



“Service Above Self”

Credo

Rotary District 7150 Newsletter

March 2009



2008-09 District Governor
Larry Calabrese
with
Rotary International President
Dong Kurn Lee

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Rotary International Theme for
2009-10

Literacy! by D. K. Lee (RIP)

Dear fellow Rotarians:

We have long supported literacy and education for all. Our projects have strengthened schools, built community libraries, and given the precious gift of reading and writing to those in need.

As we celebrate Literacy Month this March, we are confronted by the monumental challenge of helping nearly a billion people experience the essential pleasure and power of reading and writing. Without these fundamental skills, too many of our friends and neighbors will remain trapped by poverty, hunger, and disease.

Despite this challenge, we are heartened by the company of trusted friends and new allies in our struggle to stop illiteracy. Over the last year, we have renewed our relationship with the International Reading Association, allowing Rotary clubs to benefit from the experience of local and international literacy professionals. In addition, The Dollywood Foundation, our newest literacy ally, is working with Rotary clubs across North America and the United Kingdom to support early childhood literacy through its Imagination Library program.

While these relationships heighten the effectiveness and impact of our projects, little would be possible without your active support for literacy. Your contributions are significant, and I urge you

to renew your commitment to this vital effort.

Our success depends on careful planning. As business, professional, and community leaders, we must pause to consider what more our clubs and districts can do to support literacy in the months and years ahead. We must invest in strong champions for literacy in our communities, including our own club and district literacy chairs, to strengthen and lead our literacy efforts.

Together we can stop illiteracy and help Make Dreams Real for our friends and neighbors in need.

Sincerely,

D. K. Lee
President
Rotary International



**DG Larry in UC
Hall of Fame!** Utica College
Press
Release

Utica College announced Feb. 16 that District Governor Larry Calabrese will be inducted into its Pioneer Athletic Hall of Fame in May.

A 1962 accounting graduate of UC, Larry ranks sixth on the college's all-time scoring list with 1,195 career points and captained the men's basketball team in his senior season. To this day he holds the College's single-game scoring record after netting 45 points against RIT in 1962.

Larry will be inducted with five others at a ceremony at Danielle's



Banquet Specialists in New Hartford on May 13. The other inductees are: DJ Carstensen, '85 (Men's Basketball), Harold T. Clark Jr., '65 (Benefactor), David

D'Alessandro, '72 (Lifetime Achievement), Nonnie Pensero, '57 (Men's Basketball), and Bernice (Wesley) Benjamin, '90 (Women's Basketball).

The Pioneer Hall of Fame was established in 2008.

Utica College



Betty Fadden,
Patrick Pensabene,
Kelsey Gillett,
and
Anthony DeGelorm

Each month the Fulton Rotary Club invites several G. Ray Bodley High School students as guest at their noon luncheon at the Tavern On The Lock Restaurant. On the left is Rotarian Betty Fadden thanking Patrick Pensabene, Kelsey Gillett, and Anthony DeGelorm for their presentation to the Rotarians. Miss Gillett, second from right, will study in Equador for the 2009-2010 school year on a Rotary International High School Exchange Program. Patrick and Anthony expect to go on to college in the fall. All three students are Seniors this year.

Richard Kemmis



Books of the World Project

Michael Fjetland (Seabrook TX RC)

The Invisible Treasure Every American Has That Could Change the World

What if you had a tool that could end world ignorance and reduce the threat of terrorism, would you use it? If you had a valuable treasure lying about in your house, would you throw it in the trash? We do that every day in America.

Nearly every American has a goldmine scattered about their homes that is missing in much of the world. Even with a global recession, job losses and damaged 401K's, Americans have an oppor-

tunity to turn that hidden wealth into an instrument of value and goodwill that costs them little or nothing but could transform the world with rich returns.

I just spent several hours on Saturday helping a Rotary team in a La Porte, Texas warehouse load abandoned school books and other donated books onto pallets that will be shipped to South Africa where many schools have no books at all. Many schools are lucky to have only a tiny chalkboard as the only resource, if that. It all started because of a meeting between a Rotarian in Seabrook and a man from South Africa that had a project that needed books.

Our kids think kids in other countries have what we have. I heard about one kid who commented: "Why are we giving them our junk?" There is a saying that one

man's trash is another's treasure. Our out-of-date books may be considered "junk" to our schools and put in the dump, but they are still a treasure to people who have no books at all. We are throwing out treasure every day that could be put to a good use.

In Pakistan, kids are sent to religious schools only because the parents can't afford schooling. The religious schools "Madrasses" only teach hate — not reading, writing, world history and math. These "schools" don't have books. Imagine if those kids had access to our old books and the different view of the world it would give them. In our packing yesterday, I saw books on Lincoln, art, math workbooks, wonderful stuff to a kid with no shoes in the slums of Mumbai or Johannesburg or a thousand other places.



The recipients even use the containers the books are shipped in! They become libraries or sewing centers. They are needed as secure buildings and training centers.

This project is called "Rotary Books for the World." Every American can participate, even without spending a dime. You could donate old books, or help send books to Houston for shipment in containers. People from around the world who want books can also help. If you live in another country and know of a warehouse that could be a distribution center or an organization willing to help distribute books on that end, then we have people on both ends working on a common mission. Or you can donate money to the Second Wind Foundation. The website is www.RotaryBooksForTheWorld.org

In the warehouse, we came across a pallet of Spanish books that had been donated by a group in Juarez, Mexico to a school in San Antonio. Those books will be sent to a school in Central America where we have a sister group, in Nicaragua.

This is a program that our kids should also be involved in, so they can see the reality of how lucky they are in the world -- and how they can help make it a better place by helping other kids get books.

Mark Twain once said: "The man who doesn't read good books has no advantage over the man who can't read them." The reality is that people can't learn to read if they don't have books to read. We have been throwing ours in the trash instead of allowing them to be the treasure to others that they represent. Even if you don't have a job, you can still donate books. It won't

cost you a dime but will make the world a richer place.

It will also give the world another face for Americans who come carrying books. In the end, the books will win over those that guns won't. A world that can read is better off than one where billions can't. Donate a book to your local Rotary club — and some of your time — to make it a better place.

Michael



Membership

by Jenny
Doane
(Eastwood)

Let's talk membership. As you remember, it is one of the priorities for DG Larry and our RI President, D.K. Lee.

So, let's quickly go over how you are doing with recruiting members and retaining members.

1. Get your "ask" in gear. Are you asking your friends, neighbors, co-workers, church members, golf partners, and others to join you at your meeting for a meal and friendship? It is as simple as that. I know of several small clubs who are adding new members to their clubs just by asking people in their community and co-workers. I hear this week after week — "Bob has always wanted to be in Rotary, but he told me no one had asked him." So just get your "ask" in gear!
2. Are you retaining the members you have and also your new members? Give them projects to do, sign them up for committees, and ask them

what they are interested in doing for your community or possibly a world project. Don't forget our Pennies for Polio project that will take center stage. This is something that your new members could get into right away.

3. What is the perception of your club? Do you meet in a place that is convenient to your members and community? Is the building clean and food tasty? Are your members happy and enjoy coming to your meetings? Are there negative undercurrents? If so, get this solved right away. No one wants to join an organization where the members constantly complain or gripe. (If you need help with this type of issue there are people in the district to help.) Is your club perceived as a good club with happy and busy members? Are you active in your community and continue to be a presence in your community?

These are just a few of the things to think about as you ask people to join your club. If you need assistance in any of the above, please let your AG know. He/she will get a hold of someone on the District Membership committee who is there to help you in any way.

If we want to contribute to the eradication of polio and help RI President D.K. Lee reach his goal of saving children's lives daily, then we need to have more people to help solve these problems. So, recruit those members, and keep them busy in your club.

Jenny



District Polio Update

by PDG Mike Occhipinti (Rome)

As of March 5, 2009 our contributions towards our polio challenge has climbed to a new high of \$42,445.99. So far, these clubs have made all of this possible. **Congratulations!**

Clubs	Amount
DDF total for 2007-08	\$ 4000
Adirondack Foothills	\$150
Camden	\$1,184
Cato	\$1,000
Cazenovia	\$ 2,000
Chittenango	\$ 1,700
Eastwood	\$1,100
Fulton	\$100
Greater Utica Sunrise	\$400
Hamilton	\$1,336
Marcellus	\$1,974
New Hartford	\$450
Oneida	\$ 350
Oswego	\$6,396
Rome	\$4,505
Rotary E-Club	\$10,300
Skaneateles	\$1,825
Syracuse	\$375
Utica	\$2,802
West Winfield	\$500

This figure represents the saving of lives from polio for 707,433 children in our world.

Great news from the Rotary Foundation. Pakistan and Afghanistan collaborate to end polio. Health officials from Pakistan and Afghanistan endorsed joint strategies for stopping cross-border transmission of the poliovirus. At their joint meeting held on February 10 and 11, Dr. Altaf Bosan, head of Pakistan's polio eradication program said "We need to

consider Pakistan and Afghanistan as one block when it comes to fighting polio. Our issues and challenges are the same, and thus their solutions are similar." At that meeting were also three of the spearheading partners of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative: The World Health Organization, Rotary International, and UNICEF. An important outcome of the meeting was an agreement to improve the condition and visibility of vaccination posts at border crossings.

Mark your calendar to look for the May issue of *The Rotarian* magazine. The issue will feature an interview with Bill Gates about his contribution to Rotary and the effort to eradicate polio.

We are only \$7,554.01 from reaching our current goal of \$50,000.00. There are only three more months to go. Let's all make a big effort and push to meet or surpass our goal before year end. We can do it.

Until next month...

PDG Mike
District Polio Chair



SU Coach
Doug
Marrone

By **Mel**
Rubenstein
(Dewitt)

The new Syracuse University football coach, Doug Marrone, will be the guest speaker at the Dewitt Rotary luncheon on Monday April 20, 2009.



[Picture of Coach Marrone courtesy of SU Athletic Department]

Time: Noon

Place: LaFayette Hills (formerly LaFayette Country Club), 4480 LaFayette Rd.

Price: \$17.00 includes buffet lunch (cash bar available)

Valet parking available.

Reservations: e-mail to jaywilkins13@yahoo.com no later than 14 April. Hurry while space is available

Mel



Daddy Baby
Shower!

Peggy
Donnelly
(Fulton
Sunrise)

The birth of a baby is a special joy and who better to celebrate with than your friends, your fellow Rotarians!

When Mike Delorme began to tell fellow Fulton Sunrise Rotarians all about getting prepared for the birth of his first child, the dividing wall of the hall at the Riverside Inn in Fulton, NY swung open



to reveal many delightfully wrapped gifts on a baby shower table. On Friday, January 30, the Fulton Sunrise Rotary Club threw a surprise baby shower for Mike and Hannah Delorme. Gift after gift was gleefully opened by the happy daddy to be, and he commented that he would be able to enjoy all of the fun of opening gifts once again when he took the presents home to Hannah to watch her open them. Hannah could not be there for the party as she was substitute teaching that day.



The joyful news was announced that baby Delorme was born on February 10 at 1:35 AM weighing 7 pounds 6 ounces. Welcome to the world, Griffin Shaver Delorme!

Peggy



The Rotary Foundation

Jack Luchsinger
(Rome)

MONTHLY GIVING TO THE ROTARY FOUNDATION

Most Clubs submitted goals for Annual Giving for this year, which added up to the District total goal of \$82,154. As of 31 Jan., twenty five clubs had sent funds totaling \$27,857, in to Annual Giving of the Rotary Foundation.

Congratulations and thank you to the following Clubs, which had

reached over 60% or more of their Goal:

- Skan. Sunrise 133% = \$1,000
- Camden 100% = 1,500
- Kuyahora Valley 100% = \$1,000
- Sauquoit 94% = \$1,972
- Fulton 90% = \$1,800
- Eastwood 82% = \$3,265
- Oswego Sunrise 74% = \$737
- Oswego 66% = \$2,785
- Skaneateles 65% = \$3,745
- Sherrill 63% = \$825

We are urging all clubs to collect and submit Funds to TRF before 31 Mar so they will be on the next Report, and we can measure the trend, and rally support, to achieve our Annual Giving goal! You are encouraged if you have funds available to ask members to make a donation of \$50 (or more) to be matched by the club (if you have \$) so contributors can be Sustaining Members at the \$100 level every year.

Many clubs have also been very good, at raising donations for polio. You are encouraged to continue that effort to attain that goal which is separate from Annual Giving.

Thank you for all you do for Rotary.

"Make Dreams Real"

[written by: Jack Luchsinger, PDG, District TRF Chair — Larry Calabrese DG — Joe McCarthy PDG, Annual Giving Chair]

Jack



District Rotary Club Location Maps!

by Ron Townsend
(Rome)

Rome Rotary is selling District 7150 maps as a fundraiser for their

club. Maps are laminated and are available in three sizes: 24"x36" for \$60, 18"x26" for \$32, and 13"x19" for \$25. Contact Rome Rotary President Ron Townsend at rtownse3@twcny.rr.com or 315-339-2484. See the district map at: www.rotarydistrict7150.org/pdf/District7150locations2.pdf.



Ron



Noteworthy News from the DG's Desk

In this month's *The Rotarian*, RI President D. K. Lee again focused on our #1 goal for the next three years, the eradication of polio. He shared with us The Gates Foundation additional commitment of \$255 million and Rotary's agreement to raise an additional \$100 million by June 30, 2012. President Lee has asked every Rotary Club to carry out at least one fundraising event for the next three years, and he especially is asking new Rotarians and new clubs to be a strong part of this commitment.

The clubs in our district, as of March 1, 2009, have raised nearly \$40,000 for polio eradication. I sincerely thank all of the clubs that have participated in our Pennies for Polio campaign for their unconditional commitment to keeping our promise to the children of



the world. We are so close to *Making Dreams Real*, and I am confident that our clubs will help me cross the finish line and celebrate with me on completing a successful campaign on June 30, 2009. Our challenge will be to sustain this effort for an additional three years. With strong club and district leadership, we all can be part of this incredible journey and be a piece of Rotary history.

Finally, I want to remind all Club President's to review the Presidential Citation brochure to determine if their club qualifies for the 2008-2009 Presidential Citation. The Certification Form must be submitted to our District Secretary, Lorraine Dell, by April 1, 2009.

Your District Governor,
Larry Calabrese



Rotary Awards Rotary International
Presidential Citation

The deadline to submit applications to DG Larry is 1 Apr. The 2008-09 Presidential Citation program supports President D. K. Lee's theme, *Make Dreams Real*. The 2008-09 Presidential Citation brochure, available on the Web, highlights how to qualify for this award. To qualify for a citation, clubs must initiate a service project that will reduce child mortality, achieve a net increase of at least

one member between 1 Jul 2008 and 31 Mar 2009, and complete one activity from each of the five categories listed in the brochure. Club presidents must fill out and sign their club's Presidential Citation Certification Form and send it to the DG by 1 Apr.

Rotaract and Interact clubs may also qualify for a Presidential Citation by completing at least four activities overall from any of the categories in the brochure. The sponsoring Rotary club must sign the Rotaract and Interact Presidential Citation Certification Form and submit it to the DG by 1 Apr.

This year, DGs can receive special recognition if 50% or more of the clubs in their district qualify for the Presidential Citation **and** the DG and 50% of the district's club presidents personally bring a new member into Rotary between 1 Jul 2008 and 31 Mar 2009.

From Rotary International



Pancakes in Marcellus Donna Scudari (Marcellus)

Marcellus Rotary Club and Baltimore Woods Community Pancake Breakfast Event:

Sunday, March 15th, 2009
Marcellus High School 7:30am — 12:00pm

Tickets at Door: Adults \$5.50
Under 12 \$3.50, Family(5) \$20.00
*Under 5 Free

Advance Sale Tickets: Adults\$5.00
Under 12 \$3.00, Family(5) \$18.00
* Under5 Free

Contact Patty Weisse 673-1350
Or any Marcellus Rotary Member for advance sale tickets

Entertainment* and * Silent Auction



Marcellus Rotary Club Members:
DGND Jim Gascon, Brud Wilson and Jerry Ferro

Donna



Gift of Vision Correspondence

DGND Jim Gascon (Marcellus)

Letter to DGND Jim Gascon:

23 January 2009

Mr. James Gascon

Dear Mr. Gascon,

I am now safely back in my country and the bright sunshine of the Caribbean. I would like to place on record the outstanding work you did on my behalf, despite the initial disappointment of not having the planned operation. The low vision aides that were prescribed are now of great help to my daily life and are contributing to making my life more manageable.

I hope that one day I will be able to return the kindness shown to me during my stay in the USA. Both Derek and I were much appreciated. Derek even remarked you should be a Kiwanian (smile). God bless you and your family for the future. Once again thank again.

Yours sincerely,

Elica Angol (Mrs.)



Letter from DGND Jim Gascon:

Mrs. Elica Angol
Commonwealth of Dominica West
Indies

**Re: Rotary District 7150 Gift of
Vision Program**

Dear Elica:

Thank you for your kind note. The Gift of Vision Program is only made possible as a result of the hard work and dedication of the many Rotarians in District 7150. The fine work of the Rotarians in this District has offered us, through the Gift of Vision Program, the opportunity to restore or improve the sight of over a dozen people from many different parts of the world. I will extend your thanks and gratitude to my fellow Rotari-

ans. We will keep you and your family in our thoughts and prayers.

Very truly yours,
James J. Gascon
Gift of Vision Chair

Jim



**Credo
Information**

Dennis
Schonewetter
(Rome)

Submissions to the 2008-09 *Credo* are due **no later than the first day of each month**. The *Credo* will be published and distributed on or about the tenth day of each month. Send your articles to schonewetter@west-point.org.

Distribution will be through email, on the District 7150 Web Site, and USPS mail.

Emailed copies will go to all club presidents & secretaries, the District Staff, AGs, PDGs, and other persons designated by the DG. Email address corrections should be sent to the District Secretary, Laraine Dell when known, at larainedell@roadrunner.com.

The *Credo* will also be available on the District 7150 Web Site as soon as it is published.

DG Larry hopes that each club will make copies of the *Credo* available to their members through their own club email list and via paper copies to those members who do not have access to email.

Dennis

Rotary Web Sites You Can Use!

District 7150 Rotary Clubs' Meeting Days & Times: <http://www.rotarydistrict7150.org/clubmtg2.html>.

District 7150 Calendar of Events: <http://www.rotarydistrict7150.org/calendar.html>.

District 7150 Conference Information: <http://rotaryconference.org/>.

Rotary Leadership Institute Information: <http://www.rotarydistrict7150.org/LdrspInstitute.htm> & <http://www.rlinea.com/>.

District 7150 Youth Exchange Program: <http://www.rotarydistrict7150youthexchange.org/>.

Rotary International & The Rotary Foundation: <http://www.rotary.org/>.

District 7150 RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Award): <http://www.rotarydistrict7150.org/RYLA.htm>.

District 7150 Rotary e-Club NY1 Make-ups: <http://www.rotaryclubny1.com/home-pg.html>.

District 7150 Polio News & Updates: <http://www.rotarydistrict7150.org/PolioPlus.htm>.





Credo

The Official Newsletter
of District 7150

Newsletter Editor

PP Dennis Schonewetter (Rome—336-9686,
schonewetter@west-point.org)



Annabelle & DG Larry Calabrese

District 7150 Officers

DG: Larry Calabrese (Utica—736-8404,
ltclar@roadrunner.com)

DGE: Fred Cholet (DeWitt—481-5610,
fcholet@twcny.rr.com)

DGN: Paul "PJ" Scott (Oswego—303-4723,
pj.scott@twcny.rr.com)

DGND: Jim Gascon (Marcellus—673-4451,
jjg@ccf-law.com)

Secretary: Laraine Dell (GUS—735-2554,
larainedell@roadrunner.com)

Treasurer: John Howard (Utica—797-6600,
jhoward@bhcpapc.com)

IPDG: Marlene Brown (D7150 E-club—853-5092,
marlenebrown@roadrunner.com)

Web Sites:

www.rotary.org (RI)

www.rotarydistrict7150.org (District)

www.rlinea.com (RLI)

www.RotaryDistrict7150YouthExchange.org (YE)

Check out our District 7150 web site at www.rotarydistrict7150.org — it's great!

Rotary International District 7150

Post Office Box 655 • Rome • New York • 13442-0655



ROTARY LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

www.rlinea.org



Paul Scott
Dist. 7150 RLI Chair
3172 Alex Lane
Baldwinsville, NY 13027
Email: PJ1@twcny.rr.com

Send Registrations to :
Thomas L. Voorhees
Treasures/Registrar
29 East Woodhaven Dr.
Avon, CT 06001-2400
Fax: 860-673-7672
Email: tlvmev@aol.com

What:

A fun, interactive, hands-on series of courses designed to provide Rotary knowledge and to develop leadership skills. There are 3 day-long parts, that may be taken at the student's pace.

Who:

Each Rotary Club should nominate at least two Prospective Club Leaders annually for the program.

Why:

Rotary Club leadership changes every year. Success in clubs depends on the quality of the leadership pool available. These key future club leaders are exposed to new ideas, meet like-minded Rotarians, and learn and bring back the excitement of Rotary service!

Where & When:

District 7150 is sponsoring the following local Institute and courses: Part I, II, III, Graduate, Faculty*
(* Faculty Training by invitation only)

Location: Madison-Oneida BOCES, Verona, NY

Date: Saturday, April 4, 2009

Cost: \$65.00 per daily session, which includes lunch

To download or complete a Registration Form click:

<http://www.rlinea.com/Registration>

Or go to www.rlinea.com and click on Registration

**ROTARY EDUCATION and
LEADERSHIP TRAINING**