

the Rotary Smile

Allentown, Pennsylvania

www.AllentownRotary.org

June, 2009



20 Years Since Women Admitted to Allentown Rotary

This year marks the 20th anniversary of Women in Rotary. Curiously this year also marks the 20th anniversary that Wendy Body has been in the Rotary Club of Allentown!

Her contributions to our club and our community are many. As this issue is in production, she again has been honored, along with Greg Butz, with the Morning Call Silver Bowl Award for outstanding leadership for the LV United Way.

Please join me in wishing Wendy a Happy 20th Rotary Anniversary!

And congratulations and many thanks to ALL the women in the Allentown Rotary Club for your many contributions to our organization and community over the last 20 years. We are a much better club for your membership!



State of the County? Better than you might think

March 20 – In such questionable economic times, it might seem a bit odd to describe Don Cunningham’s State of the County Address as “inspirational” but in many ways that’s exactly what it was.

The Lehigh County Executive began by openly acknowledging that right now things aren’t great and then listing a bevy of factors to support that unfortunate point. An unemployment rate higher than any the county has seen in the past 15 years. The closing of DHL’s domestic ground operations. Mack Trucks’ well publicized decision to shut down office operations in Allentown. The struggles of the Lehigh Valley Zoo.

But, in spite of all that, Cunningham managed to paint a picture of a Lehigh County future that’s far from bleak, pointing out an extensive list of past achievements that have put the county on solid ground now and position it to ride out the current economic storm.



“The unprecedented growth of the past five to eight years in the Lehigh Valley is over,” he said. “We’re on a new course, with new challenges, but the state of our county is sound because of what we did when our economy was going strong. We moved aggressively to get things done, we built financial surpluses and today we reap the benefits of prudent planning and fast action. As the farmers say, we made hay while the sun was shining.”

Among the recent accomplishments Cunningham highlighted – all done without a tax increase – were the construction of Coca-Cola Park, preservation of a record amount of farmland, the hiring of ten new police officers throughout the county and the opening of a new resource center for families with autistic children.

Regionalization and its advantages was another topic of Cunningham’s talk. He used the water pact between Allentown and the Lehigh County Authority as one of many examples of his administration’s commitment to and success in regionalization efforts.



Lehigh County Government Center.

(Continued on page five.)

The Rotary Club of Allentown

• in our 95th year of service •

610-794-4101

www.AllentownRotary.org

~ A Member of Rotary International ~

Club No. 121, 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	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
Mark E. Emswiler	Scholarship	610-967-2141
Ibolya Balog	Paul Harris/ Iobst awards	610-434-3995
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
Barbara Bigelow	610-437-0795
Albert Bova	610-395-5910
Larry Campbell	610-391-9805
Wallace Eldridge	610-366-0843
Mark Emswiler	610-967-2141
Suzanne Goodell	610-799-1204
Carl Henzleman	610-758-5520
Janet Roth	610-434-9645
Pete Smith	610-395-7700
Richard Snyder	610-434-3970
John Toner	610-433-8903 x 206

From the President



Pete Smith

Dear Fellow Rotarians, this Rotary year and my term conclude shortly. My objective was to make the year fun. The Rotary Club of Allentown remained undeterred in its continuing efforts to quietly deliver service on a multitude of fronts to our community directly, indirectly, individually and

*“It has been
my great privilege
to serve as president
of what may very well be
the finest Rotary Club
in the world!”*

collectively, despite the tumult that seemed to surround us worldwide.

Almost weekly, one or more of our members have been recognized publicly by other organizations for their individual efforts to better our world. As a club, we have met and in many cases, exceeded Rotary International objectives as outlined for the year. Accordingly, our club

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Off-site Adventure: At the Allentown Art Museum

From the President

(Continued from page two.)

has been awarded the Rotary International Pres. D. K. Lee Presidential Citation for 2008-2009. This distinction was earned by all of you, the members of Allentown Rotary who selflessly give of your time, talent and resources to enhance the quality of life for all of humanity.

Bob Stevens has wonderfully “chronicled” our club’s activities in the Smile. Former issues of the Smile can be found on the club website that Jonathan Epstein created for us: www.allentownrotary.org

A review of our site and the former Smile issues “chronicle” the level of productive activity this club consistently generates.

Our secretary, Don Delorenzo and our treasurer, Tom Christman continued to provide our club with first class administrative infrastructure assuring club function, continuity and solvency. Barbara Bigelow and our Foundation board have steadily guided our Allentown Rotary Foundation through tough times. Our club committee chairs, Theresa Podguski, Mark Emswiler, Rick Daugherty, Christine Bauder, Larry Campbell, Judy Barberich, Cindi Lambert, Bill Hacker and Platte Moring who

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Executive Director Greg Parry (left) joins Theresa Podguski, Nan Yarrish, Barbara Bigelow, Amy Meleck, Peter Pettit and Alma Perlis at the Monet to Matisse exhibit after his presentation at the Art Museum.

May 1 – For those of you who were not with us, you missed a special treat. Greg Parry, the relatively new museum director, led us through the history of the facility, then enticed us with a review of the current exhibitions and also what’s on the horizon.

This year marks the 75th anniversary of the Art Museum, which began as an art gallery in the old Baum School of Art (which, if memory serves, was a converted home on Walnut Street). Eventually, the gallery moved to the Allentown Municipal Rose Garden in 1936 where it remained until 1956.

The current facility became available in 1959 when the First Presbyterian Church vacated for its new sanctuary on Tilghman street.

During this time the works of art in the museum’s collection have grown from 100 to

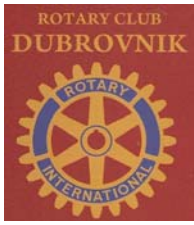
currently over 13,000.

Examples of the collection include paintings from the Italian Renaissance, the Dutch Republic and a textile collection of more than 6,000. Among the prints and drawings are works by Rembrandt, Monet, Cezanne, Renoir and Matisse. (Of note: Cezanne did not have his first one-person show until the age of 56.)

Greg then told us of the museum’s coming events, including exhibitions entitled “Water as Japanese Art” and “Fashion and Film.” As a vital community resource, the museum served over 13,000 area school children during 2008, plus all fourth grade students that are served all year long.

Once again off-site programs like this point to the exceptional resources we have right here in the Valley. Visit as often as you can!

~ Jim Harper



Group Study Exchange Team Visits Allentown

May 1 – Rick Daugherty, chair of our International

Committee, introduced Ivo Badelj, Team Leader from Rotary District 1910, representing four countries in Central and Southern Europe (Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, and Slovenia). Rick recognized and thanked Rotary members for hosting events, tours and meetings for our Rotary Exchange guests.

Following introductions, each guest spoke briefly and generally about a country or region while showing photographs, maps and documents on a PowerPoint® presentation.

Ana Muldini introduced Austria. The primary language is German, the government is a parliamentary democracy and it is one of the few countries that includes the concept of everlasting neutrality in its constitution. The capital of Austria is Vienna on the Danube River. Due to its location in the Alps, Austria is a mountainous country and landlocked in Central Europe. Austria has been a member of the United Nations since 1955 and joined the European Union in 1995. Austrian's have made a large contribution to various

forms of art, most notably among them in music are Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Joseph Haydn, Franz Schubert, Johann Strauss, and Gustav Mahler.

Belma Gijo presented the “heart shaped country” of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Bordered by Croatia, Serbia and Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina is situated on the Balkan Peninsula in Southeastern

Europe. Formerly one of the six federal units constituting the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, Bosnia and Herzegovina gained its independence during the

Yugoslav wars of the 1990s. Rotarians viewed gorgeous photos of nature, cuisine influenced by western and eastern ethnicities, and cultural events such as the Sarajevo Film Festival established during the war in 1994.

Srdan Vrankovic spoke about Croatia, the country of 1,000 islands. Famous for its many national parks, Croatia is a Central European country at the crossroads of the

Pannonian Plain, the Balkans, and the Mediterranean Sea. Croatia has been a democracy since the adoption of a constitution in 1990. Its capital and largest city is Zagreb. Croatia's southern and western borders are graced by the Adriatic Sea and its largest islands, Cres and Krk.

Nikolina Tomaskovic finished with Slovenia. She presented photos of the



Pete Smith (center) receives Rotary flag from (left to right) Ana, Nikolina, Ivo, Belma, and Srdan.

Slovenian Coat of Arms, stunning landscapes which included the Alps and the incomparable Slovenian Lipizzaner horses. Slovenia borders Italy, the Adriatic Sea, Croatia, Hungary, and Austria. Slovenia is a member of the European Union and the capital is Ljubljana. Around half of the country is covered by forests with remnants of primeval forests still to be found.

~ Barbara Stauffer

State of the County

(Continued from page one.)

“If there’s a theme of my administration,” he said, “it’s regionalization. As a county, we’re more effective when we combine resources and share ideas.”

A future effort in regionalization that will benefit all county residents, he said, will be the upcoming creation of a Lehigh Valley Health Bureau, which he described as the first bi-county regional health department in Pennsylvania being developed with Northampton County.

In closing Cunningham offered these words of encouragement: “We’ve gotten through hard times before,” he said. “I know. As mayor of Bethlehem, and the son of a steelworker, I remember the fear and uncertainty caused by the closing of Bethlehem Steel. It’s important to note we not only survived that crisis, but as a region emerged stronger and more vibrant after transitioning from a manufacturing economy to one of unlimited potential.

“We will do it again. The people of Lehigh County are resilient, hardworking and community-minded and the foundation of our economic prosperity has been dug deep. There is work to be done, and we will need to stay disciplined and focused -- we

have planned well and have many resources.

“We’ve created regional organizations and partnerships to grow our economy and promote the Lehigh Valley as a great place to live and work. We are in good shape to face the future, however uncertain that may seem to us today,” he said.

~ Jennifer Marangos

From the President

(Continued from page two.)

embraced their respective responsibilities with unbridled enthusiasm and their committees delivered on the same professional level.

It has been my great privilege to serve as your President for our 95th year. I had a lot of fun and certainly hope that you all did too! Thank You All, for All that You Do!!!

And, to my successor, Judy Barberich: Godspeed. You are the President of what may very well be the finest Rotary Club in the World! As you lead us though our 96th year, remember, have fun!!

~ Pete

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▣ Finally there is some room for this: Belated thanks to Frank Concannon who also was one of our Casino Night prize contributors.



June Birthdays

- 2 Bruce Frassinelli
- 3 Suzanne Goodell
- 4 Edwin Pawlowski
- 5 James Bova
- 5 Jonathan Epstein
- 9 Dan Gambet
- 10 Don Wieand, Jr.
- 12 Larry Campbell
- 15 Asa Hughes
- 15 Ben Walbert, III
- 28 Bill Gehman

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From the Editor

Did you know

the deadline for the next Smile is June 19? And did you know, not only is ‘deadline’ newspaper jargon from the 1920s, it also dates to the civil war era when it was used all too literally in prisons to demarcate a ‘do not cross’ line. Our editor is much more tolerant with his deadlines. Just get it in as soon as possible. Thank you.

~ Bob

~ ~ ~

▣ And we can’t forget this: Congratulations to Debra Lamb on her successful campaign for the Allentown School Board.



Join us for the Changeover Dinner

Let's give President Pete Smith a send off he'll NEVER forget! He waited 35 years to preside over our Rotary Club and did one heck of a job. He certainly deserves to ride off into the sunset with a bang! (After all, his coronation last year included a Burger King crown – I have pictures to prove it!) It behooves us to top THAT!

We also are celebrating the inauguration of Judy Barberich as the incoming President of the Allentown Rotary Club for 2009-2010. Judy will be presiding over the Allentown Rotary Club during its 95th year!



- WHEN:** Friday, June 26
WHERE: Brookside Country Club, 901 Willow Lane, Macungie. Valet service available
TIME: 6 p.m. Cocktails and Hors D'oeuvres (cash bar)
DINNER: 7 p.m. Buffet choices: Penne Pasta w/scallions and mushrooms in Alfredo sauce; Baked Flounder, Chicken w/sun-dried tomatoes and wild mushroom champagne cream sauce
DANCING: Music provided by DJ, Joe Cocco, Dancing until ?
COST: \$45 / per person payable to the Rotary Club of Allentown
RESERVE: by this Friday, June 19!
CONTACT: Christine Bauder (610-821-0311 or cbauder@episcopalhouse.com)

June Events

- 5th - Vocational Scholarships
- 12th - Allentown Rotary Website Update - Jonathan Epstein
- 19th - New at the Holiday Inn
- 26th - Changeover

Coming in July

- July 3 - No meeting today!
- July 17 - District Governor

the Rotary Smile

Allentown Rotary Club
5540 German Road
Emmaus, PA 18049



The Ninth Page



County Executive Don Cunningham chats with Judge Michele Varricchio following his state of the county talk in March.



Chris Bauder affixes museum badge to Frank Concannon's lapel so he won't get kicked out of museum during tour.



Allentown Art Museum Executive Director Parry jokes with questioner following his talk.



This was Nikolina Tomaskovic's second time in Allentown. She had been here several years ago, working at Dorney Park!



Ivo Badelj, Team Leader of the GSE group.



Don Cunningham and Warren Armstrong stop talking to allow SMILE photographer to take a photo.