

ROTARY 7230 NEWS

GOVERNOR CHARLES KATZE / EDITOR DICK TOWNSEND
JANUARY, 1997

Call to District Assembly, Jan. 23



District Governor Chuck Katze is calling for wide participation in the forthcoming District Assembly, to be held January 23, 6 p.m. at the Davenport Country Club, New Rochelle.

A delicious dinner is promised, and will cost \$20 per person.

An interesting program will deal with the Rotary Foundation. Here is a chance to learn the breadth and scope of our most important avenue of service. Special service awards will be presented.

Some clubs will be using this dinner meeting for their regular club meeting. (Why not your club?)

Governor's Message:

Why Become a Rotarian?

Why, indeed, should anyone join Rotary? There are so many other organizations out there...why Rotary?

It is a good question, and fortunately it is easy to answer. I'd like to give ten reasons to start you off, and let you think of other reasons.

1. Rotary provides opportunities to serve your community, your country - and the world.
2. Rotarians are true citizens of the world. It is an international organization, recognized and highly esteemed everywhere.
3. Rotary offers friendship, a basic human need we luckily never outgrow!
4. Rotary furnishes us all with a values-based system of ethics, centered in the Four Way Test, and crystallized in the motto "Service Above Self."
5. Rotary offers continuing education, from weekly programs at the local clubs to learning experiences from cultural exchanges.
6. Rotary gives us all the chance to develop leadership abilities.
7. Rotary helps all of us think in terms of what's beneficial for our businesses, through programs, personal contacts, and publications.
8. Rotary is fun - and often exciting.
9. Rotary leads to cultural understanding.
10. With all the above in mind, Rotary provides all of us with many opportunities to expand our personal growth and development.

Any one of these reasons would be enough to stimulate someone to join Rotary. So please use them to recruit new Rotarians for our district.

We have a goal of 2050 members, which means our 45 clubs will have to come up with an additional 150 Rotarians. And do it in six months.

Please help me meet this goal.

N. Y. Rotary's Anti-Smoking Campaign



Helen Reisler, Director and Division Chairman of Public Relations for the Rotary Club of N.Y. (left), and Cindy Owens, General Director of the American Lung Association of New York - who became a member of the New York Rotary Club as a result of this program.

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The Rotary Club of New York has distributed anti-smoking messages to 85 local junior high schools, where they will be displayed in 3000 classrooms, and used as the basis of lesson plans.

The New York Club's P/R Director, Helen Reisler, showed the poster at the Oct. 23rd "Open Airways" kickoff dinner of the American Lung Association, where the Rotary program received acclaim from educators, doctors, and dignitaries attending the event.

A special thanks was given to the Rotary Club of New York by Jackie Joyner-Kersey, the Olympic Gold Medalist, who is an asthmatic.

GETTING REJUVINATED IN BRAZIL

--by Jim Reiche, The Tarrytowns Rotary

I was the team leader in the Group Study Exchange to Brazil, Sept. 26th - Oct. 22nd, and found it to be an exhilarating experience. The Group Study Team and I studied Portuguese for an intense week and learned pronunciation of the language and some of the customs of the people. But thoughts of any problems evaporated when we landed in Salvador, Bahia, and were greeted by a band, and a happy crowd who gave us smiles, hugs and handshakes. There were some who spoke English, but also there were interpreters. After the long flight, we felt rejuvenated.

We drove with our host families to Feira de Santana, where we lived for a week. Most young people spoke English easily, having learned it as a second language.

Getting acquainted began at the dinner table at 8 p.m. Dinner was seldom this early. Fish, chicken, manioc, fresh vegetables - and invariably rice and beans. Desserts were fresh fruit, cakes, flan, and there was always a wonderfully strong coffee.

Rotary is strong there, and very generous in support of schools of all types, hospitals, clinics, senior citizen homes, parks and recreation areas, and water supply for the indigent. Clubs collect and donate money for charitable causes.

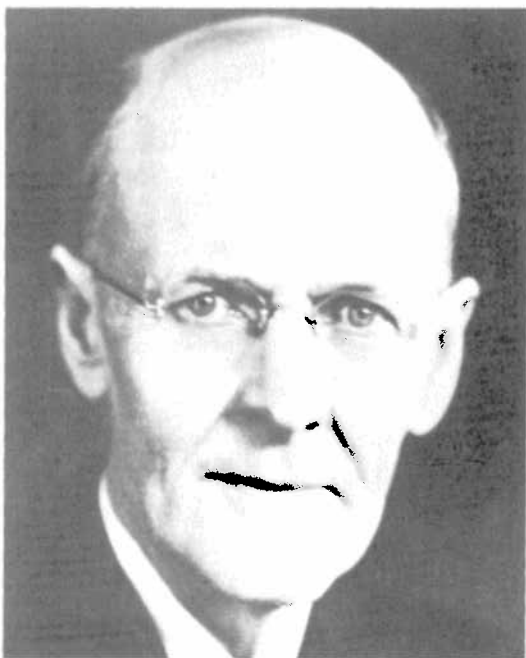
We traveled to large cities and to small towns, speaking to 13 Rotary clubs, at several universities, and with government officials. We also visited several industries, and historical and cultural sites. Our days were long. Most discussions were about politics, government, schools, and comparative salaries.

Brazil's greatest asset is its people.

I would encourage all Rotarians to apply for the most pleasant job of Team Leader. The experience is something you will never forget.

District Parliamentarian Appointed

N.Y. Rotary Club's Greg Lynch is District Parliamentarian, which means you can call on him to resolve parliamentary questions and procedure. Call him at 212-499-7600, or fax 212-808-0333.



Paul P. Harris Founder of Rotary

January 27, 1997 marks the 50th anniversary of the death of Paul Harris, an occasion for Rotarians to look back and measure their own club's achievements. 1996-97 Rotary International President Luis Giay is urging all clubs to plan activities to remember Rotary's past and honor its founder.

To mark Paul Harris' life, designate Jan. 27th as "Founder's Day" and organize a special event or memorial observance.

Paul Harris Fellows are a natural tie-in. Sponsor a dinner to honor your club's existing Paul Harris Fellows and name new honorees.

Paul Harris began Rotary's tradition of planting trees. How can your club perpetuate this tradition? Or - initiate a community service project as a memorial to Paul Harris.

Paul Harris often expressed interest in developing a large educational endowment fund to support Rotary's Fourth Avenue, International Service. Have a reception for current scholars and alumni.

Additional ways of tying in would be to research your club's history, discuss ways your club can grow and remain relevant for the next 50 years - and tell your story of service to the media!

"On-To-Bermuda" A Great Success



DG Chuck Katze opening the business session at the Sonesta Hotel. Over 80 District 7230 Rotarians attended the event



Gail Caruso, DG Chuck, Paul Caruso (Area 8 Rep.) and PDG Andy Morzello enjoy a convivial moment at the Governor's "dress up" banquet.

Rotarians had a choice of either an 8-day or a 5-day stay at the deluxe Sonesta Beach Hotel. Everyone enjoyed the special Bermuda "Home Hospitality" visits to the St. Georges, Pembroke, Sandys and Hamilton Clubs' "Rum Swizzle Party," and evening dinner cruise.

Clubs Donate Hospital Bus Shelter

Through the help of Bishop John Herzog, senior chaplain of Phelps Memorial Hospital Center in North Tarrytown, the Rotary Clubs of Briarcliff Manor and the Tarrytowns donated funds for a bus shelter on the hospital's grounds.

Poet Laureate of the United States Visiting Rotary Clubs

Robert Hass, the nation's poet laureate, is campaigning to improve education and increase literacy.

According to an article in the New York Times on Dec. 9, Mr. Hass said, "I thought an interesting thing to do would be to go where poets don't go. I thought the thing to talk about was the fact that basic literacy in this country is in a serious crisis."

A celebrated 55-year-old poet and critic, Mr. Hass gave a succinct analysis of the decline of American literacy as he paid a visit to his office at the Library of Congress. He celebrated the literacy levels of a century ago, when there was a national hunger to read and general literacy was at 95%. He deplored the evidence of current life that finds half the eighth graders in Texas reading at the fourth grade level.

Although he is one of the more powerless loners among the legions of appointees in Washington, Mr. Hass has spent much of the last two years traveling to business and civic meetings across the nation with a straight-prose warning that literacy standards have been plummeting.

"One thing I found out about this country was that there are thousands of business and service organizations that have to come up with a speaker every week," said Mr. Haas. He chose to exploit the curiosity about this figure dubbed Poet Laureate to shop his warning.

In this, he cited as a most obvious factor the tax cutting mania so popular with American candidates and voters alike. He is asking community leaders what they intend to do, beyond freezing property taxes, to see that their children can read. How well, he asks, will they be able to use their imagination, which, in this poet's viewpoint, is the taproot of community?

"I had never been to a Rotary Club in my life, but now I've been to dozens," the poet said. "And, you know, I had the prejudice they're all Babbitts. But I discovered they're downtown business people who raise money for schools, most of them, and I made some friends.

Hawthorne - Thornwood Rotary Club Sets Annual Citrus Fruit Fund Raiser



Exemplifying the virtually district-wide fruit sale now going on, President Andrew Robinson and Past President James Duffy, of the Hawthorne-Thornwood Club, display a sample box of the luscious grapefruit that, along with superb oranges, will be sold to community residents during the next few weeks as the major fund raiser for many clubs.

Hawthorne-Thornwood uses these funds to support activities such as The Gift of Life Program, free pasta suppers for senior citizens, The Student of the Month Award at Westlake High School, and holiday lighting in Mt. Pleasant.

A reminder to send photos, captions, and stories to District 7230 News editor Dick Townsend, 15 Courtmel Road, Mt. Kisco, NY 10549. Deadline for material is the 7th of the month preceding publication.