

THE ROTARY CLUB OF NEW YORK

September 25, 2001



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AUSTRIA DAY



DR. CHRISTOPH THUN-HOHNENSTEIN

“An Austrian Cultural Vision for the Twenty-First Century”

Dr.jur. Dr. phil. Christoph Thun-Hohenstein was born in Wolfsberg, Austria, and since 1999 is the Director of the Austrian Cultural Forum in New York. He has written numerous articles about the arts and culture and lectured about the European Integration. Dr. Thun-Hohestein has developed an entirely new, modern approach to presenting art to the general public.

He joined the Austrian Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Vienna in 1984, and was posted in Abidjan, Geneva and Bonn before coming to the United States.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



September 25th
AUSTRIA DAY

October 2nd
Dr. Mark Fromer,
Laser Eye Surgery

October 9th
Hon. Gary Ackerman

October 16th
GERMANY DAY

October 19th
EVENING OF HARMONY

October 23rd
Larry Parks, FAME

MEMBERS' COLUMN

SPECIAL THANKS

Many thanks to Fraternite Notre Dame's The Most Rev. Bishop Jean Marie Roger Kozik, Mother Marie Martha Guibert, Sister Marie Valerie, and the rest of the congregation, who made Haiti Day possible. International days are important for us here at the RCNY, and we are very appreciative for a job well done. Haiti Day was well organized, with many raffle prizes, and an informative presentation given by our new member, Ambassador of Haiti H.E. Pierre Lelong.

REPORTER OF THE WEEK

Tuesday, September 18, 2001

The large attendance at the September 18 meeting of the Rotary Club of New York was heartwarming. The room was packed for Haiti Day, as we came together to give one another support in this time of crisis. President Helen Reisler showed her leadership in many ways.

Rotary Clubs from all around the world have contacted her to share their condolences and offers of assistance to us. There were spontaneous contributions to our disaster relief fund from our own members as well as guests.

Ambassador Pierre Lelong gave an informative talk about his country, Haiti. We welcomed four new Rotarians into our club.

Helen Reisler stressed the point that it is at times like this that we can be proud to belong to the Rotary World.

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR!

Annual dues and advance luncheon coupon statements for the first half of the fiscal year 2001-2002, as per the bylaws, are now **PAST DUE**. If you have any questions **about your membership, please call the office**. For your convenience, we do accept credit cards by fax at (212) 819-0763.

OUR FUTURE ROTARIANS

On the weekend of September 15 and 16, I had the privilege to accompany our Ambassadorial Scholars to their orientation in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania.

Given the circumstances, it was amazing how many scholars from New York and Washington, D.C., attended this event, organized by Tom McCarthy of District 7450. The event hosted scholars from Districts 7230, 7250, 7350, 7450, 7470, 7490, 7510, and 7620. New York has the largest number of Ambassadorial Scholars this year.

The program explained to the scholars the origins, objectives, and actions of Rotary and the Rotary Foundation, outlining Rotary's expectations of the scholars, and providing ideas for their speeches at a Rotary meeting. Small group discussions created a very lively interchange at this seminar.

Honorary Consul General Dennis J. Morikawa of Japan was the guest speaker on Day Two, and he focused on the importance of the scholars' role as ambassadors of their country. He requested feedback and feelings from the scholars regarding the events at the World Trade Center and elaborated on Rotary's trust in their scholars as future leaders of their countries.

The orientation further explained American customs and language in an evocative, comic, and informative way. Then the present host counselors went into a breakout session discussing their responsibilities.

The seminar ended with an evaluation, closing ceremony, and the distribution of the scholars' pins.

The fact that the Rotary International Foundation covered all expenses for the scholars shows Rotary's commitment to the development of future leaders and Rotarians.

The Rotary Club of New York should follow this example and show its support to this program by inviting its scholars for luncheon presentations and introducing them to Rotary New York.

Make no mistake; our 18 scholars are the Rotarians of tomorrow if we foster their enthusiasm for service in Rotary.

Andreas Runggatscher
Executive Director, Rotary Club of New York