



District 7230 PeaceLetter

Volume 1 Number 7

February 2013

Greg Arcaro
District Governor

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Rotary International



\$1 A Month Changes Lives

The Cortlandt Manor Rotary & Putnam Valley Rotary Team Up to Make a Difference in Special Needs Children's Program in Namibia, Africa. **ONLY \$1 A MONTH**

After a visit this past fall from MaryBeth Gallagher, President of the Rotary Club of Namibia, Africa (and daughter of Ossining Rotarian John Gallagher) the idea to help Lebensschule by providing \$1 from each member in the clubs per month. All clubs and members in District 7230 are invited to join our

two clubs in this venture. The difference \$1 a month here makes to us is minimal, however the difference we could make in these Special Needs Children in Africa for that amount is remarkable. This \$1 a month donation on our parts will ensure there is the ability for this program to stay in operation.

The checks can be made to KINDLE (a not for profit organization that is distributing the money to Lebensschule Special Needs Center). We ask all clubs/members in our District to consider helping us in this effort to change lives!



Rotarian MaryBeth Gallagher (center) at Lebensschule in Namibia.



Monthly checks from you or your club can be forwarded for submission to:

Jocko Mahoney
c/o Putnam Valley Rotary Club
PO Box 313, Putnam Valley, NY
10579

Any clubs helping in this effort will surely be on MaryBeth's agenda to visit on her next trip to the United States in 2013. When she can personally tell you about the program and what your donation means to those vulnerable special needs children you are helping.

The beginnings of a mural on the wall at the Lebensschule seems to delight the special needs children.



INFORMATION & REMINDERS



Upcoming Dates:

- February 9** - Rotary Foundation Seminar, Doubletree Hotel, Tarrytown
- February 10** - Start of the District's Group Study Exchange Team's 28-day visit to Tokyo, Japan
- February 13** - Metro New York - Club Meeting 4 – Hillary Richard McNamara, Travel Writer; Writers' Double-Header Part 1 of 2
- February 23** - 108th Anniversary of the founding of Rotary in 1905
- February 27** - Metro New York - Club Meeting 1 – Noah Schwartz, Wine Writer; Writers' Double-Header Part 2 of 2
- February 28** - Deadline for submissions for March newsletter
- March 1** - Deadline for District Community Service Grant applications
- March 1** - Deadline for RYLA applications
- March 2** - Club President-elect Workshop, "Fogarty's" in Bronxville
- March 22-23** - Club President-elect Training Seminar, Marriott Hotel, Whippany, New Jersey
- April 12-14** - Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA), Alpine, New Jersey
- April 15** - Deadline for Summer Youth Exchange applications
- April 27** - Rotary Leadership Institute (White Plains High School)
- May 17** - Paul Harris Luncheon, District Foundation Annual Meeting, District Peace Forum
- May 18** - District Conference
- May 18** - District Service Project, District Family barbecue

New Members

Rotary Clubs...when you club inducts a new member, please send information (and photo) of your new member for publication in the District newsletter.



Rotary International Convention in Lisbon, Portugal



Rotary Gets Ready to Explore Lisbon

The 2013 RI Convention will take place in Lisbon, Portugal, 23-26 June. Portugal's capital offers Rotarians breathtaking views, rich history and culture, and some of the country's finest shopping and dining. At its peak, the city served as capital to an empire spanning several continents, from South America to Asia. That traditional of exploration is now captured in world-class museums and monuments, including the stunning Monument to the Discoveries.

From the bustling House of Friendship to breakout sessions to pre-convention meetings, the RI Convention is your way to connect with the family of Rotary. See the full schedule of events at: <http://www.riconvention.org/en/2013/Program/Schedule/Pages/ridefault.aspx>.

Coby Ellingwood would be happy to assist Conference travelers with airline information (costs change hourly), and tours of this beautiful country, and surrounds. He has many agents that know Lisbon and Portugal well. Please contact Coby for any information, at coburn.ellingwood@altour.com.

Coby says: "I have, and would be glad to forward to you, a sample "travel package" which includes the Conference dates plus additional tour features after the Rotary event. This could be used as a guide to help you in putting together an itinerary customized to your wishes".

Coby is in touch with TAP Airline to get a contract for possibly lower group fares, for the trip, and will keep Rotarians informed.



Celebrating New Members in D7230

Rotary Club of Larchmont Inducts Two More New Members!

The Rotary Club of Larchmont (RCL) inducted two more new members recently, adding to the remarkable growth over the past year.

Said Stephen Bartell, the club's current President, "Our dramatic growth in members shows that local professionals recognize that Rotary provides them with the opportunity to contribute to our community like no other service organization. Our projects cover a wide variety of important local, regional and global issues, determined by club leadership and members. All our most recent new members come from diverse backgrounds and professions which provide exciting inputs and expertise to the club's project development and execution. And as our membership grows, the more service projects we can initiate and complete."

Individuals interested in learning more about the Rotary Club of Larchmont and meeting current members can contact RCL President Stephen Bartell at 914-833-8683 or President@rotarylarchmont.com to arrange to attend a Friday luncheon meeting at the Larchmont Yacht Club. Find a detailed meeting schedule and more background at www.rotarylarchmont.org and on www.rotary.org.

Michael Gedigk

On December 14th, the club inducted Larchmont resident Michael Gedigk, head of the local USA Mobil Drug Testing service as the seventh new member in 2012.

Yolanda Robinson

On January 4th, 2013, the club inducted Yolanda Robinson, Westchester County Regional Director, Intergovernmental and Community Affairs for the Office of New York State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli. She is the eighth new member in the past nine months.

Yolanda Robinson (middle) is pictured with Larchmont Rotary Club President Stephen Bartell and her sponsor.



Michael Gedigk receives his Rotary pin at his induction.





Rotary D7230 Community Service Grant Announcement

Thanks to funds our District received this year from The Rotary Foundation, grants of \$1,000 (min) to \$1,500 (max) are available to Rotary Clubs in our District for new humanitarian and educational projects. Applicant Rotary Clubs must contribute at least 50% of the grant request. Two or more Rotary clubs may submit one grant request. The deadline for submitting grant applications to Doris Benson, chair of our District's Grants Subcommittee (dwbenson1@verizon.net) is **March 1, 2013**. Grant awards will be announced on March 22, 2013 but will be disbursed only after projects are completed. Projects should be completed and "Individual Project Reports" submitted no later than May 23, 2013.



EREY Campaign Going Well

To date, the Annual Fund (EREY) has received \$46,681.85 which represents about 31% of our goal. I hear a lot of buzz about what clubs are doing for EREY and want to thank all District Rotarians for your generosity and efforts that provide our future Grant funding. Our special thanks to the following clubs that have met or exceeded their goals already: White Plains, Sandys, St. Georges, Chappaqua & Chinatown.

EVERY
ROTARIAN
EVERY
YEAR

Interesting facts about EREY

1. The Rotary Foundation is \$850,000,000 strong.
2. The Rotary Foundation (TRF) money is "our" money and supports our projects through grants.
3. A Paul Harris Fellow, who gives to EREY, can name and honor a fellow club member. Both the donor and the Honoree receive PHF credits. Additionally, the donor receives credit for Major Donor Status, too.
4. Some clubs incentivize larger donations by offering Foundation Recognition points to members on a \$100 match for a \$200 contribution.
5. Rotary Direct is a convenient way to contribute by authorizing automatic payments drafted from a credit card – as little as \$10 per month. Go to: www.rotary.org and search Rotary Direct.
6. On a quarterly basis, some clubs hold a meeting at a member's home in lieu of meeting at a restaurant. Everyone 'pays' for dinner and that money goes to EREY as a credit to their annual giving.
7. Some people think of Annual Giving (EREY) as a bit of "Altruistic Dues."
8. One club in 17, worldwide, is a 100% Paul Harris Fellow Club. (Go for it with planning!)
9. Only one Club in our District, North East Westchester Rotary Club, is a 100% Paul Harris Club.
10. If everyone in Rotary donated just \$100, our clubs would have 3 times the amount of money for our projects that is now available.

GUEST SPEAKER: If you would like an interesting and inspiring speaker on EREY, New Gen or structuring your club meetings more efficient and more effective as a "one size fits your current members and prospective members," telephone DGN David Del Monte at (212) 532-2141.



Friendship Exchange Team Visits Bangalore

The "Friendship Exchange Team" sponsored by our Rotary District 7230 visited Bangalore, India, as guests of the Rotary Club of Bangalore, India, from January 10 - 20, 2013. The Team comprised of Tom Reilly, Past President of Chinatown Rotary; Janet Walsh, of Bedford-Armonk Rotary; Eva Finkelstein, President of Scarsdale Rotary, and her son Kevin Finkelstein, a non-Rotarian 22-year old college student in Worcester, Massachusetts; and Viktor Solarik, of Mt. Kisco Rotary. Briarcliff Rotary President Krishnan Chittur, who arranged the trip and is also chair of our District's Friendship Exchange Committee, headed the team.



Private reception in New York by Consul General of India Prabhu Dayal.

The program started off with a bang: a private reception for the Team hosted by the Consul General of India at the Indian Consulate in New York on January 8, 2013. District Governor Greg Arcaro and District Secretary Vinny Coakley, together with a select group of Indian Americans from Bangalore and dignitaries of the Government of India, also attended that reception.

While in Bangalore, local Rotarians hosted the Team, which gave a unique opportunity to our Rotarians to share the



Welcome reception at the Rotary Club of Bangalore, India.



The 400 year-old bull carving.

home and family life of local residents. Team members assembled at the Bangalore Rotary Club's "House of Friendship" every morning for visits through the day, and were picked up by their respective hosts in the evening. Highlights of the trip included visits to tourist spots such as Lalbaugh gardens; the Bull temple an architectural marvel from the 16th century featuring a huge statute of the bull "Nandi" carved out of a single granite block; the HAL Aerospace Museum showcasing India's achievements in aeronautic engineering; the 400 year old Banyan tree; and the ISKCON temple, a vast cultural-religious complex with a 56 ft high dwajastambha (flagpost) and the gold plated 28 ft high kalash shikara, in addition to visits to the manufacturing facilities of Toyota, Deccan Herald (a leading local newspaper), and Kottas Coffee (coffee processing plant).

The Bangalore Rotarians also took our Rotarians on a day trip to Mysore (a 3 hour drive), to visit the erstwhile Mysore Maharaja's palace, the Vrindavan gardens, and the Mysore Silk Factory.

Our District agreed to exchange a friendship team with the Rotary Club of Bangalore. Chartered in 1934, the Bangalore Club is one of the oldest in India, and has been involved in remarkable projects fulfilling community needs. Indeed, our Rotarians spent a whole day visiting such projects founded, funded, and managed (in whole or in major part) by the Bangalore Club. These projects included the Rotary TTK Blood Bank, which has a special lab, the first-of-its-kind in India for Dual Kinetic Assays; the dialysis unit for the Rajarajeshwari Hospital and Medical College, one of the top hospitals in the area; and the Rotary International School in Nagadevanahalli, which provides education (including books and other educational supplies and even mid-day meals and pleasant "Rotary International" uniforms) to children from some of the poorest families in the area. Team members were so moved by the well-behaved, well-dressed and

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Bangalore Friendship Exchange

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enthusiastic school children from the poorest Indian families that they promptly made personal pledges of donations to the school.

The Exchange provided a unique experience, enabling Rotarians experience first-hand the way of living and perspectives of people residing half way across the globe, and seeing local places of interest with local escorts and through the eyes of locals. Simultaneously, Rotarians also got the opportunity to establish trans-Atlantic relationships with individuals and families in India.

Team members were ecstatic about the experience. Eva Finkelstein, President of the Scarsdale Rotary who was accompa-



Topiary garden.



Rotary International School in Nagadevanahalli.



At Vijayakumar's farm.



Chamundi Hills.



At RajaRajeshwari Hospital



National Immunization Day.

nied by her son Kevin Finkelstein in the Team, said, "My life has been changed by this trip . . . I only want to eat Indian food, I am still on Indian time, and I am so happy to have found a place on Earth that works, for the people, and for life itself." Janet Walsh, of the Bedford-Armonk Rotary, another member of the Team, said, "Under Kris Chittur's able guidance, we were provided with a comprehensive introduction to Indian culture, business and Rotary projects. If you have ever wondered what it was like to be a Maharajah, you can experience it first hand at the Rotary Club of Bangalore. Mohan Gurjar, the president, and all the members took time and made the effort to ensure our every need was anticipated and provided for. I particularly enjoyed the business interactions with colleagues in manufacturing, technology, services and retail industries. Their insight and perspective will be mutually beneficial as we expand further into India. The Rotary projects including hospitals, blood bank, dialysis center and school were inspiring. From a cultural perspective, I enjoyed the trip to the Mysore palace and the neon-painted Holstein cows that wander through the city. Bangalore has an exceptional zoo safari park displaying sloth bears, Asiatic lions and tigers and chitral deer in natural settings which is not to be missed!" Kevin Finkelstein agreed. "I could not imagine a more educational, enlightening experience than our recent Friendship Exchange adventure to the Rotary Club of Bangalore," he said.

This Friendship Exchange was a wonderful way for Rotarians in our District to enjoy the international experience that Rotary offers," said District Governor Arcaro. "As they stayed in the homes of Rotarians from the Rotary Club of Bangalore, India they developed new friends and increased the chance that we will live in a peaceful world.

The return team from Bangalore is expected to visit New York in Summer 2013.



Call For Presenters & Facilitators



PEACE THROUGH RESPECT:

A Forum to Build Peace in Our Communities

Sponsored by Rotary District 7230

May 17, 2013

3:30 – 7 p.m. ~ Forum

7 p.m.~ Reception

Doubletree Hotel, Tarrytown, NY

Facilitators and Presenters are being sought for four breakout sessions:

- Peace and Religion – The challenges of extremism
- Peace in the Digital Age – How cyber-bullying has increased the perils of bullying for our children – and what we can do about it.
- Peace in the Streets – Seeking solutions to gang and other violence in our cities and towns
- Peace and Environmental Disruption – the effects of environmental injustice today and threats to peace in our communities caused by climate change (e.g. draughts, flooding, etc.)

Presentations can be in the form of remarks (approximately 10 minutes) or artistic performances (3 - 10 minutes). We are especially interested in programs that encourage adoption by, or collaboration among, attendees.

Please respond with your interest and envisioned format (i.e. talk, performance, etc.) by sending a proposal (of no more than 250 words) to: Taylor Eskew, rteskew@gmail.com by March 1, 2013.

If you are interested in facilitating one of the conference breakout sessions, please inform us of your qualifications.

A decision on presenters and facilitators will be made by March 15.

Presenters and Facilitators are the guests of Rotary District 7230 for both the Forum and the following reception.



Polio Eradication: Success in India

In 1988 India had as many as 200,000 new polio cases a year. In 2009, after two decades of vaccinations, it accounted for, at 741 infections, nearly half the world's total. Last month, however, India marked two years without a single case polio, a giant victory in a country that's regularly trounced by its poorer neighbor Bangladesh in a number of health indicators.

India's successful war on polio shows what can happen when its government sets clear policy goals backed with proper funding and real accountability. Much of that funding today comes as a result of Rotarians who have advocated the eradication of this deadly disease.

Rotarians in Pakistan, Afghanistan and Nigeria are working tirelessly rid their countries of this disease. Please add your voice and financial support to the challenge to END POLIO NOW by thanking our elected officials in Washington for their support. Together we can do what was once thought impossible.

THE END OF POLIO 2012



Polio has now been reduced,
not just by 99%, but by 99.9%.

Case count in 2012 : 222 cases

Polio cases decreased by more than **60%** in 2012 compared to 2011. **2011 : 650 cases**
2009 : 1604 cases
1988 : 350,000 cases

Only 5 countries reported cases in 2012 compared to 16 in 2011.

India was removed from the list of polio-endemic countries and has now passed 2 years without a single case. Only 3 polio-endemic countries remain: Afghanistan, Nigeria and Pakistan.



We are now seeing the fewest polio cases in the fewest districts in the fewest countries in history.

The End of Polio is within reach. Join the movement.

www.theendofpolio.com



All The Views That Are Fit to Print by Somer Rotary Club

This year the Somers Rotary Club will be publishing the eighth edition of our award winning book, "On My Mind". This literary project has brought together the diverse writings and viewpoints of students from many geographic areas, urban, suburban and rural, and from diverse economic, racial and ethnic backgrounds. The book allows many of the student authors to reveal their inner most thoughts...sometimes a cathartic experience. The book enables the contributors to be recognized and to be published, which can be a valuable asset on a resume or college application. In May we will bring together, in Somers, many of student authors so that they can meet each other, be recognized and read their works. *The New York Times* called our book "a remarkable effort to bridge the void between poor and rich, urban and suburban, in a way that almost never occurs". Billy Collins a former Poet Laureate of the United States, said that "On My Mind can provide parents, teachers, and other adults with a keyhole into the hearts and psyches of our young people".

Congratulations to the members of the Rotary Club of Somers!



Promoting Rotary on WCBS-AM Radio



Thanks to a grant from Rotary International, WCBS-AM radio will be playing the following 30-second promotion for Rotary during the month of February. The 3.2 million listeners of WCBS will be directed to a website – www.nynjrotary.org - to learn more about Rotary and to help them contact a Rotary Club.

If you hear the ad...smile...you are already a member of a wonderful Rotary Club and enjoying the benefits of being a Rotarian!

"Literacy...education...peace. These are signature projects of the non-profit Rotary Clubs of New York and New Jersey. Without the ability to read even the simplest of textbooks, job applications or medical prescriptions, people - locally and throughout the world - will remain hungry, poor and restless. Help people break the bonds of modern slavery by becoming involved in the literacy and basic education projects of rotary. Contact your local rotary club on the internet at www.nynjrotary.org"



Student Summer Exchange Available!

Can you imagine spending 3 - 6 weeks this summer with a family and host sibling in one of 30 countries in the world?! In return, your family will host an Exchange Student for an equal amount of time during the summer. If you know anyone 15 to 18.5 years old (whether in a Rotarian family or not!), who might be interested contact: Dr. Roger Swanson at roger.swanson@verizon.net or 914-826-4845. See also www.exchangestudent.org for information on STEP rules and cost.

Applications are due - through a Rotary Club - by April 15th.





Group Study Exchange Team Going to Tokoyo

The latest Group Study Exchange Team departs for Tokoyo on February 10. They will travel for one month throughout District 2750 and visit the Rotary Clubs there.



District 7230



Group Study Exchange



District 2750



Merva Faddoul



Keith Clifton

Team Leader
Team Leader



Seth Golden



Amy Schoeman



Beligh Ltaifa



Lily Hanson



New Generations Update

On March 16th, the New Gen Committee has scheduled a meeting to complete 3 to 5 year Goals and couple them with a strategic plan. This will give New Gen direction plus add effectiveness and efficiency to our valuable volunteer time. The meeting will be 9 AM to 12:30 at RYLA Chairman Kevin Hunts' office of Chyten Educational Services, 280 N. Central Avenue, Hartsdale. If you're interested, please let us know. If we have room, you are welcome to join us if you participate in the preparatory efforts.

Interact: New Club Sponsored by the Scarsdale Rotary Club.

Rotaract: The Pace Rotaract will be an official school club first and is still recruiting its membership base. There is a meeting on Wednesday at Pace and Arian Almas, member the Rotary Club of Wall Street, the sponsoring Club, will attend to assist with creating the club framework. Arian will keep us posted on chartering developments. If you know any Pace Students, mention Rotaract to them and ask them to contact Arian at arian.n.almas@gmail.com.

4-Way Test Speech Contest: Club Speech Contests have begun. Semi-Finals on April 20th and Finals at the District Conference on Saturday, May 18th. President Diana Juettner and Author Theo Henderson are presenting a repeat performance from 2011-13. For details visit the district website or email 4WayTestSpeechContest@Rotary7230.org.

Youth Exchange: Thanks to District Youth Exchange Chair, Dr. Roger Swanson, *Continued on page 10*



New Generations

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and PDG David Sullivan in Bermuda, the many programs of Youth Exchange are active. Did you know there are 4 week youth exchange programs for the youth in your community? For details contact Roger at YouthExchange@rotary7230.org.

RYLA: Applications for from clubs are streaming in for the April 12-14 leadership Camp. Email Chairman Kevin Hunt at RYLA@District7230.org. This is wonderful opportunity to help 10th Grade Student grow and come away with memories that will last a lifetime. If not this year, not miss next year.



District Governor Nominating Committee

A Great Experience

The Nominating Committee for the District Governor and Treasurer for 2015/2016 met at the Siwanoy Country Club in Bronxville on the 19th of January, 2013. All of the areas were represented and we were delighted to have Barrett Dill from Bermuda as not only our Nominating Secretary but as an active member of the committee.

The meeting was started by our District Governor Greg Arcaro. All of the committee members asked questions and were focused on making sure we chose the candidate that would be the best qualified for our District. Greg was supported by Vinnie Coakley, Don Lee, Helen Lynch, David Black, and David DelMonte. Together they gave the committee guidance on the process and the expectations of the day.

The committee had a brief discussion and decided on our format, interview questions, and what the best process would be to ensure a fair decision and outcome. We welcomed the candidate to the session and gave an outline of our expectations. This process was repeated for the District Treasurer.

After each interview the committee debriefed and deliberated, then voted on each candidate. The committee unanimously voted to nominate Marilyn Masiero to the post of District Governor 2015/2016 and Lora Hugelmeyer as the next District Treasurer.

This was a great experience for everyone who participated; so often we overlook how Rotary actually works at the club level, district level, area level and internationally. The process that our nominating committee went through is done in every district in the world. It is a proven process, that when done correctly, will always provide the most qualified candidate for the position.

Our committee was made up of eight individuals; and I do mean *individuals*. Some of the members had years of experience, while others were fairly new to Rotary. As the Chairman of this committee, I was honored to participate. As I reflect back on the day's event I thought about our motto "Service Above Self" and realized that January 19th was more than that; it was "Service to our District".

Please step up and help our District when you are asked to go to a seminar, attend a development session, or be a member on a committee; I can tell you that it will definitely be a rewarding experience for you.

Call for Recommendations

The District By-laws & Incorporation Committee will be presenting its recommendations for changes to our District By-laws and Manual of Procedure to make them more compatible with our status as a non-profit corporation. The presentation will be made at our District's Annual Meeting on May 18th at the District Conference.

Please email any recommendations your club has to Debby Appel, the chair of the committee, at debby.appel@verizon.net by April 1st.