

the Rotary Smile

Allentown, Pennsylvania

www.rotarydistrict7430.org

September, 2007



Beat the Heat End of Summer Family Picnic Saturday, Sept. 8

2:30 p.m - ???

at the home of

Pete and Sallie Smith

8433 Mertztown Road

Lower Macungie Township

Okay, this is your very-last-minute chance. But we've been telling you about this every Friday in August, and now the day is upon us! You can swim, relax in the hot tub, play horse-shoes, volleyball, croquet and "engage in passionate discussions of all things important," says Pete.

Those whose names begin with A-M bring salads; N-Z bring a dessert. Hot dogs, hamburgers, marinated turkey breast, corn on the cob, chips, pretzels, and beverages will be provided.

Call Pete at 610-391-6324 for reservations and directions, or you can send him an email: peter.s.smith@smithbarney.com



Some of the Raub Middle School students who benefitted from St. Luke's Vision Care program, funded by our Allentown Rotary club.

Vision Accomplished!

The Raub Vision Care program initiated by St. Luke's Hospital, Allentown Campus this year can only be characterized as a complete success. Our plan was to arrange for vision care specialists to provide comprehensive vision exams and glasses to all students that need them as well as transportation to and from their appointments.

During the 2005-2006 school year (the year before the program started), 197 students failed their vision screening provided by the school nurse. Of those, only 33 students (17%) had gotten the glasses they needed by the end of the school year. This past year, 256 students failed their vision screening. With the program now in place, 221 students (86%) received glasses. Of the 35 students who did not receive corrective vision care, three families declined, seven families moved away from Raub before they could get an appointment, and even after multiple attempts to contact every student's family, 25 families failed to sign a consent form allowing their child access to the program.

One student in particular was diagnosed with a serious eye problem, and we were able to refer him to an ophthalmologist to get the care he desperately needed. His problem was corrected and he now has excellent vision with the use of the glasses he received.

While the statistics are exciting, the true magic was watching the students receive their glasses. Most of them couldn't wait to show their

(Continued on page five.)

The Rotary Club of Allentown

610-794-4101

~ A Member of Rotary International ~

Club No. 121, District 7430

• in our 94th year of service •

**We meet Fridays at noon at the
Crowne Plaza, 9th & Hamilton Streets, Allentown.**

Rotary is a worldwide organization of business and professional leaders that provides humanitarian service, encourages high ethical standards in all vocations, and helps build goodwill and peace in the world. Approximately 1.2 million Rotarians belong to 31,000 Rotary clubs located in 167 countries.

Club Officers

President	Ibolya Balog	610-433-3220
President-Elect	Pete Smith	610-395-7700
Secretary	Don DeLorenzo	610-967-3380
Treasurer	Tom Christman	610-434-9645
Past President	Rolf Schlake	610-770-0900

Board of Directors

Committee

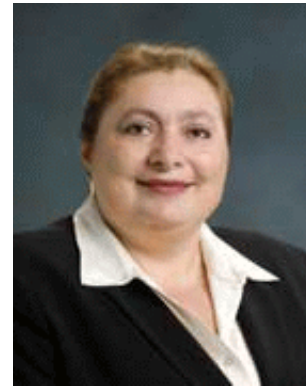
Phone

David Schrum	Program	610-798-2510
Judith Barberich	Scholarship	610-282-1100 x1478
Rolf Schlake	Harris & Iobst Awards	610-770-0900
Richard Daugherty	International	610-437-3700
Joyce Dougherty	Fellowship	610-433-6556
Amy Meleck	Communications	610-770-1127
Larry Campbell	Community Service	610-391-9805
Pete Smith	Membership	610-395-7700
Cindy Lambert	Badge Board/Hospitality	610-776-3323
Bill Hacker	Youth	610-437-3340

Foundation Board Members

Ibolya Balog	610-433-3220
Judith Barberich	610-282-1100 x1478
Amy Beck	610-770-9781
Barbara Bigelow	610-437-0795
Albert Bova	610-395-5910
Larry Campbell	610-391-9805
Thomas Christman	610-434-9645
Wallace Eldridge	610-366-0843
Suzanne Goodell	610-799-1204
Platte Moring III	610-435-8414
Marcella Moyer Schick	610-794-5129
Rolf Schlake	610-770-0900
Pete Smith	610-395-7700

From the President



As members of the Rotary Club of Allentown, we most often focus on our Club, our programs, service projects and our local community, since this is where we have our greatest impact. As Rotarians we are also members of a worldwide organization.

One of the Objectives of Rotary is advancement of international understanding, good

“We look forward to welcoming Pelin, who will be attending the Lehigh Valley Charter High School for the Performing Arts.”

will and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons, united in the ideal of service. One of the benefits of being an international organization is participation in the Student Exchange program. This program is certainly an excellent way of advancing international understanding as well as world fellowship, as Rotarians who have participated in it previously can attest. The Student Exchange has a short- term and a long-term

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Rolf Schlake Reflects at Changeover

June 29 – The old saying, “My how time flies when you're having fun” came to mind at the Allentown Rotary Club Changeover Luncheon when President Rolf Schlake remarked he was surprised that his year as President is over already. He stated that while serving as President has been a demanding job, it has also been a lot of fun and very rewarding. He acknowledged that as President of our Club he had the opportunity to really see what Rotary is all about – an organization that does a tremendous amount of good and we can all be proud to be a part of it.

Rolf confided that serving as President was not difficult because the members of the Board of Directors really did all the work. With that, Rolf recognized and thanked each member of the Board. He cited the activities and accomplishments of Rotary during his tenure, notably a budget focused on service and not on process. Rolf stated that this change was important because the motto of Rotary is Service Above Self, not service to the process. Rolf said that one of his most memorable moments was when Bob Stevens received his calling from above (which was actually the speakers in the



Incoming President Ibi Balog pins President Rolf Schlake with past president emblem as he presents her with president's pin.

ceiling).

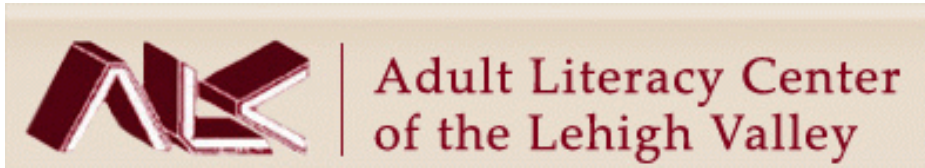
~ Barbara Stauffer

Before turning over the gavel (which was actually a fork since no gavel was at hand) to new President, Ibi Balog, Rolf emphasized that all Rotarians should consider a term as President.

Ibi Balog graciously thanked Rolf for his dedicated service. Ibi discussed the importance of Rotary ideals such as the advancement of good will and peace in the world and the opportunity to meet many like minded people. Her goals as President over the next year are to advance membership in the Club and to continue our Rotary projects. In closing, Ibi asked Rotary members present to invite friends, colleagues, relatives and neighbors to meetings to learn about our proud history of accomplishments.

Members who achieved Perfect Attendance July 2006 thru June 2007

Warren Armstrong
Ibolya Balog
Christine Bauder
Gordon Campbell
Thomas Christman
Frank Concannon
Richard Daugherty
Don De Lorenzo
Wallace Eldridge
Kathy Frazier
Ellen Ghelardi
Charles Keim
Kenneth Kirshner
Suzanne Kresge
Amy Meleck
Theresa Podguski
Rolf Schlake
David Schrum
Donald Sullivan, Jr.
Peter Smith



Adult Literacy Center of the Lehigh Valley

July 20 – Carol Jones gave Allentown Rotarians a realistic snapshot of domestic literacy in the United States. The definition of literacy is always changing with the times. For example, in the old wild west, you were considered literate if you could sign your name. Today, we define literacy as “the ability to read, write, spell, listen, speak, compute, and problem solve in English.”

There are five categories of literacy:

1. Nonliterate
2. Below Basic Literacy
3. Basic Literacy (enough to sign a form or a bank deposit)
4. Intermediate Literacy
5. Proficient

Almost half of the U.S. population is at or below basic literacy. Twenty percent of our population are nonliterate or below basic levels of literacy, with an additional twenty nine percent at basic literacy. These people are not demographically similar. They come from urban and rural communities, a wide variety of ethnicity (43% are Caucasian), and 25% are ages sixteen to twenty-four. In Lehigh County and Allentown, 27% of the people do not have a high

school diploma, and 28% are non-English speaking.

Illiteracy creates a huge negative economic impact. Dropouts, welfare recipients, and low wage earners are disproportionately illiterate. Three quarters of the people in prison are illiterate, and only twenty percent of jobs in the USA are able to accommodate illiterate workers. In spite of our schools’ efforts to educate children, the greatest influence on children’s literacy is determined by the literacy levels of parents.

Health illiteracy also creates a negative economic impact nationally, and is greatest among the elderly and low income populations. Carol says an extra \$72 billion in extra health care costs annually are due to health illiteracy. Extra costs are incurred due to patient noncompliance with medications and doctor’s instructions, as well as miscommunication between patients and clinician.

The Adult Literacy Center has served 15,000 local residents in its thirty year history. They provide basic reading writing and math instruction, as well as GED and English as a Second

Language (ESL) instruction. They also deliver workplace ESL and Literacy training, and counseling for students who want to go to college.

Carol shared two success stories with us, highlighting two young men who each went from illiterate status to college student.



Thanks to Carol Jones for her informative overview of the status of literacy in our country and in our community!

~ Suzanne Goodell

From the President

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program. This year we are participating in the long term student exchange, as we have both an outbound student, Shelly Forester and an inbound student Pelin Ipek Avdan.

Shelly is spending the year in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Shelly and her family were guests at our August 17 program, the day before her departure. While she is away, her family will be one of the host families for Pelin, from Izmir, Turkey.

We look forward to welcoming Pelin, who will be attending the Lehigh Valley Charter High School for the

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Lunch and Lincoln: Club Members Tour Exhibit

July 6 – Joe Garrera, Executive Director of the Lehigh County Historical Society, welcomed us to the Historical Society and to the **Abraham Lincoln and the Promise of America** exhibit. He discussed that when searching for the more than 1,000 items in this exhibit, the staff looked for items that are different and meaningful. They obtained the only known piece of curtain from Lincoln's boyhood home, which is on loan from the National Park Service.

Another item, which is a real treasure, is Abraham Lincoln's lap desk, which he carried in his saddlebags while practicing law throughout the 8th Judicial Court in Illinois. At that time, the practice of law required Mr. Lincoln to travel throughout the area for three months in spring and again in fall.

The exhibit also includes: Tad Lincoln's rocker; Mary Lincoln's mourning veil; the original clock that was in Ford's Theater the night Lincoln was assassinated; an original photograph of Lincoln; and so much more.

Mr. Garrera shared some trivia including that Lincoln was the most photographed man of his time. Also, Tad

Lincoln used his rocker, while the family lived in Springfield. It was sold, along with most of their personal furniture, when the Lincoln's moved to Washington, D.C., and is presently on loan from Lincoln College, Illinois.

In addition, we hear that the presidency ages people; this seems true for Lincoln. He was 64 and 180 pounds at his inauguration and weighed only 160 pounds when he died.

It was amazing to see so many items related to President Lincoln all in one place. And we did not have to travel thousands of miles to see them. They are right here, in our own backyard – but only through September.

~ Theresa Podguski



commitment to the students of Raub Middle School. And because of the generous gift from the Rotary Club of Allentown to start the program, we've been able to get ample support to continue the Raub Vision Care Program in 2007-2008.

Vision Accomplished

(Continued from page one.)

new glasses, and many were just grateful to be able to see street signs as we drove back to the school. A special thank you is due to the Rotary Club of Allentown, which provided most of the program funding, and also volunteer drivers who took students to and from their appointments. Volunteers included Grayson McNair, Don DeLorenzo, Bob Black, Ellen Ghelardi, Jonathan Epstein, and Barbara Stauffer.

The program wouldn't have been a success without your generosity and

September Birthdays



- 2 George Spill
- 6 Bob Grey
- 7 Barbara Stauffer
- 8 Ron Wasson
- 15 Margie Maldonado
- Joel Wiener
- 17 Jack Hudders
- 18 Ed Komito
- Paul Fenstermaker
- 22 Marc Basist
- 25 Dick Snyder
- Kathy Frazier
- 26 William Consugar
- 29 David Peifly
- 30 Arthur Weinrach



May 18 – Two members of the Allentown Rotary Club helped a bit of history come to life during a special Memorial Day program.

Ted Snyder, who was born and raised in Allentown and served as its Deputy Police Chief, captivated listeners with tales of his days in the Navy during World War II. Snyder, who served as an aviation radio man aboard the USS South Dakota, actually witnessed President Truman sign the agreement that ended the war with Japan.

Snyder said he returned to the U.S. on the South Dakota on October 15, 1945 and participated in a “great celebration” in San Francisco Bay. Then back to the Lehigh Valley. “I was home in time to see Allentown High School beat Liberty in the Thanksgiving game. My brother scored three touchdowns,” he said.

Suzanne Colbert Goodell, shared the World War II experiences of her father, Frank Colbert. She based her talk on the memoirs of her father, who at 19 enlisted in the Army as a clerk-typist.

Colbert was ultimately assigned to the staff of Queen



President Ibi Balog presents Allentown Rotary Club flag to Peter M. Nganha on August 10. He is in the U.S. visiting his daughter and son-in-law in Macungie. Mr. Nganha’s classification is Teacher and he works with the Salvation Army in Kenya.

Elizabeth’s uncle, Admiral the Lord Louis Mountbatten, and, Goodell says, “got a trip around the world courtesy of Uncle Sam.” Colbert had a special role in and a bird’s eye view of the VJ signing in South East Asia, as the only enlisted man on Mountbatten’s surrender team. In addition to typing all of the notes for the planning discussions leading up to the surrender, Goodell says, her father was actually able to watch the surrender ceremony from a balcony in the Government House.

“I am proud that dad typed the surrender papers and presented them to the Japanese admiral,” she says. “He doesn’t know why he was selected.”

Nine Allentown Rotarians

who served in World War II were also honored as part of the Memorial Day program.

~ Jennifer Marangos

From the President

(Continued from page four.)

Performing Arts. Pelin has a special interest in dance, and will be able to continue during her exchange year. There are monthly District-wide programs planned for the inbound exchange students and they will spend most weekends with their host families. If you would like to plan an event with Pelin, please contact our Exchange Student Club Counseling Team consisting of Ellen Ghelardi, Suzanne Goodell and Debra Lamb.

Group Study Exchange

July 26 – One of our newest Rotarians, Kate Roberts, provided us with insight into what it means to be part of a Group Study Exchange (GSE) team. Twenty-five to forty young professionals go through an intense interview process to participate. None can be Rotarians. Even though they are not members of any Rotary Club, she noted that often GSE becomes a path to recruit-ment of new Rotarians.

Kate was selected to be on a team that went to South Africa. There team leader was Rotarian Bill Jahn from the Morningstar Club. By profession, Kate is a criminal defense attorney, and study groups usually concentrate on vocational exchange. For instance, Kate said that in South Africa the jury system has been abolished, along with the death penalty. There is currently a movement to restore both.

However, GSE is meant to serve as a goodwill ambassadors to select areas of the world. GSE Rotary projects are developed to be very much “hands on.” By way of observation, Kate remarked that the experience everyone had in South Africa as most rewarding to the participants and to those who were helped.



She also spoke about the apartheid situation, on the whole a slowing, changing process (especially during the past ten years). The leadership of Nelson Mandela, who you'll recall lingered in prison for 27 years, clearly made a difference after his election as President. Kate said that the Rotarians she met still have mixed feeling regarding these societal changes.

Rotarians have taken steps to fix the old problems: there is continuing need for school books, assistance with school lunches and certainly many areas of health care. From the standpoint of the local black populace, however, Rotary is still seen as a vestige of the “old boys club.” This often makes cooperation difficult.

Kathy told us that Johannesburg is one of the world's most dangerous cities. Property crimes are especially significant. But she advised that Cape Town is definitely worth a visit, a cosmopolitan city on the ocean front. And when visiting South Africa, game drives are an exciting opportunity to be taken to game reserves as a special experience.

Kate brought us an informative Rotary program, one that all Rotarians need to be aware of and support.

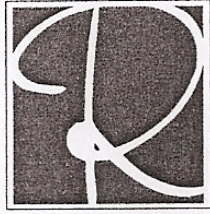
~ Jim Harper



In Memoriam

Allentown Rotarian Julian Moore died Sunday, August 5 at the age of 84. He had been vice- president of the former George Woloch Company, Allentown, for 20 years until retiring in 1989. He served our country honorably in the Army in World War II. He was a Rotarian for 37 years!

A quotation from his memorial service describes him well: “He has achieved success who has lived well, laughed often, and loved much; who has enjoyed the trust of pure women, the respect of intelligent men and the love of little children; who has filled his niche and accomplished his task; who has left the world better than he found it, whether an improved poppy, a perfect poem, or a rescued soul; who has always looked for the best in others and given them the best he had; whose live was an inspiration; whose memory a benediction.”
(Bessie Anderson Stanley)



Romper Day

Thank you to these Rotarians for helping on Romper Day:

Ibi Balog
Judy Barberich
Christine Bauder
Tina Campbell
Larry Campbell
Tom Chistman
Harry Crapser
Bud DiStefano
Jay Geiger
Deb Kipp
Theresa Podguski
Peter Smith



Foundation Campaign

Thank you to those who helped to contact fellow Rotarians in the recent Paul Harris and Richard Iobst Fellows campaign:

Barbara Bigelow
Bob Brown
Wally Eldridge
Suzanne Goodell
Dave Shiner
Rusty Sillivan
George Southworth
John Toner
Art Weinrach



Congratulations!

Bill and Beth Consugar are happy to announce their new TEAM MEMBER: Isabel Faith started (arrived) on Saturday August 4, 2007 around 3:00 p.m. and weighs in at 7 lbs and 7 oz. She does not have much experience but is anxious to learn and is expected to move quickly beyond her 20" length.

Best wishes to Isabel Faith on her new venture and congratulations to Bill and Beth!

September Meetings Event Schedule

7th – District Governor:
Jerry Long

14th – Executive Service Corps of the Lehigh Valley

21st – Physician's Committee for Responsible Medicine

28th – PANO: PA Non-Profit Associations

Coming in October

October 5th – Good Shepherd

the Rotary Smile

Allentown Rotary Club
5540 German Road
Emmaus, PA 18049

