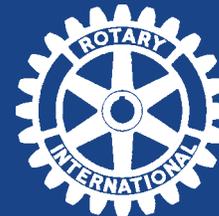


TEAM ROTARY



District 7510 Newsletter

The Capital District - www.RotaryNJ.org

January 2018

Our Focus for 2018



Happy New Year! I hope you had a happy holiday season, and wish you the best for 2018. Aside from you prospering personally, I hope your Rotary club grows bigger and bigger! Remember: The strength of Rotary is its clubs, and the strength of the club is its membership. **And if membership isn't growing, it is bound to decline.**



Robert Zeglarski
Governor

Last month, I reported on a long list of district events and projects that can strengthen our clubs and youth programming, and help grow membership. Now I'd like to zero in on four: *Rotary Youth for a Better World*, *Membership & New Clubs*, *Interact Conference*, and *Public Image Pilot Program*.

Youth for a Better World is an initiative of the Interact Club of Middlesex County Academy of Edison, NJ, and District 7510. It includes plans for a global read-a-thon to raise money to enable NGOs to increase the number of meals they provide to the extremely poor throughout the world. Read more about the progress we are making and the success of our Interactors in the following article written by Bill Graham, District Membership and PI Director.

Membership & New Clubs: Last month I reported that Art Lobdell, Club Extension Director, and Bill Graham, Membership Director, are working to start new clubs in Linden, Clark and Iselin. Since then, the Iselin concept expanded. I recently announced the creation of the *Rotary Club of Edison, Iselin, Rahway and Metuchen* to 500 people at the South Asian Community Outreach (SACO) Holiday Party. Sam Kahn, founder of SACO, will serve as the club secretary. I expect this club to be a big one!

Interact Conference: Nancy Ostrowski, Youth Services Director, is planning a conference for our Interact Club members. The goal was to have a Saturday event in late April but, due to a scheduling conflict with Interact Beach Sweep, a project funded by the Berkeley Heights club, **the date was changed to March 10, 2018.** We've targeted the Pines Manor in Edison or another central location for the event. [Contact Nancy Ostrowski](mailto:ostrowskinj@att.net) to get your Interact Club included (ostrowskinj@att.net).

Inside...

- Youth in the News!
- Hall of Famer!
- Show Me the Money
- Club News
- Report Your Officers

Public Image Pilot Program: Bill Graham and I recently sent out **Request for Proposals** to all club presidents for a district-funded social media project. With the help of a social media marketing professional, your club (if selected) will participate in a three-month Facebook marketing campaign to increase awareness of Rotary, raise the profile your club, and boost your club's membership. Only three clubs will be selected. The deadline to submit proposals is **January 15, 2018**, so get working on it! Submit early if possible. [Read more on our home page at RotaryNJ.org](http://www.RotaryNJ.org).

Please accept my sincere best wishes to you and yours for a happy and healthy new year!!

And remember - *if membership isn't growing, it's bound to decline!*

Our Youth in the News!.....Bill Graham, Public Image Director

Interact's "Dare to be Great" Video Makes Rotary International TOP TEN!

Congratulations to Ariana Novo, Sudheshna Vemula, Nikki Salazar and Kaileann Villanueva of the Interact Club of Middlesex County Academy in Edison for making and submitting a video to the 9th Annual Interact Video Awards Competition. Despite being a first time submitter from a tiny Interact club (5 members) in a tiny school (160 students) and having to compete against much larger schools in countries like India that had more experience, they managed to achieve an impressive 10th place. This is especially impressive when one considers that the next best placing by an American team was 30th place.

Challenge Interactors & Rotaractors to unite globally to take on the world's biggest problems

Their video described an initiative they kicked off in June with a video challenging the youth of the world to come together to take on major world problems, such as child illiteracy and children out of school due to hunger and extreme poverty. The goal is to save/change lives of more than a million of the world's poorest children in a single year.



Think Big! Save/Change the lives of millions (tens of millions) of poor children in one year

These young people are learning to think big. The concept? A global read-a-thon during March 2018 with the dual goals of:

1. improving reading proficiency for tens of million of children currently in school through practice
2. significantly reducing the number of children not in school due to hunger or extreme poverty by millions (tens of millions?)

Rotaractors & Interactors from more than 35 Countries have joined the movement

Since then, Interactors and Rotaractors from more than 35 countries have joined this movement. This has also resulted in the establishment of a global network of Rotarian mentors (already on every continent on Earth other than Australia and Antarctica).

Gaining Recognition/Traction; the United Nations and Rotary Foundation

In November, two of the Interact students who made the original video met with the UN Secretary-General's Youth Envoy, Jayathma Wickramanayake, whose personal goals for the next 3 years aligns perfectly with that of the *Rotary Youth for a Better World Movement*, namely, getting the world to see young people not just as victims needing help and protection, but rather as potential agents of change that can bring about solutions to the world's biggest problems.

They also met with Rotary International's Youth Representatives to the United Nations in New York, Jason Gonzalez and Zineb Touzani, who have since become active leaders in the RYBW Movement.

Jason is also a member of a Rotary Foundation committee that just announced its endorsement of this initiative. This enables the initiative to reach out to the resources of Rotary International as a Rotary Foundation endorsed project.

A half million additional youth activists?

Finally, this initiative is attracting the attention of other major youth service organizations. A major

organization with a half million young people around the world that shares the same goals and methods as *Rotary Youth for a Better World* is considering supporting and perhaps even partnering with RYBW on the read-a-thon project. That would dramatically increase the likely impact of the initiative in the first year.

District 7510 is creating opportunities for people to do more with their lives than they ever dreamed possible. Let's help more of our members and especially our Interactors and Rotaractors experience what that's like.

- Imagine what it would feel like if something you are doing saves or dramatically changes the lives of millions of the world's poorest children.
- Imagine what it feels like to know there are people all around the world joining something you were part of starting.
- Imagine what it is like to meet with philanthropists, activist celebrities and world leaders.
- Imagine the impact on the future of young people who have experienced the above.
- Imagine what it would feel like to help young people you know have those opportunities.

The video:

Here's the video they submitted to the Interact Video Award Competition (< 3 minutes): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NwOUgX5RQmw>

The next time someone tells you something can't be done, remind them that that doesn't apply to Rotarians.

If you would like to get involved in this or similar initiatives, please contact Bill Graham (wmgraham1@hotmail.com or Cell: 908-377-5490).

Awards and Recognition DGND Ann Walko

We have completed a half year of activity. We are glad to recognize and acknowledge the accomplishment of the Middlesex Academy Interact Club with their TOP TEN finish in the INTERACT VIDEO AWARD project! We were asked to vote by our District Governor and I know that many of you heeded the call to place your vote. This was our opportunity to highlight the work of young people in our district.



Check out www.Rotary.org/MyRotary/Awards as the Avenues of Service Award criteria should be ready for members. This award honors members who engage in Club, Vocational, Community, International and Youth activities.

We are now getting ready to start the next phase of awards. Did you get an opportunity to retrieve the District Directory by using the DaCdb system? Very shortly, you will receive information about the Jean Harris Award. This award is given a non-Rotarian, male or female, whose efforts have made a significant impact in service to others. Chairing this effort is Tricia Marciano of the Hillsborough Club. You can reach her at tmarciano@comcast.net. Since 1997, we have given this award to nineteen deserving individuals,

I am looking forward to a wonderful new year and I wish you all-much happiness, good health, prosperity, and peace in your life and the world. Thank you for all you have done to make life a little bit better for others. Together, we will again do what we do best - *Service Above Self*.

The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others. Mahatma Gandhi

ShelterBox USA Inducts Len Nemeroff into Hall of Fame

ShelterBox USA inducted Rotary Club of Hamilton member Len Nemeroff into their hall of Fame after Len recently reached a fundraising milestone, raising more than \$100,000 to provide emergency shelter and supplies to people who have lost their homes to natural disaster or fled those homes because of civil conflict.



Len is a ShelterBox Ambassador and heads up our District's efforts to support the ShelterBox mission.

Of the more than 400 ShelterBox Ambassadors - volunteers who represent ShelterBox in their communities and fundraise on behalf of the organization - Nemeroff joins twenty-two others who have reached this milestone. The funds raised through his efforts have provided more than 100 families with emergency shelter and supplies.

"Volunteers are imperative to ShelterBox's ability to provide warmth, dignity, and hope to vulnerable families during their time of greatest need," said Kerri Murray, SB USA president. "We cannot thank Len enough for selflessly giving hundreds of hours of his personal time to generate support and compassion for people around the world."

ShelterBox provides humanitarian aid in the form of family-sized tents and essential tools to start repairing and rebuilding homes. Additionally, the organization's kits and boxes contain items that help transform shelters into a home, like cooking sets, solar lights, blankets, water filtration, and activity sets for children.

ShelterBox is currently working in the Caribbean following Hurricanes Irma and Maria, in Bangladesh following flooding in the north, and at the Rohingya refugee crisis in the south, and in Somaliland where people are suffering the effects of multi-year drought. SB also is providing aid in Syria, Iraq, Cameroon, Chad, and Niger.

Len is available for meeting programs on ShelterBox. Contact him at monkeylen@optonline.net.

Raffle Tickets Available in D7470

District Merger Partner Holding Annual Raffle

The District 7470 Foundation Raffle is a fundraiser for clubs that is open to clubs in both districts this year. We in District 7510 are working with District 7470 on this raffle since we are merging with them on July 1.

All of the money received in ticket sales (less expenses) is returned in the form of prizes to the winners and proportionate shares back to the participating clubs. The more tickets your club sells, the more your club will receive, either for your own charitable foundation or for distribution to eligible 501(c)(3) organizations.

This is an especially good way for small clubs to raise funds without the hassle of setting up their own fundraiser.

Clubs need to request tickets, since they are a limited number.

Tickets are \$20 each. Half goes to the winners, and half goes back to the clubs who sold the tickets.

One catch - the funds going back to the clubs need to go to a 501(c)(3) for tax purposes. This could be your own club foundation, or, if your club does not have a foundation, to a favorite charity, but it must be a 501(c)(3).

The first place winner gets 30% of the proceeds - close to \$30,000 if all tickets are sold. There are twenty second place prizes of about \$500, and forty third place prizes of about \$250.

All of the funds either go to the winners or back to the clubs. The more tickets you sell, the more each club raises.

The winners will be drawn at the Rotary Club of Madison on May 24, 2018 at 8 a.m.

Request your tickets soon, since they usually sell out. [Click here to download the ticket order form](http://www.directory-online.com/Rotary/Accounts/7510/assets/2017-2018/d7470%20raffle%20Ticket%20Order%20Form.pdf) or copy and paste this URL into your browser - [www.directory-online.com/Rotary/Accounts/7510/assets/2017-2018/d7470 raffle Ticket Order Form.pdf](http://www.directory-online.com/Rotary/Accounts/7510/assets/2017-2018/d7470%20raffle%20Ticket%20Order%20Form.pdf) - please follow the instructions carefully.

The Fundraiser Chair is D7470 PDG Bob Button, cell 201-317-2505, email rbttn@aol.com.

Global Grant for Clean Water in Nicaragua

Clinton Sunrise and Fanwood-Scotch Plains Clubs Partner in a Global Grant

Here is another project with your donations at work. As you know, the funds you donate to The Rotary Foundation come back to us, and we decide how to spend them. This is the only charity in the world which allows that. One quarter comes back for District Grants, which are distributed to the clubs. Most District Grants are in the \$1,000 per club range. The other quarter goes to District Dedicated Funds (DDF), which can be used for several purposes, including Global Grants. The remaining half goes to The World Fund. Two of our clubs are partnering with two clubs in California to work on a clean water project in Nicaragua.

The Rotary Clubs of Clinton Sunrise and Fanwood Scotch Plains have partnered with two clubs in California for a water project in Nicaragua. The Rotary Club of Santa Barbara has been working on this project for five years. A local town in rural Nicaragua has already spent \$150,000 to dig a deep well and install pumps and two water tanks. Now they need to get the water to the people in a more efficient and health manner that by barrels on horse carts (photo).



The current grant project will buy pipes, dig trenches, lay the pipes, install water meters, and train the locals in hygiene. The local Rotary Club of Ciudad Sandino will monitor and maintain the project. The piping will provide 3,000 people with potable (drinkable) water. The pipes will go to 506 homes, three schools, and two health centers.

The four Rotary Clubs have raised \$62,834; the two districts (7510 and California) are contributing \$28,000 DDF (\$10,000 from our District), and the World Fund is adding \$59,417, for a total grant of \$150,251. This is a wonderful example of how we can work together to magnify your donations and "Do Good in The World."

If your club is interested in starting a Global Grant, please contact Grants Chair Sharan Jain 732-801-8856, or email Jainsh.sj@gmail.com.

Club News!

All the Club news that's fit to print! And we'd like to print it all, so please send your news articles to the Editor 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 Fanwood-Scotch Plains has a holiday tradition of holding a special luncheon, inviting nearby clubs to join them as they enjoy holiday carols performed by the Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School Chamber Choir. This year, the club was joined by members of the Berkeley Heights, Mountainside, and Plainfield-North Plainfield clubs. All were not only treated to excellent vocals by the Chamber Choir, but also to the induction of Maureen Illanovsky (center) as the club's sixty-eighth member! FSP Rotary leads the District in membership, followed by the Trenton club with 53 members. Attendees also enjoyed a delicious buffet lunch at The Stage House Inn.



The Rotary Club of Hillsborough once again supported Operation Shoebox NJ when they brought out record numbers of Hillsborough residents to help pack the 1500 boxes of food and toiletry items that are now on their way to American troops serving abroad. The community volunteers, young and old, waited on a line stretching around the Hillsborough YMCA gymnasium for their turn to join the Club and Operation Shoebox volunteers at the sixth annual packing event. In addition to providing manpower to help organize and operate the event, the Club donated \$2,000 to help off-set the cost of shipping the boxes to their ultimate destination in foreign lands where American troops are stationed. These funds

received a significant boost from representatives of Acme supermarkets, who arrived at the event with a check for \$10,000 that they presented to Rod Hirsch, Operation Shoebox founder.

Operation Shoebox New Jersey, based in Hillsborough, was founded in February 2005. It is an all-volunteer grass roots organization dedicated to collecting donated supplies and shipping care packages to U.S. troops based in Iraq, Afghanistan and other Middle East countries. Operation Shoebox seeks donations of food and personal care items that are placed in personal care packages shipped to members of the US military deployed overseas. Requested items include canned tuna, canned fruit, 1 oz. boxes of cereal, dried fruit, trail mix, granola bars, beef jerky, small bags of pretzels and chips, small tubes of toothpaste, toothbrushes, small packets of moist wipes, soap, deodorant, small canisters of powder and small bottles of shampoo. Learn more at www.opshoeboxnj.org.

The Rotary Club of Robbinsville-Hamilton members recently collected 97 new winter coats for students at the Hamilton Head Start Center operated by Gateway Community Action Partners. Gateway is a poverty fighting network serving the central and south areas of New Jersey. Head Start is a federal program that promotes the school readiness of children ages birth to five from low-income families.



The Rotary Club of Berkeley Height's Interact Club at Governor Livingston High School recently prepared, packed, and delivered needed food for the coming holiday season to the Hillside Food Bank (see photo). This club, sponsored by the Berkeley Heights and the Mountainside Rotary Clubs, is guided by two outstanding teacher-advisors: Doreen Ladinski and Sharon Leahy.

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On Tuesday, November 21, the club was visited by Rotary Club President Jim Ramentol who presented the Rotary Presidential Citation for 2016-17 to Rebecca Henderson, Sarah Laveve, and Coleen Granelli. This citation is awarded to Interact Clubs actively engaged in community outreach and service, and have carried out at least five specific projects in these important dimensions, including promoting international understanding, the annual Rotary Youth Leadership Award weekend workshop, fund-raising to eradicate polio in the two remaining countries where it remains present, and community service such as the Food Bank project underway on this day. This is the tenth consecutive year that this Interact Club has been awarded the Rotary Presidential Citation.



The Rotary Club of Branchburg is working on a Global Grant initiative in partnership with Hertzelia Rotary Club, District 24902 in Israel and clubs within our own District, including Bridgewater-Bound Brook, Hillsborough, Montgomery-Rocky Hill, Princeton, Princeton Corridor, and Trenton. This global grant is for SHIP - (Samaritan Homeless Interim Program). They serve the homeless, near homeless, working poor, and individuals who are not able to obtain other assistance. Their food truck allows for the delivery of food on a nightly bases in area communities.

This vehicle also provides direct services for Alcohol/Substance Interim Counseling and Referrals, the "Better Way" program. Unfortunately, the truck is in terrible shape and in desperate need of replacement, hence this grant initiative. If your club would like to partner on this International matching grant, please contact Arthur Martin at arthur.martin@morganstanley.com.

Student of the Month Marissa Hoinowski, a student at Branchburg Central Middle School, won the Rotary Club of Branchburg Essay Contest for this month. The essay reflects the student's goals for the future and the steps necessary to achieve their goals. Marissa Hoinowski is planning on studying to become a cosmetic chemist. Also awarded Student of the Month was Raj Rana, also a student at Branchburg Central Middle School. Raj's future career plans are to become a sports agent. Both students were presented a Rotary certificate, a gift certificate, and a special Rotary coin that reminds Rotarians to live their lives by the Rotary 4 Way test.



The Rotary Club of Mountainside visited The Westfield Historical Society for lunch and an informative tour of the 1870's Reeve House. Tours were provided by Nancy Priest, President and Carol Goggi, Executive Asst. The house was donated in 1985 by the Reeve Brothers. It is registered as a national and state historic site. The Club also distributed dictionaries and thesauri to the third and fourth grade students at Deerfield School. Dan

Falcone, John Schnakenberg, and Glenn Mortimer represented the club. The club has been distributing the books for over 15 years.

The Rotary Club of Kenilworth recently honored David Brearley High School Students of the Month for October and November. Pictured below are David Brearley High School Principal Dana Chibbaro, Christopher Kossor, Alyssa Peters, club president Ceu Manata, and Superintendent of Kenilworth Schools and Rotarian Thomas Tramaglini. Spread the word to your friends in the Kenilworth area - the Kenilworth Rotary Club can make their volunteer dreams come true!



(Continued on page 8)

Club News cont'd

The Rotary Club of Union presented a \$5000 check to Operation Chillout representatives at the club's 76th anniversary meeting. The donation was part of the fundraising from the recent Automobilia event in November. Held each year, Automobilia is a private collection of the oldest one-of-a-kind turn of the century automobiles, including a 1906 Darracq, a 1907 Indian motorcycle, a 1906 Buick, plus scooters, bicycles and other transportation-related memorabilia. OPERATION CHILLOUT is New Jersey's only all-volunteer outreach program for homeless veterans. OPERATION CHILLOUT is dedicated to ending the crisis of homelessness for veterans, men and women, throughout New Jersey and parts of northeastern Pennsylvania.



The Rotary Club of Summit-New Providence has welcomed two new Rotarians at a recent lunch meeting.

From left to right Mort O'Shea Membership Chair, new member Scott Fischer, new member Renee Steen, and past President Susan Haig.

The Rotary Club of Plainsboro-North and South Brunswick's group of women members and their friends recently donated 35 caps to Saint Peter's Hospital Oncology Department. This group has been knitting caps since June of 2017 and has already donated more than 100 caps to several cancer hospitals. Now the team is working on baby blankets to be



donated to Robert Wood Johnson Children Hospital. In addition, the Club and the Interact Club of North Brunswick (a community-based club) joined the Boy Scouts of Troop 18 from North Brunswick and adopted fourteen kids from New Brunswick Elementary school. Boy Scouts and Interact club members together wrapped the gifts. Toys were also donated to Lady of Peace Church from their wish list.

The Rotary Club of Watchung-Warren members held their Annual Special Needs Holiday Party. Kean University students served as elves, Ed Carlock enjoyed playing Santa, Ann Walko, Neal Drasin, and Sandy Bloom assembled the gifts, and students from the Watchung School District played and sang songs to put everyone in the holiday spirit. Police officers from both towns helped make this a delightful time for the children. The local TD Bank supplied hats and the Ace Hardware store in Clark provided the beautiful gift bags.



Four Kean students represented the fourteen prospective teachers from the School of Education in replenishing the Somerset Food Bank. The students worked with the Watchung Warren Rotary to provide \$400 in food items. The students shown from left to right--Monica Lanza, Maribel Batista, Laynie Serro, and Allison Coca who received the Club's signature paperweight and certificates of participation for their service.

NOTE: Last month we published the club's program honoring 25 veterans representing all branches of the service who are residents at BrightView Senior Living at a *Bring a Veteran to Lunch* program. The photos below were not properly displayed. We apologize for the error. Ed.



The Rotary Club of Cranford and the Cranford High School Interact Club participated as Santa's helpers and tinkled that special little bell for the Salvation Army! Working the morning shift, club members and Interactors staffed the donation site at the Cranford Post Office.



Club President Jamie Miller and President-elect Martha Berrocal presented Cranford Police Department Chief Ryan Greco a check for \$3000.00 to support the Cranford Clergy Council. The club was able to fund the council with some of the proceeds from their 2017 Golf Outing. Thanks to all who made our outing a success so we are able to continue to support such worthy causes!

And the Club raised \$850 to which they added their own \$500 to send checks to the Hurricane Harvey and Hurricane Irma and Maria funds established by the Rotary Foundation.

The Rotary Club of Edison hosted a flapjack fundraiser at Applebee's recently. The event included a great tricky tray—baskets for newborn boy and girl, backpacks, cheer, gift certificates and more! Approximately 100 people joined with club members and Interact Club members from the Middlesex Academy of Science and Technology to enjoy the fabulous breakfast meal and fun! The club raised \$1400 for their charitable works.



Reporting Officers for the Rotary New Year

District merger coming July 1 - Do you have your officers set?



The merger between our District 7510 and our neighbor District 7470 will be effective on July 1. As an important step toward this merger, all clubs should have selected their officers in December elections to fill the club president, secretary, treasurer, president-elect for 2018-2019.

This is the normal procedure for clubs, pursuant to the Standard Club Constitution and the Recommended Club By-laws. However, while normal, it doesn't always go according to plan.

That is why we have been stressing the importance of following the procedure to elect club officers. Now it is time to make sure you have those officers properly reported to Rotary International by recording them in DACdb, our *District and Club database*.

If your club needs help reporting these officers, please contact District Secretary Michael Townley for assistance - secretary7510@rotarynj.org or 908-227-6782.

Happy Anniversary!

Congratulations to our Anniversary Club!!

The Rotary Club of Montgomery-Rocky Hill celebrates 28 years of service, chartered on January 4, 1990.

Top Ten Clubs in Participation - November 2017

Congratulations to the #1 club for November - South Amboy-Sayreville- with 87.50% participation rate for the month! We count attendance at meetings and participation in club events, District events, committee meetings and the like in our definition of participation (formerly "attendance").

The rest of the top ten? Robbinsville-Hamilton (82.40%); Plainsboro-North & South Brunswick (75.00%); Branchburg Township (70.00%); Plainfield-North Plainfield (69.23%); Bridgewater-Bound Brook (67.50%); Old Bridge-Sayreville (66.00%); Edison (63.00%); Somerville & Bridgewater (59.40%); New Brunswick (59.00%).

Secretaries, contact the District Secretary (Michael Townley) if you need help entering your club's attendance in the District and Club database (DaCdb). Email Secretary7510@RotaryNJ.org.

And thank you to the eighteen club secretaries who took the time to report participation for November.

Contact Us

Give us a call for more information.

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