

District 7450 Rotary Leader



Volume 9 Number 5

November, 2014

Message from DG Doug:

District Conference ‘Lights up Rotary’ big-time!

We just concluded a GREAT District Conference on Friday and Saturday, November 14-15, 2014! We learned, we laughed, we cried, we shared a charming and gracious venue, good and plentiful food and Rotary Fellowship throughout those two days all under the gentle, but firm, management of Conference Chair PDG Bob Lankin, Co-Chair Karen Mazzarella, and the entire Committee.

We also enjoyed the company of two current District Governors from outside our district. One from NYC (DG Dave Del Monte, D 7230) and the other from North Jersey (DG Calisto Bertin, D 7490, and his wonderful wife Lisa—also a Rotarian). Both remarked how thoroughly they enjoyed the content of our program along with the enthusiasm of our members and the Rotary Fellowship they experienced.

Special thanks go to RI President Gary C.K. Huang for selecting PDG Helen B. Reisler as his Representative. Helen served as the very first woman President of the Rotary Club of New York and “boy oh boy” did we learn why those Rotarians chose her to lead their Club! While it is always hard to “capture” the significance of a person’s contributions to a large Conference in a few words, I’ll give it a try!

RI President’s Representative Helen provided insight and encouragement in four areas. First, she shared with us Rotary’s close affiliation with a wide variety of the humanitarian functions of the United Nations---programs that encompass over 80 percent of

its business. These include, among many others, the WHO, UNICEF, aid to refugees and those in great need under UNHCR and the WFP. Through our Rotary permanent seat or “chair” as a recognized “Non-Governmental Organization”, Rotary stays in

touch with human needs around the world and acts to respond to those needs. The eradication of polio is the most visible action that Rotarians, worldwide, support.

Second, Helen shared in “real time” the overwhelming devastation and need created by the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001. Her presentation brought tears to many eyes. She showed how Rotary responded! Her Rotary Club, of which she was the newly-installed President, became the focal point for Rotarians’ generosity and response. The Club was soon the custodian of donations from around the world in the amount of \$1.4 million. She identified the needs which those funds could help address and, very importantly, the stewardship she and her Club displayed to ensure integrity in the disposition of funds so which were generously contributed.

By the strength of her commitment to Rotary values and the power of good, Helen showed us the “Power of One” as well as the comfort and strength provided by Rotary Fellowship.

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(Photo by JayChild)
Julianna and DG Doug Blazey join John Nanni, a polio survivor and long-time Rotarian and RI PolioPlus rep at 2012 UN Special Session on Polio Eradication, to show how close to the end is the battle to “End Polio Now”.



Happy Thanksgiving



District Conference 'Lights up Rotary' big time!

(Continued from Page One)

Helen led the New York Rotary Club's response to 9/11. She did not wait to be asked or challenged; she just started doing what had to be done. She organized, she gathered resources, she offered assistance to others, she cooperated and she accepted the direct physical contributions of goods and services and donations of time and money and coordinated with all those involved in this enormous response.

Helen, like so many Rotarians, saw a need and began to act. She, along with all those other active Rotarians, set an example and a high bar for all of us!

Finally, she was so special in how she shared information and her friendship with all of us. President Gary Huang's Representative Helen Reisler personifies Rotary Fellowship!

We also were truly privileged to have PDG John T. Capps (D 7730) of North Carolina accept our invitation to join us and help us "Light Up Rotary!" John T. is not only a "Jack of All Trades", but I think he is the "Master of Them All" as well.

John T. is the personification of positive energy and goodness let loose! John T. got people to their feet, brought them up front to participate, and deployed theatrical props, stories and incredible good humor to create positive effects during several presentations. He "Led the Way" towards Rotary progress by showing each one of us how to assess and address Rotary's challenges.

John T. showed us how to ACE our Rotary functions with Attitude, Commitment, and En-*thuuuuu*-si-asm! He welcomed and inspired our youth in attendance Saturday. He also showed the "Power of One" and applauded all of us for taking "Service Above Self" seriously in real time. He showed us how we could do more to "Light Up Rotary!" The Conference Committee and the Rotarians of District 7450 cannot thank John T. enough for joining us.

Three other special guests

were PDG Tulsi Maharjan, Ph.D., 2014 recipient of Rotary's Don MacRae Peace Award; John Nanni, District 7630 PolioPlus Chair, and Tim Prewitt, who traveled from Colorado to share his vision with us.



(Photo by JayChild)

DG Doug Blazey thanks RI President's Rep/PDG Helen B. Reisler following her emotional presentation of the Rotary Club of New York City's response to the 9/11 terrorists' attack during the Saturday morning plenary session.

PDG Tulsi joined us from Princeton, N.J. and shared both his Buddhist perspective on "Service Above Self" along with his "10 Points for Building Peace" in our local communities. We appreciated his "Power of One" and his insistence that each of us can make a difference.

We also appreciated John Nanni, a polio survivor, sharing his personal story with us while also reminding us of just "how close" we really are to Ending Polio Now! This is a challenge we should not and cannot shrink from, and

John's presence helped us retain our resolve to "End Polio Now".

Tim Prewitt shared his enthusiasm for creating, in developing economies, local entrepreneurs in both agriculture and cottage manufacturing as the necessary and appropriate vehicle for delivering water and sanitation services while increasing local production of food and simple manufactured products. For Tim, it is a "hand up, not a hand out!" Sustainability is key for Tim and his not-for-profit iDE deliver !

Saturday, we celebrated our Interactors, Rotaractors, and Youth Exchange Students. We held

the Parade of Nations as our Youth Exchange Students were introduced. We acknowledged the election by the youth of Josh Cadorette and Uche Egonu as District Interact Representatives and Taylor Schaeffer as our District Rotaract Representative. The students packed over 29,000 meals for "Stop Hunger Now" and truly showed that our youth believe in Service Above Self and will fill the ranks of Rotary as they move fully into adulthood. What a Blessing!

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(Photo by JayChild)

North Carolina PDG John T. Capp energizes Rotarians at the Friday breakfast and throughout the two-day Conference. John T. proudly wears a Rotary wheel tattoo on his bald head.

**Message from
DG Doug:**



(Continued from Page Two)

We thank our Friday evening keynote speaker, Peace Scholar D.F. Pace, and the Saturday noon keynoters, Congressman Pat Meehan and State Representative Mark B. Cohen.

Philadelphia Police Lieutenant Pace shared efforts to bring peace to the city via mediation, compromise building and peace building.

Keynoters Meehan and Cohen (a member of Northeast Sunrisers Rotary Club) focused on community needs which Rotary and like organizations, rather than government, can address directly or in partnership with others.

We remembered our Rotarians who have died in the past year at a moving Interfaith Memorial Service Friday afternoon conducted by Media Rotarian, Reverend Larry Smooze, and Twin Valley Rotary Club President, Pastor Lester Groves.

If I start mentioning the names of all our speakers, participants, moderators, facilitators, invocators, and memorializers, this long Governor's Message will fill the entire edition. Please refer to

RotaryDistrict7450.org and rotary7450.org/rotaryhappenings to see the amazing programs presented by your fellow Rotarians in District 7450 and others!

What I want to say about all those who attended and all who presented is that we were diverse in so many ways. We had guests from outside Rotary, who shared so many values or goals with us. We hope to work with them and perhaps enlarge the ranks of Rotary as we go.

We also displayed the great diversity within our District and

showed the talent and energy and in what diverse shapes, sizes, colors and faiths that talent and energy is "packed". Go District 7450 and the wonderful Clubs that comprise it!

Special thanks to all the members of the District 7450 Conference Committee for their very dedicated work in creating this successful conference! They are: Bob Lankin, our intrepid, resourceful Chair and his talented wife, Holly; Karen Mazzarella, Co-Chair and

on-the-scene organizer of our very first Youth District 7450 Conference; PDG Dave Ellis, who organized the Parade of Governors; Mary Lee, AG Sue Mardinly, and PAG Jane Williams for coordinating the House of Friendship; Tae Seangpeoam, president of Wayne Rotary Club, for his digital displays; Matt Sommers, our New Rotarian Representative; Theodora Voulgaris, Lisa Leonard, PAG Dawn deFuria, and Jackie Riloff from Rotaract.

We greatly appreciate Brian Casey for his diligent

work on registration and the websites; District Secretary Sharon Quick for her messaging, phone calls, and behind-the-scenes support; Jay Childress, our Club's District support representative for capturing our Conference on camera; PAG Joan Toenniessen for presenting the sights and words of the Conference in the **District 7450 Rotary Leader**; and John Baxter

for preparing the personal history of the Montrose Mansion of the Villanova Conference Center for all to enjoy.

For more "Phun", we enjoyed the music of The Joe Staffieri Band on Friday night and Ken Delmar's Cheers Band on Saturday night.

Kudos to Stacey Ballard, who generously created the amazing floral and Chinese Lantern decorations; Kevin Katarynick for the Conference Program, and Rotarian Guy Homer, who published it.

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Breakout session Friday afternoon.



(Photo by JayChild)
PDG Dave Ellis served as host for the Friday a.m. Plenary.



(Photo by JayChild)
DG Doug Blazey leads the applause for the District Interact Representatives Josh Cadorette(left) and Uche Egonu.

Message from DG:**'Peace. Projects and Phun': 'Truly extraordinary'****(Continued from Page Three)**

A large thanks to John Washington, our Sergeant-at-Arms, who assisted throughout, including his work with our on-site service project, "Stop Hunger Now." Thanks also to Dave Haradon for stepping up and taking care of our AV needs that gave visual power to our Conference, and to my wife and partner, Julianna Zekan Blazey, for her inspiration, perseverance, and innovations to our District Conference program. Special thanks to her for creating the District 7450 Display Banners representing all our Rotary Clubs according to their Charter year, spanning from 1911 through the present!

We are grateful to the generosity of all those who contributed significant financial support to our Conference, including Norman Watts, Jeff Cadorette, Bob Lankin, Guy Homer, and Stacey Ballard. Guy Homer of The Homer Group, a Rotarian for 30 years, deserves special recognition for the elegant 40-page meticulously professional program book presenting our District Conference programs and presenters, organized and coordinated so beautifully by Kevin Katarynick.

Finally, a thank you to everyone who supported our youth and the service project through their donations, and to all those who will continue to do so as we move forward.

Our Rotary District 7450 Conference, "Peace, Projects and Phun", A Celebration of Service, thanks through the combined efforts of all, was truly extraordinary. Substantive programs covered all six areas of focus, local and international, and brought innovative topics and methodology to inspire us as we



Waiting for Interfaith Service.

move forward this year to continue to provide Service Above Self.

While there is more to be accomplished and celebrated during this Rotary year (about which you will learn more next month), let me conclude with one last song in praise of goodness.

At our final Plenary, RI President's Representative

Helen read a poem she wrote. She has graciously allowed me to reproduce it below for all to enjoy:

WE ARE ROTARIANS

By Helen Reisler © 11/15/2014
RI President's Representative

We are business, professional and community leaders

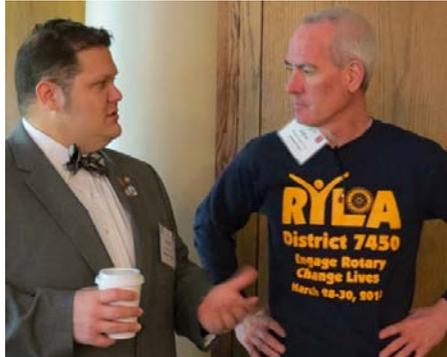
**Who are ready to serve and be involved
Without using guns, knives or bombs,
To get the world's problems solved.**

**We combat hunger, poverty, disease,
And promote education,
Exchange students and groom leaders
For better global relations.**

**We address natural disasters
And send our volunteers.
Clubs partner with Clubs
Both far and near.**

**We save hundreds of lives every day
Celebrating fellowship along the way.
We're a volunteer army working in teams
Giving people hope and activating dreams.**

'Peace, Projects and Phun' in full swing during Conference



Photos By JayChild



District 7450 Conference co-chairs were PDG Bob Lankin and AG Karen Mazzarella.



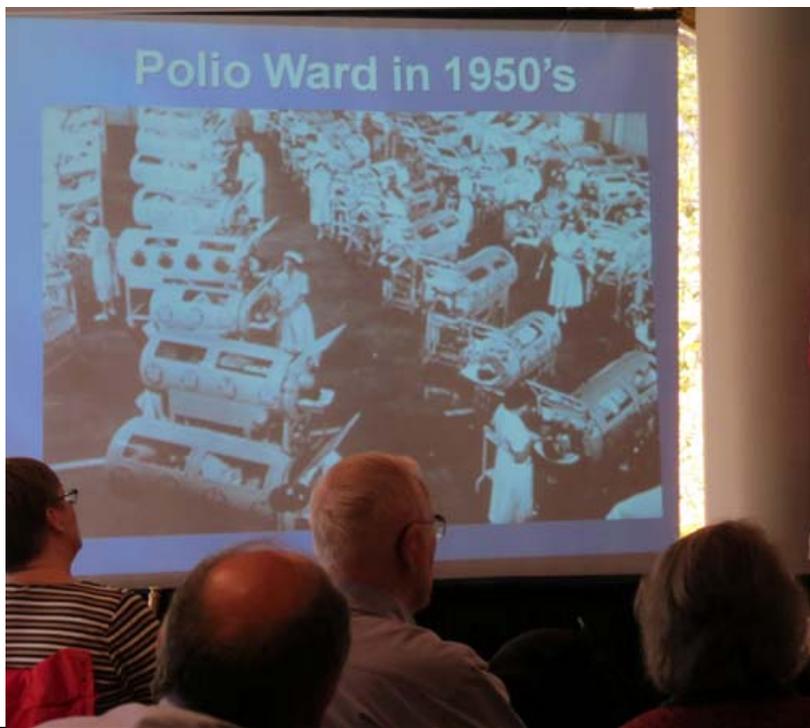
'Peace, Projects and Phun' Light up Conference



DGN Dave Haradon oversees audio/video support for speakers.

Congressman Pat Meehan (R-7), a Saturday lunch keynoter.

AG Rick Trivane with RI President's Rep Helen Reiser.



Rotaractors, Interactors, Rotary Exchange Students: Rotary youth pack 29,000 meals to 'Stop Hunger Now'



More than 40 Rotaractors, Interactors and Rotary Exchange students joined the District Conference Saturday morning and packed 29,000 meals for the "Stop Hunger Now" program.



Sacks of freeze-dried food await the young people who filled packets to provide meals for a week.

Photos by JayChild



Helping pack "Stop Hunger Now" meal cartons are West Chester University Rotaractors (left) Past District Rep Cara Cugley and District Rotaract Rep Taylor Schaeffer .



Sounding of gong (above) signals packing of 1,000 meals. ...Rotaract chair Barbara DeBaptiste (left in center) celebrates successful completion of another 1000 meals Saturday morning. ...AG John Washington (right) loads cartons of meals into truck.



District leaders at Conference



Gathered around portrait of RI President Gary CK Huang and his wife, Corinna, at the District Conference are (from left) Holly and PDG/Conference Chair Bob Lankin, RI President's Rep Helen Reisler, DGE Chad Rosenberg, District Secretary Sharon Quick, PDG/RI trainer Jeffry Cadorette, First Lady Julianna Zekan Blazey, District Governor Doug Blazey, DGN Dave Haradon DGN, Philadelphia Rotary Club President Sandy Goldberg, Peter and AG Sue Mardinly, aide to President's Rep.

New Paul Harris Fellow



Bob Overhiser, Ardmore Rotary Club Rotary Foundation chair, presents Club's newest Paul Harris Fellow award to Doug Pugliese in recognition of a \$1,000 contribution to the Rotary Foundation. Doug joined the Club in 2013.

Glen Mills-Thornbury Rotary Club 'Meet and Greet Night'



Glen Mills-Thornbury Rotary Club hosted a "Meet and Greet" October 28 at the new Ten Gallon Hat Winery in Chadds Ford. Among the 35 attendees were (from left) Glen Mills-Thornbury Past President Deena Jones, newest member Dr. Jill Pagliei, whose Chiropractic & Wellness Center sponsored the event, and State Representative Steve Barrar. Since the event, the Club has inducted three new members.

K of P Rotarians join sponsorship of fundraiser for two organizations

The King of Prussia Rotary Club was one of many sponsors of a successful fundraiser event for two local charities, Big Brothers Big Sisters South-eastern PA (BBBS SEPA) and American Red Cross. Club member Pat LaRoche was chair of the event at which her organization, PTL Consulting LLC, co-hosted a Dessert & Fashion show Wednesday, October 22, in conjunction with Pyramid Club of Philadelphia's Professional Women's Committee.

The innovative program featured a Charitable Runway Men's Fashion Show featuring the style of Paul Fredrick, silent and live auctions, smooth jazz music from George Weldon, vocal performances of signed artist Aliyah Khaylan and dance performances by Philadanco. King of Prussia Rotary was one

RI sponsors Interact video contest

DG Doug Blazey encourages Interact Clubs to enter the Rotary International 5th annual Interact Video Contest. The contest asks Interact Clubs to enter a 3-minute video on "What is a perfect day in service in your Club?" or "How do you make ordinary into extraordinary? Deadline is December 1. For information go to interact@rotary.org.

Upper Darby-Lansdowne Rotarians salute six 'Students of the Month'



Upper Darby-Lansdowne Rotary Club honored six students from three area high schools as "Students of the Month". Receiving "Student of the Month" awards from (middle of back row) Matt Fernandes, Rotary Student of the Month program chair, are (from left): Iftekhar Rathman, Eric Guzy and Aasma Hossein from Upper Darby High School; Jacob McCann and Sarah McCann from Penn Wood High School; and (in rear) Quinn Dolan and Grace McDermott from Bonner-Prendergast High School.

Rotary Zones Institute in Toronto



RI President-Elect K. R. "Ravi" Ravindran of the Rotary Club of Colombo, Western Province, Sri Lanka is surrounded by (from left) District 7450 DG Doug Blazey, DG Nominee Dave Haradon, PDG Hogie Hansen and DGE Chad Rosenberg at the 2014 Rotary Zones 24-32 Institute, last month in Toronto, Ontario Canada.

Philadelphia Rotarians welcome Swiss dentist

Christopher Zbaeren (left), a member of the Rotary Club of Biel-Bienne in Switzerland (where he is a dentist) attended the luncheon meeting of the Rotary



Club of Philadelphia November 13 and exchanged Club banners with Dr. Robert Brookman, Philadelphia Rotary Club chair of the day.

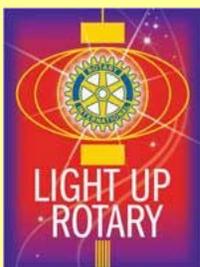
UD-Lansdowne Rotarians:

UD Policeman of Year



The Upper Darby-Lansdowne Rotary Club honored Upper Darby Township Police Officer Michael DeHoratius (center) as "Police Officer of the Year". Club president Ron Cole (left) presented the award as UD Police Superintendent Michael Chitwood looked on.

DEADLINE for the **December District 7450 Rotary Leader** is **December 1**. Send photos/news to info@Rotary7450.com and mombugjoan@msn.com. Please **identify** all people in photos. Thank you.



The Rotary 7450 Leader

Published by District 7450

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District Governor

Joan Connor Toenniessen
Editor

Jay Childress

Technical Support / Graphics

⦿ *Deadline is last day of month prior to publication date. Please send news and photos (with names and information) to mombugjoan@msn.com*

⦿ *Send photos (with names and information) to info@Rotary7450.org Please identify people in photos.*

⦿ *Submit Club attendance or changes to contact information through District Database at www.DaCdb.com For help, call Sharon Quick at (215) 735-5984 or Brian Casey at (484) 483-8423.*

Rotary District 7450 Calendar

December 13th: Rotary Special Athletes Volleyball Tournament sponsored by the Glenside and Jenkintown Rotary Clubs at The Academy of the New Church in Bryn Athyn. Rotary volunteers welcome.

January 1st: Information on your Club and Club Officers due to RI for inclusion in the official Directory. Semiannual Report and Dues are also due to RI. <http://www.rotary.org/clubinvoice>.

Monday January 5, 2015: Gundaker Foundation meeting begins with dinner at 6 p.m. Desmond Great Valley Hotel and Conference Center, One Liberty Blvd. Malvern, PA 19355 (800) 575-1776 or (610) 296-9800.

January 10, 2015: Abington at Edge Hill Rotary Club sponsors Slam Dunk Polio with the LaSalle Explorers taking on George Washington in basketball at Tom Gola Arena on campus with money going to the Polio Eradication efforts supported by Rotary. For more info, contact Past President Jim Moore, (215) 341-7476.

February 27 thru – 28: Mid-Atlantic President Elect Training Session at Radisson Valley Forge Hotel and Casino King of Prussia. A Thursday optional training session is still being evaluated but stay tuned.

March 20-22, 2015: Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) at Valley Forge's Freedoms Foundation for deserving high school students. Registration fee, paid by sponsoring Clubs, is \$270. For info, contact District RYLA Chair Karen Mazzarella at karenkeckmazz@gmail.com.

West Chester University Rotaract Club is Home Club for District Representative



District 7450 Rotaract Representative Taylor Schaeffer is a past president and member of the West Chester University Rotaract Club, the largest of the eight Clubs in the District. Rotaractor Ceire Hays (left), was installed earlier this year as president of the West Chester Club (above) by 2013-2014 DG Charles Streitwieser (at podium).



District Rotaract Representative Taylor Schaeffer and Rotaract Chair Barbara DeBaptiste participated in 2014-2015 District Conference.

November is Foundation Month.... and Thanksgiving



Rotary
District
7450

The
Rotary
Foundation



Fellow Rotary District 7450 Rotarians...

It is **FOUNDATION MONTH!** It is so appropriate that we have our Rotary Foundation Month and our special day of Thanksgiving in the same month.

My Recent Trip to Ecuador

I have just returned from visiting projects in Ecuador. Our "Grants Guru" Vasanth Prabhu (Central Chester County RC) has visited Ecuador yearly for the last nine years; because of relationships he has built through those years, we have done 14 projects, mostly centered on healthcare and education.

We visited a mobile van supplied by our District 7450. It is both a medical and dental van, visiting schools to give care to the children in the morning, and then caring for the community in the afternoon. After seven years traveling those roads, it needs a facelift and mechanical repairs. **There is a need for an additional van.**

We visited a school for mentally and physically disabled children that our District 7450 supports. They provide vocational training (in bakery, sewing, vegetable raising and other useful skills to those who are able).

The plastic that surrounds their growing area is in tatters but they don't have money for a replacement. The children danced for us and two girls who are blind sang beautifully. **They need money for a music teacher.**

We were touched with the warmth of the children and their grateful parents. I told one group "I wish I had a million dollars; we would support every project you have."

Support for our local projects

With the strong relationships we have built through face-to-face visits with Ecuador, I presented the Rotarians of Ecuador the opportunity to partner with us on an educational project mentoring and supporting Latino students at Kennett High School who have the ability to go to college. They were so pleased for our help in the past, they increased the amount of their contribution to our program over what I had asked. This is a \$ 43,000 Global Grant where the Host Club is in District 7450 and the International partners are in Ecuador and Tasmania!

What a **WONDERFUL WORLD** we live in! Global cooperation with friends we meet through Rotary all over the world!

Continue **YOUR** generous contributions

Please keep these project funds flowing with **YOUR** contribution to our **Every Rotarian Every Year (EREY)** program. Forms can be found by going to <https://www.rotary.org/>.

Please consider making donations to our Rotary Foundation during these the upcoming holidays!

Have a Blessed Thanksgiving Day surrounded by Love, Peace, and plenty of Turkey!

Bonnie Korengel, PDG
District 7450 Foundation Chair

HEDGEROW

Theatre Presents:

A Charles Dickens' *Christmas Carol*

December 2nd-28th The Delaware Valley Tradition

The Rotary Club of Media in partnership with District 7450 Polio-Plus

Celebrates the Annual Fundraiser in Honor of

Polio-Plus

December 10th, 2014

6:00 Arrival & 6:30p.m. Start time

Adults \$10.00 Students \$5.00

All proceeds go to Polio-Plus and are matched 2-to-1
by The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Please call our box office for more information: (610) 565-4211
64 Rose Valley Road, Rose Valley, PA 19063

