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# News from District 7410



#### Letter from the District Governor

#### Happy October 1<sup>st</sup> to all our District 7410 Rotarians!

Having just returned from the 2015 Zone Institute for zones 24 and 32 held in Providence, Rhode Island, I can tell you that the leaves have started changing in New England.

In the past, I've mentioned my impression of how seriously Rotary takes its duty of educating its leadership - - from annual District Training Assemblies to club President-Elect training to the International Assembly for all incoming District Governors. The annual Zone Institute is another example of RI's educational gatherings, this one focused on current members of district "G-Teams" as well as Past District Governors, Zone reps, and RI Directors. As with any sizeable Rotary gathering (this one with over 425 attendees), this Zone Institute offered dynamic and thought-provoking speakers, networking opportunities and fun activities.

Of all the presentations, probably the one that made the most impact on the audience was given by Razia Jan, member of the Rotary Club of Duxbury, Massachusetts. Among her many honors for humanitarian works, Razia was selected as a 2012 CNN Top 10 Hero. Her talk at Zone focused on the Zahuli Education Center project which she started in 2008. Located 30 miles outside Kabul, Afghanistan in the district of Deh'Subz, this all-girl school provides a free education to more than 500 students, grades Kindergarten through eight. To hear first-hand about the obstacles she had to overcome, including repeated threats on her life, the resulting impact it has had on that community, and her plans for the addition of a post-high school institute for mid-wifery was nothing less than extraordinary. Whatever she does, Razia holds to her "passionate belief that empowering girls through education is the key to positive, global change."

To learn more, check out www.BuildASchoolToday.com.

As usual, after four days of speakers, my head is filled to capacity with new ideas and items on which I need to follow up or do more research.

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#### Continued from Page One.

Attending the 2015 Zone Institute was definitely worth the seven-hour drive to Providence and all the "marathon sitting" that goes along with a conference of this size.

Back in District 7410, October will be a busy month. Along with completing most of my first-round club visits, we have two District events scheduled:

**October 17<sup>th</sup> –** "Movies and a Makeover" - membership seminar

**October 25<sup>th</sup> –** Annual Foundation Afternoon Tea

Both events require registration, and RSVP links are in this newsletter (see event flyers) and on the District website.

Wishing you an enjoyable fall season! DG Barbara

## Why RLI?

#### Your best investment...

Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) is a powerful tool to increase leadership skills and understanding of the Rotary world beyond local clubs. We're asking club presidents to encourage members to make this personal investment which will benefit not just themselves but their clubs as well.

Offered this fall at Lackawanna College in Scranton, PA on November 14<sup>th</sup> will be the courses I, II, III and the Graduate-level course. Registrations MUST be made by November 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Visit RLI's online information and registration site at http://rlinea.com.

#### Investing your time in RLI...

I would like to take a few moments of your time and talk about RLI, that is Rotary Leadership Institute, not to be confused with RYLA (Rotary Youth Leader Awards - leadership camp for our rising juniors.)

Many moons ago, I convinced my husband, Bob, to join Rotary so I wouldn't have to make him supper

after a full day at school, at my stable, and at my Rotary meeting. It soon became obvious he needed a challenge to stay with Rotary, so I enrolled both of us in RLI, second Saturday in November.

Of course, I thought I knew about Rotary already (boy was I wrong) and my goal was that he would learn more and thereby find his nitch and get involved. Well we attended RLI, not once but went to all three sessions and then did three graduate renditions (turns out the graduate course is different every year!). RLI is like a foundation, it puts everything we do in perspective and we made a lot of new friends in and out of our District. Attending RLI was the best thing we could have done as new Rotarians. It doesn't mean you have to be a leader or a "leader-wanna-be" but it does fill you in on what Rotary is all about. Bob found his niche - it was the Group Study Program and our Foundation.

I learned there was a lot more to Rotary than I knew. Now I facilitate at RLI and I am still learning and loving it!

- PDG Carol Hemphill

#### **District 7410 Gender Distribution**

After much cleaning of our district database (thanks, Brenda!) we can for the first time run various reports with the expectation of getting decent results.

As of September 14<sup>th</sup>, we now know that our maleto-female ratio is 65% to 35%. Zone Director, Julia Phelps, has asked all districts to try to raise the percent of female members by 2% by June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016. With our current raw numbers, that equates to adding 23 females for every new male member added.

However, I'm not too concerned about gender equity, but would much rather see an uptick in numbers of energized and enthusiastic Rotarians that are making a difference in our communities.

-DG Barbara



They were RYLA Proud this summer at Keystone College with 79 young leaders participating.

## **RYLA:** Five Years of Bringing Future Leaders Together

This year marks the fifth anniversary of District 7410 hosting RYLA at Keystone College in LaPlume, PA.

The first year's RYLA hosted 37 students from around the district. This year, 79 young leaders (there was one last minute cancellation due to illness) gathered to participate in active learning to better themselves and their communities.

RYLA 2015 (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) was held the week of June 19<sup>th</sup>- 23<sup>rd</sup> and was led by Chair Karen DeMatteo and Co-Chair Amy Leiser, both of the Rotary Club of the Stroudsburgs. Together, Karen and Amy oversaw 20 staff members in addition to the RYLA conferees.

The five-day conference featured days packed with activities. From breakfast at 7:45 am each morning to lights out at 11:00 pm, the conferees and staff stayed busy. Throughout the week, RYLA conferees learned about Rotary and how to embrace the 4 -way test, worked on group asDid your club send someone to this year's RYLA? Have you invited them to speak at your club yet? If not, reach out and welcome them to your meeting. These young leaders are bursting with energy and enthusiasm and would love to share their RYLA experiences with you.

signments, participated in service projects, and listened to motivational speakers.

Ice-breakers were conducted by the staff to get conferees out of their comfort zones, and numerous activities taught the participants how to respect other's opinions, to work in teams, and to develop their own confidence and self-worth.

Even the talent show was a milestone for some who had never performed in front of a crowd before! Interestingly, all of the activities were so much fun that the participants might not have realized at the time that they were learning leadership skills until after the conference was over and they took time to reflect on their experience at RYLA.

Never in the same group of people, the conferees were strategically divided up with each activity to ensure everyone met someone new each day.

Friendships were formed, lessons were learned, pride in oneself was developed, and everyone learned how to do The Whip and Nae Nae dance!

As always, appreciation is extended to all members of District 7410 for supporting this important experience for northeastern and central Pennsylvania area youth. Your dedication to promoting positive attitudes and providing an opportunity for these teenagers to flourish and to unlock their leadership potential is commendable.

If you have any questions about next year's RYLA 2016 or learn how you can get involved with this worthwhile event, please contact Karen DeMatteo at karenandrotary@gmail.com.

# Rotary Leadership Institute WANTS YOU



Coming soon to a location near you. LACKWANNA COLLEGE IN SCRANTON November 14, 2015

Register now on line at <u>WWW.RLINEA.ORG</u>



Reserve your space right now for this not-to-be-missed seminar!

https://7410-membership-seminar.splashthat.com/

### **The Rotary Club of Trail**









**Trail Rotary Welcomes** 2 New Members: Alicia Alvarez and Sandy Kostick

Toni McAndrew spoke to the Trail Rotary Club about her experiences Traveling to Rotary International Conferences

Toni also helped induct our newest members.

L-R: Toni McAndrew, Ray Petty, Alicia Alvarez, Sandy Kostick and club president, Bill Speare



Email to Trail Rotary after this summer's RYLA:

I just wanted to thank you and the Rotary Club for this experience. Katie absolutely LOVED the program. I will be honest - when we pulled up on Sunday she was not happy. She did not want to be there, thought all the counselors were way to silly, and worst yet they were going to a 'square dance' Sunday night!

[Then] By the time she left on Thursday she was in tears - as per her own words "this was the best experience of my life, I don't want to leave". Katie was not able to describe the entire experience however she did say it changed her life! She had nothing but praise for the program and the staff. I know she would like to be a junior counselor next year (that is a big change in my daughter who never wants to get involved)!

Seeing my daughter change from this experience has also changed me. I believe the Rotary is a worthwhile organization.

Again, thank you so much for this experience, Leslie Grega

## The Rotary Club of Trail



The Trail Rotary Club was chartered October 25, 1990. The club will celebrate with a dinner at the Montdale Country Club on November 1 – 5:30pm. \$25 per person. For additional information please contact Barbara Petty at rotarybarb@gmail.com.



October 18<sup>th</sup> All-You-Can-Eat Breakfast Buffet with omelet station.

Gin's Tavern, 268 Route 107, Factoryville

## **The Rotary Club of Hamlin**

## Keeping Our Kids Safe Focus of Fair

The Rotary Club of Hamlin with the help of a district grant sponsored our First Annual Safe Kids Fair this past Saturday September 26 2015 at the EverGreen School on Rt. 191 Hamlin located in the southern Wayne county area.

Agencies attending the fair included Wayne Memorial Hospital safe kids bike helmet checks, National Park Services of Wayne county, Drug and Alcohol Wayne county, Children and Youth Services, Early Intervention Coalition, Emergency Services Operations Center, Hamlin Fire and Ambulance Services, Ledgedale Fire Department Dive team, The Hideout Public Safety Department with a fingerprinting station. and the American Red Cross.

Continued on Next Page ...



Two young bike winners pose with Rotarians at the first annual Safe Kids Fair— a public service community event for residents of Wayne County.



Their first Safe Kids Fair in Hamlin was a big success. Shown in photos from above (clockwise) are a safety demonstration by the National Park Service; a bike helmet fitting, and activity in the school gym.





#### Hamlin Safe Kids Fair (Cont.)...

Children were fitted for the correct bike helmet, provided with personal flotation devices, and learned how to perform CPR, observed karate demonstrations by Twin Dragons and learned about school bus safety.

Ages ranged from 2 to 12 of

boys and girls having fun visiting the Tooth fairy and learning healthy dental practices. Upon entering the fair children were given a chance to win a new bike which were donated by Salem Township Supervisors and the Wayne County YMCA. Fun was had by all including the Hamlin Rotary members offering refreshments to approximately 150 attendees.

Thank you to all who participated in making this service project a huge success.



Saturday October 10, 2015 11 am - 5 pm at Lazy Brook Park

Featuring PA Wineries & Vendors with locally produced & handcrafted items

Order Your Tickets Online & Save! www.tunkhannockrotary.org

**\$75 - VIP TENT (120 SEATS AVAILABLE)** Includes buffet (1:00-3:00) & commemorative wine glass

**\$20 - ADVANCE TICKETS** Includes free commemorative wine glass

**\$30 - AT THE GATE/DAY OF FESTIVAL** Includes free commemorative wine glass

**\$15 - DESIGNATED DRIVER/UNDER 21** Designated driver/under 21 tickets are available at the gate

Presented by the **Rotary** Club of Tunkhannock Live Entertainment All Day

am Radio Idol Kings The Rotary Club of Mid Valley

# **PASTA DINNER**





## SPONSORED BY MID VALLEY ROTARY CLUB

Tuesday, October 27, 2015

5:30PM to 8:00PM

SORIANNO'S CAFE

## 523 Main St

Peckville, Pa 18452

## \$9.50 Per Ticket - Take-Outs Available

## Eat-In Seating Must Call 383-5425

#### CONTACT FOR TICKETS

878-3481
383-0751
347-4665
448-2992
876-4333
650-8814

## PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT MID VALLEY COMMUNITY PROJECTS





Committee members planning the upcoming Crabfest in West Wyoming hosted by the Rotary Club of Wyoming have a lot of crab on their hands in this inventive promotional photo. Pictured from left are John Piszak, Mike Kelly, Darrell Evans, Dr. Brian Zaborny, Scott Davis, John Harrington, Pat Dutton, Wendy Carey, Rich Sobeck, Mark Sobeck, Mike Sobeck.

# Rotarians Hosting Annual Crabfest in West Wyoming

The Rotary Club of Wyoming will be holding their fourth annual Crabfest on Friday, October 2, 2015, from 6:00 to 10:00 PM.

The event will be held at the West Wyoming Fire Hall, 926 Shoemaker Avenue, West Wyoming, PA and will be limited to the first 175 reservations. \$45 per person includes all-you-can-eat Baltimore Hardshell Crabs, clam chowder, hot dogs, pizza, beer and soda.

For reservations, call Mike Sobeck at 570-239-8581, or email Mike.Sobeck@marksobeck.com. All proceeds benefit Wyoming Rotary charities.



## Featuring a Foursome of Our Writing Rotarians...

In an effort to feature the creative talents of Rotarians in our District, we called for some of our published authors to introduce themselves in the October issue. We know there are more of you out there, and maybe we can revisit that issue a few months down the road.

In the meantime, we'll be looking for the following in upcoming issues:

**November:** Musicians, including composers, lyricists, performers

**December:** Fine arts – any media and handcrafters

**January:** Performers (other than musical) and Public Speakers

**February:** What do you think? How about entrepreneurs or Rotarians in public service on school boards or county and municipal government?

Send all information to Wes Skillings at skill@epix.net or contact him with your questions.

#### Jeff Widmer...

Jeff is the author of the CW McCoy and the Brinker series of crime novels as well as numerous works of non-fiction.

A former journalist, advertising executive and nationally syndicated reviewer, his work has appeared in publications ranging from *Advertising Age* to *US Airways* magazine to *National Geographic World*. A Rotarian for 28 years, he is a past president and publicity director for the West End Rotary Club.

His most recent works include *Peak Season*, *Ride with the Blues* and *Spirit of Swiftwater*, showcasing his exceptional skills as a storyteller.

You may visit his website at http:// jeffwidmer.com and his Amazon author page at https://www.amazon.com/author/jeffwidmer.

#### Bill Allison...

Bill has published two historical novels which are described on his website, www.billallisonsbooks.com. The latest is *The Apprentice*, published this summer, which is a young adult historical fiction novel set in 1880 in a Pennsylvania town.

A mysterious blind vagrant wanders the streets. Injured Civil War veterans struggle to survive. Radical tramps seize the railroad junction as Enoch Moyer awakes to his first day as an apprentice at a Pennsylvania dry goods store.

Removed from school, the fatherless fourteen year old is indentured to work and live for four years in the competitive world of this diverse industrial town. Between a harsh master and a jealous senior apprentice, Enoch's spirit is nearly broken until he discovers the secret to gain his master's respect and disarm his rival.

After enrolling in the community apprentice association, Enoch uncovers a plot to harm his master's family. Partnering with his fellow apprentices, they foil the crime, save his master's family, and arrest the transgressors – and when the case comes to trial, Enoch faces the challenge of persuading the judicial system to punish the real criminals.

The *Apprentice* is available online at Amazon. Bill is the secretary of the Jim Thorpe Rotary Club. A retired school principal, he serves the Jim Thorpe community as a school board member.

#### Paul Cwalina...

Paul was born and raised in Northeastern Pennsylvania and is the grandson of immigrant coalminers. By day, he is a marketing executive and an economics geek, as well as a politics junkie.

Citing Ernest Hemingway's "Farewell to Arms" as the spark that ignited his desire to write, the author is now turning his long-dormant passion and hobby into a way to tell a story to the world.

"I don't write 'comfortable' stories. I want my readers to be affected and to think; to get out of their comfort zones just a bit," Paul reports. The biggest compliment I receive on 'Dropping Stones' is that the story stays with a person long after they've read it. To me, that says 'mission accomplished'. Paul lives with his wife and children in Drums, PA, and is a proud Rotarian.

#### Why The Rotary Foundation?

I give to The Rotary Foundation (TRF) because I like to see results. I have four main charities. Each are close to my heart. As a veterinarian, I donate my services and goods to helping animals and their owners in need. I give to my church because I see the

#### Writing Rotarians (Cont.)...

#### Wes Skillings...

Wes was an editor and award winning columnist and reporter for Pennsylvania newspapers for almost four decades, His book, *A Matter of Recovery*, is available on Amazon and B&N.

In the summer of 1994, C.B. Miller was a brighteyed, quick-witted twenty-one-year-old with his entire life ahead of him. He was about to start his junior year of college, and he was keenly focused on realizing his dream of becoming a high school teacher and coach.

As C.B. was educating himself to start a career, his father, Mike, was preparing to retire from one. With the last of his four children nearing the end of school, Mike intended to exit from the work force, anticipating more free time to travel with his wife, Sharon. Each with plans of their own, father and son both eagerly awaited their futures. As chronicled in A *Matter of Recovery: The Story of C.B. Miller*, all of that would change in an instant one fateful night.

A Matter of Recovery follows C.B, Mike, their family, and a community of friends through a challenging journey, one that begins with sheer survival and ends with hard-won success. By sharing their experiences with others, the Millers hope to not only inspire but also to inform.

Wes is Vice President of the Rotary Club of Wyalusing and Editor of this newsletter He is his own boss as a freelance copywriter and book editor, blogging just for fun on his website at www.skillunlimited.com.

Millions of traumatic brain injury survivors face daily challenges. Many of them along with their loved ones do not know how to advocate for themselves as they encounter systems that are ill-equipped and people who are misinformed when it comes to dealing with TBI.

If A Matter of Recovery helps just one person tackle the difficult tasks involved in making their own way, good that they do in our community. I participate in Relay for Life because of the benefit that I see from investing in cancer research. I donate to TRF because it is OUR foundation. I see a world that can live in peace, with adequate care for every breathing thing on earth. I see a place where children don't live in fear, where hate is a thing of the past, and where all things are possible. I know that 91% of the money that I donate to TRF goes to its intended purpose. I know that our foundation is administered by Rotarians. More than anything, I know that the money will get results.

The Rotary Foundation celebrates its 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2017 and started with a meager donation of \$26.50. It is a 5-Star rated charity which distributed nearly \$236million in 2014. I know that the unified support of all of the Rotarians world-wide makes all of this possible. Join us in the Legacy.

Karin-Susan Breitlauch District Governor Nominee/District Membership Chair

#### Recognizing "good"...

Here's an opportunity for your club to get press coverage, to be instrumental in recognizing a community member (not necessarily a Rotarian) for their "service above self" mindset and actions, and to spend very little doing it!

Check out the "Paul Harris Recognition" flyer in this issue for competition directions and claim a share of the 7,000 available PH recognition points. You do the legwork -- District arranges for the PH certificates, medallions and pins. Great club service project for a very small investment!

#### New to Rotary? Special Offer

District Governor Barbara Belón would like to extend a special invitation to Rotarians who have joined Rotary since July 1, 2015. New members who attend the Membership Workshop on October 17, 2015, will be given a *complimentary* registration for the Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) to be held on November 14, 2015 at Lackawanna College, Scranton, PA.

Participants are encouraged to go to the District 7410 website (www.rotarydistrict7410.org) and register for the Membership Workshop.

Registration Deadline – October 14<sup>th</sup>. Registration for the RLI event will be provided at the Workshop.



## Foundation Afternoon Tea

Sunday, October 25, 2015 Gathering Time 2:30 pm

#### Genetti's Best Western Inn & Suites

1437 North Church Street Hazleton, PA 18202

#### In Celebration of Service ...

Come be a part of honoring our longest serving Rotarians. Those celebrating their 25<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup> or greater anniversaries of becoming Rotarians will be presented their longevity pins.





#### Our Keynote Speaker ...

David Forward, a Rotarian since 1978 is currently serving as the Governor of District 7500. David is also the author of "A Century of Service", the story of Rotary's first 100 years, as well as authoring the upcoming publication on our Foundation's history.

Online Ticket Sales - \$20 per person: http://2015-foundationevent.splashthat.com

Tickets by mail:

Contact District Registrar, Carol Ziomek Phone: 570-996-6005 E-mail: cziomek@ptd.net



New Rotarians

Abingtons	Mark Strunk	Clu
Dallas	Joann Prohaska	Ab Ath Bla Da
Forest City Area	Michael Cipilewski	Du Fo Fre Ha
Freeland	Matthew Masso Robert Maso	Ha Ha Ho Jin
		Kir Lel

#### 'Creative Committee' forming...

Are you a creative person? Do you like to design parties that everyone will remember? Do you have time to participate in evening, online planning sessions? Then, this is the opportunity for you!

Call/email District Conference Chair Ruth Ann Rocchio for details.

Don't wait... First committee meeting will be in late October.

Email: <u>rrocchio@harsco.com</u> Phone: 570.588-7749 home <u>570-242-2361</u>

#### Abington Bonsai Class

A Bonsai 101 Class will be held at the Abington Community Library on Monday 10-5-15 at 7:00 PM with Carl Achhammer, President of the NE Bonsai Society. He'll discuss the history and what is involved in raising your own bonsai at home. It's fascinating!

If you are interested in coming you need to call the library and **register 570-587-3440** ... It's free and right around the corner!

 District 7410 — 2015 Club Data

 Total
 New
 Attend. %

 Memb.
 Memb.
 Memb.

 Dingtons
 64
 1
 0.00%

 hens
 15
 0
 0.00%

 akeslee
 12
 0
 85.00%

 allas
 44
 1
 63.00%

 unmore
 16
 0
 94.00%

Abingtons	64	1	0.00%
Athens	15	0	0.00%
Blakeslee	12	0	85.00%
Dallas	44	1	63.00%
Dunmore	16	0	94.00%
Forest City Area	12	1	77.30%
Freeland	8	2	0.00%
Hamlin	25	0	0.00%
Hawley	19	0	67.00%
Hazleton	87	0	40.50%
Honesdale	36	0	46.00%
Jim Thorpe	22	0	0.00%
Kingston	25	0	60.00%
Lehighton	10	0	66.00%
Mid-Valley	6	0	0.00%
Milford-Matamoras	28	0	0.00%
Montrose	22	0	74.00%
Mountaintop	16	0	72.00%
Mt. Pocono	15	0	0.00%
New Milford	11	0	0.00%
Newfoundland	42	0	85.71%
North Pocono	18	0	0.00%
North Scranton	27	0	84.00%
Pittston	12	0	0.00%
Plains	21	0	62.00%
Plymouth	19	0	0.00%
Pocono Mountains	20	0	74.00%
Sayre	13	0	67.00%
Scranton	36	0	0.00%
Smithfields	22	0	66.00%
Stroudsburgs	102	0	62.53%
Towanda	12	0	90.00%
Trail	12	0	0.00%
Troy	24	0	50.00%
Tunkhannock	66	0	0.00%
Weatherly	12	0	100.00%
Wellsboro	51	0	0.00%
West End	30	0	0.00%
Wilkes-Barre	28	0	75.00%
Winola	20	0	42.00%
Wyalusing Area	25	0	56.00%
Wyoming	21	0	0.00%





#### President - Rotary International - 2015-2016

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

#### District Governor 7410 - 2015-2016

Barbara Huffman de Belon
 820 Coal Street
 Lehighton, PA 18235
 P: 610 377 6103
 E: bjbelon@gmail.com

#### **District Officers**

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

#### **District Treasurer**

• John Reaula (The Abinatons) E: johnregula@aol.com

#### Newsletter Editor/Public Image

• Wes Skillings (Wvalusing) E: <u>Skill@epix.net</u>

#### Administrative Assistant, Newsletter Publisher & Webmaster

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 P: 570.767.1187
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#### Assistant Governors by Cluster

 1. Nancy Brittain (Sayre)
 nbrittain@stny.rr.com

 Athens, Sayre, Towanda, Troy, Wellsboro

2. Norm Kelly (Tunkhannock) <u>normkelly@sbcglobal.net</u> Forest City, Montrose, New Milford, Trail, Tunkhannock, Winola, Wyalusing

3. Al Kobe (Honesdale) <u>Jacques2.49.ak@gmail.com</u> Hamlin, Hawley, Honesdale, Milford-Matamoras, Newfoundland

4. Karen DeMatte (The Stroudsburgs) <u>karenandrotary@gmail.con</u> Blakeslee, Mt. Pocono, Pocono Mountains, The Smithfields, The Stroudsburgs, West End

5. Shane East (Mountain Top) <u>shane@shaneeast.com</u> Freeland, Hazleton, Jim Thorpe, Lehighton, Mountaintop, Weatherly

6. Roger Mattes (The Abingtons) <u>mattes@epix.net</u> The Abingtons, Dunmore, Mid-Valley, North Pocono, North Scranton, Scranton

7. Jerry Reisch (Dallas) <u>gir01@aol.com</u> Dallas, Kingston, Pittston, Plains, Plymouth, The Greater Nanticoke Area, Wilkes-Barre, Wyoming

