

# The Rotary 7450



## LEADER



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Ardmore Rotary  
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## Greetings from the District Governor



I am pleased to announce that the following district clubs have qualified for the 2006-2007 Presidential Citation from RI President Bill Boyd: Ardmore, Bensalem,

Bristol, Broomall, Chester, Chestnut Hill, Coatesville, Concordville/Chadds Ford, Feasterville, Frankford/Northeast Philadelphia, Glen Mills, Glenside, Kennett Square at Longwood, Langhorne, Levittown/Fairless Hills, Northeast Philadelphia Sunrisers, Swarthmore, Thorndale, Wayne, West Chester, Westtown-Goshen. Congratulations to all.

The Rotary Club of Coatesville celebrated its 82<sup>nd</sup> anniversary at a Banquet on April 19 at the Coatesville Country Club. The Rotary Club of Chester will be celebrating their 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary on June 1 at Harrahs Chester Casino. Keep up the great work and continue to **Lead the Way** for many, many more years.

On April 25, there was an area wide dinner meeting for Area 1 Rotarians. The Clubs are in Bucks County and include the following – Bensalem, Bristol, Feasterville, Langhorne, Levittown/Fairless Hills and our newest club, Shady Brook. The theme for the event is "Family of Rotary". I thank Michael Buchheit, Assistant Governor, and the presidents of those Area 1 clubs who organized the dinner, which is a first for the District. We also presented the charter to the Rotary Club of Shady Brook, which is now the 54<sup>th</sup> club in District 7450. Bob Morris, the club's first President received the charter on behalf of the club.

As we wind down the Rotary year, please consider making a contribution to Gundaker Foundation, our district foundation, and to The Rotary Foundation, our international foundation. They both deserve our support.

Dates to remember are May 22 for the District Assembly at Delaware County Community College in Marple Township, and the installation of Russ deFuria as District Governor on June 27 at Desmond Hotel in Malvern.

Continue to **Lead the Way!**

*Marty Phillips*

## Rotarians set up 'Platoon Partners' to supply personal items for units in Iraq



*Lt. Michael Kelvington of the 1st Battalion in 501st Airborne unit in Iraq sent the following letter to Glen Mills Rotary Club following receipt of portable rifle cleaning kits and personal items for the unit: "Thank you so much for all the bore snakes (Rifle Cleaning Kits) and packages." socks, shoe power, DVDs movies, tooth paste, candy and Oreo cookies, Reader's Digest, etc). "This is a picture of my platoon right before we went out on a patrol. I am very thankful for people like you and your Rotary Club. You have definitely shown that there is some great people back home supporting those overseas. Thank you so much. A written thank you is also in the mail. Take care and God Bless, LT Michael Kelvington, michael.kelvington@us.army.mil." Rotary Clubs wishing to participate in "Platoon Partners" can contact Eric Balcavage, Concordville-Chadds Ford Rotary Club, 610-558-8920 or www.platoonpartners.com. That's the Glen Mills Rotary Club exchange flag ( front row) displayed by members of the battalion.*

*By Richard Schwartzman*

For Eric Balcavage, a chiropractor and member of the Concordville-Chadds Ford Rotary, learning of the lack of personal items for U.S. troops serving in Iraq became a family matter. Balcavage has a brother serving as commander in the 501st Airborne, 1st Battalion in Iraq.

When he heard about the situation, Balcavage decided to take action by starting the "Platoon Partners" campaign. He said he was "appalled" to hear the soldiers couldn't even buy things such as toothpaste. "They don't even have a PX where they can buy things. I e-mailed everyone on my e-mail contact list saying we need people to act as platoon coordinators," he said. Those coordinators would work with platoon

leaders in Iraq to find out who needed what.

The campaign started Dec. 22 and by the second week in February 50 platoons in the 501st and the 509th airborne divisions were being tended to by sponsors acting as platoon coordinators. Balcavage estimates that to be more than 1,500 soldiers being helped getting toiletries and other personal items. The average platoon, he said, has about 30 members.

Some organizations, even municipalities such as Concord Township, have adopted platoons and set up drop boxes for donations of such things as toiletries and other personal item which are not easily available in Iraq.. Balcavage has also enlisted the help of the Chadds Ford Business Association. he told the group last week that many of the personal items needed have been sent and they are now working to supply some comfort items such as books, magazines and CDs along with the personal items.

The campaign is similar to the *Anysoldier.com* project in Chadds Ford, but on a larger scale. Balcavage said the soldiers in the 501st and 509th are in particularly bad positions, being in the unprotected red zone. Seven soldiers recently kidnapped, four of whom were killed, came from those divisions.

Members of the Rotary are helping the campaign by taking drop boxes for their various business locations, and a sponsored a stock seminar in March which required a \$10 donation for the Platoon Partners program.

That seminar was open to non-Rotarians. "Platoon Partners" was not the original name of the campaign. Balcavage first called it "Adopt a Platoon", but had to change the name when he learned of a potential trademark infringement. For more information, contact Balcavage at 610-558-8920 .



*Concordville-Chadds Ford Rotary Club is spearheading "Platoon Partner". Committee members include Club President Jay Townsend (center, front) and Dabbs Woodfin (back, second from left).*

## Rebecca Anwar receives Service Above Self Award

*Chestnut Hill Rotary Club President-Elect Rebecca Anwar received the Rotary International Service Above Self Award from Past District Governor Bob Lankin during a recent breakfast meeting of the club. On hand for the special presentation of the award which RI presents to a maximum of 150 Rotarians per year, were (from left) PDG Daniel S. Guyon, DG Marty Phillips, PDG Andrew Pendleton, PDG Lankin, PDG G. Holger (Hogie) Hansen and PDG Thomas N. McCarthy. Rebecca, a health care consultant for the Sage group, joined the Ardmore Rotary Club in 1994 and became a charter member of the Chestnut Hill Club in 1995. The award recognizes her work as a volunteer at orphanages in Guyana for the past 10 summers during which she served in numerous jobs and used personal funds when necessary. The orphanages are poor and overcrowded and over 20 percent of the children are HIV positive. She continues to collect supplies and clothing for the orphanages.*



## Training kicks off for teachers for CLE

District 7450-sponsored training of teachers in the Concentrated Language Encounter (CLE) methodology of teaching non-English speaking adults to read and write English took place at Holy Family University in Philadelphia March 28 to 31. Jim Stanton, president-elect of the Frankford Northeast Philadelphia Club, was the Philadelphia contact person and PDG Barry Smith from the Rotary Club of Sandy Springs, District 6900, was the CLE contact person.

A presentation was made to the District 7450 District Conference in Atlantic City, N. J., last October. District Governor Marty Phillips invited PDG Barry Smith and Vivian to make a presentation explaining the methodology used to teach children to read and write using the CLE methods. This presentation led to the Holy Family University expressing an interest in becoming the learning center for the Concentrated Language Encounter program in USA.

A seminar was held Jan. 25 at Holy Family University in Philadelphia to inform interested people of the future of the program. There were 60 people in attendance and they were instructed on what would be presented in the training session planned for March 28 through the 31. Barry Smith, Jim Stanton and Vivian Smith gave the presentations. Holy Family University reconfirmed its desire to host this training seminar. Barry Smith, PDG Lloyd Whitfield of the Constantia Rotary Club in D9350 South Africa and PE Jim Stanton of the Frankford Northeast Philadelphia Rotary Club presented the training of trainers to train teachers to teach non-English speaking adults to read and write English. There were 16 teacher trainers and 25 non-English speaking adult students present for the four-day training to learn the CLE methodology. Both Barry and Lloyd had been trained in the CLE teaching methods in Bangkok, Thailand and have trained trainers and teachers in various countries.

Local Rotarians who were trained to be teachers of this method were Felice Silverman from the Chesterbrook Rotary Club, Randall T. Drain from the Philadelphia Rotary Club, Jim Stanton from the Frankford Northeast Philadelphia Rotary Club, and Emily Guglielmi and Silvio M. DiPietro from the Rotary Club of Feasterville.

We broke up into six small group classes. Every class wrote a different group story around a different group activity. All of the non-English speaking participants were able to write and read their group short stories at the end of their day of training. It was a very successful experience for everyone attending. The potential for the outcome of this program is immense, people interested in being trained will be able to attend planned training sessions at Holy Family University and spread the Concentrated Language Encounter methodology for teaching of reading and writing to children and adults in many areas of the USA.

Of those who were trained to teach using this method many requested the name and address of an already existing center that offers English as a second language where they would be able to introduce and use this newly acquired method.

The following organizations are anxious to institute the CLE method of learning to read and write in English:

**The IHM Center for Literacy at the Incarnation of Our Lord School**  
425 W. Lindley Ave., Philadelphia, PA, 19120 Contact person: Sister Mary Regina, (215) 457-2232, Sister Mary Regina, ihmesl@verizon.net.

**Delaware County Literacy Council, 2217 Providence Avenue, Ches-**

**ter, PA, 19013. Contact person: Ms Regina Hunter, (215) 876-4800; Regina Hunter, rhunter@delcolit.org**

**Charter School, 4300 Tacony Street, Philadelphia, PA, 1Community CARES Adult Community Center at the First Philadelphia 9124 Contact person: Mr. Jim Stanton, (267) 249-4027; jstanton@firstphiladelphiacharter.org**

*Conducting a training session for the Concentrated Language Encounter program at Holy Family University March 28-31 is Lloyd Whitfield who traveled from South Africa to help train the trainers for the program. The women are some of the non-English speaking participants at the training sessions.*



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# Rotaract conference offers facts, fellowship and fundraising



Among Rotaractors on hand for the District 7450 Rotaract Conference March 31 at Manor College are (from left) Gail Lin, co-president, Swarthmore Rotaract; Ashley Joyce, Philadelphia Rotaract; Brian Shaffer, president, Philadelphia Rotaract; Jacopo Carmassi, Philadelphia Rotaract and Ambassadorial Scholar at Penn; Peter Kolbe, Philadelphia Rotaract; and Pierre Font, co-President, Swarthmore Rotaract.

Manor Junior College in Jenkintown hosted the spring all-district Rotaract conference Saturday, March 31, from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m. Twenty Philadelphia area Rotaractors attended, representing five Rotaract clubs including Philadelphia, Main Line, Arcadia, Swarthmore, and Manor. The program started out with lively team-building exercises and broke into smaller groups to discuss club formation and development, membership recruitment, and goal setting. Belkys Lopez, former Ambassadorial Scholar from our district, spoke about her experiences as a goodwill ambassador for Rotary and her current work with a non-governmental organization to deliver clean water and development to the Sudan. Service projects were another focus of the conference. Maria Mills-Torresat of Philadelphia Madrugaes Rotary Club, dis-

cussed the challenge of diabetes to our population and suggested the opportunity for Rotaractors to become involved in diabetes awareness programs on their campuses and in their communities. Rotaractors also had the opportunity to visit the Ukrainin-Bian Heritage Center on Manor's campus during the afternoon. The conference culminated with a coffee house to raise funds for Rotary International's PolioPlus Program. Musicians AcousticPhilly generously donated their time to play and sing for the group to make it a fun closing to a really meaningful day. Thanks go to the Rotaract Club of Manor College and to Norma Hall, their advisor for hosting this great conference. One Rotaractor wrote on one of the evaluation forms, "Great atmosphere, as always with Rotaract and Rotary!"

## Rotarians in the news



District Governor-Elect Russ deFuria (left in photo) checks the schedule for Multi-District PETS with Cindy Petty, incoming secretary of Paoli-Malvern-Berwyn Rotary Club while waiting for the next session to begin at Multi-District PETS is Mary Ann Cusack, president and president-elect of Wayne Rotary Club (left) and Diana Larisgoitia, president-elect of Madrugaes Rotary Club.



Ambassadorial Scholar Lie Ling of China from District 6960 was among those on hand for Mid-Atlantic Multi-District PETS March 23-24 at King of Prussia.



Busy at work at the April 11 Technology Committee meeting are Skip Torresson, president of Haverford Township Rotary Club, (foreground, left) and Elizabeth Rhoads, lieutenant governor and membership coordinator, and in back on right, Francys Cross, president of Chester Rotary Club.



Old classmates of Mercersburg Academy Class of 1955, who discovered during the Mid-Atlantic Multi-District PETS they are all Rotarians, shake hands during a break. They are (from left) Roger Whitcomb, of Emmaus, PDG of District 7430; Mark McGill of Thorndale, PDG of 7450; and Ben Hoover of York, District Governor nominee of District 7390.

**PETS photos by  
JAY CHILDRESS**

### What's going on at Rotary Club?



What are Dr Len Schuchman, John Munro, Paul O'Obrian, Debbie Marchiano, Gene Mitchell, Tony DiLeva, and Chris Zavawsk of the Glen Mills Rotary Club doing at a February Rotary Club meeting? Would you believe they are in the process of being hypnotized by guest speaker Bryan Todder, certified hypnotist, of Philadelphia.



Feasterville Rotary Club kicked off its local Ferderbar Elementary School's EarlyAct Club last November. Club secretary Suzanne Pacitti (left of club banner) joined teacher Patty Compton when students received their shirts. EarlyAct promotes goodwill, understanding and peace through participation of members so that with committed citizenship and effective leadership they may improve the quality of life of their school, and local and global communities.



Officers for 2006-07 of West Chester East Interact Club are (front row, from left) vice-president Amanda Messersmith, president Yvonne deFuria, director Molly Chessman, and director Eileen Flynn and (back, from left) directors Becca Davis and Sebastian Velez.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

**DEADLINE FOR JUNE LEADER IS Friday, May 11.** Please send all photos (with names and information for caption) to Jay Childress at [info@Rotary7450.org](mailto:info@Rotary7450.org). News items should be sent to Joan Toenniessen at [mombugjoan@msn.com](mailto:mombugjoan@msn.com).

**Chester Rotary Club** invites all Rotarians to its 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration Friday, June 1, at Harrah's Chester Casino, Route 291, Chester. Cocktails (cash bar) is at 7 p.m. with dinner at 8 p.m. The celebration is scheduled to conclude at 11 p.m. Tickets are \$50 per person and deadline to make reservations is May 15. For more information, contact Chester Rotary Clu7b president Franci Cross at [ffrancy@Fbcross.com](mailto:ffrancy@Fbcross.com) or 610-876-8120.

**West Chester Rotary Club's** 14th annual Rotary Night at Wilmington Blue Rocks is May 10 with buffet supper at 5:45 p.m. followed by 6:35 game. Plans are already underway for the West Chester Rotary Club's annual **2007 Chili Cook-Off** which will be Oct. 7.

**Rotary Club of Kennett at Longwood** will mark its 10th anniversary and installation of 2007-08 Rotary team Sunday, July 15 with 1 p.m. lunch at Longwood Gardens Terrace Restaurant. Looking ahead, the **2007 Mushroom Festival** will be Sept. 8 and 9 and the **Brewfest** will be Oct. 6.

**Rotary Night at the Phillies** is Wednesday, July 25 when the Phillies will play the Washington Nationals at 7:05 p.m. 2007-2008 DG Russ deFuria will toss out the first ball at about 6:40 p.m.

Rotary International President Wilf Wilkinson for 2007-2008 will kick off a series of conferences to address membership at Villanova University July 13 and 14. Registration fee for "Sharing the Magic of Rotary" for Zones 31 and 32 is \$85. PDG Dan Spencer of Gloucester City, N.J. is coordinating the event. For more information, contact Dan at [dans@camdencounty.com](mailto:dans@camdencounty.com) or 856-374-6310.



### The Rotary 7450 Leader-

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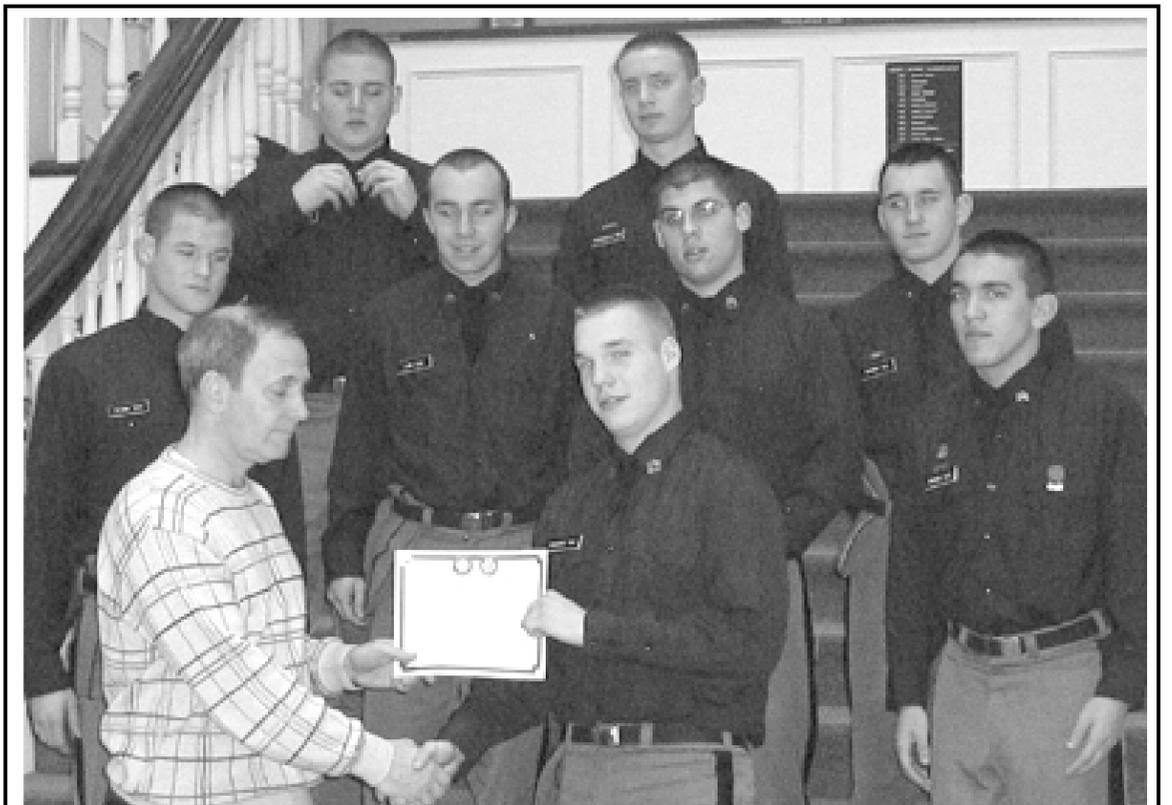
Deadline is first Friday of month. Send news items and photos (with names and information) to [mombugjoan@msn.com](mailto:mombugjoan@msn.com) Send photos (with names and information) to [info@rotary7450.com](mailto:info@rotary7450.com). Please identify people in photos.

Send change of address information promptly to [info@rotary7450.com](mailto:info@rotary7450.com).

## District 3030 GSE Team arrives from India



*Rotary District 7450 welcomed the GSE Team from Rotary District 3030 in Mumbai, India Saturday, April 21 at Philadelphia International Airport. With incoming GSE team are Dabbs Woodfin of Concordville-Chadds Ford Club (fourth from left); GSE Chairman Idna Corbett of Greater West Chester Sunrisers (center); District GSE Team Leader Harshad Dodia, who was in India in January (next to Corbett); and Barbara Jackson of Eastwick/Philadelphia Airport Club. Also on hand was DG-Elect Russ deFuria.*



*Bill Oppenheim of the Chesterbrook Rotary Club (left) presented the Rotaract Charter in January 2006 to Mike Grabarz, president of the newly established Rotaract Club at Valley Forge Military Academy and Junior College in Wayne. On hand for the presentation were new Rotaractors Dan Schimpf, Eric Mazzeo, Brian Linn, Mike Piccariello, Mike Macon, Dan Morris, and Brian Monga. Other Rotaractors in the club are Timothy Stark and Ethan Carroll-Smith. The club has continued in 2007 under the leadership of President Brian Linn.*

## District Assembly set for May 22

By District Governor-Elect Russ deFuria

With the next Rotary year rapidly approaching, our Presidents-Elect and District Committee Chairs trained, it's now time to spread the word to all of our members involved in Club Leadership. That event is our annual District Assembly!

District Trainer Jeff Cadorette and I have worked to schedule an event that will be fast paced, provide valuable information in a variety of areas, and be worthy of your investment of time. In fact, Jeff has personally guaranteed it!

We'll gather in a General Session for information of interest to everyone before moving to Breakout Sessions covering a variety of topics. Sessions are scheduled for our Presidents-Elect, Secretaries and Treasurers, as well as those involved with Membership Development, Technology, Youth Activities, Service Projects and The Rotary Foundation.

We'll then reconvene as a group for more information and wrap things up.

This is the time to get a jump on next year to make sure your club has the best year ever! Bring a group from each of your clubs to maximize the benefit of this event for your club.

**Where:** Delaware County Community College, Media Line Road and Route 252. Media, PA 19063

**When:** Tuesday, May 22nd. Registration – 12:30 to 1:00; District Assembly – 1:00 to 5:00

Registration forms have been sent to all Presidents-Elect, so please tell them that you're interested in being part of this event to kick off our year together. We look forward to seeing you there and working with you in the coming year.