

TUESDAYS

ROTARY CLUB OF THE BRONX, NY, INC.

PUBLISHED BI-WEEKLY

Demetrio "Jim" Romeo
Publisher

718-617-1600

Marguerite Chadwick-Juner
718-885-0933

Editor

MEETS EVERY TUESDAY AT 12:15PM

THE HARBOR • 565 CITY ISLAND AVENUE • CITY ISLAND, NY 10464 • 718-885-1373

Rotary Theme 2009-2010:
**"THE FUTURE OF ROTARY
IS IN YOUR HANDS"**
Volume 93 • Number 16
October 20, 2009

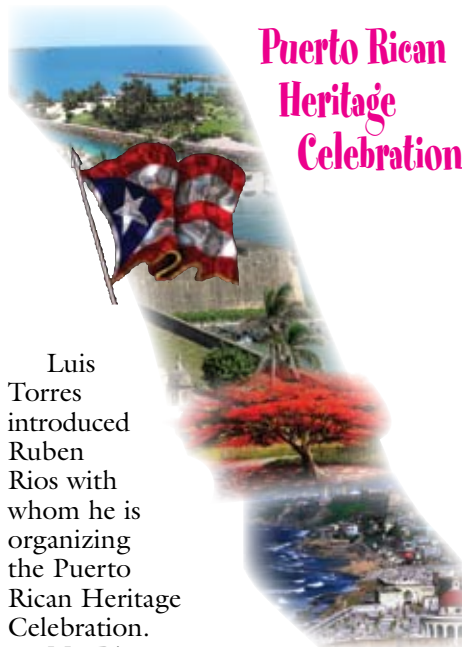
President

Cheryl Simmons-Oliver
4120 Hutchinson River Parkway East
Apt. 15A
Bronx, New York 10475
718-320-0632

LOOKING AHEAD

- 11/10 Club Assembly and Board Meeting.
- 11/16 Kate Adamson, Award-winning Author of "Paralyzed but Not Powerless", will be speaking at the Burke Rehabilitation Hospital, 785 Mamaroneck Ave., White Plains, NY, in the Rosedale Room, Billings Building #4. Reservations are required as seating is limited. Call Mary Springman at 718-617-1600 to reserve a seat or email jastc@optonline.net.
- 11/17 Celebration of Puerto Rico Sunset meeting. \$40 per person Keynote speaker Francisco Gonzalez and entertainment by the K Dancers and Cultura & Tradicion Dancers. 6 p.m. at the Harbor Restaurant RSVP to Jim Romeo at 718-617-1600.
- 11/24 Steve Nowakowski and Dave Carr from the Foundation for Sight and Sound.
- 12/8 Club Assembly and Board Meeting.
- 12/15 Bronx Opera Company's Annual Musical Gala.
- 1/4 PDG Bob Cucinell will speak about the Rotary International Foundation.
- 1/12 Club Assembly and Board Meeting.
- 1/26 Mark Bones from VISIONS.

REPORT ON THE OCTOBER 20, 2009 MEETING CLUB ASSEMBLY



Puerto Rican Heritage Celebration

Luis Torres introduced Ruben Rios with whom he is organizing the Puerto Rican Heritage Celebration.

Mr. Rios spent 30 years working with the National Puerto Rican Day Parade. 33 years ago he then decided it was time for the Bronx to have their own parade, and it has been thriving ever since.

He also spoke briefly about the bad old days when the "Bronx was burning". He is proud to say that the Bronx has come a very long way since then and that it has much to do with the hard work of volunteers and service organizations such as ours. It is once again a good place to live, work and raise a family. During the tough times, he said he never gave up on the Bronx.

The Puerto Rican Heritage Celebration is a sunset meeting on Nov. 17 at 6 p.m. Luis and Ruben have lined up Francisco Gonzalez, Director of Community Board 9 as a guest speaker and have the Kips Bay Boys and Girls Club "K Dancers" performing for us as well as the "Cultura & Tradicion" dancers. There will be a DJ throughout the evening and traditional Puerto Rican cuisine will be provided by Joe's Place Restaurant. It promises to be a lively evening at the Harbor Restaurant for a

mere \$40. Be sure to get in on this one... RSVP to Jim Romeo at 718-617-1600.

Taylor Eskew announced that the Group Study Exchange team for our District has been chosen and that our representation will be culturally and vocationally diverse and give a great representation of our District.

She also encouraged everyone to attend the RI Annual Convention in Montreal on June 20-23, 2010. Information and registration forms can be found online at www.rotary.org. If you register before Dec. 15 the price is \$295, before March 31 - \$345, after that the price is \$395. That cost is for the convention only, not for hotel or transportation. Taylor also has information about bed and breakfast inns in Montreal that are much less expensive than the hotels found on the Rotary site. Please contact her for information on those if you are interested.

President Cheryl Simmons Oliver asked our long-time friend, Walter Pofeldt to tell us a bit about himself.

Mr. Pofeldt used to live on Long Island and worked as a supervisor for the Housing Authority for 29 years. For the majority of that time he worked in the Bronx. This was at the time when the "Bronx was burning". He said he would walk around in a hyper vigilant state, hearing sirens and fire engines all day long, expecting the worst. He never had any trouble though. In fact he said he was never mugged in any of these bad areas, but oddly enough, was mugged in

Continued on page 2

CELEBRATION OF PUERTO RICO SUNSET MEETING

11/17 - Keynote speaker Francisco Gonzalez. Taste treats and entertainment from our tropical brothers and sisters. \$40 per person, 6 p.m. at the Harbor Restaurant on City Island. RSVP to Jim Romeo at 718-617-1600.

www.bronxrotaryclub.org

CLUB ASSEMBLY

Continued from page 1

a very good area of Manhattan!

After all the negative things he saw in the Bronx, he never thought he would return to it when he retired in the 90's. Fate decided otherwise when he married a girl from the Bronx. He eventually came to fall in love with the Bronx.

Photography was originally a hobby for him, but he turned it into a career when he joined the *Bronx Times* in 2000. He is self-taught through books and experience. He described the job as fun, but hectic and sometimes stressful with long, irregular hours. He quit about a year and a half ago, but still continues to work for the *Bronx Times* on a freelance basis. He can make his own hours and it is much less stress.

While working for the *Bronx Times*, he has covered almost every organization there is in the Bronx and lauds Bronx Rotary as one of the best, doing great work.

He believes his greatest ability with photography comes from being able to relate to the people and events he photographs. He does not stage or pose photographs, relying instead on the spontaneous moment. He tries to take photographs that tell a story all by themselves.

He tells the story of being assigned to photograph a shrine that had been set up on a sidewalk for the victim of a drive-by shooting. He waited until someone came along and was reading the notes left there. Then he photographed that moment. A photographer from the *New York Times* was there who said that he was glad to see that he had done that because so many other photographers would have just pulled someone off the street and staged them at the shrine to get their shot and be done. That has never been Mr. Pofeldt's style or inclination.

Mr. Pofeldt also admits to enjoying his notoriety. He is so well known now in the Bronx that he no longer needs a press pass to be admitted to events. He is to the Bronx as Norm was to "Cheers", everybody knows his name.

He has also done wedding photography, but still maintains a photo journalistic style, telling a story with each photograph.

Cheryl Simmons-Oliver thanked Mr. Pofeldt for his presentation and suggested that the Service Committee take note. The Interact Club that is on the drawing board may be looking for mentors in the future and if Mr. Pofeldt was willing, he could be a great mentor in photography. She also suggested that other members in the Club with specific skills or knowledge should consider being mentors as well.



Team Bronx Rotary toughed out the cold, wet weather at the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer walk at Orchard Beach on Oct. 18, 2009. Pictured (l. to r.): Marguerite Chadwick-Juner who walked in memory of her mother, June; Bruce Wallace, Ed Hicks, husband of survivor Jancie; survivor Nancy Wallace and Dr. Jonathan Kazdan. Not pictured, but also present were Igina DeMichele and her daughter Sarah and Cheryl Simmons-Oliver. As of 10/27 the Club has contributed \$850 to the Making Strides effort.



OPENINGS...

President Cheryl Simmons-Oliver opened the meeting, Rev. Sue Chadwick gave the Invocation and Luis Torres led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CHUCK-A-BUCK

Bea Castiglia-Catullo won \$25 in the 50/50.

DR. HAPPINESS

Jim Romeo collected \$45 from happy Rotarians and guests.

MAKE UPS

Ed Hicks had make ups at the Yorktown Heights and Riverdale Rotary Clubs and at the Multi-District Foundation Seminar. Jim Romeo had a make up at the Yorktown Heights Rotary Club.

VISITORS & GUESTS

Walter Pofeldt was a guest of Dr. Arthur Wolstein and Ruben Rios was a guest of Luis Torres.

OFFERING PRAYERS

For Donald Arthur who will be undergoing surgery for spinal stenosis and for his wife, Mildred, who is recuperating from a recent procedure.

KAZDAN CHIROPRACTIC OFFICE



DR. JONATHAN KAZDAN '91
808 ALLERTON AVENUE • BRONX, NY 10467
(718) 655-0487



HUDSON VALLEY BANK

3130 East Tremont Avenue
Bronx, NY 10461

Igina DeMichele-Bobson Tel: (718) 892-4830
Assistant Vice President Tel: (914) 961-6100
Fax: (718) 892-4769
E-mail: idmichele@hvbank.com

SINNOTT MANAGEMENT CO. *Real Estate Management*

Peter J. Sinnott, III '68

35 Clinton Place, Apt. 1B
New Rochelle, NY 10801
914-355-4555
Email: sinnottco@aol.com

Rotary Theme 2009-2010:
**“THE FUTURE OF ROTARY
 IS IN YOUR HANDS”**
 Volume 93 • Number 17
 October 27, 2009

OPENINGS...

President-Elect Barry Fitzgerald opened the meeting and Rev. Susan Chadwick gave the Invocation. Bruce Wallace led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CHUCK-A-BUCK

Sal Mastrocola was the lucky winner of \$26 in the 50/50.

DR. HAPPINESS

Sal Mastrocola collected \$34 from happy Rotarians.

MAKE UPS

Mary Springman had a make up at the Canyon Lake Rotary Club in Texas.

REPORT ON THE OCTOBER 27, 2009 MEETING
SPEAKER GEOFFREY UKEKWEH

Geoffrey Ukekweh recently traveled to Nigeria where he went to his home village and visited with his mother, brothers and other relatives. He also visited with villagers who expressed a sense of frustration concerning our water project there because of the length of time it has been in the works.

Geoffrey said that he tried to address their concerns and asked them to be patient just a while longer. He also said that the partnering Club in Nigeria has fulfilled their end of the commitment and that now it is up to our Club to follow through on our end.

He also spoke about the changes he has witnessed in Nigeria over the years. Nigeria was formerly a militarized dictatorship. Life was strictly regulated and no criticism of the government or its services was tolerated. One could be put in jail for an indeterminate period of time for the smallest complaint. The government changed to a democracy about 10 years ago. He is happy to say that he has seen a progressive environment evolve and many changes and improvements. The people are free to voice their opinions without fear of government reprisals.

Currently the greatest unrest in Nigeria is associated with the areas producing oil. So called “militants” feel that the people in these areas are not compensated enough by the government. Each time there is a protest that disrupts production the price of oil goes up. Geoffrey hopes that one day the government and the militants will find common ground and work out their differences



Photos courtesy of Jim Romeo
Geoffrey Ukekweh spoke about his native Nigeria.

for the good of all concerned.

He paraphrased a part of Alan Greenspan’s book, “The Age of Opulence”, saying that although oil is a very important commodity all over the world, the economy of any country producing oil goes backwards. That is because once a country starts producing oil, they neglect every other asset of their economy. Also, it is only the few who realize great profits, leaving the rest in poverty.

Geoffrey knows that there are still great problems to be addressed in Nigeria, but he highly recommends it as a travel destination, saying that it has much to fascinate the visitor and some great hotels to accommodate them.

Thank you, Geoffrey, for your insights into Nigeria.

Nancy Wallace had an update about the Making Strides walk at Orchard Beach. The event was attended by 2,100 walkers even though it was a cold and rainy day. \$350,000 was raised overall for breast cancer research and support facilities, all of which will be put to use in the Bronx. Our Club has raised \$850 so far.

Ed Hicks brought some news back from the Multi-District Foundation Seminar. He said big changes are in the air for funding for local and international projects, especially when it comes to matching funds. The pilot project

Continued on page 4

**CHATAM
 MANAGEMENT CO. INC.**
 Real Estate - Investments
 Management - Sales
 2123 Williamsbridge Road
 Bronx, NY 10461
(718) 824-5001
Fax 824-5053
 RAM P. GUPTA '87

HISPEED PRINTING
 560 South Third Ave.
 Mt Vernon, NY 10550
 New! 5 Color Press
 • One to Full Color Printing • Scanning
 • Typesetting & Imagesetting
 • Complete Bindery Department
 (718) 617-1600 • Fax: (718) 328-7509
 E-mail: hispeed@hispeedprinting.com
Aladdin Printing
 560 South Third Ave.
 Mt Vernon, NY 10550
 Jim Romeo,
 Bronx Rotarian
 Printer of this
 newsletter.



Mary Springman brought back a Club flag from her make up in Texas.

Geoffrey Ukekweh

Continued from page 3

for this will go on for 3 years and will include 100 Districts (D7230 is not one of those included). The way funds will be allocated will change appreciably. To understand the changes, Ed recommends that members log onto www.rotary.org and type "Future Visions" into the search window at the top right hand corner of the page. He also said that all our future projects will be impacted by these changes.

Jim Romeo updated everyone about our newest Gift of Life child. Austin is 2 years old and is from Nigeria. He arrives here on Nov. 6 and will have his surgery on Nov. 10 at Montefiore Children's Hospital. The child and parent will be staying with Megan Charlop during their time here. Our Club has raised \$3,811 towards the surgery and The Pelhams Rotary Club will be partnering with us, supplying the shortfall.

Birthday Babies

OCTOBER

Edward Hicks - 10th
Eric J. Oppenheimer - 12th
Elizabeth Toledo - 22nd

ATRIA RIVERDALE retirement living

Call today to schedule your complimentary lunch and tour to experience retirement living at its most tasteful.

3718-3726 Henry Hudson Parkway
Riverdale, NY
718.432.2448

718-325-7200 914-725-3300
Fax 718-325-7595 Telex 371-2767

PASCAP CO. INC.

Dealers in Scrap Iron,
Non-Ferrous Metal and Plastic Scrap

4250 Boston Road • Bronx, NY 10475
In Memory of PP Frank G. Capasso '88

Counsellor at Law Maxwell S. Pfeifer

Accidents
Injuries
Medical Malpractice
Products Liability

714 East 241st Street • Bronx, NY 10470
718-325-5000
Toll Free
800-411-1493

Monroe College

CAROLYN R. TABACHNIK
Director
Career Services/Cooperative Education
2467 Jerome Avenue
Bronx, NY 10468
718-933-7065 • Fax 718-364-4979
Email: ctabachnik@monroecollege.edu



718-993-4747
Andy Pane '72

Eric J. Oppenheimer

Licensed Real Estate Broker



730 C West Broadway
Woodmere, NY 11598
(516) 569-1560 Fax (516) 569-1562

3800 White Plains Rd., Bronx, NY 10467
Tel: 718 231 0400 • Fax: 718 231 0065
Call: 917 609 1775
Geoffrey O. Ukekweh - Broker

THE BRONX ROTARY OFFICERS

President Cheryl Simmons-Oliver
President-Elect Barry Fitzgerald
1st Vice President Albert Ferro
2nd Vice President Igina DeMichele
Secretary Nancy Wallace
Assistant Secretary Rev. Susan Chadwick
Treasurer Edward Hicks
Assistant Treasurer Jim Romeo
Immediate Past President Taylor Eskew

DIRECTORS

Bea Castiglia-Catullo • Mary Gembecki
David Michel • Dr. Glen Nygreen
Dr. Arthur Wolstein • Geoffrey O. Ukekweh

MEETING TIMES & PLACES of ROTARY CLUBS in DISTRICT 7230

SUNDAY			Harrison	12:15p	Emilio's Restaurant
Central Bronx	7:30p	Jol Khabar	Hartsdale	12:15p	Alaroma Restaurant
MONDAY			Inwood Manhattan	7:00p	Park Terrace Bistro
Bronxville	12:15p	Town Tavern	Metro NYC	7:30p	Trattoria Dopo Teatro
Chappaqua	12:15p	Crabtree's Kittle House	Mid-Island	7:30a	Dakota Diner
New York	12:15p	Harvard Club	Mount Kisco	12:15p	Mt. Kisco Holiday Inn
St. George's	6:30p	The George & Dragon	Mount Vernon	12:15p	Bona Sera Restaurant
TUESDAY			New Rochelle	6:15p	Davenport Club
Bronx	12:15p	The Harbor Restaurant	Ossining	12:30p	Isabella's Restaurant
Chinatown	1:00p	Hop Lee Restaurant	Pelhams	12:15p	Rockwells
Croton-on-Hudson	12:15p	Just-In-Time	Sandys	6:30p	Henry VIII Restaurant
East Yonkers	12:00p	Luciano's Restaurant	Scarsdale	12:15p	Scarsdale Metro Restaurant
Hamilton	12:15p	Royal Hamilton Amateur Dinghy Club	Tarrytowns	12:00p	Kendall on Hudson
Hastings, Dobbs Ferry, Ardley & Irvington	6:15p	Doubleday's	Yorktown	12:15p	Murphy's Restaurant
Northeast 1st & 3rd Tues	6:15p	Katonah Memorial House	THURSDAY		
Westchester 2nd & 4th Tues	12:15p	Katonah Memorial House	Elmsford	12:15p	Rinis Restaurant
Mount Pleasant	12:15p	Casa Rina Restaurant	Mamaroneck	12:15p	Chef Antonio Restaurant
Port Chester-Rye Brook	12:05p	Villaggio Trattoria	North Shore	7:00p	LiGreci's Staaten Restaurant
Somers	6:30p	Pinnacle Restaurant	Peekskill	12:15p	Cortlandt Colonial Restaurant
Staten Island	12:30p	Ligreci's Staaten Restaurant	Pembroke	7:30a	Royal Bermuda Yacht Club
Upper Manhattan	6:00p	International House	Pleasantville	12:15p	Riviera Restaurant
White Plains	12:15p	Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza	Riverdale	6:30p	The Riverdale Greentree
WEDNESDAY			South Shore	12:15p	Marina Grand
Armonk	6:15p	Beehive	Yonkers	12:00p	Ramada Inn
Eastchester	12:15p	CIAO Restaurant	FRIDAY		
Gateway	7:15p	Lake Club	Briarcliff	12:15p	Briarcliff Recreation Center
			Larchmont	12:15p	Larchmont Yacht Club
			Rye	12:15p	Coveleigh Club