

# TEAM ROTARY



District 7510 Newsletter

The Capital District

OCTOBER 2015

## Governor's Message - The Power of Connections

"The Barclays" PGA golf tournament, held this year at the Plainfield Country Club in our district counts on a large cadre of volunteers to help make the whole event work. One of these this year was YMCA Fitness Instructor Joan O'Donnell.

During the tournament, the event organizers ran a "Volunteer Challenge," in which people could vote online for their favorite volunteer, with the winner donating the prize to the charity of his or her choice. Meanwhile, the Y had been engaged in a much-needed scholarship fund-raiser, and Joan committed the Barclays prize—\$5,000 if she were to win—to that effort.

Shortly before the final vote tally, Joan was in third place and likely destined to stay there. But then magic happened. Kim Decker, YMCA CEO and a member of the Fanwood-Scotch Plains Rotary Club, who had been following the Volunteer Challenge, spotted Joan in third place and put out the call. She, and several of our own Rotarians—including PDG Andy Calamaras—emailed Rotarians and friends throughout the district and asked us to go online, connect with the Barclays site, and vote for Joan.

Bam! In a matter of just a few hours Joan leapt from third to first place, and by an unbeatable margin! True to her word, the prize money went straight to the Y, and the Y wound up exceeding their goal by several hundreds of dollars!

What are the messages here? They're pretty simple. First, if you want to get a job done, give it to a Rotarian. Second, never discount the power of Rotarians connecting with one another for a common cause—and succeeding!

Warm regards,

Hal



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## **Foundation..... Byron Miller, Director**

### **Grants Management Seminar**

What's the best way you can spend Halloween morning? And no, not sneaking into the trick or treat candy!!

Be your club's representative at the October 31 *Grants Management Seminar* at the Bridgewater Marriott Hotel. Just one half day seminar will qualify your club to receive Foundation grants. FREE MONEY!!

Register on-line at [www.dacdb.com/Rotary](http://www.dacdb.com/Rotary) or contact District Foundation Chair Byron Miller ([Byron@portasoftinc.com](mailto:Byron@portasoftinc.com)) for more information.

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## **Youth Service ..... By Joe Steiner**

### **We Have a New Interact Club!**

The Summit-New Providence Club is proud to announce the certification by Rotary International of the Interact Club of Summit High School. President Reagan Burkholder and Past President Jim Fleischmann met with the club to present the certificate at their first meeting of the year, attended by nearly 200 students.

Several officers of the Summit-New Providence club, including Reagan Burkholder, Joe Steiner, Vito Gallo and Jim Fleischmann, recently met with the Summit High School's new Interact Club. This was the Club's first meeting of the new school year.

President Reagan began the meeting by presenting the Club's charter as an Interact Club to Interact President Sarah Elia. Previously the Club had been affiliated with the local Kiwanis Club and was chartered as a Key Club.

They have been operating without Kiwanis sponsorship since the Summit Kiwanis disbanded about ten years ago, and recently decided to accept our sponsorship and become an Interact Club in Rotary International.



After the initial introductions of the officers, there was a brief discussion of some upcoming events, including *New Eyes for the Needy*, *Bridges Lunches and Clothing Donations*, *Jefferson School Tutors*, *Little Black Dress Committee*, and the *Summit Free Market*. Clearly, the roughly 150 members of the Interact Club have a full agenda!

The Summit-New Providence Club and the District look forward to offering the new Interact Club the assistance and support needed as they pursue service projects into the year.

# Membership Committee.....PDG Mel Kevoe

We are embarking on a new and exciting Membership venture and we need your help. District 7510, like most of the Districts in North America, has experienced a downward spiral of membership over the past several years.

As a District, we need to reverse the trend of membership into positive growth. To accomplish this, we are forming a *District Membership Team*. This Team will work together to formulate a winning program for membership recruitment, retention and growth with each of the clubs in our district.

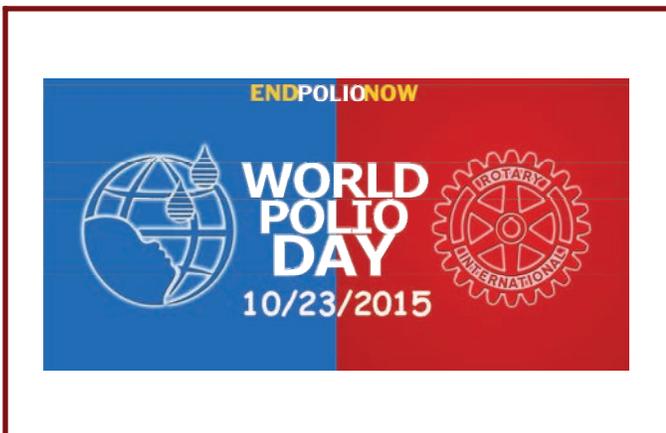
Regardless of whether your club has a successful membership plan, I need your support in this new plan of action.

The plan requires each club to have a Membership Director. The Club Membership Director will work collectively with the District Membership Team to create and execute an action plan to engage new members. The Director will educate club members how to attract new potential members.

The District Membership Team is structured as follows: Club Membership Directors, 12 Assistant Governors, 6 Past District Governors and 1 District Membership Director. This Team will develop a manual to attract and obtain new members. The goal of the team will be to assist clubs in growing membership by providing the necessary tools for the clubs to attract new members.

If your club does not currently have a Club Membership Director, please encourage your president to assign one by October 6. The Assistant Governors follow up with club presidents to process your selection.

We are excited to create this team and grow membership within District 7510. Thank you in advance for your support.



# Club News!

All the Club news that's fit to print! And we'd like to print it all, so please send the Editor your news articles and we'll be sure to post them for all to read. Include photos, captions, web addresses, and any other information to make your story complete. Editor7510@verizon.net.

**The Rotary Club of Montgomery-Rocky Hill** has inducted nine new members since January 2014, five of which were inducted in 2015. Some of those members pictured are Sharon, Wilbert, Jeff, and Tony. The club has 32 active members and five honorary members. Keep up the great work on membership! More people mean more ideas for projects and more workers to carry them out.



**The Rotary Club of Flemington** advised that the first *Harrie V. Copeland Memorial Scholarship* was presented to Laxmi Lama in Nepal. The scholarship is funded by PDG Tulsi Maharjan in memory of Harrie, a longtime member of the Flemington club and the person responsible for establishing the District's Affinity Project with TD Bank. The scholarship is coordinated by the Rotary Club of Patau in Nepal. This is a great example of how we can honor Rotarians and enhance future opportunities for people in need.

**The Rotary Club of Branchburg** advises that their Pedals for Progress Project was a terrific success. Branchburg Rotarians, RVCC Rotaract members and community supporters collected bikes on Saturday, September 12. One hundred and sixteen bikes and fourteen sewing machines will be shipped to third world countries this week thanks to the efforts of Rotarians Dan Matyola and Kip Bateman and the Rotary Club of Branchburg. Families from Branchburg and surrounding communities loaded cars, vans and trucks with their old bikes to drop off for Pedals for Progress. This bike collection occurs every fall so anyone who missed the event can get their bikes ready to donate next fall.



The Branchburg club also presents Rotary Bingo on Friday evening, October 23, from 6:00 to 11:00 pm at Raritan Valley Community College on Rt. 28 in Branchburg. The prizes this year will include Longaberger Baskets and Vera Bradley Bags. There will be Goody Bags and Door Prizes! Don't miss the chance to help the Rotary Club of Branchburg support all their many community service projects and have pleasurable evening at the same time! Gather your friends and family and come join us. This fun night is still available for the great price of \$20 for admission and 20 games of BINGO. Call Debbie at 908-685-8080 to purchase tickets and for more information.

**The Rotary Club of Elizabeth** continues their fabulous "Taste of Elizabeth" fundraiser again this year. Held at the Renaissance Newark Airport Hotel, this event features food and drink from many specialty bakeries, restaurants, and beverage merchants in Elizabeth and the surrounding area. This is the ninth year for the event, and the Club advises that you should "Get Ready for the Best Taste Yet!" Tickets are \$35 in advance and \$40 at the door. Advance tix - 908-451-3665. They also offer an ad

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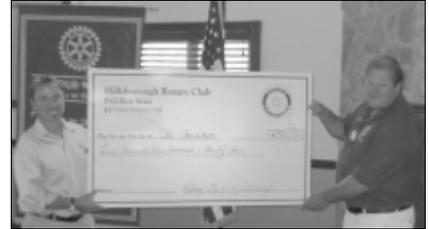
journal - 908-994-5138. Join the club on October 19 from 5:00 to 8:30 P.M. for food, fun, tricky trays, and raffles. You won't be disappointed!

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**The Rotary Club of Flemington** - This annual event will take place at the Commons at Hunterdon Central Regional High School in Raritan Township. The Commons is near Hunterdon Central's field house, at 29 Junction Road in Flemington. Proceeds generated from Pancake Day provide scholarships for HCRHS & HC-Polytech graduating seniors.

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**The Rotary Club of Hillsborough** recently presented Bridgewater resident Peter Sacchitelli (left), winner of the 2015 Hillsborough Rotary Annual Rotary Fair Giant 50/50 Raffle, a "giant" check from Club President John Shockley. Peter, who was on vacation when the winning number was drawn, returned to discover that he held the single winning ticket for \$5,932.50. He not only thanked the Club for the prize winnings, but for the good work the Rotary does all year long. The Annual Rotary Fair, which has become an important annual tradition in Hillsborough and surrounding communities, attracted over 15,000 visitors over its six-day run in August. All funds raised by the Fair go back into the community to support a wide variety of essential community services and organizations.



**The Rotary Club of Somerville and Bridgewater** hosted the first Somerset County Meeting on September 16 at the Raritan Valley Country Club. President Charisse Allington, pictured with Plainfield-North Plainfield President Ravenell Williams, squeaked through the event with an almost-lost voice but with a warm and welcoming persona. This well-attended event was a great get-together for the county clubs and even attracted Edison Rotarians from Middlesex County! The program, a presentation on growing membership, was well-received and contained a number of quality suggestions for marketing Rotary from Ed Dolan, owner of Epic Results, LLC of Somerville (908-541-9728).

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**The Rotary Club of North Hunterdon** has joined with the Clinton Township Recreation Department to help revitalize the "Field of Dreams Playground" in Annandale. Many children have enjoyed the playground including the disabled as it was made handicap accessible. Time has taken its toll on the playground after 20 years. Donations are being sought to help support this project, which will be done in 4 stages. Step 1- Construction; Step 2- Power Washing; Step 3-Staining & Painting' and Step 4-Spreading Mulch. When all of this has been completed and after the playground has been used by the community for the Haunted Playground, the club will finish up with a gold plaque with the sponsors' names and the installation of brick pavers that can be purchased for \$100.00 and inscribed with a family's or businesses wishes. The club will also present a sign to be displayed at the entrance. More information is available Laura Rowe (laura.rowe@providentnj.com) or from Sky Van Ness (sky528@comcast.net).



**The Rotary Club of Westfield** has a passion for two projects in particular this Fall. First is the Backpack Program that supplies children who qualify for the School Lunch Program with nutritious

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food packed in a backpack that they can prepare for themselves on weekends. The other is the long-standing Scholarship Program for local deserving students using the criteria of scholastic achievement, community service and financial need.

To help fund these projects the club and its partner, Lord & Taylor, Westfield, are hosting a fundraising event, "Small Plates for a Great Cause", at the store on Thursday, November 12, 6:30 – 9:30 pm. The event will consist of appetizers supplied by local restaurateurs, wine tasting, live music, a fashion show, some club service presentations, a 50/50 raffle and door prizes. Contribution \$35. Tickets from club members, [www.westfieldrotary.com](http://www.westfieldrotary.com); <http://www.westfieldrotary.brownpapertickets.com>; questions can be directed to IPP Jayson Astel, 908 233-4171.

**The Rotary Club of Cranford** is sponsoring a fun night of Improv Comedy featuring McDonald & Carney. The duo, who have appeared at the Taj Mahal and Tropicana in Atlantic City and at clubs in New York, will do live comedy based on audience suggestions - think "Who's Line Is It Anyway". The show is Saturday, October 24 at 8:00pm at the Cranford VFW at 479 South Avenue East in Cranford. Tickets are \$25 now, \$30 at the door. The evening will feature a great gift basket raffle and a 50/50. A cash bar will be available, and bring your own tailgate-style food. Proceeds will benefit the Cranford Rotary Education Fund which supports Rotary's annual "RU Smarter Than A Cranford/Garwood 5th Grader" and the "Cranford Academic Bowl" for high school students. Rotarians, friends, and family are invited. Purchase your tickets from Joe Carney ([jecconsultants@aol.com](mailto:jecconsultants@aol.com) or 908-272-7830) or online at [Eventbrite.com](http://Eventbrite.com) (search for Rotary Comedy in Cranford).



The Club recently collected new and used DVD movies for patients in Trinitas Hospital. People in the Pediatrics, Long Term Care, and Elder Care Units will be able to view them while awaiting treatment or during their hospital stay. The DVDs, collected at the Community Center, will be presented in October.



**The Rotary Club of North Hunterdon** held its 29th annual Skylands Triathlon on Sunday September 13. The event held at Spruce Run Reservoir was attended by 302 athletes from the tri-state area. Though final numbers are not in yet, we estimate that the club raised upwards of \$15,00.00. The proceeds will be used to fund our charitable giving campaigns such as Hunterdon County Special Olympics and Operation Chill Out.

## Happy Anniversary wishes to these clubs:

The Rotary Club of Trenton - 101 years\* - October 1

The Rotary Club of Westfield - 94 years - October 1

The Rotary Club of Summit-New Providence - 93 years - October 25

The Rotary Club of Flemington - 92 years - October 3

The Rotary Club of Piscataway - 47 years - October 17

\* - Oldest Club in our District

# No Wild Polio in Africa!!

Bill Mealia, Chair

What can we say other than "Wow!?" Let's all say "thank you" to the thousands and thousands of people who have supported our efforts to eliminate the scourge of polio from the earth. With no wild polio reported in Africa, we must focus our attention on Afghanistan and Pakistan. But attention alone will not get the job done.



Our district-wide goal for 2015-2016 is again \$20,000. But that amount when sent to RI is automatically increased by the matching grant that the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has offered Rotary.

RI recently sent out letters encouraging Rotarians to donate \$30 to mark the 30th anniversary of PolioPlus. That \$30 (or whatever amount you donate) will be matched twice by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, making your \$30 become \$90. Our \$20,000 goal will become \$60,000!

The importance of continuing our mission is reflected in the following story submitted by Gail Barlow of the Branchburg Club.

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*Have you ever asked yourselves why polio eradication is such an important role especially for the Rotary clubs and the Rotary Foundation? This story might give you a feel for it!*

*Polio is an awful disease which most of us are not familiar with. The young generation both in the USA and in Europe did not suffer from it and is not familiar with its devastating effects.*

*A few years before I was born in Israel the disease had a terrifying presence in my country. My oldest sister's best friend, Rachel, who happened to be one of the best students in the class, woke up one morning and could not get out of bed. She could not move her feet nor her legs. She woke up totally paralyzed and never recovered from it!*

*When Rachel did not get out of bed in the morning to help her Mom set the table for breakfast, her Mom rushed to her room and called for her to get up, but she couldn't move. Her parents started yelling at her and tried pulling her off the bed. They were certain that Rachel is making it all up and refused to believe that anything was really wrong.*

*The more they yelled and screamed, the more devastated little Rachel felt. She did not understand what was going on. The fear, the pain and the devastation of this weird situation did not sit well with a young girl who was a leader. After a couple of minutes of pushing and pulling, both parents realized that something must be wrong. They sent for the doctor and my grandma, who was a nurse, came rushing over. After checking Rachel's vital signs and seeing her lack of energy and inability to move, my grandma suspected that Rachel might have caught Polio. The doctor arrived a little later and confirmed my grandmother's suspicion.*

*Rachel was sent to the hospital where she was given braces and a wheel chair and crutches. She had to be taught how to start walking with the help of the crutches, but never re-gained her ability to walk. In fact, she didn't continue to grow normally. For the rest of her life, she was small and immature; her physical growth seemed to have stopped when she caught Polio.*

*My sister stayed friendly with Rachel for a while but then their lives turned in different directions. I understand that Rachel did get married and was able to get pregnant, with the help of modern medicine.*

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**Rotary**



**Be a gift  
to the world**

## **POCONO ESCAPE WEEKEND**

**Rotary District 7510 Annual District Conference • May 13-15, 2016**

"Be a Gift to the World" is our International Theme for 2015-16. Our gift to you—our fellow Rotarians—is a fun-filled weekend escape in the Poconos for a phenomenal rate you won't find anywhere else! Join Linda and me for a classy, festive, and exciting weekend at the stately INN at POCONO MANOR on the May 13-15, 2016 weekend.

We'll have festivities, good food, dancing, skeet-shooting, spa treatments, fitness, fishing, gaming, riding, a nearby designer outlet mall, indoor and outdoor pools, nature trails, and more awaiting you and your family at our POCONO ESCAPE WEEKEND!

### **Save the Dates**

**October**

**10/03/2015**

**Military/Veterans Appreciation Day  
Central Jersey Regional Airport  
1:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.**

**Register on [www.DaCdb.com/Rotary](http://www.DaCdb.com/Rotary)**

**10/06/2015**

**Vocational Assembly  
The Pines Manor  
Talmadge Road and Route 27, Edison  
3:30 P.M. - \$50 per person**

**Register on [www.DaCdb.com/Rotary](http://www.DaCdb.com/Rotary)**

**10/14/2015**

**Homes of Hope Dinner and Awards  
Hotel Somerset-Bridgewater  
110 Davidson Avenue, Somerset  
6:00 P.M. - \$60 per person**

**Register on [www.DaCdb.com/Rotary](http://www.DaCdb.com/Rotary)**

**10/31/2015**

**Foundation Grants Seminar  
The Bridgewater Marriott Hotel  
700 Commons Way, Bridgewater  
8:30 A.M. - No fee**

**Mandatory for Clubs Seeking District or RI Grants  
Minimum one club member must attend!**

**Register on [www.DaCdb.com/Rotary](http://www.DaCdb.com/Rotary)**

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*Years later I met her and she was still walking with braces; she did not regain the use of her legs. The devastating effect of this disease has ruined her life and the lives of many other children.*

*Rachel is only one example , but we saw it before our eyes, day and night, when we were young. Polio has taken the lives of millions of people, young and old, all over the world. When you meet victims and survivors of Polio, you realize the importance of Rotary's mission to stop Polio from existing in our world.*

*Thank you, Rotary, for making Polio eradication a mission! Thank you, Rotarians, for making it happen!*

*Gail - dba1987@aol.com; 908-391-8164*

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## Healing the Children

*Healing the Children New Jersey* is a non –profit organization that was founded in 1981. We are dedicated to the mission of providing access to medical care to children–in–need in New Jersey and around the world. We have successfully partnered with Rotary clubs and districts, including providing medical services at the Homes of Hope Village in Ecuador.



HTCNJ has asked the Branchburg club for help again this winter with a medical mission to Guayaquil. The club has agreed to the request, as long as a club in Ecuador is willing to partner for a matching grant. Doug Merritt, Branchburg's Homes of Hope master, plans to meet the the president of the Ecuador club, who also happens to be a doctor at the hospital where HTCNJ will be working, while he is in Ecuador in 3 weeks.

HTCNJ's administrative expenses are low because professionals, who are dedicated to our cause and volunteer their time, do so much of what we do. We have a small staff (one full time and one half time) and hundreds of volunteers.

There are those who actively support our efforts by helping us raise awareness and funds for our mission; others who open up their homes to children from other countries who have come here to receive care that cannot be found in their homeland. Still others – nurses, physicians and assorted professionals - who donate their personal time and money to participate in international missions, bringing medical care to children who otherwise go without.

The care we provide to New Jersey's children caters to those in need who have exhausted all other resources. We would like the opportunity to address Rotary clubs in District 7510 and share our mission. We can also send along a packet which gives an overview of our programs.

Visit the HTCNJ website at [www.htcnj.org](http://www.htcnj.org), and/or contact Nancy Eisenberg via email - [nancy@htcnj.org](mailto:nancy@htcnj.org).

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# Top Ten Clubs in Attendance for AUGUST 2015

*Congratulations to the #1 club for August - Roselle-Roselle Park - with 100.00% attendance.*

*The rest of the top ten? Mountinside (85.00%); Hillsborough (81.67%); South Amboy-Sayreville (81.25%); Berkeley Heights (76.00%); Old Bridge-Sayreville (72.00%); Plainfield-North Plainfield (71.67%); Hamilton (64.07%); Princeton (63.24%); and Robbinsville-Hamilton (61.25%).*

*Secretaries, contact the District Secretary (Michael Townley) if you need help entering your club's attendance in the District and Club database (DaCdb). Email [District7510Secretary@verizon.net](mailto:District7510Secretary@verizon.net).*

*And thank you to the 20 club secretaries who took the time to report attendance for August.*

## Contact Us

Give us a call for more information.

(908) 822-1441

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[www.RotaryNJ.org](http://www.RotaryNJ.org)

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