



What Have We Accomplished in One Year?

So very much.....



Governor Blair made the last of the "official visits" recently as he traveled to Schuylerville and made a presentation to the members. Candie Schillinger is serving as the club's president during this time of recruitment and organization.

Five Rotarians (Cindy Schmehl, Maryann Bennice, Melissa Ward, Jim Fitzgerald of Twin Bridges Rotary and Anne Cargile, District Governor Nominee, of Shenendehowa Rotary) debarked on a trip of a lifetime on April 5, 2004 to work at the Chikandakubi School and Village in Zimbabwe, Africa. After one full year of planning and organizing with twin club Victoria Falls Rotary, the project is off to an amazing start. Plans continue to make **MISSION CHIKANDAKUBI** a long range project that will help over 300 students and teachers in the primary school as well as many other parents and relatives living in the village.

The school has no electricity, no running water and buildings there are in dire need of roofing, windows, floor repairs, and other improvements. Yearly storms take its toll on these buildings. There is a shortage of classroom space, housing for teachers, and proper restroom facilities. Curriculum books are dated back to 1968. The few desks and benches available are in need of complete repair. There are no school supplies.

While in Zimbabwe, the Rotarians truly made an impact on the lives of the people of Chikandakubi. They were welcomed each day with open arms and with words of kindness and appreciation, and with children's songs and prayer. Parents, village elders, school administrators and teachers were present each day to assist with our mission, to teach us their ways of daily life and to show us how we can help in the future.

The immediate impact came from the luggage of the Rotarians. They carried with them 119 scholastic reading books, 100 pair of eye glasses, an eye testing chart, a keyboard with extra batteries, sheet music, 100 assorted sports balls, bats, ball pumps, Frisbees, 850 pencils, 600 pens, and cases, 300 toothbrushes, 500 tubes of toothpaste, rubber gloves, medicines, first aid kit, 45 lbs. of candy, 100 red foam clown noses, face paint, dozens of rulers, crayons, markers, bookmarks, stickers, pencil sharpeners, staplers, paper, poster board, small toys, flash cards, play dough, erasers, beads, legos, chalk, maps of the US and the world, notebooks, team sport shirts, and t-shirts. In fact, the extreme poverty of these people was so moving to the group that on the last day they gave away their own *personal* clothing, wristwatches, and shoes. They also contributed *personal* money to purchase juice, biscuits, three goats, rice and vegetables for a final day celebration event which fed 300 people.

Work on-site during their visit included sanding wood for desks and benches, arranging for the delivery of 82 brand new desks and benches, sweeping damaged cement floors, carrying water, mixing cement, and patching floors. Rotarians also arranged for the building of a roof on a much needed school room—once again through personal funding. The group taught American baseball, did eye testing for referral to the eye clinic and taught American songs and music. Rotarians distributed over 100 letters from US school children and teachers and organized the response to these letters from



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Half Time

It is late in the second quarter and near half-time as the Holiday Season is upon us bringing with it a lot of hustle and bustle. It is a nice time of year where everyone, even though stressed out at times, is happy and it becomes contagious. It is the kind of thing that we all wish we could capture and keep it going all year long. However, we know that we can't and that there are many people all over the world that don't enjoy this feeling and they need our help. They need us to keep doing the things that Rotarians do – sponsor programs and find ways to provide for literacy, health, hunger, and water services and projects that save and change lives. If we keep doing this, then we are improving and making changes for a better life for millions of people. As our Foundation Keynote speaker, Jeff Cadorette, said, Rotary is the hope of the world for peace and understanding in our second century. WE CAN, WE MUST, AND WE WILL! So as we celebrate our successes this year, we should plan to continue working just as hard as we have in the past – maybe even harder.

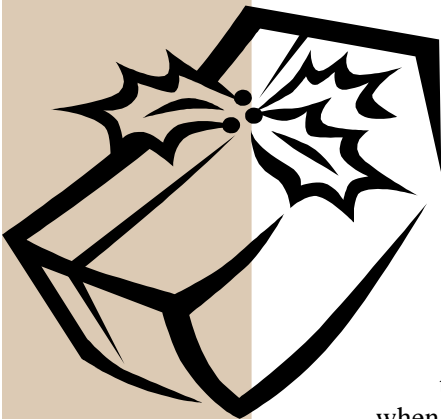
Speaking of the Foundation Dinner we had a good event thanks to the planning committee chaired by Ellie Spencer (MIDDLEBURGH), and members C. Blair Hartman (DG) (COBLESKILL), Samuel J. Hall (DGE) (FORT ANNE), Anne Cargile (DGN) (SHENENDEHOWA), Deborah Graves (WILTON), Harriet Noble (CHAMPLAIN CANAL), Richard Furman (AMSTERDAM), Richard Hodge (LATHAM), William Nathan (ALBANY), Dee Pangburn (GLENVILLE), Michael Papolizio (COLONIE-GUILDERLAND), Olive P. Scott (PDG) (COBLESKILL), James A. Spencer (PDG) (MIDDLEBURGH), Carolea Wilkens (MIDDLEBURGH), Fred Carvin, (PDG) (GLENS FALLS), Judy Carvin, (GLENS FALLS), Steve Shifley (ALBANY), and Phil Tiberio (ROTTERDAM SUNRISE)

After numerous meetings to work on the details and with good help and support from the Albany Marriott and Steven Schifely, it was a very enjoyable evening. More than 30 clubs were represented, with twenty-two presidents in the parade of presidents, and nearly 230 in attendance. The program celebrated Rotary and its first hundred years of success as well as we recognized Paul Harris fellows and sustaining members and Major Donors and all the good works of The Foundation. We will give you a final report on the funds raised in a future issue after we have all the bills paid and all the other details taken care of.

As we go through the Holiday Season, we need to remember all the people in our community that need our help. As we enjoy our parties and good times, let's all pause from time to time and give thanks for what we have. As I have said many times, we here in the USA don't always realize or appreciate what we do have when compared to many other parts of the world – we enjoy good shelter, enough food, and many other amenities that make our lives so comfortable. We need to share our good fortunes with others. That is what Rotary is all about. And then we need (we must) to share our beliefs with our friends and circle of acquaintances and recruit them to join us in Rotary so that we will be able to grow stronger and survive and create many more successes in the next hundred years. If we don't, who will??

Looking ahead to the second half of the year we see many activities including the Mid Year Assembly on January 29 (changed from Jan. 22), the Centennial Ball (dinner/dance) on Feb. 25 to celebrate Rotary's first 100 years, the visit of the traveling Rotary bell at the Albany Club on March 10, PETS in March, the District Assembly in April as our next leadership team prepares to take the reins, the District Conference in May and of course the international convention in Chicago in June. It will be a busy and noteworthy second half!!

So let's celebrate the New Year with resolutions that we will do more and work harder for peace and understanding among the peoples of the world. Give thanks along the way and share what we have in order that others may enjoy the good things in life. CELEBRATE ROTARY. Happy New Year from District Governor Blair!!



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Apple Pie Fest

BHBL Rotary Club's Annual Election Day Apple Pie Fest Draws Friends and Families for Fun and Support of Worthy Causes



Veteran Burnt Hills Ballston Lake Club Rotarian Floyd Baker getting ready to serve-up another piece of Apple Pie at the Nov 2 BHBL Rotary Club Apple Pie Fest.

There is nothing more American than families and friends getting together after voting on Election Day to chat and linger over some Apple Pie and Ice Cream and listen to some great music. On this November 2nd, and for the past 36 Election Days, the Burnt Hills Ballston Lake Rotary Club has organized and hosted an "Apple Pie Fest." It's an anticipated event that young and "the mature" have grown up with, and consider an annual community tradition. Held at the Burnt Hills High School, people come from Burnt Hills, Ballston, Ballston Lake and Charlton, New York to attend an evening of enjoyment, and to help worthy causes. Proceeds support Rotary's mission of changing and saving lives.

Veteran Rotarian Bill Sewell remembers that the Festival got its inspiration from a long ago ice cream fund-raiser organized by a high school principal and a teaching assistant. The event was so successful that Rotarians decided that since they lived in apple country they should expand the event to include apple pies. With Election Day falling at the peak of apple season, the event took off from there. Now, a lot of the local apple crop is going into apple pies consumed Election Day evening. Rotarians, or their spouses bake many of the juicy beauties. As well as pie, folks are treated to choices of ice cream, cappuccino, coffee, cider, soda, and cheese.

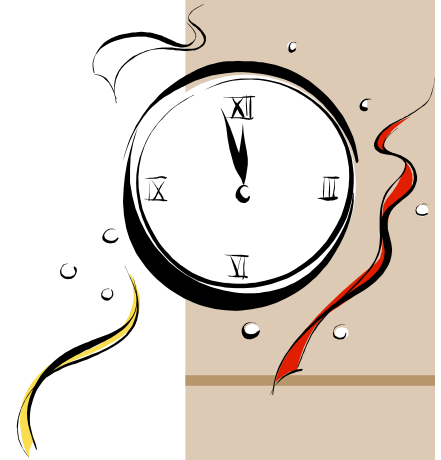
Local merchants annually support this event by donating merchandize that is given away all night as door prizes. Chuck Mcloughlin "MC'd" the Fest, and has for over 16 years. His pay — an Apple Pie, naturally.

Doc Spring's Rehabilitated Dixieland Band provided musical entertainment. The group has now entertained at the festival for 28 years. Doc and his band members are orthopedic doctors and surgeons. Keeping with the spirit of the event, the band's compensation — need you ask — Apple Pies.

Mitch Frasier, a BHBL Club Rotarian and an accomplished professional musician, took requests and donations this year to support local needy families during the holidays.

This years Fest Co-Chairs were Lynn Rafalik and Ron Serapillio. Due to their efforts, and many others, we probably experienced the best attendance ever. Every member of the club pitches in at the event and everyone has fun.

Proceeds support club initiatives including local scholarships, educational and human service organizations and help for the needy. Profits are also used for club support of international programs such as Gift of Life, Group Study Exchange, scholarships and the District's Pure Water Project. Come join us next year for some great Apple Pie, Ice Cream and Rotary fellowship.



For Sale

District 7190 History

To get a copy send your name and address to:

Fred Carvin
612 Luzerne Rd.
Queensbury NY 12804

Enclose a check or money order for \$11 (includes \$1 for postage). Make payable to Rotary Foundation.





ACCOMPLISHMENT (continued from page 1)

the African school children and teachers—*the beginning of an extensive international pen pal program!* Younger students were given *their first crayons ever* and drew pictures for distribution in the US to the over 40 individuals and organizations that have assisted in this mission project thus far. Additional pictures will be sent to others wishing to become involved in the hope that each child at Chikandakubi will have a foster parent here in the USA. It is our hope that each child will receive a shirt, shoes, proper eating utensils, personal hygiene products and other necessities from their foster parent on a continuing basis. We call this program the International Children's Sponsorship Program.

Moving forward, we are working on the shipping of over 5,000 story books, soap, shoes, clothing, drinking bottles, and additional school supplies (many of which have already been collected by

Rotarians) with the help of over 200 churches, libraries, organizations and individuals in the Capital District. We hope to have these items shipped out in December. Additional items in the shipment include, fencing for the school's first garden, 55 gallon drums to collect rain water for irrigation, a post hole digger to install the garden fencing, dozens of boxes

addressed to individual children through the international children's sponsorship program, blankets, towels, buckets and washcloths. This shipment contains over 450 boxes and over 20,000 lbs. of necessary goods for the children of Chikandakubi.

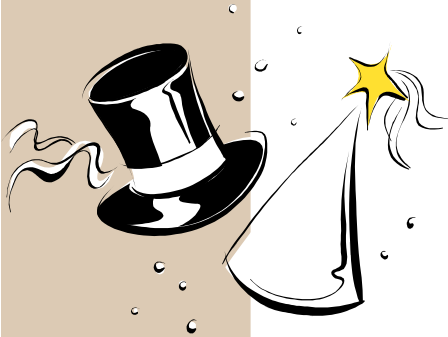
Monies for this mission project were obtained through much hard work and consisted of the following: A matching grant and individual grant provided by Rotary International, fundraising events such as the Fall Frolic, a pancake breakfast, a corned beef dinner, a shareholders program and specialty t-shirt sales. Without the generous support of our community these events would never have been possible.

Further, Rotarians spent time outside the mission project to visit the local hospital, clinic, and pharmacy. They distributed small toys, books and treats to the Failure to Thrive Children at the hospital and put a smile on the faces of the mothers who stay with their children hour after hour, day after day. They toured the "streets of Zimbabwe" where in 2003, 600 AIDS orphans lived and, in 2004, 1,000 AIDS orphans live. This area

is also called the compound—the area where the poorest of the poor live. Houses are made of wood or metal if they are lucky, otherwise, houses are made of cardboard and black garbage bags.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP?

Collect shoes, school supplies, batteries, clothing, water bottles, plastic water pails, tin plates, cups, sturdy silverware. Participate in our International Sponsorship Program or our USA/AFRICA Teacher Exchange Program. Create a fund-raiser to assist with the cost of larger projects such as repaired floors, roofing, blackboards, a new well, or other physical improvements to the school. Attend one of our fund-raisers and support this very worthy cause!



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Save the Date

District 7190 Centennial Ball

Celebrate 100 years of Rotary

February 25, 2005

The Glen Sanders Mansion

Scotia, NY

**Ten rooms on hold in the Inn;
call to reserve!**

**Fun, Dancing, Entertainment with the
full musical group!
HARMONY**

**Invitations and details
will follow!**

**For information now contact
DG Blair Hartman or
Scotia Rotarians Anne Sterman or
Nelson Austin**

SAVE THE DATE!

SPREAD THE WORD!

Observations of Three New Rotarians Attending Rotary Leadership Institute

The Turning Point at Olde Saratoga Rotary Club was graciously given three scholarships to attend the Rotary International Leadership Institute seminar held at Skidmore College this past November 6th. Being a new club and having new members to Rotary, we all found that this seminar was very well organized, the speakers were infectiously enthusiastic and it was exciting to hear about the endless possibilities that Rotary has to offer.

Our day started out with a delightful breakfast followed by a scripted club meeting which we later found out was a demonstration on how NOT to handle meetings, committees, guests and donations. During their light hearted presentation, we often talked amongst ourselves sighting flaws and mistakes that we knew were not following the Four Way Test - building goodwill & better friendships.

We then moved to our respective classrooms to learn about the International, Zone & District hierarchy of Rotary. It was stressed more than once that the accomplishments are at the club level and unlike other organizations, the upper levels exist to coordinate efforts and to act as support for each & every club. This was clearly demonstrated by a district individual who found scholarships for our three new club members who would not have been able to attend and who don't really know what Rotary is all about yet. Through this small but generous act, these members now have a better understanding of the structure of Rotary and know that there are many levels of assistance.

We also learned about the Rotary Foundation and how important it is to support this branch of Rotary. The Foundation has many humanitarian & educational/cultural programs that we, at club level, can participate in. From obtaining grants to help support international projects to a group study exchange program which provides travel grants for a cultural & vocational exchange opportunity.

Half way through our day, we were provided with an enjoyable luncheon where we had the opportunity of interacting with other club members and discussing their group activities. We were pleasantly surprised with a graduation ceremony and the sizeable amount of graduates who had completed the Leadership Institute's three-part program.



Attendees of the third part of the three-part course received pins from the Rotary Leadership Institute acknowledging their completion of the courses. Participation in the leadership series will provide Rotarians with knowledge to take to their clubs and in turn to make their clubs more effective. Congratulations to the Rotarians who completed Course III on November 6 at Skidmore College.

The second half of our day was devoted to learning how to develop and retain members and how to prepare for a service project. Since we are a new club longing for new members, these subjects were certainly beneficial. We found out that education, participation, and attendance are all key ingredients, so the members can have meaningful service opportunities and fellowship activities to keep them motivated and involved with their club.

All in all it was a long day and well worth the time that we spent learning more about Rotary, sharpening our leadership skills, and meeting other club members who have had the same difficulties as us. Rotary is an organization that we can all be proud of and be proud, to be a part of. We highly recommend the Leadership Institute to any Rotarian as everyone there walked away with a new outlook and appreciation of Rotary.

Submitted by the Turning Point at Olde Saratoga Rotary Club, Schuylerville, New York
Candie Schillinger, President; Patti Jolie, Treasurer; Kathy Fuller, Member

***Every Rotarian,
Every Year***



Have You Started Your Planning For Next Year?

Governor Blair's year isn't half over yet and we're already talking about planning for next year. If you are the president-elect then now IS the time to start planning. Yes, this year still has a lot of celebrating Rotary left in it. And, it's in that celebrating that we realize we need to plan for next year. Understand that when you have a good plan it is easy to relax and enjoy your year as club president.

We're here to help you with that plan. The training team for your year as club president is assembled and ready to meet your needs. Mark your calendars now for the President-Elect Training Seminar retreat. Your PETS retreat will happen from **March 10-12, 2005** at Camp Chingachgook on Kattskill Bay. You'll be receiving more information on this training filled retreat soon.

While PETS is specifically designed to train the president-elects we haven't forgotten all the rest of you great Rotarians. On **April 1, 2005** at Hudson Valley Community College we will have our annual District Assembly. You may have noticed that April 1 is a Friday. We know how precious the weekends are for everyone so we thought we'd try a weekday, training program. You will be able to choose whether you want to attend in the morning (8am-1pm), in the afternoon (12pm-5pm), or all day (8am-5pm). We'll run the same sessions in the morning and afternoon with everyone eating lunch together.

The District Assembly is a great opportunity to learn more about Rotary, find an area you really want to work in, have fun, and get more excited about our organization. Look for more information and registration forms after the holidays.

Dates to remember:
March 10-12, 2005 – PETS at Camp Chingachgook

- **President-elects**
- **Assistant Governors**
- **District Committee Chairs**

April 1, 2005 – District Assembly at Hudson Valley Community College

- **All Rotarians**

Glenville History Center Is Centennial Project

Recently the Glenville Rotary Club participated in the dedication of the Glenville History Center. Rotarians in the club chose to name this project their centennial project and as such have placed the Rotary emblem on the building. After the town of Glenville had purchased the property for the center, it realized that it would take a lot of work to establish the center. Rooms needed painting, a new heating system would be required, and the house that would become the history center needed to be brought up to ADA requirements.

The town sought volunteers for work and financial support. The Rotary Club responded to this call and decided to make this its centennial project. Members began to paint, make the necessary handicapped-accessible improvements, installed carpeting, and other work such as making all the exterior doors open outward. Rotary volunteers showed up weekly to work inside and outside with about 500 hours of work by club members and approximately \$2500 of club dollars to support the improvements. In addition approximately \$5000 of donations from local merchants were given in supplies and labor.

The center contains historical documents dating back to 1890 and a copy of the 1855 town census. There are decades of school yearbooks and lists of Civil War volunteers. Old scrapbooks, military records and cemetery records are also on file in the center. There are old maps, deeds, and material on town politics in the collection. The center is also accepting donations from the townspeople to add to the collection. So now the town has a place to store such records and a place where the citizens can access them.

The project began 1½ years ago when former Rotary Club president James Golden began working on his own on the doorways and the handicapped access ramp. He brought the idea to help fix up the building to the Rotary Club which was seeking a project for the centennial celebration of Rotary. At the dedication ceremony current president, Sally Sorenson, acknowledged that all Rotary clubs are supporting centennial projects in their communities. So with many of the clubs' 70 members helping out, donations of materials and supplies, the History Center has become a reality for Glenville. Congratulations to the Rotary Club of Glenville.



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