

Dedication Through The Ages

December 5th, 2012

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Rotaract Club of Antigua Celebrates 26 years of Service



*Rotaract Club of Antigua
Seven Seas Spelling Bee Competition 2012*

The Rotaract Club of Antigua was originally founded by Rotarians, Patrick "Paddy" Benjamin and the late Anthony Michael and is a Rotary Club of Antigua sponsored community service club that was formally chartered on **December 5th, 1986**. Being part of a worldwide movement, members of Rotaract are persons between the ages 18- 30 who want to develop their leadership skills, become active members in the community, and work together to make the community and world a better place. Rotaract emphasizes four avenues of service: Community, International, Professional and Club Service.

Over the years, the Rotaract Club of Antigua has engaged in numerous community ventures that have made an indelible mark on the lives of many. Most notable over the past six years is the Annual Spelling Bee competition. The major aims of this particular project were to provide an opportunity for Grade 5 students to exhibit their spelling skills and to develop a sense of appreciation for literacy in Antigua and Barbuda. With the advent of the Spelling Bee, the Rotaract Club of Antigua has been able to stimulate excitement about literacy among children and adults alike and this has become a project of great magnitude on the nation's education calendar.

Through the years, the club has adopted a number of charities and institutions throughout the island bringing them great joy from time to time. As one passes along the Lady Nugent Avenue, the official signboard of the School for the Visually Impaired can be seen boasting sponsorship from the Rotaract Club of Antigua. This is only a minute element of the level of assistance given to the institution and the T.N. Kirnon Primary School, which also include the completion of a school library and installation of air conditioning units. Homes such as the Boy's Training School, Sunshine Home for Girls and the John E. Knight Home for the Elderly have been recipients of timely donations of toiletries, food items and other much needed resources from the club. The Cottage of Hope Home for Girls still gleams with delight from its receipt of a fully loaded desktop computer which has been very instrumental in helping the young ladies with their various school assignments and the club looks forward to being of even greater assistance to this charitable cause.

In addition, the Care Project located at the Holberton Hospital has not only benefited from Rotaract as a club but also as a district since in December 2011 the club invited all of its members of District 7030 to bring Christmas cheer to the young residents during the Annual Presidents' Meeting. The home was overjoyed to receive a much needed washing machine as well as other trinkets and gift bags of clothing and other items for the children. Other humanitarian ventures undertaken by the club include the adoption of an AIDS family, refurbishing of schools and also working along with our sponsoring Rotary Club, The Rotary Club of Antigua in their ventures such as their monthly Meals on Wheels and ongoing wheelchair distributions.

The Rotaract Club of Antigua is committed to and excited about giving back to the nation of Antigua and Barbuda. We love what we do and it does bring joy to our hearts when we are able to place smiles on faces and fill voids in the lives of the needy. As we continue in the footsteps of the Rotary motto "Service above Self" we do look forward to catering to the needs of the growing society and extend heartfelt thanks to the general public for the support that they have shown over the years. This year under the theme "Fostering the four ships (fellowship, membership, leadership and partnership) while serving our community", we celebrate our 26th year of making a difference in our community and do look forward to celebrating with you.

The Rotaract Club of Antigua holds meetings, usually every 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Wednesday in every month at 7:30 p.m., which feature speakers, discussions, and other various activities. We also get together for other service projects, social activities, and leadership workshops. Beyond the club level, we as Rotaractors also take advantage of District Conferences, projects and training seminars. If you are between the ages of 18- 30 years and are a young professional who is willing to serve your community through a service organization; Rotaract is the place for you. Rotaract is a gift, a privilege, an opportunity to serve and become a better person. The Club can be contacted at rotaract_anu@hotmail.com, P.O Box 1455 or call 268-770-2655.

Leadership Through The Years

Greg Walters 1986—1987

Shirlene Nubbs 1987 –1988

Kevin Joseph 1988-1990

Josiane Salmon-Whyte 1990-1991

Deighton Martin 1991-1992

Karen James 1992-1994

Ira Charles 1994-1995

Delbert Baptiste 1995-1996

Lenore Watty 1996-1998

Cathy-Ann Tonge 1998-2000

Diana Browne 2000-2001

Herald Rolland 2001-2002

Chanette Mills 2002-2003

Daryll Matthew 2003-2004

Tricia Lovell 2004-2005

Cattrice Browne 2005-2006

Keita Mason 2006-2007

Kyron Simon 2007-2008

Margo Mason 2008-2009

Marissa Benjamin 2009-2010

Niekeshia Lake 2010-2011

Shamarie Spencer 2011-2012

Daydre Daley 2012–2013





ROTARACT

The youth has power to do things well;
The youth has ideas quite swell;
The youth has energy to sell;
The youth has done so well, times tell.

Begin to think and do while young;
The world needs minds and hearts of gold;
Think of your unlucky neighbor;
Help him to live in a better way.

All good things needs to start from scratch;
All should not stay selfish on earth;
All must help shape the world around;
All must have selfless common ground!

All people aren't hale and hearty;
The world goes on by hierarchy;
Millions of brethren live in strife;
You must do charity in life!

The Rotaract affords this chance;
You can hard-work and sing and dance;
Don't look at downtrodden askance;
You must take up a better stance!

The world has umptine diseases;
Poverty afflicts myriad souls;
The problems people face are great;
Can you not make the world better?

The world at large in hunger lies;
Unsheltered masses sadly die;
Social evils afill the world;
Misery plagues people untold.

The youth must become good adults;
The environs must be better;
There's time for you and fellow-men;
Begin today and make the change!

Work for the common man's welfare;
Feel satisfied in life and act;
Think of the unfortunate ones;
Get God's reward for things you do!

'Join a Rotaract club and serve the needy souls!'

ROTARACT FUN FACTS

1. The first Rotaract club was chartered on 13 March 1968 in Charlotte, North Carolina, USA.
2. Before the first Rotaract club was chartered, many Rotary clubs had been creating unofficial clubs for young adults, which helped fuel Rotaract's initial rapid growth. A year after the first club was established, 289 clubs had formed.
3. There are now more than 7,400 Rotaract clubs in about 162 countries and geographical areas. India has the most Rotaract clubs in the world (1,800), followed by Brazil (615), the United States (559), the Philippines (492), and Italy (397).
4. World Rotaract Week is celebrated during the week of 13 March each year, commemorating the date when Rotary International officially certified the first Rotaract club.
5. The goals of Rotaract include developing professional and leadership skills, emphasizing respect for the rights of others, providing opportunities for young people to address the needs of the community and world, and working in cooperation with sponsor Rotary clubs.
6. In 1989, more than 450 Rotaractors from around the world gathered in Seoul, Korea, to participate in the first Rotaract Preconvention Meeting. This annual two-day event, which takes place immediately before the RI Convention, brings together Rotaractors and interested Rotarians to discuss a wide range of topics related to Rotaract. Learn more about this year's meeting, which will be held 19-20 June in Birmingham, England.

CHARTER WEEK ACTIVITIES

December 3rd – 9th, 2012

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • December 3rd – "Stop The Trend, Know Your Status"
Free HIV/ AIDS Blood Testing Drive
at the Multi-purpose Centre
from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. • December 4th – Rotaract Media Day
<i>Radio Interview</i>
Expressions on ZDK @ 10:30 a.m.
<i>Television Interview</i>
Antigua Christian Network @ 12:30 p.m.
<i>Facebook and Twitter</i>
<i>Media Wave</i> • December 5th – Charter Day
Club Service Celebration Night
Rotary House, Factory Road
@ 7:30 p.m. • December 6th – Professional Development Activity
Defining Your Own Style of Leadership | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • December 7th – Annual Charter Dinner
C&C Wine Bar @ 7:00 pm • December 8th – Community Service
School Facelift
St. John's Catholic School
Old Parham Road
@ 9:00 a.m. • December 9th – Church Service
Our Lady of the Valley
Anglican Church @ 8:30 am |
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Fellowship Beach Picnic
Valley Beach
@ 11:00 a.m.



Rotaract Club of Antigua
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Rotary House,
Factory Road
St. John's, Antigua