



THE LISTENER



Publication of the Rotary Club of Lakewood & Rocky River

OCTOBER 2013

Meet District Governor Bob Johnson

Robert "Bob" Johnson is district's 6630 governor for the 2013-14 Rotary year. He has been a member of the Burton-Middlefield club for 26 years where he served as president (2001-02), on the board of governors, treasurer and international service chair.

District Governor Johnson will speak to our club on October 7.

Bob and fellow Rotarian, James Eldridge, have successfully completed six international humanitarian projects around the world, funded at over \$200,000, including four very successful literacy projects in the rural Patagonia region of Argentina in conjunction with former Rotary Ambassadorial Scholars.

His club named him "Rotarian of the Year" on three separate occasions. Bob is a Paul Harris Fellow. He served at the district level on the World Community Service Committee twice, most recently from 2008-10 as its chair, and also on the District 6630 Grants Committee.

He has also been active in local Rotary projects, most recently serving as coordinator for a successful project by all four Geauga County Rotary clubs to raise \$8000 for the purchase and training one of the new dogs in Sheriff Dan McClelland's K-9 unit.

Bob grew up in Chagrin Falls and attended Chagrin Falls Schools. He is a graduate of Kent State University with a BA in geography and a minor in geology.

He retired from the Postal Service in 2002 after a 31-year career, serving as carrier and supervisor at Chagrin Falls, superintendent of mail and delivery at Chesterland, and finally as Postmaster from 1992 to 2002 in the Middlefield office.

In 1998, he received the Cleveland Federal Executive Board's highest honor, "Wings of Excellence," from Congressman Louis Stokes. In 2010, he retired from the Ohio Turnpike Commission after eight years in the parts and component purchasing department.

He was honored to be elected to three terms on the Berkshire Board of Education (1992 to 2004) and was also a member of the Board of Education for the Auburn Career Center (1998 to 2004).

Bob and his wife, Cindy, live in Burton Township in Geauga County. They have three children and three grandchildren.

Rachel's Challenge underway in River; club can help with new student party

Rotary's support of Rachel's Challenge clubs at Rocky River's middle and high schools will continue this school year. The clubs promote the message of kindness and compassion to others.

The initial year was very successful at both schools with many meaningful projects undertaken by the students. Rotarians are encouraged to attend as many student meetings as possible.

Middle School

Be the Change has scheduled a "new student" party for the 42 new students at the middle school. The party is scheduled for October 7 from 3:30-4:30 p.m. in the Commons area. The school is located at 1631 Lakeview.

Rotarians are invited to attend and bring a liter of soft drinks or a bag of chips or cookies. If unable to bring your contribution to the party, bring it to the club's noon meeting on October 7.

Since its first meeting on September 10, the group's focus has been preparing for the new student welcome event. Students formed smaller groups to work on creating video announcements, designing posters, and preparing an agenda for the party. Invitations were sent to the new students (who can bring a friend).

High School

General membership Friends of River (FOR) club meetings will be held during the seminar period this year, rather than before school. The scheduling change came about in hopes of increasing student participation as many FOR members are underclassmen and getting to school for early morning meetings as was done last year can be a struggle.

FOR's meetings are from 10:52-11:16 a.m. in Kristen Kalinowski's classroom at the high school.

Meeting dates planned for the remainder of the year are: Oct. 11, Oct. 25, Nov. 8, Nov. 22, Dec. 13, Jan. 31, Feb. 14, Feb. 28, Mar. 14, Mar. 28, Apr. 11, and May 9. Dates are subject to change based on projects and events taking place.

Club Board's next meeting is October 21

The next board meeting will be Monday, October 21, at 10:45 a.m. in the meeting room adjacent to where the club has its regular meetings at Umerley Hall.

The Rotary Club of Lakewood & Rocky River

P.O. Box 770916, Lakewood, OH 44107
<http://www.lakewoodrockyriverrotary.org>

OFFICERS & DIRECTORS 2013-2014

President Phil Ardussi
President Elect Todd Lessig
Secretary Chuck Gustafson
Treasurer Tom English
Directors:
2011-2014 – Pam Gallagher-Vine, Jerry Martau, John Mielke
2012-2015 – Phil Ardussi, Charles Eversole, Lynn Donaldson
2013-2016 – Tom Turner, David Zupan, Jon Clark
Past President Curt Brosky

COMMITTEES 2013-2014

Club Service

Administration

Archives Thom Geist
Attendance John Latham
Cashiers Larry Yunaska (chair), Julius Skerlan, David Zupan
Fund Raising Matt Daugherty (chair), Todd Lessig,
Dave Zupan
Membership/Education Jon Clark
Nominations Curt Brosky, Matt Daugherty, Lynn Donaldson
Sunshine John Latham
Listener, Public Relations, Website Lynn Donaldson
District Activities Jim Lechko
Club Foundation Matt Daugherty
Rotary International Foundation Jim Harris

Meetings & Fellowship

Devotional Jon Fancher
Greeters David Shaw
Music Charles Eversole, Jon Fancher
Program Matt Daugherty (chair), Tom Turner, Pete Shimrak
Sergeant-At-Arms John Mielke (chair), Chuck Gustafson,
John Lamb
Social Tom Turner

Community Service Todd Lessig

International Service Kanchan Adhikary

New Generations Service Jean Rounds

Dictionary Project Jay Rounds
Rachel's Challenge Jean Rounds
Youth Exchange Chris Arnold (chair), Andrew Ginter

Vocational Service Nancy Ralls

LEADERSHIP 2013-2014

Robert "Bob" Johnson, Governor, District 6630 (Burton Middlefield)

Shawn Mueller, Assistant District Governor, Cuyahoga County Northwest - Lorain County (North Ridgeville)

Ron D. Burton, President, Rotary International (Rotary Club of Norman, Oklahoma, USA)

NEARBY MAKE UP OPPORTUNITIES

Avon/Avon Lake, Tuesday, 7:30 a.m. Towne Center Community Campus, 200 Community Drive, Avon Lake.

Cleveland, Downtown, Thursday, Noon. Windows on the River in the Powerhouse, West Bank of Flats.

Lakewood/Rocky River Sunrise, Wednesday, 7:15 a.m. Umerley Hall, Rocky River.

Middleburg Heights/Brookpark, Thursday, 7:30 a.m. Front Row Grill, 15119 Snow Road, Middleburg Heights.

North Ridgeville, Friday, Noon, North Ridgeville Senior Center, 7327 Avon Belden Road, behind City Hall.

Westlake/Bay, Thursday, 12:15 p.m. Winking Lizard, 32045 Detroit Rd., Avon.

West Shore (formerly Fairview/West Park/North Olmsted), Tuesday, Noon. 100th Bomb Group, 20920 Brookpark Road near Hopkins airport.

On-line at www.rotaryclubone.org

Annual holiday social is Dec. 9

Giving, fellowship and music will mark our annual holiday social on Monday, December 9 from 5:30 to 8 p.m. at the Don Umerley Civic Center. There will be no noon meeting

Last year, over 60 children were the recipients of gifts purchased by our members. Details will be announced soon how you can participate by giving to those less fortunate. Families were identified by the Rocky River Assistance Program. (See letter from RRAP's Tracey Dimond below.)

Choral music will be provided by students from Rocky River High School.

Members are encouraged to bring spouses and significant others. There is no cost to attend; just bring your gift and a hearty appetizer to share. The evening will be BYOB. Coffee and set-ups will be provided.

Again this year, students from the West Shore Career-Technical District's culinary arts program will assist with set-up, serving and clean-up.

Dear Rotarians,

Last year you were all so gracious in opening up your club not only to me with such a warm welcome but also to the Rocky River Assistance Program.

Without your generous donation of toys, coats and clothes, we would have been very challenged in finding sponsors for our children. You donated over 60 gifts out of the kindness of your hearts.

When I was driving to a family that have five children I truly felt like Santa Claus. My eyes welled up just thinking of everyone who donated and how it was going to make a difference in children's lives.

When I met with the mom to drop off the packages she was overwhelmed knowing her children would have not only toys to open Christmas morning but also warm clothes for the winter months ahead. For that I THANK YOU!!

People are so busy with life, it means so much that you took time out of your life to shop for someone you don't know or who will never be able to put a face with your gift. Just knowing this, you might have just made a difference in the person sitting next to you in church or in front of you at the grocery store.

Thank you all! I look forward to seeing you all in November.

Tracey Dimond

Upcoming meetings and events

Meetings

Remember to invite a guest to an upcoming meeting!

September 30, Noon.

Lakewood Rocky River Rotary Club Foundation Annual Meeting – Matt Daugherty. Learn about the performance of our foundation, its members, and how past and present members, as well as friends of Rotary, have sustained it over the years.

October 7, Noon.

District Governor Robert “Bob” Johnson. See page one.

October 14, Noon.

Rocky River State of the Schools – Michael Shoaf, superintendent. With a tradition of academic quality and an “Excellent with Distinction” rating on the latest State Report Card, Rocky River Schools are consistently ranked in the Top Ten List by Cleveland Magazine. In 2012, the high school received the national Blue Ribbon Schools award. Nearly 90 percent of River graduates continue on to colleges or universities.

October 21, Noon.

Rotary International Foundation – Jim Lechko.

October 28, Noon.

Cleveland Cavs Update – Fred McLeod. McLeod joined FSN Ohio in 2007 as the play-by-play voice of the Cleveland Cavaliers. Prior to joining FSN Ohio, the Strongsville native served 22 consecutive seasons as the Pistons cable TV play-by-play voice, nine with FSN Detroit, the longest tenure of a TV-only announcer with the same NBA team. He began his work on Pistons games in 1984 with PASS Sports.

November 4, Noon.

What Are the Real Threats of India? – Steve Hotchkiss. Assistant professor of international business at Notre Dame College, Professor Hotchkiss coordinates the international business program and international study and internship programs. This is a continuation of the discussion Professor Hotchkiss had with our club on April 8 when he spoke about China.

November 11, Noon.

Malley’s – Adele Malley. In 1935, Mike Malley borrowed \$500, rented and fixed up a small store and living quarters at Lewis Drive and Madison Avenue in Lakewood, bought \$250 in supplies and materials and went into the chocolate and ice cream business. Today, Malley’s has 21 stores, an expansive manufacturing facility on Brookpark Road, and a robust fundraising business.

November 18, Noon.

The Etta Project – PDG Steve Zabor. Etta Turner died in Bolivia on November 25, 2002, at the age of 16. During her travel as a Rotary International exchange student, Etta and six Bolivians were killed when their bus

driver fell asleep and drove off a cliff. Named in her memory, Etta Project partners with Bolivian communities, helping to implement sustainable solutions to the challenges of poverty, and supporting projects that provide clean water, nutritious food, education and income generation. Our club was one of 13 in the district that supported the Etta Project last year.

November 25, Noon.

Thanksgiving Message – Jon Fancher. A “Preacher’s Kid” who spent his high school years in Indonesia where his parents were missionaries, Jon has been pastor at Rocky River Presbyterian Church since 1991. The president of the Rocky River Board of Education, he enjoys the arts, playing sports, and acting and singing in local community theater groups. He joined our club in March 1991.

December 2, Noon.

Exchange Student Presentation – Roberta Baccanti.

December 9, Noon.

No meeting due to the Christmas Party Social. See story on page two.

December 16, Noon.

Speaker to be announced.

December 23 and 30, Noon.

No meetings.

Events

Lakewood Charitable Assistance Corporation Food Drive. Lakewood Masonic Temple on the corner of Detroit and Andrews in Lakewood. Join club members and other community organizations by volunteering your time at one or both of these delivery events.

Volunteers move, pack and distribute food items and household supplies for needy residents. Join in as little or as much as you would like...better yet, bring a friend or neighbor! Since its inception LCAC has helped provide over 5,000 Lakewood families with holiday food bags.

Thanksgiving Food Drive

Friday, November 22, 2013

9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Sort and count non perishable food items.
6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Bag food items.

Saturday, November 23, 2013

9:00 a.m.-Noon. Bag perishable food, then deliver in the community.

Christmas Food Drive

Friday, December 20, 2013

9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Sort and count non perishable food items.
6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Bag food items.

Saturday, December 21, 2013

9:00 a.m.-Noon. Bag perishable food, then deliver in the community.

Grants process underway

Each year, the Rotary Club of Lakewood and Rocky River provides grants to support 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations that serve our two communities. President Elect Todd Lessig will be chairing the Grants Committee this year.

Non-profits are invited to submit applications for grants that historically have ranged from \$500 to \$2,500.

Committee members are: Curt Brosky, Jim Harris, Lynn Donaldson, Bill Huffman, Dave Zupan, Jon Clark and Jean Rounds. See President Elect Todd if you would like to serve on the committee.

Each year, the club attempts to refine its selection process to focus on the changing needs of our communities. Again this year, the club is emphasizing activities in the areas of job training, youth leadership, and health ministries.

Also as last year, the grants process will include:

- **The number of grants will be reduced.** The objective is to provide fewer but larger grants to organizations that have a positive impact on those they serve. This means some organizations that have received funding in the past may not receive a grant this year.
- **Seed-money is available for new programs and services.** The club is attempting to identify at least two new programs that will be eligible for one-time grants up to \$5,000. Organizations that believe their request falls within this area are asked to describe how the grant will have a significant positive impact on those they serve. Organizations can apply for a special seed-money grant in addition to a regular grant.
- **Hands-on opportunities will receive special consideration.** Requests will receive special consideration if the organization can identify realistic opportunities for Rotarians to volunteer at a project within the organization.
- **Successful applicants are requested to speak to our members at one of our meetings about their organization and the how Rotary has helped their group accomplish its mission.**

Letters will be mailed to identified organizations in early October. Organizations will be asked to respond, in writing, describing the nature of their request, the impact it has, and how they believe their program provides a new approach to their area of service. Any other justifying information is welcome and organizations are encouraged to address the criteria listed above.

Foundation training seminars set

Jim Lechko, Rotary District 6630 foundation chair, has announced two Rotary Foundation Training seminars are scheduled this month – October 10, 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. at the Brunswick Library, and October 17 from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. at the Akron Rotary Camp.

Attendance at these events is required for each club's Foundations Liaisons but all Rotarians are welcome.

Sunrise Club shoe box project part of large, multi-state effort

Over 30 members of the Sunrise Club met at St. Luke's Church Hall on August 7 to pack 50 shoe boxes as part of the annual delivery of clothing, toys, and school supplies to the Children of the Dump in Chinandega, Nicaragua.

Twenty five members also brought a box full of items for a specific student that they donated and packed that night.

Project Chair Bill Gaydos arranged for delivery to PDG Jack Young of 75 boxes containing 350 shoeboxes, 350 Spanish-English dictionaries, and approximately 12 boxes of supplies for school teachers to be shipped to Nicaragua.

Three Rotarians helped PDG Young take the boxes to the Troy Michigan Rotary Club. The shoeboxes from our district were combined with boxes from districts in Michigan, loaded onto a WalMart truck, and sent to districts in Iowa where their collections were combined with those from Ohio and Michigan to be sent to Texas.

The shipment was loaded on a freighter bound for Honduras where Rotarians and others will come across the border from Nicaragua to take the cartons to Chinandega.

PDG Young is planning on going to Chinandega on December 3 to help deliver the boxes. In order to receive a shoebox, the child must be going to school.

The long-term goal of the project is that through this incentive Children of the Dump and their families will be able to get work and break the cycle of poverty.

Foundation event speaker is polio survivor

Mark your calendars for Saturday, November 9, 6 p.m. District 6630 will hold its annual Grand Foundation Event at the DoubleTree by Hilton Cleveland East, 3663 Park East Dr., Beachwood.

The event will celebrate the strength of District 6630 through the strong support of many long-term members.

Rotarian and polio survivor Geoff Goll will be our main speaker. A member of the Salem (Ohio) club, he is a past district governor of District 6650 (Canton).

This past spring, Goll was asked recently to serve as the Zone 29 Polio Coordinator for Rotary International, with his area stretching from Iowa to New York, covering 34 Rotary districts and more than 3,000 clubs.

For more information about the event, see Jim Lechko or visit the District 6630 website.

Since 1988, Rotary has raised hundreds of millions of dollars to try to get the vaccine where it's needed. While the number of polio cases continues to decline, it's still prevalent in some areas, such as Afghanistan, Pakistan and Nigeria.

A brand new case was reported recently in Somalia, the first since 2007.

Help needed with produce distribution

Our club will once again assist Trinity Lutheran Community Outreach (TLCO) with its produce distribution on November 16 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

Between 15 and 20 volunteers are needed. Rotarians are encouraged to bring family members to help.

Produce distributions are held on the third Saturday of each month in conjunction with TLCO's third Saturday Hot Meal. Both events are at Trinity Lutheran Church, 16400 Detroit Rd., Lakewood.

Foundation authorizes payment for science lab project for Nepal school

The Rotary Foundation (TRF) has authorized payment of US\$12,552.00 to fund the Rotary Club of Lakewood and Rocky River's project to outfit Shree Chandeswory Higher Secondary School in Nepal with an updated science lab.

The school is only high school in Nala Village in Nepal's Kavrepalanchowk District.

Rotarian Kanchan Adhikary, who is from Nepal, proposed the project to the club.

The project will provide over \$12,600 for lab materials, physics, biology and chemistry cupboards and storage.

The club contributed \$3,522 to the project. Rotary District 6630 matched the club's contribution. The Rotary Foundation provided the remainder of the funding.

The Rotary Club of Kantipur is host club for the project.

Because of the limited financial support that it receives from the government, the school has increasing difficulty retaining science students. Once the project is begun, it will take six months to complete. It is estimated that over 200 students will benefit from the improved facility and equipment.

As the entire structure of the new school building was built with the help and contributions of the local villagers, the entire community is invested and interested in the benefits the school offers.

The school, established in 1948 as a lower primary school, became a secondary school in 1978, and a higher secondary school in 2008. Managed by the local community, over 500 boys and girls attend the school in classes from nursery to grade 12.

Expected net from outing is over \$5,500

The Rotary Club of Lakewood and Rocky River is expected to net over \$5,500 from its only fundraiser of the year, the August 12 joint golf outing with the Sunrise Club and the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce.

The amount is largely due to donations by Dave Zupan and Visium Resources. Dave donated one week at his condo in Florida and allowed two people to bid on it, raising over \$1,900 alone.

Several contests were won by Rotarians. Bill Baker won the closest to the pin on hole 17. Also taking home prizes were Chris Arnold's team who won two skins and Chuck Gustafson's team who won one skin.

Coming in first place with an overall score of 57 was the team of Chris Shaughnessy, Luke Beeler, Bo Blackburn, and Reif Blackburn who represented the Chamber of Commerce.

Members celebrate birthdays

Members with birthdays in October are: 16 – Mark Bacon, 27 – Lynn Donaldson, and Jean Rounds.

Celebrating birthdays in September were: 5 – Dave Baker, 9 – Wib Leopold, 23 – Jim Lechko, and 29 – Brian King. A birthday donation to the club foundation or Rotary International entitles the donor to a free lunch.

Years of service saluted

Rotarians with membership anniversaries in October are: Wib Leopold (62 years), Jim Lechko (12), and Jeff Grusenmeyer (nine). In September were: Jim Harris (45 years) and Doug Blackburn (33).

We salute you all for your service to Rotary and our club!

Online option available to pay dues

Club members can now **pay dues online** by credit card, or by using their PayPal account. The "Pay Your Dues Online" link is on our web site, www.lakewoodrockyriverrotary.org, in the Site Pages section. Dues are \$260 for a year or \$155 for a half year.

Our club's mailing address is:

P.O. Box 770916, Lakewood, OH 44107

Our web site is:

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