



# District 7230 PeaceLetter

Greg Arcaro  
District Governor

Newsletter Editor-in-Chief:  
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Rotary International

## District Conference 2013: Celebrating Friendship & Service



The District 7230 Conference at the Westchester Marriott Hotel on May 17, 18 and 19 2013 was a very well attended event with a special service day on Staten Island to cap off the weekend. The diversity of the dedicated members of District 7230 makes for fertile ground for fresh ideas and lively interaction as was witnessed and celebrated at the conference. Pictured l. to r. top row: John Cronin - Peace Forum speaker, Oriel Redd, ElderAct of Briarcliff Manor and Kris Chittur, president of Briarcliff Manor Rotary Club; DG Greg Arcaro and RI President's Representative PDG Wade Drinkard. Middle row: (replace current picture with new one from Andy) Judith Schwartzstein, Peace Forum Coordinator; Curtis Sliwa - Peace Forum speaker, Barbara Edwards, president Pembroke Rotary Club; Bottom row: Members of the Cortlandt Manor and Wall Street Rotary Clubs enjoying the Conference and Merva Faddoul, Peace Forum speaker.

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# District Conference

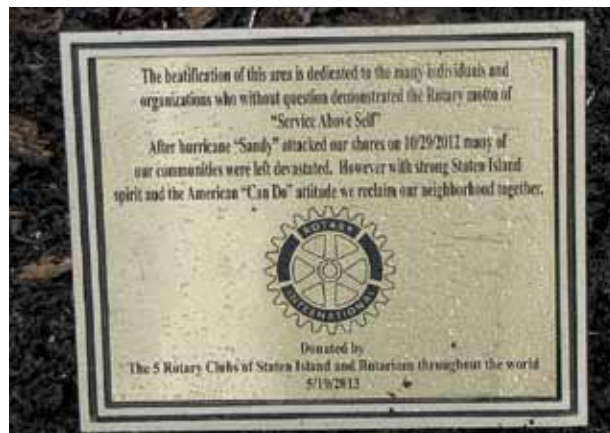
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Thanks to the work of the Eastchester Rotary and Interact Clubs, the District Conference was able to have a spaghetti dinner on Saturday Night with the proceeds being donated to Polio Plus.



These photos show the Hurricane Sandy Relief service project on Sunday. Rotarians, local teens and the GSE team from Japan all bent to the task of prepping and planting roadway medians near Midland Beach that were destroyed by Sandy. (All this in the pouring rain with nary a complaint!) Photo at left is of R.I. President's Representative Wade Drinkard aboard the bus that took everyone to the work area. The photo at Right show DG Greg Arcaro raking out the median, proving that no one was above some very hard work. Bottom right: a plaque placed by the plantings.



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## District Conference

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**Wet and weary Rotarians gratefully enjoyed hot coffee, cold beer and warm, delicious food back at the community activity center after their morning of hard work.**



## Disaster Relief in Oklahoma

Fellow Rotarians,

On behalf of Districts 5750 & 5770, we want to welcome donations on behalf of disaster relief specifically designated for the May 20, 2013 victims and their families.

We all have family and loved ones (including myself) that have lost homes, automobiles, personal belongings and friends to this F5 tornado.

Any funds received by our Rotary Bi-District 501c3 Foundation will be used exclusively for the benefit of those damaged by this terrible event.

Donations made be made online at [rotarydistrict5750.org](http://rotarydistrict5750.org) or can be mailed to:

Rotary Bi-District Tornado Disaster Fund  
P.O. Box 13800  
Oklahoma City, OK 73113-3800  
U.S.A.

**\*\*Please make checks payable to Foundation for Oklahoma Rotary Inc.\*\***

Please be aware that this is tax deductible donation and all donations will be acknowledged. Thank you in advance for all of your donations and the outpouring of support we've received.

Sincerely,

Will Beckman  
District Governor 2012-2013  
Rotary International District 5750







## 2013 Paul Harris Fellows Rotary District 7230

Briarcliff Manor - Krishnan Chittur

Bronx - Louise Di Meo, Louis Di Meo, Mark Gjonaj, Bill Gouldman, Rick Sherman,  
Mary Springman, Geoffrey Ukekweh

Central Bronx - Mohammed Majunder

Chappaqua - Manton Martin

Cortlandt Manor - Timothy Siglock, Barry Glaser

Eastchester - Mary Ciamarra, Tom Ferrara, Si Ford, Shelia Marcotte, Charles Slivinski

Elmsford - JT McFadden

Hamilton - Martha Dismont

Harlem - Dr. Syoum Gebregziabher

Harrison-Mamaroneck - Jack Geoghagan, Sarah Canzone

Mt. Kisco - Jon Bernz

New York - Eva Corredor, Jasmin Cowin, Dominik Grau, Gary Greenberg,  
Fredlee Kaplan, Rick Martin, Scarlett Pildes, Jean Abdou Rached, Jean Sardo, Harun Sevimli,  
Paul Schneiderman, Jim Thompson, Shelia Washington

Northeast Westchester - Doug Abdenour, Martin Ashley, Richard Atkins, Rick DiNardo,  
Stanley Herz-Pearlman, John Katzenstein, Crystal Keets, Harvey Kriedberg, Ed Liss,  
Jesse Manginelli, Art Saltzman, Miriam Schwarz, Stanley "Bert" Schwarz

Ossining - Bill Kress

Peekskill - Marie Green, Linda Gruetzner, Howard Copeland, Joe Lippolis

Pembroke - Gilda Furbert, Lyle Furbert

Pleasantville - Deanne Jamal, Habib Jamal, Gail Wind, Greg Wind, Robert Murphy,  
Thomas Langan

Port Chester-Rye Brook - John Kiyak

Rye - Fran Thomas

South Shore - William Connors, Tina Bellino

St. Georges - Phil Gaishard

Tarrytown - Jerry Barbelet and David Cartenuto

White Plains - Bill Fishman, Georgene Mongarella, Carl Winterrose

Yorktown - Diana Penna, Joseph Giuliano



## Club & Rotarian Awards: 2012-13 Rotary District 7230

### Club Service

Bronx (Club Bulletin)  
South Shore (Club Bulletin)  
White Plains (Meeting Program)

### Community Service

Bronxville (After School Tutoring)  
Central Bronx (Ten years of Service to the Community)  
Chappaqua (Thirty years of Service to the Community)  
Chinatown (Hurricane Sandy Relief Efforts)  
Cortlandt Manor (Hurricane Sandy Relief Efforts)  
District 7040 (Pleasantville Community Garden, Hurricane Sandy Relief)  
East Yonkers (Hurricane Sandy Relief)  
Gateway (Hurricane Sandy Relief)  
Inwood (Earth Day)  
Larchmont (Blood Drive)  
Metro (Hurricane Sandy Relief, Ten years of Service to the Community)  
Mid-Island (Hurricane Sandy Relief)  
Mount Vernon (Seniors Initiative, Blood Drive)  
New Rochelle (Soup Kitchen, Adult Education, Blood Drive)  
New York (Hurricane Sandy Relief)  
North Shore (Hurricane Sandy Relief)  
Ossining (Hurricane Sandy Relief Efforts)  
Peekskill (Teacher in the Library)  
Pembroke (Work Experience Community Garden)  
Pleasantville (Community Garden)  
Port Chester – Rye Brook (Food to Grow On, Hurricane Sandy Relief)  
Riverdale (Leadership in Literacy)  
Rye (Fifty years of Service to the Community)  
Sandys (Forty years of Service to the Community)  
Scarsdale (Ninety years of Service to the Community)  
Somers (Literacy- On My Mind, Ten Years of Service to the Community)  
South Shore (Hurricane Sandy Relief)  
Staten Island (Hurricane Sandy Relief)  
Wall Street (Hurricane Sandy Relief)

### International Service

Briarcliff Manor, Scarsdale, Mt Kisco, Bedford-Armonk, Chinatown (Friendship Exchange)  
Bronxville (COMACO)  
Central Bronx (Provision of Artificial Limbs in Bangladesh)  
Cortlandt Manor (Mabalacat, Children's Program in Namibia)  
East Yonkers (COMACO)

Larchmont (COMACO)  
Mt Kisco (Corelone)  
Rye (Sister Clubs in Italy)

### Youth Service

Eastchester (support of Interact Club's Polio Plus Dinner)  
Hamilton, Pembroke, Sandys, St George, (RYLA & Youth Exchange)  
Quad Village (new Mercy Manhattan Rotaract Club)

### Vocational Service

White Plains (Networking)

### Governor's Citation

Vin Coakley, Lynn Karam, Ted Nygreen,  
Maureen Tostanoski, Bea Castiglia-Catullo

### Peace Through Service

Friendship Exchange: Kris Chittur, Eva Marie Finkelstein, Kevin Finkelstein, Thomas Reilly, Judith Schwartzstein, Viktor Solarik, Janet Walsh  
One World United & Virtuous (non-Rotary)



*Claudia Maffettone, pictured above, is the District's candidate for a Rotary Peace Fellowship. She is sponsored by the Metro NY Rotary Club. If selected by Rotary International she will study at one of Rotary's Peace Centers for a Master's Degree in Peace and Conflict Resolution.*





## 4-Way Test Speech Contest 2013 Report



*Pictured l. to r: Mr. Vincent Moliterno School Counselor DeWitt Clinton High School, Bronx NY, Theodore Henderson - NY Rotary, Diana Juettner - Hartsdale Rotary, Rudgerry Robert Woodlands HS Greenburgh, NY - 1st Place Winner - "Changes and Reform", Alice Li Stuyvesant HS Manhattan- 2nd Place Winner - "Content: A Path to Happiness", Helen Avila - 3rd Place Winner DeWitt Clinton HS, Bronx - "We Don't Understand Each Other", Tiffany Mfoafo - 4th Place Winner DeWitt Clinton HS, Bronx- "Depression's Dark Road".  
Greg Arcaro - District 7230 Governor*

Our four finalists were exceptional and well prepared, making it extremely difficult for the judges to choose a winner. Our 4th place winner Ms. Tiffany Mfoafo gave a great speech on her struggle with being bullied. Third place winner Ms. Helen Avila told a very humorous story of her newly immigrant parents adjusting to the world of teenagers in the U.S. Ms Alice Li told a fantastic story of her family overcoming hardship and trial to create a better life. Our first place winner Mr. Rudgerry Robert showed great poise and delivery as he delivered an insightful speech on current affairs centering on climate change! All of our speakers were warmly and enthusiastically cheered by those in attendance.

## INFORMATION & REMINDERS

### Upcoming Dates:

**June 23-26** - Rotary International Conference - Lisbon, Portugal

**July 13** - DG Matts Ingemanson Installation

### 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.





## Mount Kisco Rotary's Incoming President Honored



On Wednesday, May 8, 2013, Incoming President for the Mount Kisco Rotary Club, Judith Simon, was honored by the Mount Kisco Chamber of Commerce as the Citizen of the Year. This honor is bestowed by the Chamber on a group or individual who has distinguished themselves by contributing their time and talents to the benefit of the entire community.

Judith Simon was born in New York City and attended the New York City Public School System. She was the first continuing education student at the College of Mount St. Vincent where she graduated Magna Cum Laude and nine months pregnant at the same time!

She and her family moved to Northern Westchester in 1975 and quickly became enmeshed in the community. Although Judith worked for several companies, she quickly recognized her entrepreneurial spirit. That spirit propelled her to own and operate five successful businesses. Currently she is the founder and President of A&J Home Care, Inc., a licensed home care agency and Careseekers, a companion care agency.

Judith serves on the Board of the Mount Kisco Chamber of Commerce, the Mount Kisco Rotary Club (Incoming President), the Library Foundation, the Zoning Board, and taught Jewish Culture and History at Temple Beth El in Chappaqua, NY. She was on the original Board of the Northern Westchester Center for the Arts, the Westchester 2000 Committee in Education and Women and Children, and the Children's Dream Hospital.

Judith Simon currently resides in Mount Kisco, and passionately competes in nationwide ballroom dancing competitions; ranked 2nd in her division! She is the proud parent of Jenifer Gully and Jonathan Simon and totally adores Tyler 6, Mackensie 3, and Lacy just 2 weeks old!

Presently, Judith, along with her dance teacher Andrey Savenko, of the Fred Astaire studio in Bedford Hills, are working on a long held dream that shows how ballroom dancing helps stop the progression of Alzheimer's Disease and they have received the support of the Alzheimer's Association and the National Dance Council of America. They also have a pilot committee that is meeting to create an Arts Council for Mount Kisco with the support and guidance of Mayor Michael Cindrich.



## Briarcliff Rotary's Community Project On "Preventative Health and Awareness"

The Rotary Club of Briarcliff Manor continued its series on "Preventative Health and Awareness" Program to help people understand common health issues and adopt habits and lifestyle changes for healthy living. The second in this series focused on "Nutritional Benefits of Plant-based Diets," and was held in the Briarcliff Library at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 9, 2013.

Ms. Vijaya Jain, a highly regarded nutritionist with advanced degrees in the field and experience working for several organizations such as New York State WIC (Women, Infants and Children) Association, World Initiative for Soy in Human Health (WISHH), Illinois Soy (ISOY), gave an informative and meaningful talk about the ease of changing set dietary habits in the interests of healthier living.



*Ms. Vijaya Jain and a section of the audience.*





## New York Rotary Club on Point with Tour of Grand Central Terminal



**Photo by Eva Corredor**

*The GSE Team from Japan visited Grand Central Terminal on May 8, 2013. David Del Monte of the Rotary Club of New York guided the tour and narrated the Terminal's history and special features not known by many. Pictured from l. to R.: Eisuki Tanaka, Hideaki Sato, Yoko Taniguchi, David Del Monte, Team Leader Michiko Kaimuma, Hiroki Takeda and Satoshi Otuka.*



## Friendship Exchange Committee Invites Family Exchange to Brazil

The District has received an inquiry from a Rotarian family from Rotary Club of Jundiaí Vila Arens in São Paulo, Brazil (District 4590). Rotarians interested in hosting this family here, and being a guest of this family in Brazil, should send an email to the Committee. All emails and inquiries should be addressed to Rotarian President Kris Chittur, Chair, Friendship Exchange Committee, R.I. Dist. 7230 at [kchittur@post.harvard.edu](mailto:kchittur@post.harvard.edu).







## Rotary Club of Mount Vernon Loves its Senior Moments



The Rotary Club of Mount Vernon began the initial phase of its Senior Project on May 15th 2013 at the Westchester Center for Rehabilitation and Nursing in Mount Vernon. The nature of the project was to engage seniors in activities that would encourage interaction among themselves and with members of the Mount Vernon Community.

The project was made possible through a matching grant from Rotary District 7230. Through this grant the Mount Vernon Rotary Club was able to purchase Wii consoles, games and accessories that were presented to the residents of the Westchester Center for Rehabilitation and Nursing and The Wartburg.

Ann Frey, Director for Volunteers at The Wartburg, welcomed the Mount Vernon Rotary Club at their Games Night on May 22, 2013. The residents enjoyed playing Family Feud with the Rotarians and other Mount Vernonites so much, they requested that they come back to play again.

Theresa Ward, Director of Therapeutic Recreation at the Westchester Center for Rehabilitation and Nursing was grateful for the Rotary's contribution to the center, especially for the time the Rotarians took to teach her how to connect and play the Wii. The residents were thrilled to play Family Feud on the Wii system with the Rotarians. It appears that Family Feud is a hit with the seniors.

The Rotary Club of Mount Vernon is planning to visit the centers every other month as part of their commitment to the seniors in Mount Vernon.



**Mount Vernon Rotarians scored big with the seniors at the Wartburg (top photo) and the Westchester Center for Rehabilitation (bottom photo) when they played the Wii version of Family Feud with them.**



## Rotary Club of Metro New York City at National Immunization Day in India



*Photos from the door to door vaccination mission in Sonepat, one hour outside of New Delhi.*

The Rotary Club of Metro New York City has a history of continuous commitment to Rotary International's Polio Plus initiative. PP Nadine Homann has participated in an NID in India several years ago, IPP Stefan Jekel has received the District's Walter Maddocks Award (polio eradication recognition) in 2011, and, last year, at the occasion of the club's 10th charter anniversary celebration, a check of \$5,000 to "End Polio Now" was ceremonially presented to Rotary International's Past President Richard King.

This past February, as part of Rotary International's quest to eradicate polio, Stefan traveled to India to participate in the National Immunization Day (NID). Stefan joined a group of over 40 Rotarians and friends from North America - led by PDG Brad Howard (District 5170, Bay Area, California). The group members' origin spanned from Canada to Florida, from the West Coast to the East Coast. The group was one of several teams from the US and from around the world – adding to the 2.5 million, mostly local, NID workers and volunteers (see text box for additional stats).

India has been outbreak-free for two years now and is therefore considered non-endemic. One more year of no new case of polio, and the country would be considered polio-free. This would leave only three polio countries: Afghanistan, Nigeria and Pakistan. Indeed, "the eradication of polio is tantalizingly close," as the Wall Street Journal wrote in its Feb 25, 2013 edition at the occasion of Michael Bloomberg's \$100 million donation towards polio eradication.

After a few days of sightseeing (New Delhi, Agra, Jaipur), the team focused in on the humanitarian background of the trip. The group went to visit several initiatives of Rotary International and local Rotary Clubs including the partnership with the Time Magazine-honored Jaipur Foot and Limb Factory (Bhagvan Mahaveer Viklang Shayate Samiti), the cooperation with a school in Kusumpur Pahari

### The National Immunization Day in Numbers

- 225 million doses of Polio Vaccine, carried around the country in 2 million vaccine carrier bags with 6.3 million ice packs
- 209 million homes visited
- 172 million children immunized
- 2,500,000 vaccinators
- 1,170,000 vaccination teams
- 709,000 vaccination booths
- 155,000 supervisors, with 155,000 vehicles (cars, motorcycles, mopeds, bicycles, boats, elephants, camels or whatever it takes )

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## Metro NYC at NID

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(near New Delhi airport) and the sponsorship of the polio ward in St. Stephen's Hospital in New Delhi (the largest non-governmental hospital in India).

In the four meetings leading up to the trip, the club dedicated its 'Happy and Sad Dollars' to the NID efforts. The \$350 went towards various school supplies and polio vaccine expenses. The school supplies were presented to the aforementioned school and stationery was distributed both at the school as well as in the streets during the NID.

The NID took place over two days and 172 million children under the age of 5 were vaccinated (see text box for additional stats). Stefan and team were assigned to Sonapat, one hour outside New Delhi. The first day consisted of vaccinations at the Sonapat train station and at a Sonapat school later in the day. Day 2 consisted of door-to-door vaccinations in Sonapat. For the vaccination work, multi-cultural and gender-diverse teams of 5 people were formed. Almost any parent was in support of getting their child vaccinated. The initiative, including the presence of foreigners, was extremely well-received and featured in several newspapers. Among the several tokens of appreciation received along the trip by local Rotary Clubs, the biggest rewards undoubtedly were the smiles on children's faces. All together, a very positive and rewarding experience one will never forget.

What still lies ahead: The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation is set to raise \$5.5 billion for a new Global Polio Eradication Initiative's (GPEI) "polio eradication and endgame strategic plan" to wipe out the virus by 2018. Rotary International, as a member of the GPEI alongside Unicef, The World Health Organization and the United States Center for Disease Control, will ferociously continue its advocacy, social mobilization, organizational and financial support - adding to the \$1.2bn that RI already raised among its members and the \$8.5bn raised from donors.

We are "This Close."



## Ciao Sorella

*As printed in The Rye Record, May 24, 2013*

In its 50-year history, Rye Rotary has concentrated its efforts locally, but Rotary is an international organization, and Rye Rotary President Scott Pickup and fellow members agreed it was time for them to think globally, too.

Corresponding with Rotary Clubs in Italy led to the beginning of a beautiful relationship, and the signing of a Sister-Club Agreement with Courmayer and Portofino. On May 17, Rye Rotary members were on hand to witness the signing in the Mayor's Conference Room at City Hall, and were happy to linger for a celebratory toast.

The Sister Clubs hope to work together on a project in Burkina-Faso, pending District approval in both Italy and the United States.



**Photos by Robin Jovanovich**

**Max Molino (top photo), President of Courmayer Rotary, and Scott Pickup, Rye Rotary President.**

**At the signing in the Mayor's Conference Room at City Hall, from left: Tom Saunders, Lora Hugelmeyer, Max Molino, Melanie Ciraco, Scott Pickup, Trisha Ellingwood, Pia Molino, Julie Kattaen, Cathy Carly Spanier, and Coby Ellingwood (bottom photo).**



## More on the Eradication of Polio

Rotary's leadership, beginning in 1985, inspired the World Health Assembly to pass a resolution to eradicate polio, which paved the way for the formation of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative in 1988. In fact, it is the largest-ever internationally-coordinated public health effort in history. It is spearheaded by national governments, WHO, Rotary International, the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and UNICEF, and is supported by key partners including the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Underpinning the effort is a global network of more than 20 million volunteers worldwide who have collectively immunized more than 2.5 billion children over the past 20 years.

While polio is a distant memory in most of the world, the disease still exists in some places and mainly affects children under five. One in 200 infections leads to irreversible paralysis (usually in the legs). Among those paralyzed, 5% to 10% die when their breathing muscles become immobilized.

The three countries are Afghanistan, Nigeria and Pakistan. They face a range of challenges such as insecurity, weak health systems and poor sanitation. Polio can spread from these 'endemic' countries to infect children in other countries with less-than-adequate vaccination.



Unlike most diseases, polio can be completely eradicated!

There are three strains of wild poliovirus, none of which can survive for long periods outside of the human body. If the virus cannot find an unvaccinated person to infect, it will die out. Type 2 wild poliovirus was eradicated in 1999.

Every child must be vaccinated to eradicate polio! This includes those living in the most remote and/or underserved places on the planet. 'Days of Tranquility' are negotiated so that vaccination teams can reach children living in conflict zones. All manner of transport is used – from donkeys to motorbikes to helicopters – to reach children in remote areas or DIFFICULT terrain.

## Who Are the True Heroes of Polio Eradication?

### A Hero's Story

Ali Maow Maalin (born c. 1954) is a Somalian hospital cook and health worker as well as an occasional vaccinator for a WHO smallpox eradication team. He was the last person known to be infected with naturally occurring Variola minor SMALLPOX in the world. He was diagnosed with the disease in October 1977 and made a full recovery.

Maalin was subsequently involved in the successful poliomyelitis eradication campaign in Somalia. Maalin was among the 10,000 volunteers who participated in the effort to eradicate poliomyelitis from Somalia, which succeeded in 2008. He explained his motivation for volunteering: "Somalia was the last country with smallpox. I wanted to help ensure that we would not be the last place with polio too."

Maalin worked for WHO as a local coordinator with responsibility for social mobilization, and spent several years travelling across Somalia, vaccinating children and educating communities. The Boston Globe describes him as one of the "most valuable" local coordinators for WHO. He encouraged people to be vaccinated by sharing his experiences with smallpox: "Now when I meet parents who refuse to give their children the polio vaccine, I tell them my story. I tell them how important these vaccines are."

We as Rotarians must and will redouble our commitment to END Polio NOW.

PDG George R. Camp  
Rotary D-7230 Polio Plus Sub Committee Chair