

# District 7450 Rotaract

## Newsletter

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Hello!

Welcome to the first District Rotaract Newsletter. Each month we hope to put out a new newsletter to keep all of the clubs updated on events and activities that are not just happening within our district but that WE are hosting. We hope to increase not only our support of one another but also to learn how to work together as the Rotarians of tomorrow.



We hope you enjoy!

Yours in Rotaract

Cara & Anyah

## New Changemaker Awards

With the goal of making a positive impact on our communities through service, Rotary is pleased to offer the new Changemaker Awards. These will replace the former Presidential Citations. The Changemaker Awards challenges clubs to make a positive difference in their communities by completing five out of ten listed criteria, such as hosting meetings twice a month, and carrying out an

environmental service project. Once the form is fully filled out your sponsoring Rotary Club will review it over and sign off on it. All criteria and service activities must have been completed between the first of July 2011 and the first of March 2012. You can see a full list of criteria and fill out the application by following the link listed below. The completed application should be emailed to District Gover-

nor Bonnie Korengal by March 15th. Please be sure to CC Anna Dennery, and Barbara DeBaptiste.

[Application](#) for 2011-2012 Changemaker Awards

Photo from right to left.

Back row: Youssouf Camara , Clare Flecter, NEW MEMBER, Oksana Redko- President Temple Uni. Club, William Thorsson- VP Temple Uni. Club. Middle Row: Anna Dennery DRR, Namita Desai, Cara Cugley- PR Chair Philadelphia Club, Anyah White- Secretary Temple Uni. Club, Tierny Ulmer- President WCU Club, Shamil Manek- Community Service Chair Philadelphia Club, Front row: Emily Hsiao- President Philadelphia Club, Hannah Peters, Jacquelyn Riloff- Past DRR, NEW MEMBER, Sheradin Chilvers, Renata Maslowski- Rotarian and Co-Chair Rotaract District Committee, Barbara DeBaptiste- Rotarian Chair Rotaract District Committee



## Rotaract District Meeting & Social

On January 23rd, 2012 at The Hub in Center City, Sheradin Chilvers - Rotaract Club of Nottingham, U.K., gave a presentation detailing his trip around America through his Roosevelt Scholarship. This scholarship has allowed him to travel across America following his interest in entrepreneurship and

green initiatives. Sheradin is the Past President of his Rotaract Club. His club found that empowering members by putting them in task groups leads to a more enthusiastic organization, and that communication is a key factor in any sizable club.

The meeting also included Anna Dennery outlining major upcoming events including

RYLA and Rotaract Week. Our local Rotaract presidents were able to introduce themselves and their accompanying officers and all in attendance discussed future projects with each other. The first meeting of the year was a successful social and collaborative event!

- William Thorsson  
VP Temple University Rotaract

**Schedule of Events**

- } February 8th– Rotaract Philly Meeting at Mad Mex 7pm
- } February 11th– RYLA training 10:30am-12:30pm at Valley Forge
- } February 11th– Lincoln University Fashion Show
- } February 24-26th– RYLA at Valley Forge

## FEBRUARY 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 Philly Meeting	9	10	11 RYLA training Lin. show
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24 RYLA	25 RYLA
26 RYLA	27	28	29			

## Rotary Youth Leadership Awards

The District 7450 Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) is Rotary’s leadership training program for High School students. RYLA emphasizes leadership, citizenship, and personal growth. Interact students and other high school students who have demonstrated leadership qualities around the district have been selected to participate for the weekend of Feb. 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>. If any male Rotaract members are interested in helping to facilitate this program, contact Anna Dennery at [annadennery@gmail.com](mailto:annadennery@gmail.com) for more information or fill out the application [here](#). Note that a training session is scheduled for February 11<sup>th</sup> from 10:30-12:30pm Valley Forge for those planning on attending the conference.

## Lincoln University Fashion Show



The Lincoln University Rotaract Club in conjunction with the Lincoln University Caribbean Students

Association is putting on a fashion show with the theme of "It's a Small World" on February 11, 2012. Students from both organizations will showcase their best fashion designs at this

event. A portion of our proceeds will be donated to one of the missions that our Rotaract Club has committed to.

We are opening this event to the public. It would be an honor for our fellow Rotaract members to come out and support our efforts. The show will commence at 6pm and run until about 10pm.

The price for this event is \$5.00 for Rotaract members and \$7.00 for all other guests.

Please respond in a timely manner letting us know if you along with the members of your club will join us at this wonderful event.

## Rotaract Philadelphia Events

The Rotaract Club of Philadelphia has two main upcoming events for February. One is the Shape Up the Shop at Neighborhood Bike Works: Help "shape up the shop" at this educational organization that seeks to increase opportunities for urban youth

through bicycling. This event will take place on February 18<sup>th</sup> from 10-1pm. If interested, contact Shamil at [shamil.manek@gmail.com](mailto:shamil.manek@gmail.com). The second event is at the Ronald McDonald House: You'll help prepare and serve a special dinner to families whose children

are being treated in nearby hospitals. This event will take place on Sunday, Feb. 26<sup>th</sup> from 5-7:30pm. For more information, contact Shamil at [shamil.manek@gmail.com](mailto:shamil.manek@gmail.com).



RONALD McDONALD  
HOUSE CHARITIES  
TAMPA BAY

# Temple Rotaract Events



**Temple Rotaracter's at the "Best Pizza in West Chester" Event**

Temple University Rotaract will be co-hosting a forum on February 8th with the Temple University United Nations Association. This workshop will feature a sex trafficking film and discussion.

Our Valentines Day Bake sale will take place on February 13th in the Howard Gittis Student Center at Temple University, from 2pm–4pm. We will be selling heart shaped cookies, as well as

chocolate lollipops. We will also be having a leadership workshop on February 27th, and our induction ceremony on April 9th.

More details to follow!

## Swarthmore Gets a New Co-President

My name is Caitlin Sequeira and I am currently a sophomore at Swarthmore College. My anticipated major is Psychology while my possible minor could be Asian Studies but is undecided for now. I am from Brooklyn, NY and I am biracial; I identify myself as Chinese-Jamaican.

At the end of Freshmen year at Swarthmore, I learned about the Rotaract club from my friend and now fellow Co-President, Jennifer Hu. Over the previous summer, my interest in the club grew and I joined right away the beginning of this school year. On September 17, 2011, I went to

first Rotaract volunteering event known as "Books Through Bars". A traditional event where members go to "Cradles to Crayons" in Philadelphia and spend an afternoon reading letters from inmates requesting various genres of books and sending chosen books back with replies to their letters. During Polio Awareness Month back in October, I helped run a fundraising event titled "The Purple Pinkie Project" where students were informed about the still present issue of Polio in India and West/Central Africa. Students that made donations had their pinkies

which was based off the practice where medical workers used iodine to mark the children who had been vaccinated. In November, I volunteered to help out at the Charity Gala Silent Auction held at the Swarthmore Presbyterian Church. It was interesting to see the many members involved with the Swarthmore Rotary, including those who help fund the organization.

When the position of Co-President became open earlier this month of January, I quickly applied for the position because I felt I wanted to be more even more involved and

Though I have been a part of multiple volunteer groups, committees and miscellaneous clubs, this is my first time as a leader, and not just a member, of a group. There are a few projects already planned for this coming semester. We plan on helping out at the Spring Blood Drive held at Swarthmore College in February. We also plan on volunteering with the Swarthmore Rotary Club at the annual Fun Fair in May. There will be more to come!

## What it Means for me to be a Rotaractor



If someone had told me five years ago that I would be part of an international organization that is so vital for our nations, I would say that such an organization does not yet exist. Coming to the United States changed my mind. Being involved in different activities on campus at Manor College was not enough to satisfy my appetite for service; I was looking for ways to improve myself, broaden my views, and try to do something special for the global community. At that time, my friend, Jacquelyn Riloff, was President of the Manor College Rotaract. She invited me to the club's first meeting of the year. From the very first slide presented at the meeting I fell in love with this organization. Rotaract is not a student organization that "creates" events; but rather it plans and strategizes projects. I was lucky enough to be an active member of various projects and fundraisers, including the bake sale to assist the Polio Plus Campaign, RYLA, and Books for the Third World.

Rotaract has shown *me* lots of love for friendship and for working on big service projects. These projects allowed me to network with a diverse range of professionals. Furthermore, they helped me to utilize and develop my talents and attributes. Now I know that it does not take a lot to make our community a better place. With the Rotary Family one learns humility and the value of human connections. Being a Rotaractor gives me experience as a leader and opportunities to assist and improve both my domestic and the international communities. Only Rotaract could give me these opportunities.

What is truly important is not the impact that Rotaract has had on me, but rather the impact that it has enabled me to have on the lives of others. If one simply looks around, the world is saturated with poignant examples of communities in need of aid and guidance. They are rife with violence, crime, and a variety of other social issues. Many of these could be solved, or even prevented, if society would realize the importance of small, local communities; such as the neighborhood recreational center or the local community center. We must further develop our community resources and invest in society's future. We must make local neighborhoods bastions of service and safety, not of crime and danger. Rotaract is integral in solving these problems and has been acting as the vanguard for the cause of community involvement. Essentially, what being a Rotaractor means to me is the chance to make the world, from community to community, a much better and safer place.

- Oksana Redko  
President Temple University Rotaract



Reach Within to Embrace Humanity

“Service above Self”



If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader.

**- John Quincy Adams**

To learn more, check us out at:

[http://www.rotary7450.org/  
rotaract/index-whatism.htm](http://www.rotary7450.org/rotaract/index-whatism.htm)