

the Rotary Smile

Allentown, Pennsylvania

www.AllentownRotary.org

January - February 2012



Meals On Wheels Service Opportunity

As easy as 1,2,3



1. Pick up the food.



2. Put it in your vehicle.



3. Deliver to the house.

Can you help?
Contact Jay Geiger at
rjg6122@rcn.com
or 610-437-0034.



Allentown Rotary Project Provides Dictionaries to 1,280

"Service" - Noun: The action of helping or doing work for someone.

I want to thank everyone who helped to make the 2011 Dictionary Project a successful service project again this year. It is a large-scale effort which takes a lot of coordination between our club members, the Allentown School District, and packers and sorters at Second Harvest. Please let me start by specifically thanking:

- The Allentown Rotary Club Foundation for recognizing the importance of the Dictionary Project, and for having the generosity and foresight to fund the project again.
- The Allentown School District for continuing to warmly welcome our Rotarians and embracing our partnership through The Dictionary Project. Also, thanks are in order for picking up the dictionaries and delivering them to each school.
- Ann McManus for generously donating her facility and employees to help pack, sort and box dictionaries again this year.

People wonder if paperback dictionaries are out-of-date, in this digital age. The Dictionary Project research shows that, first of all, constant access to the internet is not usually a reality. Even computers at school may not be enough, because there is not one for every child. A paperback dictionary can be kept in a student's desk or backpack and so is useful anytime and anyplace. The children can grow with their dictionaries, mark words, and discover new words and information on the pages as they explore their books more.

Children need their own dictionaries to be able to develop their writing and reading skills and become resourceful learners. Paperback

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The Rotary Club of Allentown

• in our 98th year of service •

610-794-4101

www.AllentownRotary.org

~ A Member of Rotary International ~

Club No. 5414, District 7430

www.rotarydistrict7430.org

**Meeting Fridays at noon at the Holiday Inn
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. Some 1.2 million Rotarians belong to 31,000 Rotary clubs located in more than 200 countries.

Club Officers

President	Theresa Podguski	610-778-3303
President-Elect	Jonathan Epstein	610-437-7070 x 212
Secretary	Barbara Bigelow	610-437-0795
Treasurer	Tom Christman	610-434-9645
Past-President	Larry Campbell	610-398-9612

Board of Directors

Committee

Phone

Christine Bauder ...	Fellowship & Communication	610-821-0311
Jim Bova	Badge Board/Hospitality	610-435-7489
Larry Campbell	Paul Harris/ Iobst awards	610-398-9612
Mark E. Emswiler	Scholarship	610-967-2141
Jonathan Epstein ...	Membership & Website	610-437-7070 x 212
Don Marron	Public Relations	610-439-1600 x 135
Ann McManus	Community Service	610-434-0875
Bob Stevens	Communication & the SMILE	610-390-7787
Heather Strencosky	Youth	610-351-8297
Nan Yarrish	Program	610-434-2648

Foundation Board Members

Wallace Eldridge, Chairperson	610-366-0843
Jim Bova	610-435-7489
Larry Campbell	610-398-9612
Tom Christman	610-434-9645
Mark Emswiler	610-967-2141
Carl Henzleman	610-758-5520
Kati LaBuda	610-709-9715
Ann McManus	610-434-0875
Amy Meleck	610-867-1689
Theresa Pudguski	610-778-3303
Janet Roth	610-434-9645
Frank St. Amour	610-435-3901
Marci Schick	610-794-5129
Pete Smith	610-395-7700

From the President



Theresa Podguski

Happy New Year! I hope you had a very nice holiday season and are refreshed for the New Year.

You will notice that we have added the position of “Greeter” at our club meetings. Our “Greeters” not only will welcome you, but also

“ Our 5K Run/Walk was a huge success, raising over \$7,000 toward our scholarship fund.”

will welcome visitors and guests to the weekly meetings – making sure that they sign in so that they can be recognized. We also want to get contact information in the event that the guest is interested in joining our club. If you would like to volunteer to be a greeter on a rotational basis, please contact Nan Yarrish at nan@yarrish.com and she will add you to the list of Greeters.

January is “Rotary Awareness Month” and the Membership Committee has been hard at work coming up with ideas to help you share information about the Allentown Rotary Club with business asso-

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2011 Dictionary Project

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dictionaries can give all children access to information they need to be successful in school.

“What is so wonderful about the dictionary distribution is seeing the interactions of our students with the Rotarians, which ultimately creates a ‘community of learners.’ The dictionaries are teaching and learning resources that extend the learning of our students both in and out of school,” comments Michele Ryan, Sheridan Elementary School Principal. “We are most appreciative to the Allentown Rotary Club for providing our children with these tools for learning.”

For those who are not familiar with The Dictionary Project, the Allentown Rotary ‘sponsors’ and provides dictionaries to third graders throughout the Allentown school district, as part of a national program. This year, more than 24 volunteers provided more than 1,330 Dictionaries to over 1,280 students and 50 teachers from within the Allentown School District. We covered 44 classrooms within 13 elementary schools. Almost 80% of the entire project cost was generously sponsored by 22 Rotarians. This translates into having raised over \$1,950 for a \$2,400 project. You can always support the Dictionary



Bill Hoffman assists student on Dictionary Day.

Project through the Allentown Rotary Club by specifically denoting it on your donation.

Rotarians always enjoy being part of our annual Dictionary Project and invite you to participate again next year!

Special thanks to those who volunteered to distribute dictionaries in the 2011 Dictionary Project and to those who generously sponsored the project:

Liberty Bell Rotary*
 Warren and Lynn Armstrong*
 Ibi Balog*
 Judy Barberich*
 Chris Bauder* and
 the Episcopal House
 Barbara Bigelow
 Larry Campbell*
 Arlene Daily
 Wally Eldridge*
 Debbie Ferry
 Jeff Goodling
 Bill Hoffman
 Ken Kirshner
 Julian Lewis

Lisa Luciano
 Ann McManus*
 LoisAnn Oakes
 Alicia Ruiz Orbin
 Avery Smith
 Pete Smith*
 Marc Solt
 Frank St.Amour
 *indicates sponsorship as well as volunteering

Sponsorship Participation

Jim Anderman
 Hester Bade
 Michael Donovan
 Bill Hacker
 Deb Jackson
 Bob Jacobs
 Carol Jones
 John Malia
 Grayson McNair
 Theresa Podguski
 Janet Roth
 Pete Smith
 Bob Stevens



Veterans Day Program

Nov. 11 - Allentown Rotarians were treated to the stories of Army Veteran Jack Leh at the 2011 Veteran's Day meeting on Friday, November 11th. Jack was in the WWII battle that has been memorialized in the book and film: "A Bridge Too Far."

The book and film recount the failure of *Operation Market Garden*, which envisioned laying down a carpet of airborne troops flown from bases in England to various drops many miles behind enemy lines in the Netherlands in the hope that the soldiers could secure several bridges at once. Gliders were used to deliver soldiers and equipment such as jeeps, artillery and anti-tank guns into the remote areas. Corporal Leh was in one of those gliders.

"Flying across the Dutch countryside were 200 C47s and more than 200 gliders," he told us. "I saw puffs of smoke from the attacks coming up from the ground. The pilot yelled back to me, 'You ought to be sitting on your helmet because that's where the action is coming

from.'" When Jack's glider landed he tried to get his gun ready so he could defend himself. He was, instead, met by a child offering him apples. Thankfully, paratroopers had already cleared the field he landed in.

As a rifleman, Jack had the unenviable duty of digging the trenches and fox holes. Arriving in a town a few days after his glider landed, he went directly to work digging a slit trench. In the middle of his work, a German fighter flew overhead and sprayed the troops with gunfire. At that point, Jack couldn't have been happier to be the man who digs the trenches. "Six soldiers jumped in on top of me, so I was perfectly safe!"

Jack went on to fight in the Battle of the Bulge, in Rhineland, and across the Elbe River where he met the Russians. Here he visited a concentration camp that the 82nd Airborne Division had freed. He was also in the Occupation of Berlin.

Jack was 17 when he enlisted and trained as a rifleman. He was 19 at the end of the war. "But," he said, "lots of guys I served with never reached the age of 25."

The stories of WWII are being silenced at a dramatic pace. As we approach the 70th anniversary of the end of the war, veterans are dying at a rate of 1,000 every day. If you meet a WWII veteran, ask him or her to tell you his or her story. It will likely be an adventure beyond your imagination.

~ Arlene Daily

From the President

(Continued from page two.)

ciates. Very shortly, we will be distributing, "Be Our Guest" cards to all of our members. Invite friends or business associates to an upcoming meeting by handing out the cards. Remember if you bring a prospective member to a meeting, the first lunch is on the club. Thank you to the Membership Committee for the suggestion and to Jonathan Epstein for designing the card.

Kati LaBuda has graciously accepted to chair our 3rd Annual 5K Run/Walk. I thank Kati for agreeing to take over the Committee from Janet Roth and Marci Schick. As you know the race was a huge success and we raised more than \$7,000 towards our Roger and Louise Mullen Scholarship Fund. Kati will surely be looking for a lot of assistance in the coming months. If you were part of the 5K committee in the past, please let Kati know if you are able to help out again this year.

Our Community Service Committee was busy during the holidays with our annual Bell Ringing at the Lehigh Valley Mall. Thank you to all of our volunteers. And, watch for details to come about volunteering at Daybreak.

Thank you to Chris Bauder for arranging our club Holiday Dinner Party at the Columbian Home. A fun time was had by all who attended! And, speak-

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Welcome New Members



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From the President

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ing of fellowship events, the planning of our annual St. Patty's Day party is already taking place. Please mark your calendars for Saturday, March 17 and plan to attend the party, which will once again be held at the Applewood Clubhouse. I hope to see you there!

~ Theresa



January

2 Christine Bauder
5 Marc C. Solt
7 David Hornung
9 Deborah Kipp
10 Ed Eichenwald
14 Karen El-Chaar
25 Bob Jacobs



**You
Too
Could
be a
Greeter**

President Podguski mentioned in her article that we have added the position of "Greeter" each Friday at the Badge board. If you would like to volunteer to be a greeter on a rotational basis, contact Nan Yarrish at nan@yarrish.com.



Valentine's Program - February 10

On Friday, February 10 the Allentown Rotary will welcome 12 year-old classical guitarist, Thomas Pfefer, for a Valentine's program the entire family will enjoy. Invite everyone you love to hear this young man, winner of the Friends of Music's Outstanding Young Artists Competition, and a recent performer on NPR's "From the Top."

Thomas is a sixth grader at Lehigh Valley Academy, Bethlehem. He started studying classical guitar at the age of six, with a Suzuki guitar teacher and then with a guitar instructor at Moravian College. According to Friends-of-Music.org, Thomas said that when his mother suggested he learn to play the guitar or the violin, he picked the guitar because it seemed to him very cool to play. As far as he remembers, Spanish music has always moved him, and the more he studies classical guitar the more he likes it. Thomas would like to pursue a career in music.



the Rotary Smile



Allentown Rotary Club
5540 German Road
Emmaus, PA 18049

Join us Friday Jan. 20



for the State of the City
address by Mayor Pawlowski