Club has named Sharon Laverdure, retired Superintendent of the East Stroudsburg School District, as this year's recipient of the Buzz Bensinger Award. Money raised from this event last year helped to fund college scholarships for high school seniors, GED equivalency and citizenship tutoring through the Eastern Monroe Public Library, and programs managed by Developmental Educational Services.

**With your help we can make a difference locally!**

Thank you for your support!

Jeff Gilbert, Not Just Another Auction Chair

*We ask that you provide .jpeg artwork or a business card to [notjustanotherauction@gmail.com](mailto:notjustanotherauction@gmail.com) & submit payment no later than March 1, 2019!*

### SPONSORSHIPS

**\$5000**

CHAIRMAN'S LEVEL  
FULL PAGE BACK COVER AD  
RESERVED TABLE FOR 8  
(INCLUDES: ALL MEDIA)

**\$2500**

PRESIDENT'S LEVEL  
FULL PAGE INSIDE AD  
(6) EVENT TICKETS  
(INCLUDES: ALL MEDIA)

**\$1000**

COMMITTEE LEVEL  
½ PAGE AD  
(4) EVENT TICKETS  
(INCLUDES: ALL MEDIA)

**\$500**

MEMBER LEVEL  
¼ PAGE AD  
(2) EVENT TICKETS  
(INCLUDES: ALL MEDIA)

Aside from the Sponsorships listed, program only advertisements are available  
FP \$200 HP \$150 & GP \$75

### MAKE CHECKS TO:

Stroudsburg Rotary  
Foundation  
PO Box 365  
Stroudsburg, PA 18360  
a 501(c) 3 corporation

The official registration and financial information of Stroudsburg Rotary Foundation may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

[The Rotary Club of Tunkhannock](#)

## *Club Inducts Another Pair of New Members in New Year*

At the Jan. 31 Rotary Luncheon at Purkey's Pink Apple, Tunkhannock Rotary Club Membership Chair Ron Furman inducted Peter Sehne into Rotary. Peter was sponsored and pinned by his wife Anne Sehne.

Peter joked that he decided to join Rotary to spend more time with his wife, since she is so busy with the District and our local Exchange Student Programs. Anne and Peter have 3 children.

Peter has enjoyed meeting and hosting many exchange students. All three of his children have been Rotary outbound exchange students: Adam (2012-2013 outbound to Ecuador), Stefan (2015-2016 outbound to Brazil), and Anika (2016-2017 outbound to France after an earlier short-term exchange). He felt that he would now like to give back to Rotary.

Peter has had a variety of work experiences in the Army and in civilian life. He has done, satellite repair, was a dental assistant and then worked in sales and marketing. For the last 17 yr., he has been a prison guard at the Waymart State Correctional Facility.

At the Feb 7 Rotary Luncheon, Membership Chair Ron Furman inducted David Kuffa into Rotary. David was sponsored by Marta Kovacs-Ruiz.

David's wife is Jill and they have been married 25 yrs. His daughter Dana is at Temple Univ. studying Sociology. Dana participated in RYLA and was an exchange student to Chile in 2016-2017. The Kuffa family also hosted inbound Italian exchange student Stefano Sica. They have hunting dogs and Stefano was afraid of dogs, but now after exposure to the Kuffa's dogs, he has his own dog in Italy.

David is an IT consultant at the Refill Station in Clarks Summit. He studied at the Art institute of Philly. He is also a musician, song writer and videographer.



Anne and Peter Sehne are shown with Membership Chair Ron Furman (right).



Marta Kovacs-Ruiz, David Kuffa and Membership Chair Ron Furman.





# \$5,000



# CASH RAFFLE



*sponsored by:*

**NORTH POCONO  
ROTARY**



*for the benefit of*

**Youth and Community Projects**

*Drawing to be held:*

**Saturday, April 13, 2019 at 5:30 PM**  
**Elmhurst Country Club**

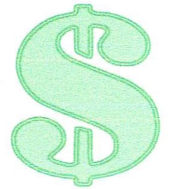
*Donation: \$100.00 per ticket*

**MAXIMUM OF 150 TICKETS TO BE SOLD.**

***Each ticket includes two (2) dinners  
and the chance to win many other exciting prizes.***



***For Tickets and Information Contact:  
JANE MARTINI-KRAYNAK: (570) 840-9684***



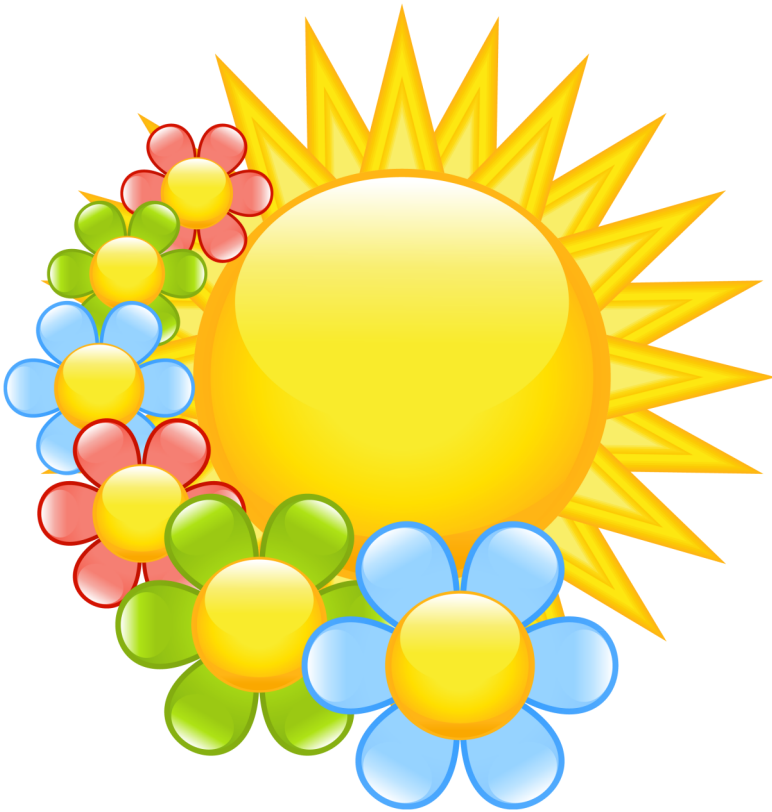
***This is the annual raffle and April 13<sup>th</sup> is an historic date for the North Pocono Rotary. Chartered April 13, 1994, it also marks our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary.***

The Rotary Club of Wyoming



**Chamber Executive VP  
Outlines Programs**

Michelle Mikitish, Executive Vice President of The Greater Pittston Chamber of Commerce, recently spoke to the Rotary Club of Wyoming. She spoke about membership benefits, programs and activities available at the Chamber. The Wyoming Rotary Club meets every Thursday at Fire and Ice Restaurant, Trucksville at 6:15 PM. New members are always welcome. For further information about membership call 570-332-3171. Pictured from left to right are Dr. Brian Zaborny, Attorney Tom Mosca, Mikitish, Scott Davis and Mike Sobeck.



**Warm Welcome for New Member**

The Rotary Club of Wyoming recently welcomed new member Andy Judge, who is a Dallas resident and a graduate of the University of North Dakota, where he received a Bachelors in Science of Aeronautics degree. He is a private jet captain for XOJET. Pictured from left to right are: Mike Sobeck - sponsor, Judge, and Rotarians Chris Borton and John B. McCarthy. The Club meets every Thursday evening at Fire and Ice, Trucksville. New members are always welcome. For information about membership call (570) 332-3171.



# **Nimble Hill Wine/Beer Pairing**

## **At Sidel's Restaurant**

**Thursday, March 21<sup>st</sup> 6 PM**

**\$65 per person**

**4 course meal served with a wine or beer for each course  
paired by Nimble Hill Winery & Brewery  
Menu for the evening designed and prepared by  
Chef Richie**

**Appetizer: Chicken & Andouille Sausage Crepe en Lemon Zested  
Béchamel Sauce**

**Salad: Crisp Romaine Hearts with Artichoke Hearts and Blue  
Cheese topped with Espresso infused Balsamic Vinaigrette**

**Entrée Choices:**

**Grilled Tender Cutlet of Chicken and Shrimp en Pesto Bruschetta Sauce  
Pretzel Encrusted Tilapia Fillet en Wasabi Coconut Glaze**

**Pan Seared Tender Cutlets of Veal and Eggplant Milanese en Roasted  
Garlic Butter Topped with Gourmet Cheese**

**Dessert: A sweet surprise to end the evening**

**Reservation required. Call Sidel's Restaurant with your entrée  
choice and wine or beer preference at 570-343-6544**



The Rotary Club of Hazleton

## Delivering Dictionaries to Local Third Graders Since 2001

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, 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 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.”

Monies for this project are made possible by a variety of club fund raisers the Rotary conducts throughout the year. When the community supports Rotary fundraisers, they also support the various people in the community who benefit from Rotary Club service projects.

Rotary Club members taking part in the dictionary project are Pat Ward, Steve Seach, John Schwear, Valerie White, Carla Thaller, Toni Ruggiero, John Beltrami, Lisa Marie Halecky, John Madden, Alan Whitaker, Joe Lettiere, Melissa Frederick, Michele



Rotarians John Beltrami and Lisa Marie Halecky delivered dictionaries to third graders at Heights Terrace Elementary/Middle School on December 19<sup>th</sup>.

Ustynoski and Michele Kushmeder. clude Kidz Coat, Children’s Holiday Shopping Spree and “manning the kettles” for the Greater Hazleton Salvation Army.

Special thanks to Rotarian Jason Bren- Other holiday service projects in-



### Trio of Rotarians Named Paul Harris Fellows

Hazleton Rotarian Dr. Peter Spohn, Honorary Rotary Member Nancy Ballard and Past President Jerry Panisak were recently named the newest Paul Harris Fellows at the Rotary Club meeting on February 13, 2019. Shown (from left) are: Rotary President Kathie Oh, Dr. Peter Spohn, Nancy Ballard, Jerry Panisak and Rotary President Elect Alan Whitaker.



# **WINEFEST 2019**

**SUNDAY MAY 19<sup>TH</sup>, 1:00PM-4:00PM**

**held at**



**32 Cabernet Dr, Scott Twp.**

**Tickets: \$30 in Advance, \$35 at the Door**  
**Includes two glasses of wine, appetizers from Sidel's**  
**Restaurant, wings from Kelly's Pub, and a chance to**  
**win a great door prize**

**Basket Raffles**

**Proceeds will benefit the North Scranton**  
**Rotary and the Bread Basket of NEPA's**  
**volunteer efforts in our community**

**To reserve your ticket today, email us at**  
**northscrantonrotary@gmail.com**  
**or tickets can be purchased at Sidel's Restaurant**  
**(1202 N Main Ave, Scranton)**

**Cigars will be available for a donation**

The Rotary Club of the Stroudsburgs



## Stroudsburgs Scrapbook: Members Take Center Stage

Classification talks from members focused on business. Shown in top left photo are Jim Becker from Access Office Technologies (left) speaking about the changes in technology to 5G, That's Jeff Gilbert (upper right) on services provided by member-owned Thrivent Financial and Leslie Underhill (bottom right), owner of the beautiful Santosha on the Ridge Bed & Breakfast, who has taught yoga to seniors for many years,

going through a few simple "chair" yoga moves.

Thanks to all for sharing a little of what you do.

Other photos from top right clockwise are multiple-level Paul Harris fellows with Foundation Chair Jim Becker starting with Leslie Underhill +3, and Karen DeMatteo +5; Kirby Upright +2 and Marlo Merhige +1, and Rich Berkowitz +1 (bottom left). These Rotarians "Empower" others through their generous donations to the Foundation which enables Rotary to continue to do good around the world!





## DISTRICT CONFERENCE...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2.

night desert & cordial banquet, two cash bar cocktail parties, a wine tasting session, and our ongoing "House of Friendship", and Hospitality rooms, not to mention great speakers and informative work sessions.

We also decided to move the conference farther North to downtown Scranton to make the conference more convenient for more of our membership. For those of you wishing to stay overnight, we have negotiated a special price of \$99 per night. (This includes a discount on your registration).



R.I. President Barry Rassin is sending his close friend and PDG of his home district in the Bahamas, Felix Stubbs as his personal

Representative. Felix is a titan in the Healthcare and Financial industries of the Bahamas.

We are also having Valerie Wafer. Valerie is an R.I. Director Nominee for 2020-2022. She has served as the International Trainer



for the current group of District Governors, as well as being a Past District Governor in her own right.

We also have acclaimed author/historian, David Forward, who has penned multiple books about the history of Rotary, including, *A Century of Service:*

*The Story of Rotary International*, which he was commissioned to write for the 2005 centennial of Rotary International, *Heroes After Hours: Ex-*

*traordinary Acts of Employee Volunteerism, and The Essential Guide to the Short Term Mission Trip.* and most recently *Doing Good in the World: The Inspiring Story of The Rotary Foundation's First 100 Years.*

For the family there will be an optional Lackawanna Coal mine tour where you can travel 300 feet down into a real anthracite coal mine originally



opened in 1860. Accompany a miner in the winding underground gangways and rock tunnel past three different veins of hard coal, past the mule boy and the nipper, past the monkey vein and the dead chute. Listen as he explains the fascinating methods used, and the heroic efforts involved, in deep mining's history.

Also nearby is the Steamtown National Railway Museum and the new Scranton Aquarium.

Our conference will have great opportunities to meet & network with other like-minded Rotarians in our "Rotary Means Business" session. You will learn about how our clubs are utilizing their District and Global Grants, our efforts to eliminate Polio, meet the latest group of International Exchange Students, learn how to run a wine festival, start Satellite clubs, and make your meetings more fun and effective.

Registration is available online at [www.RotaryDistrict7410.org](http://www.RotaryDistrict7410.org). or you can register by mail at:

Rotary District 7410  
1173 Clay Ave  
Scranton, Pa. 18510

*There are no excuses for not coming. This promises to be a great event at a price everybody can afford. Please make your reservations today.*



## RYLA Volunteer Opportunity: Get Involved!

—Do you have a passion for working with our area youth?

—Can you spare some time in the summer to engage with young leaders?

—Would you help the next generation develop leadership skills while having fun and making connections?

Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) is an intensive training program that brings together young adults to further develop their character, to enrich their leadership skills, and to learn about Rotary.

For the past 8 years, Rotary members of District 7410 have supported this important experience for northeastern and central Pennsylvania area youth. The RYLA program has promoted positive attitudes by providing an opportunity for these teenagers to flourish and to unlock their leadership potential all while having fun!

But we can't do it without you! Rotary District 7410 is looking for new Rotarians to bring fresh ideas and continue the positive energy RYLA provides to our youth.

If you have any questions about RYLA 2019 or how you can get involved with this worthwhile event, please contact Chairs Karen DeMatteo at [karenandrotary@gmail.com](mailto:karenandrotary@gmail.com) or Amy Leiser at [RotarianAmy@gmail.com](mailto:RotarianAmy@gmail.com)

## Wilkes University Hosts District RYLA Junior Selection Day

This past Sunday, February 23, 2019, RYLA 7410 held their junior counselor selection day at Wilkes University. There, RYLA senior staff members met with previous RYLA 2018 graduates and interviewed them for counselor positions who will help mentor conferees at the upcoming ninth annual conference this June. Every year, applicants are put through activities modeled after our RYLA conference. Being able to see how each conferee has grown and has been positively impacted by the conference continues to validate to our program staff of how RYLA is able to change the lives of not only the conferees that attend our program but their communities.

This investment in our young community leaders begins with sponsorships from Rotary clubs across North Eastern Pennsylvania. It also continues with our

team of all volunteer staff members, who have dedicated their time, effort, and passion for many years into the program. Karen DeMatteo and Amy Leiser, both members of the Stroudsburg Rotary club, have spearheaded the conference for the last nine years. In addition to them, our senior staff is in charge of advancing the program by being responsible for entertainment reservations, facilities, health concerns of the conferees, programs, staff training, and more.

The following are names of the members of our senior staff team, the Rotary clubs that initially sponsored them as conferees, and how long they have been involved in our program: Leila B. sponsored by Smithfield Rotary Club (6 years), Lyndsey S. sponsored by West End Rotary Club (6 years), Alyssa G. sponsored by Smithfield Rotary Club (5 years), Brooke M. sponsored by New

Milford Rotary Club (5 years), Josh D. sponsored by North Pocono Rotary Club (4 years), Liz D. sponsored by New Milford Rotary Club (4 years), Chloe L. sponsored by Mountain Top Rotary Club (4 years), Alex M. sponsored by New Milford Rotary Club (4 years), Jacqueline K. sponsored by Slate Belt Rotary Club (3 years), Ben G. sponsored by Abington Rotary Club (3 years), Calista K. sponsored by Weatherly Rotary Club (3 years), Brooke L. sponsored by Mountain Top Rotary Club (3 years), and Gia O. sponsored by Dunmore Rotary Club (3 years).

### RYLA Staff Expands

Additionally, we are glad to announce that from the junior counselor selection day that we have added eight more to our RYLA 7410 staff family. The following are names of the new junior counselors and the Rotary clubs that initially sponsored them as conferees: Alex K., Felicia F., and Joseph A. all sponsored by Smithfield Rotary Club, Alicia P. sponsored by Kingston Rotary Club, Derrek F. sponsored by North Pocono Rotary Club, Emily C. sponsored by Towanda Rotary Club, Gwenn S. sponsored by Stroudsburg Rotary Club, and Rachel D. sponsored by New Milford.

We are thankful to have created a legacy of students in our communities reaching their full potential returning to positively impact their world. We encourage all Rotarians to continue to value the power youth has *right now* to change the world.



## Interactors Dress Down to Help Conquer Polio

The Stroudsburg High School Interact Club participated in a “dress down” day in February where students could pay \$2.00 to wear a red T-shirt and jeans rather than their school uniform and the funds went to two different clubs raising funds for different causes. The Interact Club chose the End Polio Now campaign and

members of the club wore the red shirt on Friday to bring about awareness. They raised over \$500 for Polio! We know with the Bill and Melinda Gates match that becomes \$1500 to bring about the END of Polio.

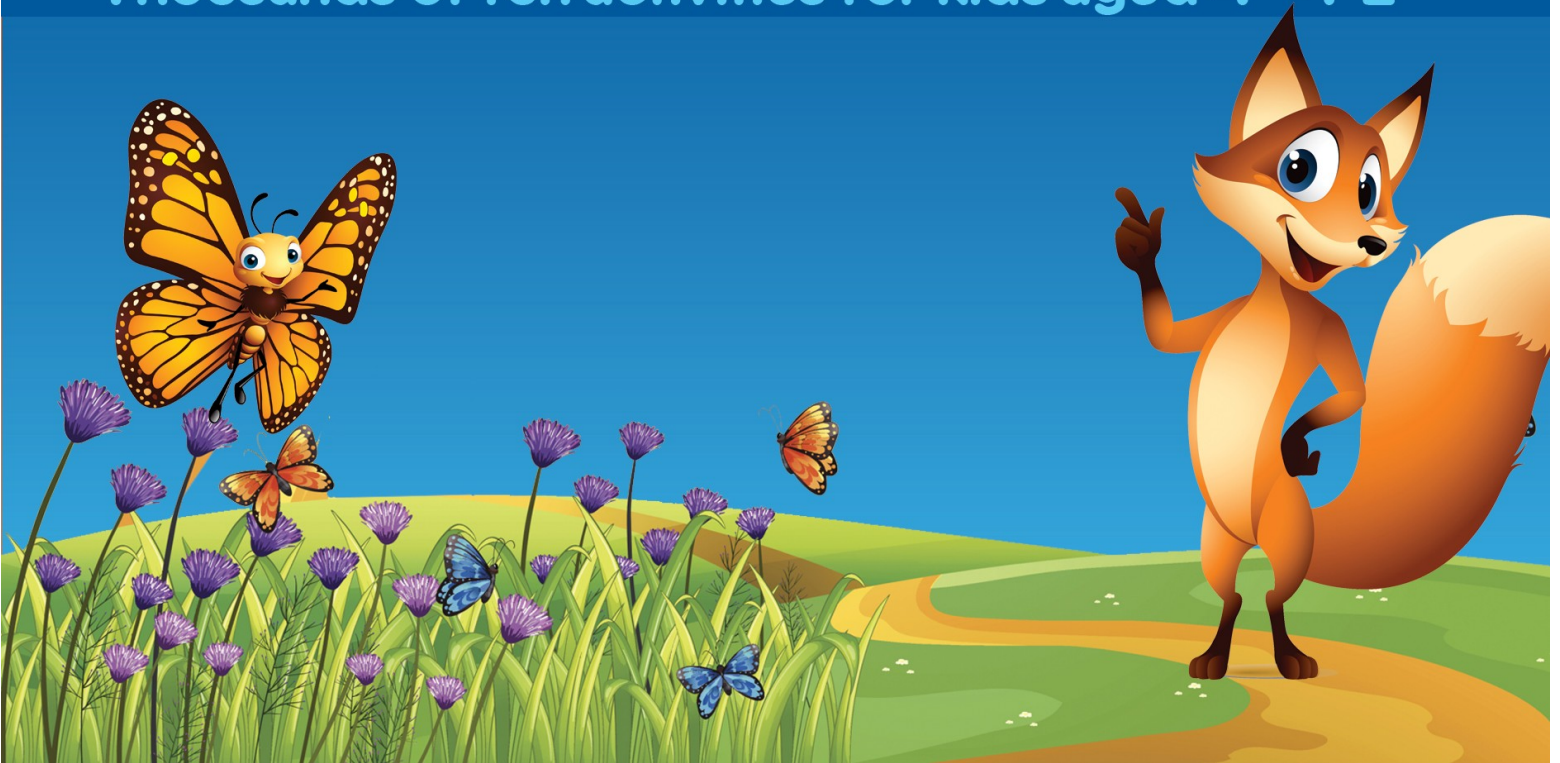
Great Job Interactors!



# FREE Reading Program

Have fun learning online

Thousands of fun activities for kids aged 4 - 12



**March 2nd is Read Across America Day! Across the country, thousands of schools, libraries and community centers participate by bringing together kids, teens and books. Visit [stroudsburgsrotary.org](http://stroudsburgsrotary.org) to learn about the FREE READING PROGRAM that is completely online and sponsored by the Rotary Club of the Stroudsburgs..**



## Ex-Fulbright Scholar Talks Turkey

At a February meeting of the Rotary Club of the Abingtons last week Dr. Gus Vlassis, shown at left displaying one of his photos, presented a program on his three trips to Turkey. He was the first member of the Keystone College faculty to receive a Fulbright award. Under that program he spent the 1965-1966 school year in Samsun, Turkey, studying the educational system of Turkey and teaching at a private school. In 1995 he spent four weeks leading a Rotary Group Study Exchange team to Western Turkey, traveling to a number of cities and living with Turkish families. In 1997 he spent three months as a Rotary volunteer professor at the Uludag University in Bursa, Turkey. His last trip to Turkey was in 2014 when he and other Rotarians traveled to a number of cities talking with families, educators and business owners. Dr. Vlassis became interested in the changes that took place over those years and discussed those infrastructure differences and the cultural changes that have occurred since 1965.

## New Rotarians

Hazleton Susan Selby  
 Wellsboro Nathan Gage  
 Diane Mosher  
 Bethany Schweigart

**Moved?**

**New phone numbers?**

**New Job?**

**If so...**

**Please remember to update your information on the District's Website. If you need assistance, call or email me at: (570) 767-1187 [rotarydistrict7410@gmail.com](mailto:rotarydistrict7410@gmail.com)**

Your assistance is greatly appreciated!

Brenda

**Don't forget to register for District Conference, another great event you won't want to miss**

**You can register by [clicking here](#) ... then scroll down**

**or go to**

**[www.rotarydistrict7410.org](http://www.rotarydistrict7410.org)**

## District 7410 – 2018 Club Data

Club	Total Mem.	New Mem.	Attend. %
Abingtons, The	50		41.18%
Athens	15		
Blakeslee	10		
Dallas	47		
Dunmore	15		70.00%
Forest City Area	11		
Freeland	5		
Hamlin Lake Ariel	31		38.71%
Hawley	21		
Hazleton	73		30.88%
Honesdale	38		
Jim Thorpe	22		42.00%
Kingston	26		71.00%
Lehighton	10		
Milford-Matamoras	30		
Mountaintop	32		37.00%
Mt. Pocono	19		
New Milford	16		88.00%
Newfoundland	39		73.65%
North Pocono	15		75.00%
North Scranton	26		62.00%
Passport	15		
Pittston	19		
Plains	16		45.00%
Plymouth	21		72.00%
Pocono Mountains	15		
Sayre	17		65.00%
Scranton	46		
Slate Belt Rotary	21		
Smithfields	20		
Stroudsburgs, The	94		50.00%
Towanda	13		
Trail	13		
Troy	21		60.00%
Tunkhannock	70		
Weatherly	9		
Wellsboro	43		
West End	14		
Wilkes-Barre	25		
Winola	11		
Wyalusing Area	20		48.00%
Wyoming	22		50.00%





# District 7410



## President – Rotary International 2018-2019

Barry Rassin

(Rotary Club of East Nassau, New Providence, Bahamas)

## District Governor 7410 – 2018-2019

Roger Mattes, Jr.

19 High Street, Box 22

Nicholson, PA 18446

Cell: 570-677-7299

Work: 570-969-2222

Email: [rotary@matteslawyers.com](mailto:rotary@matteslawyers.com)

## District Officers

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Email: [karenandrotary@gmail.com](mailto:karenandrotary@gmail.com)

Joseph Loughman, DGN - 2020-2021

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Karin-Susan Breitlauch, IPDG

Email: [ksbvvet@ptd.net](mailto:ksbvvet@ptd.net)

## District Treasurer

Kathleen Robbins

Email: [dblkrobbins@yahoo.com](mailto:dblkrobbins@yahoo.com)

## Youth Exchange Chair

Anne Sehne

Email: [paasa@epix.net](mailto:paasa@epix.net)

## Newsletter Editor/Public Image

Wes Skillings (Wyalusing)

Email: [wes@skillunlimited.com](mailto:wes@skillunlimited.com)

## Administrative Assistant

Assistant Treasurer

Newsletter Publisher & Webmaster

Brenda Allen

Email: [rotarydistrict7410@gmail.com](mailto:rotarydistrict7410@gmail.com)

Phone: 570-767-1187

## Assistant Governors by Cluster

1. Craig Devenport (Wellsboro)  
Email: [crd2864@ptd.net](mailto:crd2864@ptd.net)  
Athens, Sayre, Towanda, Troy, & Wellsboro
2. Dave Palmer (New Milford)  
Email: [davesolopalmer@gmail.com](mailto:davesolopalmer@gmail.com)  
Forest City, New Milford, Trail, Tunkhannock, Winola, & Wyalusing
3. Jim Pierce (Hawley)  
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(Hamlin, Hawley, Honesdale, Milford-Matamoras, & Newfoundland)
4. Bill Skinner (Slate Belt)  
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5. Kevin Hooper (Mountaintop)  
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(Freeland, Hazleton, Jim Thorpe, Lehighton, Mountaintop, & Weatherly)
6. Joe Loughman (North Scranton)  
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(Abingtons, Dunmore, Passport Club, North Pocono, North Scranton & Scranton)
7. John John  
Email: [johnj@goldenbusiness.com](mailto:johnj@goldenbusiness.com)  
(Dallas, Kingston, Pittston, Plains, Plymouth, Wilkes-Barre, & Wyoming)