



# District 7230 Newsletter

APRIL-MAY-JUNE  
2018

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[Rotary7230.org](http://Rotary7230.org)



## **From District-Governor, Janet DiBenedetto:**



As the Rotary year comes to an end I would like to thank each one of you for your time, energy, dedication and participation in making this year a success.

It was a different and unusual beginning to our year with the health issues of PDG Barbara. It was a very difficult time for her as she made the decision to resign the office of DG for the benefit of all. Hence the reason for my appointment to be DG for a second time. PDG

Barbara continues to have some problems and now faces additional surgery in the fall. Let each one of us keep her in our prayers and best wishes.

Visiting the clubs has been an absolute pleasure for me. It has given me the opportunity to see old friends and make new ones. Most importantly to hear and see the passion that each club has for their communities and the world. Your service has no boundaries or limits. My heartfelt appreciation to each one of you for your help to those in desperate need in Puerto Rico. Thanks to Larry and Jim for bringing the project to life.

Our District Conference and Outreach were a tremendous success - from the start of the day with our extremely successful business meeting. Our Manual of Administrative Procedures (MAP) has been Restated and Amended. Thank you to the committee members for your hours of work.

There were over 200 in attendance at our Paul Harris Luncheon. We recognized 48 new Paul Harris Fellows as well 8 new Major Donors Level 1. one new Level 2 and one new Level 3. Thank you all. We recognized Jim Kushner as Rotarian of the Year.

On Saturday we had over 200 Rotarians, Rotaractors, Interactors, family and friends packing over 40,000 meals. The South Shore Rotary Club sent a bus with 35 Interactors to work for the day. There was such a sense of pride, fun and fellowship. Young and older working together to feed those in need. A very special thank you to all our sponsors who made the day possible.

To my leadership team especially my AG's Larry, JT, Bill, Bob, Mary, Brian and George many thanks. We were a team and I would not have been able to do the job without you; Taylor DRFC and Doris our Grants Chair for their expertise and Amir for his passion to grow our membership; Mahbub for always being available to myself as well as the clubs to work on the website and ClubRunner; George McKinnis a million thanks for your help and guidance.

I want to wish our future DG's Kris, David and Mahbub the very best as they continue to lead us.

It has been my honor and pleasure to serve this year as your District Governor.

In the Rotary Year 2017-18  
ROTARY MADE A DIFFERENCE

*-Janet*

## **District Conference Roundup:**

Our District Conference on April 27 at the DoubleTree Hotel in Tarrytown adopted a landmark revision of the District's Manual of Administrative Procedure (MAP), bringing it in line with RI requirements.

DG Janet opened the Conference with the District Assembly. After the memorial service honoring those Rotarians who have passed away during the year, DG Janet presented the State of the District. She said all Clubs are paid up for both RI and District, and that the District has terminated the Rotary Club of Veterans for World Peace as it was a non-functioning Club. She announced that the Nominating Committee had selected Mahbub Ahmad to be the DG for 2020-21. She then introduced the District Treasurer's review of the audited financial statement for the District, which was unanimously approved. DRFCC Taylor Eskew presented the RI Foundation report, following which the Assembly was presented with the Restated and Revised MAP for the District. After a couple of small amendments, the MAP was adopted through weighted voting monitored by two Scrutineers and the Parliamentarian appointed to supervise the voting.

The Paul Harris Lunch, attended by nearly 200 attendees, began with the presentation of Flags and National Anthems by the Pleasantville High School Chorus. Rev. Paul Engensteiner delivered the invocation after which 8 new Major Donors and 48 first-time Paul Harris Fellows were individually recognized.

RI President's Representative PDG Wade Drinkard of Alabama highlighted the importance of engagement rather than attendance. FBI Agent Peter Casson delivered the keynote address on Cyber Security.





Rotarian Jim Kushner of the Inwood Club was recognized as Rotarian of the Year. The Pelham Club was recognized for being the Club with the highest per capita giving to the RI Foundation.



The final segment was devoted to the District 7230 Foundation Annual Meeting during which amendments to the Foundation's By-laws were presented and adopted.



At the afternoon Breakout sessions, presentations were made by Purple Hearts Homes and the Gift of Life.

Saturday was the highlight of the Conference were nearly 200 volunteers gathered at the Church Street School for the Food Outreach Program. Organized by Bradley Nelson and his team, in 4 hours the volunteers, which included Interactors from Staten Island and Rotaractors, packed nearly 40,000 meals which were then taken by the Clubs for distribution to their local communities. See an album of the Food packing on our District website.

The Conference concluded with a congenial fellowship dinner at the Stone Manor.

## President Riseley visits our District



On Tuesday June 5th we had the honor of welcoming RI President Ian Riseley and his wife Juliet to our district.



President Ian contacted President Sandy Wolstein of the Bronx Rotary Club to say he and Juliet would like to visit the club for three special reasons. First, to recognize the Bronx Rotary Club for 100 years of service to the Bronx, second, to install incoming President Teah Wulah and finally, to visit a project that the Bronx Rotary Club has been involved with.



The day began with a visit to the Hyde Leadership Charter School in the Hunts Point section of the Bronx where President Ian read Stone Soup to a class of third graders. The students enjoyed the book but were intrigued by the fact that President and Juliet were from Australia. There were many questions about kangaroos and koala bears.



President Sandy then conducted her regular Tuesday meeting on City Island where President Ian then installed President Teah and his officers and Board of Directors.

A very special day for our District.

## Introducing Your DG for 2020-21

On March 22, the District Nominating Committee, comprising one Rotarian from each of the District's 7 areas, selected Mahbub Ahmad of the Yonkers-East Yonkers Club to be our District Governor for 2020-21 to succeed David Schribman who will be DG for 2019-20.





Mahbub has a proven track record of achievements in his professional career and both at the Club and District levels bolstered by regular and consistent participation at the District and RI levels. As our District Director of Technology and webmaster, Mahbub has been instrumental in enhancing the District's collection of data on Club activities and performance. As the 2016-17 President of the Yonkers-East Yonkers Club, he established new partnership arrangements with other Clubs and organizations, built the Club's website and social media presence from scratch generating profitability through sponsorships and steered the Club to achieve it's first Presidential Citation.

Joining Rotary towards the end of a 30-year career in Public Information at the United Nations, he combines multi-cultural public Information skills with his in-depth understanding of technology acquired through his leadership of the team that created and managed the United Nations website. He has created Radio and Television segments on Human Rights, Water and Sanitation, Women, Children, international crises, among many topics. He has travelled widely attending many United Nations Conferences.

Mahbub has a Master's degree in International Law and Organization from the John's Hopkins University. Mahbub and his wife Rotarian Bina Ahmad are Major Donors to the RI Foundation.

## 2017-18 District & Global Grants Report

### THE ROTARY FOUNDATION

#### AVAILABLE DDF FOR DISTRICT 7230

Program Year 2017 - 2018			
Transaction	Description	Amount	Balance
50% of Annual Fund Share contributions from 2014 - 2015		\$71,147.95	\$71,147.95
50% of Available Endowment Fund Share Earnings		\$715.95	\$71,863.90
Carry Forward from 2016 - 2017		\$38,128.32	\$109,992.22
Project Funding	DG1847866 District Grants 2016-17	(\$35,922.00)	
Project Funding	GG1756311 GOL Egypt	(\$7,000.00)	
Project Funding	GG1757170 GOL Roo	(\$5,000.00)	
<b>Total DDF Funding</b>		<b>(\$47,922.00)</b>	<b>\$62,070.22</b>
Returned Funds	DG1737619	\$1,089.50	
<b>Total DDF Returned Funds</b>		<b>\$1,089.50</b>	<b>\$63,159.72</b>
	<b>Actual DDF Balance</b>		<b>\$63,159.72</b>
Tagged	GG1633878 Happy Kids Mongolia	(1,000.00)	
Tagged	GG1759485 Panama Footbridges to Prosperity	(\$10,000.00)	
Tagged	GG1869999 MUSE Mumbai	(\$6,000.00)	
<b>Total DDF Tagged</b>		<b>(\$17,000.00)</b>	<b>\$46,159.72</b>
	<b>Committed DDF Balance (Estimated)</b>		<b>\$46,159.72</b>
Requested	GG1872613 GOL Middle East Children **	(\$5,000.00)	
	GG1866264 Marmara University TMS **Metro Club	(\$4,000.00)	
	GG1871698 Yonkers Dream Court	(\$8,000.00)	
	GG1861581 Give a Hand to Life Dialysis NYC	(\$4,500.00)	
	GG1870406 WAVE Women Against Violence Egypt - Pelhams*	(\$4,000.00)	
	GG866173 Mitooma Literacy - Hamilton Club	(\$5,000.00)	
	<b>Requested not yet approved</b>		<b>\$15,659.72</b>
Anticipated	GG1640290 Treatment of Renal Disease - Briarcliff		
	Yonkers GOL Pakistan	(\$5,000.00)	
	Renal Disease India	(\$2,000.00)	
	Upgrade the infrastructure of Govt. Girls School, Kanots, India	(\$5,000.00)	
	Water Project Equador	(\$2,500.00)	

-Taylor Eskew

[illegible]

Once you complete the details and save it, you can also export the project to the Rotary Showcase for the world to see.

*"South Shore Rotarians are role models who pull off super fetes."*

"They know about the value of giving without expectation or receiving something in return," said Rosemarie Dressler, South Shore Rotary member. "Each year they work with the members South Shore Rotary to raise funds to help students with cancer continue their education."

The Gaynor Expeditionary Learning School students under the leadership of Tiffany Reingold, the school's College Advisor, team up every year for the last seven years with the South Shore Rotary to create **John's Pasta Party**, a fundraiser that morphed into a super successful annual special event that unites students, staff and Rotarians with the community.

**John's Pasta Party** is a fundraiser in memory of Staten Islander John Dressler, who lost his 15-month battle with cancer eight years ago at the age of 21 and inspired by a handful of "exceptional doctors and nurse who have that something extra that distinguishes them from a pool of dedicated and caring health care professionals," said Rosemarie.

Each year this event is co-chaired by Tiffany Reingold, a school student chair, and South Shore Rotary member and John's mother, Rosemarie Dressler.

"Our school mandates that each student completes 100 hours of community service by graduation," said Tiffany Reingold. "We know that it's through community engagement and service that teenagers



develop their own competencies and the soft skills that will serve them throughout life."

The popular fundraiser annually attracts more than 200 guests, who enjoy salad, pasta entrees, drinks and desserts donated by more than 30 top restaurants on Staten Island in the high school cafeteria. This year they danced to the music of *Terrific Tunes Entertainment*.

"It's like a family reunion every year as I get to see Rotarians who hold this cause dear to their hearts," said Tiffany Reingold. "We all work toward our common goal of bringing our community together to raise funds for cancer survivors to return-to or remain in college."

Costumes were provided for McCown students who entertain both the children and their parents. A face painting station, cotton candy and popcorn machines are popular features donated by Dina Lorenzo, owner of *Party Bliss/ The Lollipop Shop*.

"South Shore Rotarians are role models who pull off super fetes," said Rosemarie Dressler. South Shore Rotarians Mike Duffy reaches out to restaurants and secures the food; April Cass designs the invitation, banners and promotional materials; Rosemarie Dressler manages the promotion. Brian Benevento coordinates the small army of their club's Rotary members who leave their offices early to pick up food donations from restaurants from all corners of the borough the afternoon of the event and deliver the trays into the hands of students at the school.

"In addition to volunteering the night of as servers, face painters, costume characters, and at the raffle table, McCown students spend countless hours behind the scenes preparing for the event," said Tiffany Reingold. "They see **John's Pasta Party** as a fun way to hang out with their friends while contributing to their community."

A lifelong Staten Island resident, John Dressler graduated from Monsignor Farrell High School, in 2006 with high honors. He was also an honor student in Villanova University's five year master's degree program in computer engineering and while at college was selected by Lockheed Martin as one of four students nationwide to participate in their top security summer internship in Washington DC.

In 2009, John complained of a stomach ache one month before the internship was to begin. A cancerous mass was found on his appendix which spread to his liver. "There was a period of time my husband and I thought our son who was undergoing treatment he would be able to return to his classes," said Rosemarie. "A search for resources to ease the financial burden for students battling cancer with escalating medical expenses was sadly non-existent."

The South Shore Rotary Club embraced Rosemarie's proposal to support students with cancer and established the scholarship in her son's name.



"While the scholarship was named in memory of my son, it was motivated by outstanding caring health care professionals who provided care above and beyond. As it turned out they were cancer survivors. One of my prayers is that we give hope to students battling this disease so they continue to work to realize their dreams," said Rosemarie.

All proceeds were donated to the South Shore Rotary John Dressler Scholarship, aim to help students with cancer return to the classroom.

If you would like to make a donation, send checks payable to the South Shore Rotary Foundation, (Please specify John Dressler Scholarship) and send to South Shore Rotary, PO Box 061068, Staten Island, New York 10306-0011.

## **Inwood Rotary begins 2-year Tree Replacement Program**



On Saturday, 9 June, the Rotary Club of Inwood, kicked off its tree restoration project, which consists of the replacement of all dead trees on the streets of the Inwood section of Manhattan. 220 trees need to be replaced, from Dyckman Street to 218<sup>th</sup> Street, river to river. The most recently planted saplings need to be pruned and consistently watered, the soil aerated and mulched, and tree guards erected to protect against dog urine. The City will take care of the planting.



This will be a two-year project. With the help of Nelson Villarubia, CEO of Trees New York, who arrived with a crew of trained tree pruners, Inwood Rotary members led by 2018 Rotarian of the Year, Jim Kushner set about the task, with the assistance of some 20 local volunteers.



They started on 204<sup>th</sup> Street and down Cooper Street to 207<sup>th</sup> Street. Altogether they covered quite a number of trees in the initial phase. Jim Kushner and his team will publicize their next outing shortly. In the meantime, they need ideas for tree guards and volunteer carpenters.

To join their team, please message Jim on my Facebook page (James Kushner) or email him at: [jkushner@nyc.rr.com](mailto:jkushner@nyc.rr.com)



**GOIN' FISHING**

**4TH ANNUAL BRIAN BENEVENTO MEMORIAL FISHING TRIP**

**SPONSORED BY THE SOUTH SHORE ROTARY**

**SATURDAY, JULY 14, 2018 ~ 7:30AM TO 2:30PM**

**CHARTER BOAT "THE FISHERMEN"**  
**LEAVES PROMPTLY AT 7:30AM**  
**ATLANTIC Highlands Marina**  
**2 Simon Lake Drive, Atlantic Highlands, NJ 07716**

**\$90pp Includes Rod, Reel, Bait and Lunch**  
 Make checks payable to South Shore Rotary  
 Send to Brian Benevento  
 21 Bunnell Ct, Staten Island, NY 10312  
 RSVP ASAP ~ Space is limited!  
 Email [bbenevento56@gmail.com](mailto:bbenevento56@gmail.com)  
 or call 347-582-7607 & leave message

**PRIZES FOR:**  
**1ST FISH CAUGHT**  
**BIGGEST FISH**

**No Bananas Allowed!**  
**All proceeds, after expenses, will be donated to the**  
**Pitbulls and Addicts/No More Pain Animal Rescue in Brian's name**  
**Can't be there in person? Donations accepted for the cause in any amount.**

**South Shore Rotary Club**

## ClubRunner 101 – Part 3

In part 2, I promised to update you on the differences between the RI site and the Club and District ClubRunner sites.

For starters, the RI site ([rotary.org](http://rotary.org)) is the master site which holds all of the information of all 1.2 million+ Rotarians worldwide. It is also the site which houses the information about your Club, it's members, your Club Officers, your Club goals, and tracking your Club's activities. Here is also where you can showcase your Club's projects to the world and see what other Clubs around the world are doing.

The District site ([rotary7230.org](http://rotary7230.org)) and your Club's site, if it is on ClubRunner, are integrated. A lot of the information you enter about your Club is automatically synchronized with the RI site. However,



this synchronization is only one-way – it only flows upwards from the Club to the District and from District to RI but not the other way around.

You enter your Club information – membership information, Meeting location, date and time, on your Club or District site, as well as your profile picture. Let others in the District know you and recognize you when they see you! On MyRotary, you enter your Club goals, your Club's service activities, or make donations to the RI Foundation.

Remember: Any updates to your profile you make on the Club site is automatically synchronized with the District and RI databases within 24 hours. If you make any changes directly on the RI site, those changes will not be pushed back to the District and Club sites.

If you need more help, contact your Club President, Secretary or webmaster. If you still need more help, take the plunge – email me: [mahbub@yonkersrotary.org](mailto:mahbub@yonkersrotary.org).

*-Mahbub Ahmad*