

# **Rocky Hill Civic Association Bulletin**

**..... proudly serving the community for more than 80 years**

**Practice "Random Acts of Kindness". It will make this a better community**

**Website: rockyhillcivicassociation.com**

**December 2008 Bulletin**

**Rocky Hill Civic  
Association(RHCA)**

Email, phone or send  
updates, suggestions and  
questions to:

88-19 Billings St.  
Bellerose Manor, N.Y.  
11427-2646

Phone: (718) 465-3608  
Email: [rhca@nyc.rr.com](mailto:rhca@nyc.rr.com)

**Please mail dues to:**

RHCA attn: Marie  
deAngelis  
80-35 236<sup>th</sup> St.  
Bellerose Manor, N.Y.  
11427-2123

President  
**Frank Toner**

Vice President  
**Linda Gritsch**

Financial Secretary  
**Marie deAngelis**

Treasurer  
**Dinesh Arjun**

Recording Secretary  
**Candace Garrett**

Sergeant at Arms  
**William Schmidt**

Program Director  
**Gene Foster**

**Executive Board**

**Annie Abraham  
Ida Gold**

**William Horowitz**

**Suwarna Rambukpotha  
Phil Sica**

**Jesse Vukich**

President Emeritus  
**Bernard Aquilino**

## **NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

**Tuesday December 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 P.M.**

**Location: P.S 18 on 235<sup>th</sup> Court**

**(Between Hillside Ave. and 88<sup>th</sup> Ave.)**

**Featured Guest Speaker is:**

**Mr. Laurence McClean  
District Manager for Community Board 13**



# **Annual Holiday Celebration**

**Free Refreshments ~ Raffles ~ Merriment**

Join us for the annual **Holiday Celebration**. It is a great chance to take a break, get together with your neighbors and relax for a while. **Free food and refreshments** will be available. **A raffle worth hundreds of dollars in gift certificates, donated by local merchants**, will be offered. RHCA members have solicited these donations from our local merchants. If you have a favorite local merchant, please ask them to donate a gift certificate. They can support the community, while introducing new customers to their products and/or services.

## **Holiday Greetings to All**

Both the **Officers and the Rocky Hill Civic Association Board of Directors** extend their wishes for a joyous Holiday Season as our members, friends and families gather to celebrate in keeping with treasured traditions. May the spirit of this loving time extend throughout the coming year for you and your family.

## **President's Message:**

At this time of year, between the Thanksgiving Holiday and the remainder of the Holiday Season, it has been my custom to remember and thank all those who have worked so hard during the year to make the Rocky Hill Civic Association a viable organization. By so doing, they have also contributed immensely to both preserving and improving our community. When I look at last year's list, I am impressed that the number of persons who contribute has continued to grow. As always, much appreciation goes to all the Board Members who have freely given of their time and wisdom to our Association. Thanks to **Linda Gritsch** for all the work she did in organizing the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of the Rocky Hill Civic Association and for the work she does in coordinating our association meetings with PS 18. Thanks also to my wife, **Marge Toner**, for her work earlier this year as Financial Secretary. Those duties have now been taken over by **Marie deAngelis** who also has helped in beautification efforts in our community. Thanks to **Gene Foster** who is always watching out over our neighborhood and as Program Director, helps to run our meetings and ensures refreshments are always available at the meetings. I appreciate the work of **Bill Schmidt**, our Sergeant at Arms, for greeting and signing people in at our meetings and helping to organize our Holiday Party. Thanks to **Candace Garret**, Recording Secretary, for recording and reading meeting minutes for our Membership and Board Meetings. Board member, **Ida Gold**, has spearheaded an effort to bring a Greenstreets Beautification Project to Winchester Blvd. It has not been brought to fruition yet but we thank her for her efforts. Thanks to those who are always helping with set-up or volunteering to make cakes-- **Carol, Elsie, Jessie, and Sue**. Their efforts keep our attendees coming back. **Dinesh Arjun**, Treasurer, has once again taken good care of our finances, issuing checks, balancing our books and keeping our records straight. Thanks also to **Suwarna Rambukpotha** who found a new place for our Board Meetings, has worked on beautifying Union Turnpike, and continued to assist in many ways this year. A special thank you is given to **Lynn Lodato** who continues to update our website even though she has moved from our community. Thanks to **Mike McGovern** for filling in and distributing bulletins. And of course, thanks to **Bernard Aquilino**, our President Emeritus, who continues to do so many things to serve this community. This community would not be what it is today if not for all he has done over the years and we can never thank him enough. Thanks to our wonderful **Block Captains** who deliver bulletins to your homes every month. Without them we would not be a true community organization. When you see one delivering a bulletin, please thank them. My last message is that we give thanks as we approach this Holiday Season by remembering those less fortunate than us. We are coming on some difficult financial times and almost certainly some of our neighbors will be affected. Whether it is someone in our immediate community or in the world community, please take the time and effort to provide whatever assistance you can.

**I want to take this opportunity to wish all of you and the members of the Rocky Hill Civic Association a Wonderful Holiday Season and a Prosperous New Year.**

## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:**

We always need help in running our organization. We still have one vacancy on our **Rocky Hill Civic Association Board**. We need a **Block Captain for Range Street**. We hope one of the residents from Range Street will step up so our members can continue to receive their bulletins. We need someone to **Distribute Bulletins to Block Captains for the South Side of Hillside Ave**. There is much work to be done. If more people volunteer, it becomes a true community effort.

## **Get Well Wishes:**

We wish the best and a speedy recovery to Mr. McMillan of Range Street who is recovering from recent surgery. Mr. McMillan has been a Block Captain for Range Street for longer than I can remember and his Services will always be appreciated.

**No Meetings in January and February.  
Our next meeting will be Tuesday March 10<sup>th</sup>.**

**The home owner rebate**, which was mentioned in our last bulletin as being cancelled by the mayor, may still be alive. Apparently there are legal issues on the cancellation. We still do not know the final decision.

**New York City Budget Cuts that may affect our area:**

We have been informed by our Community Board that certain budget cuts are being considered that may have a serious affect on our community and the area covered by Community Board 13.

They are:

- Elimination of five evening tours for the fire department. If this were to happen it would have a negative impact on response time for Fire/Emergency calls.
- Reduction in Library hours—In an economy that is struggling, our need for access to the library becomes more important. Our children need this educational support and adults need the library for job searching and the other free services it offers.
- Reduction in Seasonal Workers at our Parks. This will lead to deteriorating conditions in our parks just when they had finally improved in cleanliness and repair.
- Reduction in Sanitation Cleaners. No comments necessary.

We strongly urge you to contact your local elected official and make your voice heard. Links to our elected officials can be found the Rocky Hill Civic Association Website, [rockyhillcivicassociation.com](http://rockyhillcivicassociation.com). On the home page, click on Useful Sites.

**A Friend in Need.....Lisa**

A member of the Rocky Hill Civic Association, Denise, is sponsoring a drive for a cancer victim. The illness had been in remission but has been reactivated. **She needs your help.** She has given of herself many times for others, now it is her turn to receive. **There will be a 20 family Garage and Bake Sale with ALL proceeds given to Lisa & Family.** Requested items are “New and Gently Used Items”. No clothing please. Drop off items at the address below between 9 & 10 A.M.

**House of Hope, (corner of 248<sup>th</sup> St. and 84<sup>th</sup> Ave.)**

**Date: Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>, Garage and Bake Sale from 11 A.M. to 5 P.M.** Please come shop and buy—you can enjoy a cup of tea or coffee with your baked goods. For questions please call Denise at 718-465-0005.

**Beware of Gift Cards.** A number of stores that are planning to close after the holidays are still selling gift cards. Even if they are not closing all of their stores, they may be closing the stores near you. Certificates to stores not in your area will be less convenient to use. Be careful.

**CALL 311** Street Repairs, Sanitation Violations, etc.—if you see a problem, report it.

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**Rocky Hill Civic Association, Inc. -- Annual \$5.00 Dues Drive Receipt for 2008**

**Name**..... **Email**.....

**Address**..... **Phone**.....

Please make your check Payable to: **Rocky Hill Civic Association** and mail it with this coupon to:  
RHCA Attn: Marie deAngelis, 80-35 236<sup>th</sup> Street, Bellerose Manor, N.Y. 11427-2123

I am interested in becoming a RHCA Board or Committee Member or would like to volunteer for a  
Special project. Yes  No  We will contact you to discuss volunteer opportunities.

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