

# the Rotary Smile

Allentown, Pennsylvania

www.AllentownRotary.org

Oct-Nov. 2008



## Ibi Balog Selected Group Study Exchange Team Leader

District 7430 of Rotary sponsors the Group Study Exchange and the 2009 reciprocal program will be with District 1910 in Eastern Europe (Eastern Austria, Slovenia, Croatia and Bosnia). The District has selected Ibi Balog as the Team Leader for the outbound exchange group.

We are seeking young professionals, 25 to 40 years, who are not Rotarians or members of Rotarians families, to take part in the program. The transportation costs are covered by the District and during the four week stay the team members will be hosted by members of the host club. The dates for the outbound group are April 27, 2009 to May 26, 2009.

If you can recommend someone suitable for team participation, you can discuss the particulars with Ibi. Contact her at 610-433-3220.

## O Say Can You See?

Two years ago, the Rotary Club of Allentown generously gave St. Luke's Allentown a grant to begin a Remedial Vision Program at Raub Middle School. Since then more than 400 students received eye exams and glasses they needed to read, see the blackboard, and succeed in school.

Our diligence and hard work continues to pay off, as St. Luke's was contacted by The Gift of Sight Van and offered the amazing opportunity to receive a week of free eye exams and glasses to any student in need in the Lehigh Valley. The van is coming to Freedom High School from October 20-24 from 8:15 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. loaded with glasses and frames.



Our goal is to help The Gift of Sight Van provide glasses to 1,000 students within the Lehigh Valley, including more than 300 from the Allentown School District. The amazing thing is that each student will get an eye exam, prescription, and glasses on the same day, all completely free of charge.

We're just about ready to go, but we need your help. We need five volunteers each day to take students from the waiting area to their exams, and to the fitting area (all on the Freedom High School campus).

While we need people all the time, the times we are in most need are Wednesday afternoon, Thursday all day, and Friday morning.

Please contact me at [tonerj@slhn.org](mailto:tonerj@slhn.org) or 610-628-8782 if you can help or have any questions. Even if you just have a couple of hours to spare, that would make a huge impact on the number of children we can see.

Thanks for your consideration. I hope to hear from you.

~ John Toner

# The Rotary Club of Allentown

• in our 95<sup>th</sup> year of service •

610-794-4101

[www.AllentownRotary.org](http://www.AllentownRotary.org)

~ A Member of Rotary International ~

Club No. 121, District 7430

[www.rotarydistrict7430.org](http://www.rotarydistrict7430.org)

**Meeting Fridays at noon at the Holiday Inn  
9<sup>th</sup> & 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 200 countries.

### Club Officers

President .....	Pete Smith .....	610-395-7700
President-Elect .....	Judy Barberich .....	610-282-1100 x1478
Secretary .....	Don DeLorenzo .....	610-967-3380
Treasurer .....	Tom Christman .....	610-434-9645
Past President .....	Ibolya Balog .....	610-433-3220

### Board of Directors

### Committee

### Phone

Theresa Podguski .....	Program .....	610-778-3303
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Richard Daugherty .....	International .....	610-437-3700
Christine Bauder ...	Fellowship & Communication .....	610-821-0311
Larry Campbell .....	Community Service .....	610-391-9805
Judith A. Barberich .....	Membership .....	610-282-1100 x1478
Cynthia A. Lambert ...	Badge Board/Hospitality .....	610-776-3323
William C. Hacker .....	Youth .....	610-437-3340
Platte B. Moring III ..	By-laws & Parliamentarian .....	610-435-8414

### Foundation Board Members

Ibolya Balog .....	610-433-3220
Judith Barberich .....	610-282-1100 x1478
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Pete Smith .....	610-395-7700
Richard Snyder .....	610-434-3970
John Toner .....	610-433-8903 x 206

## From the President



**Pete Smith**

This month we sadly note the passing of former members Bob Wessner and “Mac” MacMillan. Bob was a beverage distributor and also the owned the Nut Hut on Hamilton Street. The Nut Hut was a unique shop specializing in the sale of every edible nut you could imagine. Fellowship Committee meetings at Bob’s house were legendary!!

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***“ Our club endorsed  
the Shelterbox project  
and our foundation  
will match  
your contributions.”***

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Mac was the long time popular Rector of the Episcopal Church of the Mediator. During Mac’s presidency (1982-1983), Abe Samuels introduced us to hospice care which he had observed in Ireland. Mac, with the support of the club, pushed the idea to creation of the first hospice here in the valley. Mac’s powerful voice commanded an audience without amplification.

*(Continued on page four.)*

## Classification Talk



**Marci Schick**

## Woman With a Mission

September 5 – Marci Moyer Schick, a former member of the Liberty Bell Club, has belonged to our club for the past two years. Marci is the Vice President of Institutional Advancement for Phoebe Ministries in Allentown.

Marci has taken up distance running in recent years both as an avocation and fitness program. Thanks to the encouragement of Wendy Body, Marci has now built up her conditioning to compete in 5K and Half Marathon competitions. Marci is truly a woman on a mission!

Growing up in Allentown, Marci's parents owned Noel's Café that was just across the street from our meeting place on Ninth Street. There she recalled

working at just about every job from bus boy to waitress and along the way learned how to talk with people and interact with workers in the many downtown businesses who were regular customers at Noel's.

Now as a professional fund-raiser, Marci continues her mission of service to people. She has worked for Muhlenberg College and Miller Memorial Blood Center. She belongs to the local chapter of the Association of Fund-Raising Professionals, where she has earned certification. In each of her professional roles, Marci has found motivation from connecting people who desire to give with causes that matter in our community.

Marci recounted the story of a special experience at Phoebe that drives her passion for philanthropy. A potential donor had challenged her to find individuals with special needs and no other sources for support.

Marci identified a resident of Phoebe Home who could not afford a motorized wheelchair. With the staff's support, this opportunity turned into a major gift. The resident not only received his wheelchair,

but in time rediscovered his passion for painting. After setting up an impromptu studio at Phoebe, this resident befriended another resident who also painted. The two became fast friends as they shared the studio space to enjoy their artwork. This is the heart of generosity that Marci works to discover in her work.

Marci Moyer Schick is a woman with a mission. Her passion is to grow the spirit of giving that connects people of means with people in need. Her work continuously transforms and uplifts the people of Phoebe Ministries and our wider community. Marci exemplifies the highest quality of leadership and dedication to service that are at the heart of Rotary. And because life is more like a marathon than a sprint, Marci is sure to make a long running impact around our community.

~ Ken Daniel



Marci and her husband, Ted, greet Chris Nelson after Marci's classification talk.

## From the President

*(Continued from page two.)*

Hurricane Ike recently hammered Galveston and Houston, Texas displacing thousands. Again the Rotary Shelterbox project leaps to mind! Our club generously endorsed the ongoing Shelterbox project and I remind everyone that our foundation will match your contributions to this project.

John Toner volunteered to head our club's participation in the December 6th Rotary District 7430 On Air Auction – Channel 69 WFMZ. This auction was very successful last year and we look forward to a successful repeat. This project is the primary source of funds for the Rotoplast Mission and a portion of this year's proceeds will be credited towards our club's Polio Plus contribution. John is seeking to secure donations to be auctioned during this televised event.

Thank you to George Schermerhorn for bringing us the timely program on polio several weeks ago. A recovered polio victim himself, George made a generous contribution to the Rotary Foundation to celebrate his survival and support the Polio Plus campaign.

There have been some weeks when our pianists, Jean Fox and George Schermerhorn, have been

unavailable and we have been relegated to singing the National Anthem a capella. We are fortunate to have the great voices of Barbara Bigelow and Budd DiStefano to keep us from sounding like a funeral dirge. Thank you Barbara and Budd!

NOTE (From the "Hook Man"): Our speakers are allotted 20-25 minutes. If we encroach on their time frame with announcements, intros and lengthy resumes, the speakers face the prospect of concluding their presentations in front of an empty room. That is not fair. When in doubt, please expedite!

For the record: Because he plans to be away, Art Weinrach gave the club a check two weeks ahead of his birthday. By commemorating his gift in this letter, I am absolving myself of the responsibility to remember this event two weeks from now. Happy Birthday and thank you Arthur!!



**Editor's Note:** We recently lost three other Rotarians: Harold Heydt, Bob Scholl, and former Rotarian Frank Kruper. And Milton Kirshner, Ken's father, also recently passed away. We extend our condolences to the family and friends of our fellow Rotarians.

## 100% Attendance January 1- June 30, 2008

Ibolya Balog  
Judith Barberich  
Chris Bauder  
Gordon Campbell  
Tom Christman  
Frank Concannon  
Richard Daugherty  
Don De Lorenzo  
Bud Di Stefano  
Jonathan Epstein  
Ellen Ghelardi  
Suzanne Goodell  
William C. Hacker  
Kenneth Kirshner  
Deborah Lamb  
Cynthia Lambert  
Ann McManus  
Theresa Podguski  
Rolf Schlake  
Dave Scrrum  
Peter Smith  
Bob Stevens

## 100% Attendance for the Year Ended June 30, 2008

Ibolya Balog  
Judith Barberich  
Chris Bauder  
Gordon Campbell  
Tom Christman  
Frank Concannon  
Richard Daugherty  
Don De Lorenzo  
Ellen Ghelardi  
Kenneth Kirshner  
Theresa Podguski  
Rolf Schlake  
Dave Schrum  
Peter Smith

**Congratulations!**



## October

- 5 Michele Varricchio
- 13 Rolf Schlake  
Bud Shaffer, Jr.
- 14 Donald Bernhard
- 20 Rick Daugherty
- 22 Alma Perlis  
Jay Geiger
- 24 Janet Roth  
Dolores Laputka
- 29 Charles Shoemaker  
Nan Yarrish
  
- 4 Christine Nelson
- 6 Linda McDonald
- 8 Marcella Moyer  
Schick  
Barbara Bigelow
- 12 Charles Wilde  
Dave Bausch  
Peter Welsh
- 15 Deborah Fries-  
Jackson  
David Shiner
- 16 Deborah H. Lamb
- 20 Alan Black
- 24 Jim Harper
- 28 Ken Kirshner  
Belinda Gray
- 30 Orville Hawk



## American On Wheels Museum

September 26 – Today’s meeting was held at America On Wheels, the new transportation museum on Front Street in Allentown. Rotary member David Bausch introduced the AOW Executive Director, Linda Merkel, who stated that the not-for-profit museum celebrates the history of over-the-road transportation and highlights future means of moving people and product.

The very large building which houses the museum is 4,300 square feet. It is comprised of two floors with 2,600 square feet of exhibit space which can accommodate up to 75 vehicles. Almost all of the vehicles in the exhibits are on loan. The gallery exhibits are theme oriented such as a history of police cars or the cars of the British Invasion. Additionally, the exhibits are changed every six months to

provide interest and encourage return tours.

The museum offers something for everyone to enjoy including educational programs. Approved by the Department of Education in Harrisburg, America On Wheels just completed a seven week summer pilot educational program with 50 children. America On Wheels is currently working with the Smithsonian Institute to join their network of museums.

Following the brief, but informative introduction to the museum by Ms. Merkel, Rotary members strolled through the museum exhibits to complete the meeting hour.

~ Barbara Stauffer



## Jim Thorpe Would Have Been Proud

Although the October 4 bike ride in Jim Thorpe was canceled due to rain, these intrepid adventurers were not deterred from enjoying the day anyway. Hanging out at the Mauch Chunk Railroad Station are (left to right) Don and Louisa De Lorenzo, Pete Smith, Marc Bassist, Tom Christman, and Lenette and Charlie Wilde.

Pete and Marc (below) tackled the long and winding road *up the mountain*, made it to the top and



lived to tell the tale (though Pete wasn't particularly happy to be alive the next morning!).

Be sure to ask Pete how many million foot-pounds of work he calculated it took them to get to the top.



Clouds and rain didn't dampen their spirits!

**Looking forward to  
the next Rotary Adventure?  
Stay tuned!**

### Special Events

November 7 will be our Veterans Day program featuring Lt. Col. James Evanko, USAF retired, a former Thunderbird!

**No meeting November 28!**

### Pool Pals Volunteers Needed

Contact Heather Strencosky  
610-351-8297 or at home at  
610-967-2345!

### the Rotary Smile



Allentown Rotary Club  
5540 German Road  
Emmaus, PA 18049