



# DISTRICT 7230

## LIGHT UP ROTARY NEWSLETTER

David DeI Monte District Governor

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Rotary International

### Briarcliff Rotary Inducts Two New Members

The Rotary Club of Briarcliff Manor is delighted to welcome two new members, Mark Johnson and Jim Lupfer. Both were inducted at the Club's meeting on June 13, 2014.

Jim Lupfer is a veteran Scouter who served as a Scoutmaster for 10 years and in 1999, became a full-time executive with the Northern New Jersey Council in Oakland New Jersey. Since 2005 Jim has been a Senior Executive with Westchester-Putnam Council in Hawthorne New York and is responsible for the Coordination of Scouting for over 1,500 youth and 600 adults in many towns in the Westchester/Putnam areas. In his spare time Jim enjoys Broadway theater, hiking, biking, kayaking and gardening. Jim and his wife Lynne have two adult children Katie and Tom.

Mark Johnson, originally from Tulsa, Oklahoma, lived in Philadelphia, Florida, Colorado, Washington, D.C., Utah, and New Jersey before finally settling down in Ossining, New York. He currently works with a management company as an Executive Assistant in northern New Jersey. Mark has been interested in service work most of his adult life, and considers himself lucky to have been able to connect to different groups of people over the years with similar interests. He was involved in The Cookstove Project, which helps build healthy cook stoves sent to Africa and Uganda. Having found a group of sincere folks that are helping to make a positive change in our world, Mark is grateful to join the Briarcliff Rotary Club and intends to invest time and effort "to help others through this fine organization. He has three boys who went through the public schools mostly in Ossining. Mark is now married to Tamie, and also has two wonderful step children.



*Pictured (l. to r.): Jim Lupfer, President Anne Cargill, and Mark Johnson.*

### New District 7230 Newsletter Submission Schedule

Please note that the submission schedule for the District 7230 newsletter has changed. Please send your stories, photos and captions to [mjuner33@gmail.com](mailto:mjuner33@gmail.com) by the 15th of the month for inclusion in the following month's "Lightletter." Please limit your write ups to 100 words and provide links for further information.

As always, please edit your copy before submitting, submit as a Word document or text in the body of an email. Photos always enhance your message, so try to provide hi res jpegs with captions where possible. Please avoid submitting images of published articles (ie: scan of a newspaper article) as these are not editable text and will need to be keyboarded.

## 2013-14 Global Alumni Service to Humanity Award

Congratulations to Maya Ajmera for receiving the 2013-14 Global Alumni Service to Humanity Award. She was nominated by District 7620 and Zone 33. Ms. Ajmera received an Ambassadorial Scholarship from District 5240 in California, USA, to study at St. Xavier's College in District 3140 in India. She is the founder of the Global Fund for Children. Currently, she holds two academic appointments—she is a visiting scholar and professorial lecturer at the Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins University in Washington, D.C. and the inaugural social entrepreneur in residence and visiting professor of the practice of public policy at Duke University in Durham, NC.



The Rotary Foundation Global Alumni Service to Humanity Award was created to honor an outstanding Rotary Foundation alumnus whose career and activities illustrate the impact of the Foundation's programs on his or her service to humanity. The Global Alumni Service to Humanity Award started out as an award for the achievements of Ambassadorial Scholars, but was expanded in 2001 to include all Rotary Foundation alumni.

From the streets to the classroom, Maya Ajmera of Washington, D.C., has helped more than nine million children living on the edges of society regain their rights and pursue their dreams – an achievement Rotary is applauding with its 2013-14 Global Alumni Service to Humanity Award.

Ajmera, who received a fellowship from Rotary in 1989 to study at St. Xavier's College in India, founded The Global Fund for Children (GFC) in 1993. While traveling in India, Ajmera witnessed a life-changing event on a train platform in Bhubaneswar. Amid the chaos of the station, a group of children sat in a circle while a teacher led them in simple learning exercises. She later learned that the children lived, played and begged on the train platforms. Wanting to provide them with a pathway out of poverty, two teachers offered the children free education, clothing and food. The small school operated on only \$400 per year, serving 40 students who would otherwise have no opportunity to learn. Inspired by this powerful model, Ajmera founded GFC based on the belief that small amounts of money, when given to innovative, community-based organizations, could make a lasting impact on the lives of the world's most vulnerable children.

Under Ajmera's 18 years of leadership, GFC has grown into one of the largest networks of grassroots organizations working on behalf of vulnerable children. To date, GFC has awarded more than \$34 million to over 614 grassroots organizations in 79 countries, touching the lives of over nine million children.

"I am so honored to receive this award," Ajmera said. "I received the Rotary Fellowship right after college and it changed my life. It gave me the opportunity to spend a year in South Asia and provided the spark to start The Global Fund for Children."

After leading the Global Fund for Children, Ajmera is now a visiting scholar and professorial lecturer at The Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies at The Johns Hopkins University and the inaugural social entrepreneur in residence and visiting professor of the practice of public policy at Duke University. She is working on two books—a memoir and a public affairs book on the global plight of children and youth—as well as teaching a course entitled "Investing in Future Generations." She is also an award-winning children's book author of more than 15 titles.

Ajmera holds a bachelor's degree from Bryn Mawr College and a Master of Public Policy from the Sanford School of Public Policy at Duke University. She lives in Washington, DC, with her husband and daughter.

Rotary District 7230 is very proud of all of our foundation alumni here in our district and around the world who are continuing with their Service Above Self.

## Rotary Means Business District 7230 Networking Meeting!



A networking meeting of Rotary Means Business District 7230 is scheduled for Thursday, July 17, 2014 at 8-9AM. The meeting will be at the office of L. William Fishman, Esq., 11 Martine Avenue, 12th Floor, White Plains, NY 10606. Please RSVP to Bill Fishman by Tuesday, July 15th.

Begun in the Rotary Club of White Plains two years ago, the networking group is part of the Rotary International Fellowship known as "Rotary Means Business." Our chapter is Rotary Means Business District 7230.

All networking meetings are open to Rotarians from every Club and prospective members. We begin and end promptly so people can get to work; the cost is only \$5 and includes breakfast: you meet some great Rotarian business people, learn about networking from very seasoned experts and get fed – it's a great deal!

Meetings are generally scheduled for the third Thursday of each month at Bill Fishman's office. Please contact Bill at [lwf7471@gmail.com](mailto:lwf7471@gmail.com) to confirm the date, time and place and to RSVP.

## Port Chester-Rye Brook

### Annual Clambake

The Port Chester-Rye Brook Club has held a successful annual Summertime Clam Bake at Rye Town Park for several years. Now, to kick off the new year, and to light up Rotary for incoming President Roz Carvin, they've planned a wonderful menu of appetizers, seafood, grilled meat, sides and desert – all accompanied by matched wines – and this time all cooked right at the Pavilion on the Beach, by Club members. Join in the fun on Friday, July 11. The cost will be \$43.00 for Rotarians, \$38.00 for non-Rotarians. If you are interested, please view the menu/invitation at [PortChesterRyeBrookRotary.org](http://PortChesterRyeBrookRotary.org).



### Recycling Old Computers

Who doesn't have a used computer they don't know what to do with? In searching for a project that was simple and sustainable, and offered decent leverage for dollars and effort spent, it looks like the idea of sending recycled computers to schools in less-privileged countries ticks all the boxes. Vincent Coakley has travelled several times to Central America, especially Guatemala, and has seen plenty of need firsthand – and seen a lot of both good and not-so-good work in action. Clubs in that part of the world vary from run-of-the-mill to extremely wealthy. They all do their stuff in their own way, and many have been widely effective, often in partnerships with clubs from here, in the humanitarian fields of health, nutrition, water and education.

To make a long story short, the Port Chester-Rye Brook Club has a partnership with Club Rotario Guatemala Oeste in Guatemala City and Funsepa, a Guatemalan foundation that sets up needy schools with (recycled) computer centers. The contact/idea came about as a result of efforts to establish video-links between schools there and here. In any case, as a single project, PCRb is currently looking to match twelve\* Rotary Clubs in the New York area with twelve selected schools in Guatemala, and to enable each club to send their matched school a set of sixteen computers.

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The basic idea is that each club would be matched with a specific school; collect sixteen computers; verify their specifications; format their hard drives; catalog them online; label them; pack them (PCRb will supply the boxes); label the boxes; and get them to a warehouse in Port Chester. In addition to donating the computers, each club will contribute \$190.00 toward the project to cover their share of the cost of packing material, warehouse and shipping.

From there (the plan is to have to have a total of 192\* computers), they will be shipped by a third party, under the supervision of Funsepa - to Guatemala. Funsepa will be responsible for the passage of the shipment through Guatemalan customs; will unpack them and load them with appropriate software; deliver each set of sixteen to their designated school; set them up as a computer center; teach the teachers how to use them; and maintain them on a long term basis.

The Club will be given details of the school including location, photographs, contact information for the school director etc. This link is a vital element of the project whereby the club will be comfortable with where their computers go. Clubs may also wish to develop a longer-term relationship with the school; and they can physically visit the school to see their computers in use.

Vinny is setting up a group of Rotarians called CFIU (Communication for International Understanding), to organize this and similar projects. The CFIU website is a work-in-progress, but please visit it for more information. PCRb hopes to do the club-school matches, and start collecting the computers, in the next few weeks so, if you are interested, please follow up as soon as possible.

This initiative is not a District Project pre-se, but it does have the enthusiastic blessing of both Immediate Past District Governor Matts and District Governor David. It will be open to all Rotary Clubs in the New York Area.



## Friendship Exchange to Turkey

The District invites you to participate in a Friendship Exchange with Western Turkey (Dist. 2440). Five Rotarians (and an adult companion) are slated to exchange visits from April 19-27, 2015 (incoming), and May 9-17, 2015 (outgoing).

District 2440 includes cities such as Izmir and Bursa, and eye-popping attractions such as the Aegean, with magnificent coastal scenery and long stretches of sandy beaches where pine trees and olive groves clad the hills, and Pamukkale, with its famous hot springs and travertines.

For an incomparable experience of Turkey with well-informed, friendly and fun-loving Rotarians, see "Rotary7230.org" click on "Friendship Exchange". Application deadline is August 31, 2014. Questions? Email Friendship Exchange Chair Kris Chittur: [kchittur@post.harvard.edu](mailto:kchittur@post.harvard.edu).

