

ROTARY CLUB OF THE BRONX, NY, INC. TUESDAYS

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MEETS EVERY TUESDAY AT 12:15 PM

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Rotary Theme 2009-2010:
**"THE FUTURE OF ROTARY
IS IN YOUR HANDS"**
Volume 93 • Number 49
June 22, 2010

President
Cheryl Simmons-Oliver
4120 Hutchinson River Parkway East
Apt. 15A
Bronx, New York 10475
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LOOKING AHEAD

7/6 - Bruce Eagel will discuss arrangements for a casino night.

7/13 - Club Assembly & Board Meeting.

OPENINGS...

President-Elect Barry Fitzgerald opened the meeting and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Nancy Wallace gave the Invocation.

CHUCK-A-BUCK

Newest member Toba Lacrown won \$23 in the 50/50.

DR. HAPPINESS

Toba Lacrown collected \$48 from happy Rotarians and guests.

MAKE UPS

None today.

VISITORS & GUESTS

Guest Speaker Israel Rodriguez, Yokania Rodriguez and Johanna Alcantra were guests of the Club. Sandy Morganstein visited from the Dundee Township Rotary Club in Chicago and Nigel Bailey visited from the Tortola Rotary Club in the British Virgin Islands. Caroline Titi was a guest of Toba Lacrown.

Birthday Babies

JUNE

JC Polanco ~ 16th

William J. Gouldman - 22nd

Maxwell S. Pfeifer - 27th

REPORT ON THE JUNE 22, 2010 MEETING GUEST SPEAKER ~ ISRAEL RODRIGUEZ



Photo courtesy of Jim Romeo

Israel Rodriguez, President and Founder of the American Latin Association of New York (L.) and Yokania Rodriguez (r.) accept a certificate of appreciation from President-Elect Barry Fitzgerald.

President-Elect Barry Fitzgerald introduced the guest speaker, Israel Rodriguez of the Latin American Association of New York. The organization provides the Latin American Community in the NYC Metropolitan Area with services that will empower and contribute to the development of Latin society in the United States. They aim to provide a comprehensive range of family, youth, housing, career, education, and immigration services.

Mr. Rodriguez conceived the idea of ALANY in 2002 when he saw the need for an organization to target youth in the Bronx. He applied for and received grant money from the Dept. of Education in 2007.

ALANY offers one of the leading cognitive development programs available. Based on ideas formulated at leading universities and on Swiss education boards, ALANY has created BOOM, a Multiple-Intelligence program that provides a challenging and supportive educational environment that incorporates diverse learning methods. BOOM ensures quality matches and enduring relationships

are developed between children and their mentors. The program follows positive youth development principles and is designed to provide children with community based mentoring relationships to develop healthy and inspiring bonds with reliable adult figures while building their confidence, character, essential competencies, healthy connections, and desire to contribute to their community. BOOM has a high rate of success as measured with both qualitative and quantitative data. Of the matches made, there is a 79% retention rate in the program. In a recent BOOM mentor and mentee survey, the following was reported.

- Over 80% of the mentors reported that they enjoy their BOOM mentoring experience and 88% feel their mentee and they are a good match. \

- Over 65% of the mentees in the BOOM program stated in their survey that are very sure they will graduate from high school and 75% are sure they will attend college. This is a significant attitude change and a stark contrast to the literature review that reports 70% of the youth living in the Bronx will NOT complete high school.

- 80% of mentees report receiving an overall academic performance of "B" or better.

Unfortunately for ALANY, the grant money for this program will run out on September 30, 2010. Unless they can raise more capital, the 150 children currently thriving in the BOOM program will be without this service. To address

Continued on page 2

YOUR SUGGESTIONS URGENTLY NEEDED

Do you know someone who would make a great guest speaker? Please approach them and ask them if they would like to speak to us. Then, please contact Marguerite Chadwick-Juner to arrange a date on the schedule. (m.juner@verizon.net or 718-885-0933)

ISRAEL RODRIGUEZ

Continued from page 1

the problem ALANY will be conducting a fund-raising raffle. The first prize will be a 45" flat screen TV, second, an IPAD Notebook, and third, an IPOD Nano. Tickets will be available through their website: www.americanlatin.org and will cost \$5 each, booklets of 5 tickets are \$20 each.

Thank you to Mr. Israel Rodriguez and Yokania Rodriguez for telling us about the great work that ALANY does with children in the Bronx. We wish them well and hope that their fund-raising meets with great success so that they can continue that work.

At this meeting we inducted and welcomed new member Toba Lacrown. His sponsor is Ed Hicks and in his absence, Nancy Wallace had the honor of vouching for him and pinning him with his Rotary pin.

Jim Romeo told us about the latest Gift of Life child, Katherine, from El Salvador who is sponsored by the Pelham Rotary Club. He also said that the Bronx Club will be cosponsoring a child with the Yorktown Heights Club. That child will also be coming from El Salvador.



Photos courtesy of Jim Romeo

Toba Lacrown is given his Rotary pin by Nancy Wallace as he is inducted into the Bronx Club.



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Photos courtesy of Jim Romeo

PE Barry Fitzgerald presents a Bronx Rotary flag to Nigel Bailey from the Tortola Rotary Club (top left) and exchanges flags with Sany Morganstein from the Dundee Township Rotary Club (bottom photo).



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