

# District 7230 Shareletter

Rotary International

Robert G. Cucinell  
District Governor

Volume 1 Number 1

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## DG GREETINGS

Dear Fellow Rotarian,

On July 1, 2007, I accepted the office of District Governor of this District. I am humbled by the duties and responsibilities of this office and extremely appreciative of those Rotarians, District Leaders and Club Presidents who have agreed to make this a stellar year for Rotary in District 7230. I know we can make a difference with District and clubs working together.



I have devoted a major amount of time preparing for this year and I am looking forward to working with all of you to bring our District up to a new level of service. I pledge to you to tap all of the creativity in myself and others to achieve this success. The clubs of our District can be outstanding contributors to our local and international communities. The purpose of our District is to assist all of the clubs to make outstanding progress and successes in the projects and programs each club chooses to undertake. The District has resource coordinators, committee chairs and Assistant Governors who are standing by to provide you with the help you may need to achieve this success.

Our Rotary International President Wilf Wilkinson has chosen "Rotary Shares"

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## DISTRICT 7230 GOVERNOR'S INSTALLATION

It may have been pouring rain outside, but inside the Scarsdale Golf Club it was celebration time as Robert (Bob) Cucinell was installed as our new District Governor. With lots of good food and drink and jazz music playing, it was a festive occasion. After a while the rain stopped and we saw a beautiful sunset, a good sign to start the new District year. Special guest speaker was Michael McGovern, Rotary International Director and Vice President for 2007-2008, who traveled all the way from Maine for the event. Many of the Past District Governors lined up to pass the hefty gavel from hand to hand until it reached Bob, who is ready to use it to keep the District in order!

After Bob was sworn in, the Assistant Governors were next. They are: Area 1 – Helen M. Lynch; Area 2 – Barbara Gerrard; Area 3 – Michael J. Graessle; Area 4 – John Porco; Area 5 – George McKinnis; Area 6 – Edward Hicks; Area 7 – Thomas McConnon; Area 8 – Gladys J. Schweiger; Area 9 – David Rowntree; At Large – Thomas



*Robert Cucinell, District Governor for 2007-08 is sworn in.*



*Assistant Governors are sworn in.*

Minozzi, Demitrio "Jim" Romeo and George Camp are Governor's Aides. A great team!

DG Bob inspired us as he laid out his goals for the year. He has big plans and it should be a banner year for the District and the clubs (see District Projects, Programs, Opportunities and Goals on page 2). "Rotary Shares - Be Involved", he said. With Bob at the helm, it looks as if we will be!

## 2008 GROUP STUDY EXCHANGE TO GERMANY

There is a great opportunity for District Rotarians, local businesspersons and professionals to study in Germany for a month in May 2008 through Rotary Foundation's Group Study Exchange (GSE) Program. And roundtrip airfare and all accommodations are provided by Rotary!

We will select a 5-person GSE team to study and travel in Germany from May 7th to June 5th 2008. The team will include

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## DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP SEMINAR

Thursday, September 20, 2007 at Fogarty's, 60 Kraft Ave., Bronxville 6 p.m., \$25. After Sept. 14th, \$30. Send registration forms to District Corresponding Secretary Geri Schwalb at 6-1 Woods Brooke Lane, Yorktown Heights, NY 10598, 914-245-6550 (home) or [callgeri@aol.com](mailto:callgeri@aol.com). Registration forms can be downloaded from our website: [www.Rotary7230.org](http://www.Rotary7230.org).

# DISTRICT PROJECTS, PROGRAMS, OPPORTUNITIES AND GOALS

## SPECIAL PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS

• **Membership:** The more members we have the more people will be available to do service in our communities and the world. Membership is key to raising the level of service by clubs and the District. DG Bob is asking each club to develop a strong membership recruitment and retention program this year to reach a net gain of at least one member. Clubs meeting this goal will qualify to receive a Presidential Citation from President Wilkinson.

• **Rotary International Foundation:** Rotarians around the world continue to make the world a better place to live through humanitarian projects and educational services. Over \$1.7 billion has been committed since 1947. The fuel for the Foundation is the money we donate yearly as Rotarians. This year, the District will use Rotary Foundation funds for local community service as well as international service. District will participate in the R.I. Ambassadorial Scholarship program and the Group Study Exchange (team coming from Germany and we will send team to Munich area). Learn more at District website, [www.Rotary7230.org](http://www.Rotary7230.org)

• **Matching Grant Projects:** The District will support many matching grants developed by clubs alone or in partnership with other clubs. Of special interest are water projects. Water resources throughout the world is a major emphasis of R.I. President Wilf Wilkinson. It is also a millennium goal of the UN and a core issue in life for those without access to pure water.

• **Youth Programs:** New this year is a 4-Way Test Speaking Contest for high school students sponsored by the District. Each club is asked to reach out to a high school, distribute information about the contest and select a winner. Winners will compete in a semi-finals on February 2, 2008 and a District-wide speak-off contest on February 11, 2008 will determine the final winner for the District. Contact District Vocational Service Chairman, David Del Monte. An outstanding RYLA program chaired by Sue Donnelly and Henry Atterbury is scheduled for Oct. 12-14, 2007. The District will also continue to expand Youth Programs with Interact, Rotaract, Youth Exchange and Ambassadorial inbound and outbound scholars.

## DON'T MISS THESE EXCITING INFORMATIONAL SEMINARS!

Our District is offering four great leadership training seminars this year.

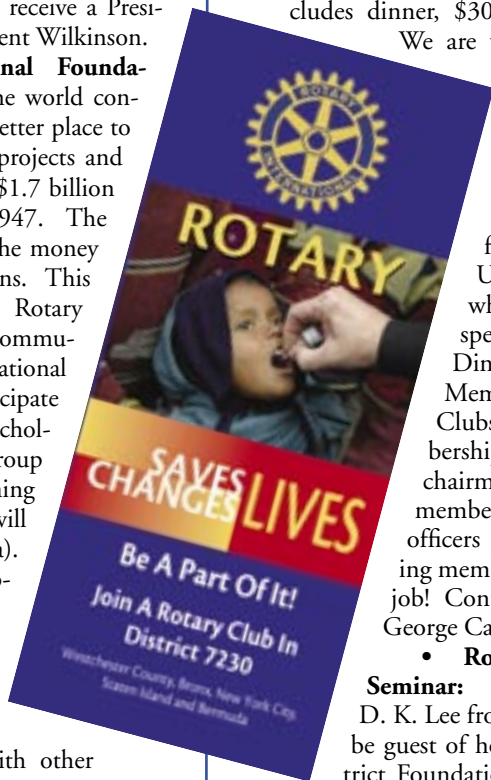
• **Membership Seminar:** How can we increase membership? And keep the members we have? Come find out at this outstanding seminar on Thursday, September 20, 2007 at Fogarty's in Bronxville at 6 p.m. (\$25 includes dinner, \$30 after Sept. 14th.)

We are very lucky to have Past Rotary International Director Dan Mooers, who wowed them at the Presidential Membership Conference at Villanova University in July, which he chaired. Also speaking will be Joseph Dino, Rotary Regional Membership Chairman. Clubs should send membership chairmen, vice chairmen and committee members, as well as club officers and board. Increasing membership is everyone's job! Contact Bill Currie or George Camp.

• **Rotary Foundation Seminar:** R.I. President-elect D. K. Lee from South Korea will be guest of honor at a multi-district Foundation seminar on Saturday October 13, 2007 at Rudy's

Beau Rivage in Dobbs Ferry, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Other outstanding speakers will address world projects, Polio Plus immunization programs and Ambassadorial and Peace scholarships. This is a chance to meet and hear from world-class Rotarians. DG Bob Cucinell urges all clubs to take advantage of this exceptional opportunity, so close at hand.

• **Leadership Institute Seminar:** What makes an effective leader? How can we develop excellent leadership in our club? It is worth it for clubs to subsidize members and future leaders for this seminar. Saturday, March 1st 2007 at Concordia College. Come and learn from voices of experience. Active membership and focused leadership keep Rotary alive and healthy. A RLI session in Bermuda is being planned, too. Rotarians in Bermuda contact Past President Keith Clifton; in New York contact John Bahr (Co-Chairs of the RLI Committee.) Assistant Governors can assist in obtaining application forms.



• **PETS (President Elect Training Session):** The Multi-District PETS held in Pennsylvania last winter was so successful that it will be Multi-District again this year, but much closer to our District on April 4 & 5, 2008. Attendance is required for Presidents-Elect.

## GOALS FOR CLUBS

DG Bob Cucinell has asked each club to adopt the following goals for the year:

• To have at least four weekly meeting programs on Rotary information. The more we learn about Rotary, the more we will appreciate and be proud of our membership in Rotary.

• To request \$100 per capita for each Rotary member in annual giving to the Rotary Foundation. This is about \$2.00 week. Not a large sacrifice.

• To have a net gain of at least one member. We will be striving to increase the District members by a net 75 which will include one or more new clubs.

• To get involved in a water project, either as a club or in cooperation with other clubs.

• To have more area meetings and fellowship and collaboration between clubs.

• To share information about the club in the new District newsletter. See how below.

## NEWSLETTER INFORMATION



We will have 10 newsletters during the year, with the help of a great committee, to spread the word of Rotary, the District and club projects. Please write immediately a very brief (one or two lines) description of your best project scheduled for this year and when it will take place, and give to your Assistant Governor to forward to Nancy Wallace, newsletter chairman/editor. We need that information immediately to schedule what will go in each issue during the year. You can send fuller information later. Please check our District website [www.Rotary7230.org](http://www.Rotary7230.org) for information and make sure that the Secretary of your club has supplied the District with your president's and secretary's name and email address so that you will be able to receive all email newsletters from the District.

## DG GREETINGS

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as our international theme for 2007-2008. He states that we share with our heart, our time, our skills, information and money to make our community and the world a better place in which to live. I strongly believe that participation is the key to success and apathy is the enemy. So I have adopted **"Be Involved"** as our local District theme. There is no better way to express the theme **"Rotary Shares"** than by being involved in helping others. Participation in projects and programs for Rotary will serve to inspire and give more purpose to our lives. No matter how challenging the project, it is attainable so long as the goal is reasonable. All we need is persistence and the inspiration to commit. The ultimate reward is personal satisfaction and fulfillment in a job well done to help others and further our motto of **"Service Above Self"**.

With your help, we can raise the District to new levels of service and create a strong foundation for our next District Governors, Eric Storberg and Karl Milde, to build upon.

I thank you all for giving me the opportunity to serve you and the District and I look forward to meeting each of you at my visits to your club.

**Bob Cucinell**  
District Governor  
Rotary District 7230

## WATER - WE CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT IT

Clean water and sanitation are priorities for Rotary International and for Bob Cucinell and our district. Several clubs have done water projects in various parts of the world and Bob himself was in Latin America last year to oversee a new project there. Bob is asking each club to get involved in a water project with an overseas Rotary partner club this year, either as a club project or in cooperation with other clubs. Rotary Foundation Matching Grants are available for some projects.

We take clean water for granted in this country, but that is not the case in many other countries. In many developing nations women and children walk miles every day to collect water in pails and buckets, water that may not even be clean. And in some nations, water is almost unavailable in times of drought.

Because of this urgent situation, the UN has declared the years 2005 – 2015 the Water for Life Decade. According to the International Water Management Institute (IWMI) one out of three people in the world lacks reliable access to freshwater. 1.8 million people die each year from drinking polluted water; there are 1.2 billion without access to clean water and 2.4 billion are without proper sanitation. And here is a shocking statistic that brings the problem home: Because of lack of access to clean water and sanitation, 6,000 children are dying each day. 6,000 children a day!

In this crisis Rotary can help. But it is important to recognize the critical role of women in providing, managing and safeguarding water. In most societies women have primary responsibility for the water supply, sanitation and household health. In water projects, the role of women is often overlooked. For Rotary to be successful in meeting the problem of water resources we need to remember the role of women. The projects need not be complicated, as water needs are so basic, but they must extend beyond the hardware of wells and pipes into the software, the social sciences of who's being served. We need to be conscious of the needs of women. For example, enabling a school to have adequate water and sanitary facilities means girls are more likely to attend; for often they cannot go to schools without water or where they must share bathrooms.

When we plan our water projects, we need to think of both genders. Providing access to safe water and sanitation can benefit both men and women, and can lead to reduction of child and maternal mortality as well as a decrease in poverty. Let's do water projects, but let's make sure they address the needs of women as well as men.

For more information contact Water Management Resource Coordinator Alix Schnee at: [alix.schnee@oprhp.state.ny.us](mailto:alix.schnee@oprhp.state.ny.us).



*Women and children in Tanzania may walk up to 8 miles to retrieve water.*

1.8  
MILLION  
people die each  
year from drinking  
polluted water

## CLUB LITERACY PROJECTS

Literacy Projects are aimed at encouraging young people to read and write, and DG Bob Cucinell has asked each club to undertake a project this year. Clubs can do their own projects or combine with other clubs for more expansive projects. Some clubs have distributed dictionaries to students as a project.

The Somers Rotary Club has just completed a more ambitious project bringing together students from affluent suburban high schools with those from inner city schools to work on a common goal - writing for publication. Students from two high schools in Somers, two schools in Brooklyn and two in Nashville wrote pieces for the project. Over 150 contributions were selected by their teachers as the best student writing at their school. The writing ranges from brief remarks to poignant poems and short stories about the difficulties and struggles of life. The collection has been published in a book, *On My Mind 2007*.

If your club has done a project, or has an idea for a project, contact Stanley Herz-Pearlman, District Resource Coordinator for Literacy at [Stanley.herz@aol.com](mailto:Stanley.herz@aol.com).



*Families in rural Honduras launder clothing in the streams.*



*Pictured from l. to r.: RI Vice President Mike McGovern, Membership Co-Chairman George Camp, DG Bob Cucinell, RI President Wilf Wilkinson, Membership Co-Chairman Bill Currie, and PDG Don Lee at the Presidential Membership Seminar in Villanova on July 14, 2007.*

## ROTARY AMBASSADORIAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Our district is now accepting applications for the 2008-2009 Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship Program. This is Rotary Foundation's oldest and best known program, which has sent nearly 37,000 men and women from 100 nations to study abroad since 1947. Today it is the world's largest privately funded international scholarship program.



The purpose of the program is to further international understanding and friendly relations among people of different countries. Scholars serve as ambassadors of good will to the people of the host country and share their experiences when they come home.

This year our district will award one Academic-Year Ambassadorial Scholarship. Applicants must live or work or study in our District and must be a citizen of a country with Rotary clubs. They must be endorsed by a Rotary Club in our District. Applications are due by September 20, 2007. For more information, contact Susanne Wetzel, District Scholarship Subcommittee Chair at [swetzel@stevens.edu](mailto:swetzel@stevens.edu), or DRFC (District Rotary Foundation Chair) Don Lee at [rotary7230@msn.com](mailto:rotary7230@msn.com), or your Assistant Governor. Susanne Wetzel address: Stevens Institute of Technology, Dept. of Computer Science, Castle Point on Hudson, Hoboken, NJ 07030.

## DID YOU KNOW?

R.I. President Wilf Wilkinson has 4 emphases for 2007-2008. They are:

- Literacy
- Water
- Health-Hunger
- Family of Rotary

## ON-TO-BERMUDA

The On-to-Bermuda fellowship trip and DG official visits to Bermuda clubs occurs during the week of October 21-28, 2007. For more information contact Co-Chairs: Coby Ellingwood, Brookridge Court, Rye Brook, NY 10573, 914-993-4044 (B) 914-967-0931 (R) 914-682-6188 (F) or George Koplinka 75 Chelsea Road, White Plains, NY 10603, 914-592-9023 (R) 802-425-3257 (VT), e-mail: [desiah@aol.com](mailto:desiah@aol.com).

## The Four-Way Test

The Four-Way Test is a simple but profound statement of things we think, say or do:

1. **Is it the TRUTH?**
2. **Is it FAIR to all concerned?**
3. **Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?**
4. **Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?**

## MEMBERSHIP NOTES

Membership – it is the “life-blood” of Rotary. Without new members joining on a regular basis, club membership begins to decline as older members move away or retire.

This year, Wilf Wilkinson, new President of Rotary International, has made growth in membership his primary goal and wants every club to have a minimum net gain of at least one new member this Rotary year. As part of that effort, Wilf is holding a series of Presidential Membership Conferences around the US this summer. The first conference was held in our area the weekend of July 13-14 at Villanova University outside of Philadelphia for clubs from Maine to Maryland. Almost 500 Rotarians attended, including DG Bob Cucinell and Bill Currie and George Camp, Membership Co-Chairmen in our District, PDG Don Lee and Dick Atkins, President of the Somers club.

On Thursday, September 20th at 6 pm at our District Membership Conference at Fogarty's in Bronxville, Dan Mooers, former RI Director with expertise in membership will give the same presentation again, along with Joe Dino, our Regional Zone Representative for Membership Development. This will be a great event and you will come away with ideas to help develop new members for your club. Don't miss it!

**Bill Currie and George Camp**  
Membership Co-Chairs

## GROUP STUDY EXCHANGE

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a Rotarian as team leader and 4 team members. In Germany, the team will stay with local families, meet businesspersons and professionals in fields like theirs and travel in Bavaria to learn German history and culture.

Deadline for applications for team leader (must be District Rotarian) and team members is September 30, 2007. Team members are not Rotarians, must be U.S. citizens age 25 – 40, employed in business or profession in our district. Contact Greg Arcaro, District GSE Chair at [garcaro@aol.com](mailto:garcaro@aol.com) or 914/589-2090. For more information, see District website at [www.Rotary7230.org](http://www.Rotary7230.org). Applications are also available online at R. I. website at [www.rotary.org/foundation/educational/gse](http://www.rotary.org/foundation/educational/gse).