

Dictionary Project

What: Each Fall Pittsford Rotary distributes dictionaries to all 3rd graders in the public and private schools in town. (Pittsford Central School District and St. Louis School) This project has created a lot of goodwill in the community and is often the most memorable contact of community families with the Rotary Club of Pittsford. The key is a letter from the club president that is sent home with each student receiving a dictionary. Also, teachers are asked to encourage students to write a thank you note.

Quantity: Typically 600 dictionaries are purchased for this project; 60 for St. Louis, 50 for Africa and the balance for the public elementary schools. (See **School Contact** for purchase arrangements)

Cost: <\$1000 (Actual costs in 2007 were \$860)

Background: See www.DictionaryProject.org

School Contact: Mike Doughty (pronounced Doubty), Principal Thornell Road School (267-1702) and, a former Pittsford Rotary member, has continued to volunteer his services to order the dictionaries and schedule the visits to all third grades in the public school system. Club member John Bernacki has been the contact for St. Louis School. St. Louis School quantities include dictionaries to be sent to a sister school in Kenya, Africa.

Book Labels: A Pittsford Rotary Label is placed on the inside cover page of each dictionary. The label has a place where students write their names. Mike Doughty coordinates a student project to paste all those labels into the books. The labels may be obtained from Jim Cameron of Incredible Graphics.

Rotary Club Letter: Club president supplies a letter that is sent home with each student. (See attached)

Schedule:

- **Late August** – contact Mike Doughty and confirm that Pittsford Rotary is supporting the Dictionary Project and that Mike is willing to order the books and schedule the delivery times within the schools
- **September** – Mike orders the books and receives the shipment at Thornell Road School; Mike contacts the elementary schools and schedules the delivery times and dates Late September, the Pittsford Rotary Dictionary Project chairperson signs up club members to deliver the dictionaries per the schedule supplied by Mike Doughty.
- **October** – In mid October dictionaries are presented to the third grade students at all Pittsford public schools.
- **January/February** – Dictionaries are presented to St. Louis School students and shipped to Africa per schedule setup by John Bernacki.

Rotary Club of Pittsford – P.O. Box 161, Pittsford, N.Y. 14534

October 2007

Dear Parents/Guardians of Pittsford School Third Graders:

Today your children received dictionaries, compliments of the Rotary Club of Pittsford. These dictionaries are theirs to use in the classroom, as well as at home. At the end of the school year, the dictionaries are theirs to keep.

The Rotary Club of Pittsford has been participating in “The Dictionary Project” for the last several years, supplying dictionaries each fall to all Pittsford third graders. They also send dictionaries to Haiti and Kenya. To learn more about “The Dictionary Project”, a 501©(3) nonprofit organization, please visit www.dictionaryproject.org

The Rotary Club of Pittsford puts a strong emphasis on both youth and literacy. They are supporters of many local organizations, including the cub scouts, Pittsford Little League, Pittsford Youth Services, Camp Haccamo and Rochester City School #36 (Henry Longfellow School). The Rotary Club of Pittsford was also a major contributor to the outdoor garden at the Pittsford Community Library.

Rotary Club of Pittsford youth projects include the annual kids’ fishing derby, kids’ free throw contest, Special Olympics and assistance with Town of Pittsford events.

The Rotary Club of Pittsford founded Interact clubs at both Pittsford high schools and a Rotaract club at Nazareth College. These are versions of Rotary geared to young people. They are also currently sponsoring foreign students from Argentina and Hungary and an ambassadorial scholar from Hornell, NY, who is studying in England.

Rotary is the world’s first service club, as well as the largest, with over 1.2 million members in more than 200 countries today. Rotary is widely regarded as the world’s largest provider of international educational scholarships.

The Rotary Club of Pittsford meets Wednesday mornings at 7:15 for breakfast meetings at the Pittsford Community Library, usually with a guest speaker. All business and professional men and women are invited to attend to experience their philosophy of “Fulfillment, Friendship and Fun.”

Sincerely yours,

Peter Crooker

Peter Crooker, President

Lynn Freshman, Immediate Past President

Rotary Club of Pittsford