

TUESDAY

ROTARY CLUB OF THE BRONX, NY, INC.

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MEETS EVERY TUESDAY AT 12:15PM

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"SERVICE ABOVE SELF"
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In Rotary we have many opportunities for fellowship and service that we don't find elsewhere. It's what makes being a Rotarian so worthwhile. So you won't want to miss the chance to join in several special events coming up fast.

On Tuesday, April 18th we join with the Mt. Pleasant Rotary Club at a joint meeting at the Maria Fareri Children's Hospital in Valhalla, the hospital where Baby Nairaj Budnarine, our Gift of Life child last September had the hole in his heart repaired. Come meet Rotarians from another club, meet Mr. and Mrs. Fareri, and tour this unique facility.

Sign up now for events at the District Conference at the Westchester Marriott Hotel in Tarrytown. Have lunch with Mia Farrow on Friday, April 28th, when club awards are announced. And come to the Paul Harris Fellowship Dinner and Governor's Ball on Saturday night, when this year's Paul Harris Fellows from our club and other clubs in the district will be honored.

And come to Bronx Rotary on April 25th as we discuss club Service Projects, vote on our revised Owerri Project, and make plans to support our newest gift of life child, 12 year old Luis Alejandro Montero through his life-saving surgery.

Service and fellowship -it's what is happening at Rotary this month. Come be part of it!

Yours in fellowship and service,
Nancy Wallace, President

Be sure to keep in touch with all the latest happenings in our District at:
www.rotary7230.org and worldwide
Rotary news at: www.rotary.org.

REPORT ON TUESDAY'S MEETING

GUEST SPEAKER ~ MR. JOHN FELICETTI
APRIL 4, 2006



Photo courtesy of Jim Romeo
Rotarian John Felicetti captivates the audience.

Dr. Arthur Wolstein introduced Pelhams Rotary Club member, John Felicetti who, with his wife and son, hosted an Iraqi Gift of Life child and his father.

John is a founding partner of the Pelham Advisory Group, a specialized technology consulting firm. He has been lauded in the technology industry and lists giants like IBM on his impressive resumé.

When John heard that the host family for one of the Iraqi children had fallen through. Without hesitation, John said, "We'll do it!" He did however, realize he'd better curb his enthusiasm until he checked with his wife, but fortunately her positive response was also immediate.

Marie and John knew that the boy they would host was 14 years old, named Ali, his father was named Abu Abed Ali, their arrival date and time and very little else. They didn't even know how much English they could speak, but at the airport on pick-up day they were surrounded by supporters.

Ali and Abu Ali had traveled for 15 hours from Jordan and were exhausted. John brought them straight home to sleep. The next morning an obviously jet lagged pair came down to see a mountain of food laid out for them in a breakfast buffet. John and his family had researched Iraq and prepared stuffed grape leaves, apricots, figs and heaps of other goodies. John noticed that they were just picking at a few things. He asked Abu Ali what

he would normally have for breakfast, and with barely concealed mirth he replied (in fairly good English) that he would have a hard boiled egg or 2 and a cup of tea.

In another anecdote, he told us of his own amusement regarding Abu Ali who has seen his son through testing with some of the most advanced machines and technology available. Abu Ali was most impressed though, by the washer and dryer John has at home and that they turn themselves off automatically when done.

John had noticed Abu Ali limping at the airport when he pick them up but got nothing but a superficial answer when he inquired about it. Days later Abu was still limping and with persistence, John got the story through an interpreter. Abu had stepped on a land mine 20 years ago during the Iran Iraq war and had several toes blown off. Successive operations removed more tissue until just the heel was left.

John's Club took fixing Abu's foot on as a bonus project. After Ali came through his surgery with flying colors, several doctors associated with Rotary examined Abu pro bono. Custom orthotics were made in New Rochelle that alleviated his great pain which, along with the worry over his son, had fatigued him mentally and physically.

A few days after treatment, both father and son were able to go out walking for a few hours, something that neither one could have hoped to do before. John says he envisions Ali having a long, healthy life in which he gets married and his father dances at the wedding. He also says he would volunteer for this rewarding, overwhelming, enriching experience again in a heartbeat.

DON'T FORGET

Club Assembly on Tuesday, April 25. Discussion of Service Projects, and discussion and vote on revised Owerri Project.

Also, District Conference 4/28 - 30. Register now! Lunch with Mia Farrow on Friday 4/28. Paul Harris Fellowship Dinner and Governor's Ball on Saturday 4/29.

REPORT FROM THE BOARD

At a special meeting of the Board of Directors on April 4, 2006, action was taken on the following items:

New Members - Joanne Santiago was approved as a prospective new member. Joanne manages her own business, BodySpiritSpa.com. Her sponsor is Jim Romeo. Also, Wilfredo Irizarry was confirmed. He is a financial planner with Smith Barney. Sponsor: Nancy Wallace.

Paul Harris Fellows - Bill Gouldman, Chair of the Nominating Committee, reported nominations of Rotarians Igina DeMichele, Rev. Charles Gorelick, Maria Staniorski and Nancy Wallace as Paul Harris Fellows. Community leader Curtis Sliwa has also been named.

Owerri Project - Cheryl Simmons-Oliver, Service Projects Chair, conducted a discussion about the project to improve the school near Owerri in Nigeria, based on updated information about what Rotary International would support. The Board voted to move ahead to prepare a grant application for R.I. containing the following improvements: Roof repair, installation of tile on floor, some painting, moveable bookcase/storage units and some latrines. The Board reconfirmed a cap of \$12,500 from Bronx Rotary, including \$2,500 from Michael Anorue. Cap for the roof is \$5,000 and for other items is \$7,500, which is to be matched by the Owerri Club, Owerri District, our District 7230 if possible and Rotary International.

At the Club Assembly on April 25, an open discussion of the project and a vote by the club will be taken. All club members are invited to participate in this meeting.

OPENINGS...

President Nancy Wallace opened the meeting and *God Bless America* was led by Edward Hicks. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Rev. Charles Gorelick. The invocation was given by Glen Nygreen.

DR. HAPPINESS

Bea Catullo collected \$53 from happy Rotarians and guest.

CHUCK-A-BUCK

Jim Romeo won \$19 in the 50/50. (Really Jim, we've heard of having an angel on your shoulder, but how many wins does this make?)



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MAKE UPS

Jim Romeo had make ups at the Mt. Vernon and Riverdale Rotary Clubs. Nancy Wallace, Ed Hicks and Shqipe Malushi each had a make up at the District Assembly.

VISITORS & GUESTS

Wilfredo Irizarry was a guest of Nancy Wallace and Kathy Calanni was a guest of Igina DeMichele. Walter __, from the Bronx Times came to photograph the meeting and Hans Raj Chaudhary visited us from the Bombay, India Rotary Club.



Syed Q. Ahsan
Associate Group Director

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LOOKING AHEAD

- 4/18 Joint Meeting with Mt. Pleasant Rotary Club at Maria Fareri Childrens' Hospital.
- 4/25 Club Assembly. Program: Bronx Rotary Service Projects. Discussion and vote on revised Owerri Project proposal.
- 4/28-30 District Conference Friday, April 28 - 12 noon - Awards Luncheon. Saturday, April 29 - 12 noon- Buffet Luncheon. Saturday, April 29 - 6:30 p.m. Reception and 7:30 pm Governor's Ball and Paul Harris Fellowship Dinner. A registration form is available at: www.rotary7230.org

EVERY MEMBER/ EVERY YEAR - \$100

Rotary International is urging every member of Rotary to give a donation of \$100 each year to the

Rotary International Foundation, to be held for 3 years. At the end of 3 years, the money will have doubled and will be available for the Club to use on service projects. Additional money also becomes available for the District to give as service project contributions. For more information contact Nancy Wallace or Jim Romeo.

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GIFT OF LIFE UPDATE

Our new gift of life child, 12 year old Luis Alejandro Montero will arrive in late April for live-saving heart surgery at Montefiore Children's Hospital, currently scheduled for May 2nd. He comes from the Dominican Republic. Volunteers will be needed to meet the family and visit and support Luis and his mother before, during and after the surgery. Call Jim Romeo, 718-617-1600 if you can help.

THE BRONX ROTARY OFFICERS

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In Memory of PP Michael Nuñez '73

MEETING TIMES & PLACES of ROTARY CLUBS in DISTRICT 7230			
SATURDAY			
Central Bronx	7:30p	Office of Muhammed Mujumber	Harrison 12:15p Emilio's Restaurant
MONDAY			Hartsdale 12:15p Mitty's Restaurant
Bronxville 12:15p	Town Tavern		Metro NYC 7:30p Maharaja Indian Restaurant
Chappaqua 12:15p	Crabtree's Kittle House		Mid-Island 7:30a Dakota Diner
St. George's 6:30p	Mulligan's, St. Georges' Golf Club		Mount Kisco 12:15p Mt. Kisco Holiday Inn
TUESDAY			Mount Vernon 12:15p Galitos Restuarant
Bronx 12:15p	The Harbor Restaurant		New Rochelle 6:15p Davenport Club
Chinatown 1:00p	Sweet-n-Tart Restaurant		Ossining 12:30p Cambridge House
Croton-on-Hudson 12:15p	Just-In-Time		Pelhams 12:15p Rockwells
East Yonkers 12:00p	Ramada Inn		Sandys 6:30p Henry VIII Restaurant
Hamilton 12:15p	Mariners Club		Scarsdale 12:15p Central Square Café
Hastings, Dobbs Ferry, Ardsley & Irvington 6:15p	Rudy's Beau Rivage		Tarrytowns 12:15p Striped Bass Restaurant
Katonah 1st & 3rd Tues 6:15p	Katonah Memorial House		2nd Wed. of the month 8:00a Striped Bass Restaurant
2nd & 4th Tues 12:15p	Katonah Memorial House		Yorktown 12:15p The Heights Bistro & Bar
Mount Pleasant 12:15p	Casa Rina Restaurant	THURSDAY	
New York 12:00p	Princeton Club	Elmsford 12:15p	Tony's La Stazione
PortChester-Rye Brook 12:05p	T&J Villaggio	Mamaroneck 12:15p	Chef Antonio Restaurant
Somers 6:30p	Pinnacle Restaurant	North Shore 7:00p	Staaten Restaurant
Staten Island 12:30p	Ligreci's Staaten Restaurant	Peckskill 12:15p	Cortlandt Colonial Restaurant
Upper Manhattan 6:00p	International House	Pembroke 7:30a	Royal Bermuda Yacht Club
White Plains 12:15p	Crowne Plaza Hotel	Pleasantville 12:15p	Riviera Restaurant
WEDNESDAY		Riverdale 6:30p	Peppino's Restaurant
Armonk 6:15p	Bechive	South Shore 12:15p	Marina Grand
Eastchester 12:15p	CIAO Restaurant	Yonkers 12:00p	Ramada Inn
Gateway 7:15p	Bocelli Restaurant	FRIDAY	
		Briarcliff 12:15p	Briarcliff Recreation Center
		Larchmont 12:15p	Larchmont Yacht Club
		Rye 12:15p	Whitby Castle