

T ROTARY CLUB OF THE BRONX, NY, INC. TUESDAYS

PUBLISHED BI-WEEKLY

Demetrio "Jim" Romeo
Publisher

718-617-1600

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Editor

MEETS EVERY TUESDAY AT 12:15PM

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

Rotary Theme 2010-2011:

**"BUILDING
COMMUNITIES, BRIDGING
CONTINENTS"**

Volume 94 • Number 22

November 23, 2010

President

Barry Fitzgerald
530 Riverdale Avenue #6H
Yonkers, NY 10705
718-548-7732

LOOKING AHEAD

- 12/14 - Bronx Opera Company holiday celebration.
- 12/21 - No Meeting.
- 12/28 - No Meeting.
- 1/4 Dr. Jonathan Kazdan - Osteoporosis and Arthritis issues
- 1/10 Club Assembly & Board Meeting.
- 1/18 ML King - Black History Sunset Meeting.
- 1/25 - Dr. Christine Walsh from Montefiore Hospital.
- 2/15 - Celebration of Dominican Republic Sunset Meeting.
- 3/13 - Celebration of Greece Sunset Meeting.
- 4/19 - Celebration of Persia Sunset Meeting.
- 5/17 - Celebration of Mexico Sunset Meeting.
- 6/28 - President's/Paul Harris Dinner

OPENINGS...

President Barry Fitzgerald opened the meeting and Dr. Arthur Wolstein led the Pledge of Allegiance. Bea Castiglia-Catullo gave the Invocation.

VISITORS & GUESTS

Maureen Adinnu was a guest of Toba LaCrown.

REPORT ON THE NOVEMBER 23, 2010 MEETING CLUB ASSEMBLY

President Barry Fitzgerald announced that 91 tickets have been sold so far for the 50/50 raffle. He would like to see at least 100 sold by the drawing date of Dec. 14th. Bea Castiglia-Catullo suggested that members remind potential purchasers that if they can't afford an entire ticket, it is very affordable to split a ticket with one or more people. If 5 people split a ticket, it becomes a very reasonable \$10 each.

And speaking of December 14th...don't miss out on the Bronx Opera Company's Holiday Music Splash! Where else can you get a beautiful luncheon and top shelf holiday entertainment for a mere \$45? Nosebleed seats for Radio City's Holiday Show are \$125 and you don't even get popcorn! Please bring an unwrapped gift for a boy or girl ages 2-12. We are partnering with the Bronx YMCA once again to send these gifts to the Dominican Republic for needy children there. Last year Elizabeth Toledo sent us photographs that told the story of how appreciated those gifts were. Contact Mary Springman to reserve your seat at: 718-617-1600.

Jim Romeo announced that the District 7230 Annual Gift of Life Crusade of the Heart Gala will be on Saturday, February 5th, and urged everyone to save the date. The honorees are Nancy Rivard, President and Founder of Airline Ambassadors International who will be representing American Airlines and PDG Gilda Chirafisi, Chairman of D7230 Gift of Life, who has been with D7230 GOL since the beginning. This is a very important event honoring Gilda, so it is hoped that the Bronx Rotary Club will have a good turnout at the gala. Tickets are \$150 and there will be no payment at the door. Contact Mary Springman for invitations at: 718-617-1600.

The newest child sponsored for Gift of Life surgery by the Bronx Rotary Club, Visar Neziraj will be arriving on November 29th with his father, Hetem Neziraj. The Yorktown Rotary Club will be co-sponsoring. Visar will receive corrective heart surgery at Maria Fareri's Children's Hospital at Westchester Medical Center, Valhalla, New York. Visar and his father will be

Continued on page 2



Photo courtesy of Jim Romeo

Visar Neziraj will be co-sponsored by the Bronx Rotary Club and the Yorktown Rotary Club for his Gift of Life Surgery in December. Visar is from Kosovo and an Albanian family will be his host.

housed by an Albanian family during their stay.

Barry reminded everyone that if we made a pledge towards Hope for Alvina

50/50 FUNDRAISER

Tickets are now available for the 50/50 fundraiser. President Barry reminds Bronx Rotarians to be responsible for 2 raffle tickets @\$50 each. Please try to sell more as this is a major fundraiser. Checks are to be made payable to the Bronx Rotary Foundation. Drawing will be at our holiday luncheon on Dec 14.

NEW GIFT OF LIFE CHILD

The Gift of Life Committee is excited to announce that our Club will be co-hosting a little boy from Kosovo with the Yorktown Rotary Club for Gift of Life surgery. He will be arriving on November 24th. Please contact Ed Hicks or Jim Romeo for more details. Contributions should be made out to the Bronx Rotary Foundation earmarked Gift of Life.

CLUB ASSEMBLY

Continued from page 1

and Jason, or want to contribute, we need to hand our donation in ASAP so the drive can be concluded with matching funds from the Bronx Rotary Foundation.

WHAT DOES OUR COMMUNITY NEED?

Enhance Service Above Self in your club's projects by first understanding the community's needs

When Paphassone Sokham became community service chair of the Rotary Club of Kona Mauka, Hawaii, USA, the first thing she did was try to figure out exactly what kind of service her community needed. "I just asked every community service program that was willing to talk to me, 'What do you need, big or small?'" she says. "I knew it would just open everything up for me if I did a community assessment."

Over a two-week period, Sokham visited many of the organizations, compiling a list of their needs. Her club narrowed down the list of ideas to come up with one or two community service projects each month, such as donating a table for counselors to use at a child abuse center and helping the hospital where Sokham works recycle its old computers.

Under The Rotary Foundation's Future Vision Plan, applicants for global grants should assess the community's needs at the beginning of the planning stage to identify those that are most pressing. Even for clubs not in the Future Vision pilot, such assessments help clubs make better plans and have a greater impact on

their communities, avoid duplication of efforts and, like Sokham's Rotary club, discover new opportunities for service.

Needs assessments such as surveys, asset inventories, and focus groups should look at both a community's strengths and weaknesses in order to identify not only what needs to be done, but what resources are available to help make it happen. Consider looking at things such as residents' skills and challenges, other organizations that can provide resources, existing infrastructure, and club members' skills, talents, and interests.

Sokham says that conducting a needs assessment had another, unforeseen, benefit — increasing Rotary's visibility, even among groups the club didn't end up working with. "The greatest part was going out and talking to people. Some didn't even know what Rotary was. It was like, 'You do this kind of thing?'" she says. "It was really fun."

THE FAMILY OF ROTARY

December is Family Month. To me, the family of Rotary consists of all Rotary International districts, clubs, Rotarians, programs, and The Rotary Foundation.

The Rotary Foundation is a huge part of the family of Rotary. All of the money raised, whether through Rotary International or The Rotary Foundation, is channelled through The Rotary Foundation. There are large sums of money coming every year to the Annual Programs Fund, the Permanent Fund, the Rotary Peace Centers Major Gifts Initiative and, right now, Rotary's USD200 Million Challenge.

Even though the money-raising efforts for these four funds are separate, they are all linked together. Annual giving is the core of our business. The Permanent Fund was geared toward those Rotarians who can afford to give large sums and as a support to the Annual Programs Fund. The Rotary Peace Centers Major Gifts Initiative was also launched to approach those Rotarians who can afford to give more than average. Thus it is apparent how these three fundraising events depend on one another. In addition we have Rotary's USD200 Million Challenge, which affects the annual giving, thus also the two other fundraising programs.

It is important that when we give money, we must donate to all of the above initiatives. By remembering this, we can continue Building Communities — Bridging Continents through Service Above Self.

Carl-Wilhelm Stenhammar
Foundation Trustee Chair

MAKE UPS

None today.

DR. HAPPINESS

Geoffrey Ukekweh collected \$39 from happy Rotarians and guest.

CHUCK-A-BUCK

Rick Sherman was the lucky winner of \$20 in the 50/50.

Birthday Babies

NOVEMBER

Beatrice Castiglia-Catullo - 1st

Cheryl Simmons-Oliver - 4th

Rev. Andrew M. Pane - 10th

Ram P. Gupta - 12th

Dr. Ian Amritt ~ 21st

Arthur Wolstein, D.P.M. - 22nd

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Rotary Theme 2010-2011:
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Volume 94 • Number 23
 November 30, 2010

OPENINGS...

President Barry Fitzgerald opened the meeting and Ed Hicks led the Pledge of Allegiance. Rev. David Michel gave the Invocation.

CHUCK-A-BUCK

Marguerite Chadwick-Juner won \$16 in the 50/50.

MAKE UPS

None today

VISITORS & GUESTS

Guest speaker Maura Miles was a guest of the Club.

DR. HAPPINESS

Toba LaCrown collected \$30 from happy Rotarians and guest.

OFFERING PRAYERS

For Dr. Arthur Wolstein’s wife Diane who suffered a stroke.

For Bea Castiglia-Catullo’s son and daughter, both of whom are battling cancer.

REPORT ON THE NOVEMBER 30, 2010 MEETING
GUEST SPEAKER ~ MAURA MILES



Photos courtesy of Jim Romeo

Guest speaker Maura Miles

President Barry Fitzgerald introduced the guest speaker Maura Miles from Hand in Hand, a system of schools in Israel that brings Arab and Israeli children together.

In Israel today, Jewish and Arab citizens live in a highly segregated environment, often in closely adjoining areas and in many regions throughout the state of Israel. In the most recent census of Israeli citizens, 20% are Arab and 80% are Jewish. Today there are few opportunities for meaningful and deep interaction between members of these two major groups, especially in the fields of elementary and secondary education, which are almost entirely segregated.

In 1997, Hand in Hand Center for Jewish-Arab Education in Israel was founded to build peace between Jews and Arabs in Israel through development of bilingual and multi-cultural schools. Elementary schools were founded in Jerusalem and in the Galilee region of Israel; in 2004 a third school was opened in Wadi Ara. In September 2007, the fourth Hand in Hand school through the parents’ group Hagar opened in Beersheva. Under the unique Hand in Hand Education model, each school is co-directed by Arab and Jewish co-Principals; and each classroom is co-taught by Jewish and Arab teachers. Students at each grade level are balanced between Arab and Jewish children. Students at all grade levels are taught in both Hebrew

and Arabic, learning to treasure their own culture and language while understanding the difference of others around them.

What happens in schools right now is critical for the future of Israel. At school, children are directly taught to uphold the values of the nation, and are indirectly socialized into groups with diverse attitudes toward Israel and its institutions. Schools also build community among the parents, teachers and neighboring families, affecting nearly every person - Jewish or Arab - living in Israel.

The majority of families in Israel - Jewish and Arab - send their children to segregated schools. This segregation poses a distinct problem, tending to promote rival viewpoints and attitudes that become ripe for exploitation by proponents of violence. Within

Israel, the schools of the minority Arab population become incubators for resentment and hostility, while the schools of the majority Jewish population tend to reinforce a sense of insulation from the concerns of others.

In 1998, the Hand in Hand schools started out small, with just 50 students in first grade. Currently, 903 students are enrolled in pre-kindergarten through 11th grade, and the demand is surging. Every Hand in Hand school has had to create a waiting list for both Arab and Jewish families who want to enroll in the schools.

Working in partnership with Israel’s Ministry of Education, Hand in Hand has obtained certification for all four of its schools, along with substantial public investment. Hand in Hand also works closely with community institutions and parent groups in Jerusalem, Galilee, Wadi Ara, and Beersheva to build community support for the schools - investment of funds, public recognition, and most importantly the investment of the children’s lives and futures.

When the Hand in Hand Center was founded in 1997, many doubted whether the experiment could work. Now there is demand for new schools, partnerships in new communities, and higher enrollment in the established programs.

These are Hand in Hand’s unique

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Jim Romeo,
 Bronx Rotarian
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MAURA MILES

Continued from page 3

contributions to Jewish Arab relations in Israel:

- * Creating an alternative model of education integrating Arab and Jewish children in contrast to the segregated Israeli educational system

- * Educating 903 Jewish and Arab children - Muslims, Christians, and Druze from 20 different communities - in four schools on a daily basis in an intensive, ongoing, and long lasting framework

- * Teaching bilingualism, multiculturalism and equality as essential educational elements, equipping children to face the future with hope and trust

- * Building a community of children, teachers, parents, extended family, and neighbours reaching thousands of individuals who through friendship and concrete action are creating the necessary steps for transforming society and building lasting peace

- * Proving that Arab and Jewish children and adults can break negative stereotypes and within a short time relate to each other with mutual understanding and respect

- * Engaging local municipalities, regional councils and the national government in a process of dialogue and reconciliation

- * Creating model classrooms where half of the students are Jewish and half are Arab, with Arab and Jewish teachers working together, speaking each other's language and educating for tolerance and co-existence

- * Providing a dynamic example that Jews and Arabs can study, work and live together in peace

Ms. Miles said that a Rotary Club in San Francisco heard about the program, partnered with other Clubs in their District as well as the one in Nazareth,

got matching funds from RI, and built a beautiful new playground for one of the schools. She feels the agenda of conflict resolution and promoting peace and understanding between different cultures is a shared one for Rotary and Hand in Hand.

Thank you Ms. Maura Miles for your captivating presentation and for the work you do to promote understanding between the young people of the Middle East.

GIFT OF LIFE UPDATE

The Rotary Club of the Bronx and the Yorktown Rotary Club are happy to announce that they are co-hosting a child for the Gift of Life. The recipient of the program's "Gift" is a 6 year old boy from Kosovo. His name is Visar Neziraj and he will be arrived on November 29th with his father, Hetem Neziraj. Visar will receive corrective heart surgery at Maria Fareri's Children's Hospital at Westchester Medical Center, Valhalla, New York. Visar and his father will be housed by an Albanian family during their stay.



Photo courtesy of Jim Romeo

Visar and his father were welcomed by PDG Gilda Chirafisi (L) and Jim Romeo.

Visar will have his pre-op exam on Friday, December 3rd at 10 Bradhurst Ave. Hawthorne at 9:30 am. After his echo exam, he will have further exams with Dr. Sett at Maria Fareri's Children's Hospital at Westchester Medical Center.

Visar surgery is scheduled for Wednesday, December 8th. Dr. Sett will be performing the corrective heart surgery.

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MEETING TIMES & PLACES of ROTARY CLUBS in DISTRICT 7230

DAY	TIME	PLACE	DAY	TIME	PLACE		
MONDAY	6:15p	Bedford Presbyterian Church	WEDNESDAY	12:15p	CIAO Restaurant		
	12:15p	Fogarty's Town Tavern		7:15p	Lake Club		
	7:00p	Jol Kabar Restaurant		12:15p	Emilio's Restaurant		
	12:15p	Crabtree's Kittle House		12:15p	Alaroma Restaurant		
	12:00p	Harvard Club					
	6:15p	John-Michael's Restaurant					
	6:30p	Grotto Bay Beach Resort					
	TUESDAY	12:15p		The Harbor Restaurant			
		1:00p		Hop Lee Restaurant			
		12:15p		Bella Paula			
12:15p		Luciano's Restaurant					
12:15p		Royal Hamilton Amateur Dinghy Club					
6:15p		Doubleday's					
12:00p		Casa Rina Restaurant					
12:10p		T&J Trattoria					
12:00p		Moscato's					
6:15p		Pinnacle Restaurant					
THURSDAY	7:00p	Cortlandt Manor	FRIDAY	12:15p	Briarcliff Recreation Center		
	12:15p	Elmsford		12:15p	Larchmont Yacht Club		
	12:15p	Mamaroneck		12:15p	Coveleigh Club		
	7:30a	Mid-Island					
	7:00p	North Shore					
	12:15p	Peekskill					
	7:15a	Pembroke					
	12:15p	Pleasantville					
	6:45p	Riverdale					
	12:15p	South Shore					
FRIDAY	7:00p	Garden Cafe					
	7:30p	Trattoria Dopo Teatro					
	12:15p	Mt. Kisco Holiday Inn					
	12:15p	Bona Sera Restaurant					
	6:15p	Davenport Club					
	12:30p	The Tuscan Grille					
	12:15p	Rockwells					
	6:30p	Henry VIII Restaurant					
	12:15p	Tarrytowns					
	5:30p	Wall Street					
12:15p	Yorktown						

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