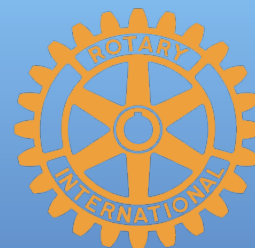




April 2019

Rotary

District 7280



REGISTER NOW FOR DISTRICT CONFERENCE AT THIS LINK:

<https://fs29.formsite.com/P5pMwV/40jhzzh4rn/index.html>

A Message from District Governor Scott Bayline

Congratulations to the DuBois club! They celebrate 100 years this month. If you haven't been to the DuBois club recently, you should stop in. The club is inviting, active and growing.

April brings us to the final leg of the Rotary year and District Conference. Hopefully you saw the recent email announcement. We do have a number of emails that bounced back so, check with your Club Secretary to make sure both the District and RI have your correct email. The Rotary Club of Port Allegany, along with Paula and I, are excited to host you in Erie this May. We intend to bring you a glimpse of Rotary you won't typically see in your clubs, but you support through your efforts and contributions. Even more important, we hope you will have fun meeting with fellow Rotarians and our guests while enjoying Erie.

Thursday night we will host a benefit concert featuring violinist Aäron Blomme. The concert will be held at the Walker Recital Hall at Mercyhurst University and will benefit End Polio Now and the Ehlers-Danlos Society. More about Aäron can be found in this newsletter. Please join us to kick off the weekend a bit early. The public is also invited.

Discounted hotel rates are available May 16 – 19. The discounted rate reservation deadline has been extended until May 1. If you think you will be coming, get your room now, directly with the hotel or use:

<https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1807060966&key=2E3A51D0&app=resvlink>

The registration link is live – listed at the top of this page - and can now accept credit card payments. Please register online by May 10. Mail in reservations must be received by May 7.

I look forward to seeing many of you at District Assembly!

FEATURED SPEAKER AT DISTRICT CONFERENCE: SHANI WEBER



Shani Weber is Patient & Community Advisor for the **Ehlers-Danlos Society (EDS)**. No longer able to continue her career as a Special Education Teacher due to her Hypermobility EDS, she became a volunteer with EDS in 2012. Shani is the moderator for the EDS support community on Inspire and assists patients and doctors from around the world who contact the Helpline. She is also a patient advocate for EDS, speaking with national and state government reps and the medical community. Shani co-founded and co-leads the Maryland EDS support group that now has over 500 members. Shani resides in Mt. Airy, Maryland with her husband, two kids and wonderful dog.

APRIL

is

RI MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH MONTH



District Governor Scott Bayline's goal is for every one of our 43 Clubs to declare their support of Rotary International's efforts to Wage Peace by becoming Active Peacebuilder Clubs. Each Peacebuilder Club will have a seat on the District Peace Committee.

District Clubs interested in joining the Rotary Club of Erie and becoming an Active Peacebuilder Club, please see the very simple requirements and application here: <https://www.rotarianactiongroupforpeace.org/how-to-become-an-active-peacebuilder-club/>. There will also be a brief presentation on why and how to apply at our District Assembly on April 13.

Peace Committee Chair Speaks about Post-Conflict Peacebuilding at International Conference in Toronto

On March 30, District #7280's Peace Committee chair, Diane Chido, presented a paper entitled *Avoiding the Stabilization Trap: Civil Affairs and Strategic Intelligence to Understand Legitimacy and Insurgency* at the International Studies Association's (ISA) annual convention in Toronto, Ontario. Diane will speak as part of a panel in ISA's Peace Studies section on "Peacekeeping and Civilian Protection: Operating in a 'Difficult' Environment."

Her presentation is excerpted from her forthcoming book exploring how the United States military, once it commits its military to conduct stability operations, supporting a post-conflict society, as it is doing today in Afghanistan, Iraq, Somalia, Syria and many other war-torn places, it immediately finds itself in what she has coined, the *Stabilization Trap*. This is a challenge in which responsibility for a population inherently transfers from the original governing body to the liberating military forces. The book argues that the U.S. military should more effectively develop its ability to use Civil Affairs and Strategic Intelligence to understand challenges to legitimacy that may undermine the sovereign power's ability to manage the peace.

The Rotary Peace Centers of the Rotary Foundation is a Bronze-level sponsor of the annual convention. ISA is one of the oldest interdisciplinary associations dedicated to understanding international, transnational and global affairs. Founded in 1959, its more than 7,000 members span the globe – comprising academics, practitioners, policy experts, private sector workers and independent researchers, among others. The Association has long served as a central hub for the exchange of ideas and for networking and programmatic initiatives among those involved in the study, teaching and practice of International Studies.

Peace Fellow Applications Accepted through May 31

Don't forget! The opportunity to apply for a 2020-21 Peace Fellowship is open now! ***The deadline for application submission to the District is May 31.*** Please help District Governor Scott Bayline find some worthy candidates for District 7280 to nominate to RI for consideration for the FREE 2-year master's degree and three-month professional development certificate program. Application information is available here: <https://my.rotary.org/en/peace-fellowship-application>. Please contact Peace Committee Chair Diane Chido for additional information and to submit applications: dchido@dcanalytcis.net.

The Rotary Foundation Annual Program Fund (APF) giving statistics for District 7280 follow. Results were not yet finalized for March 2019 when this report was compiled which may result in some changes.

As March comes to a close we are 75% though the Rotary year. I am happy to say we continue to show growth over last year to date in actual dollars given to the Annual Program fund and per capita Giving. It's time to review your goals for the 2018-19 Rotary year. Is your club meeting them? Perhaps reminding your members of the goals and the good our Foundation does in the world will help you met them. If you haven't had a program on The Foundation this year now is the time. Don't forget PDG and Foundation Chair Patty Meehan and DG Scott are willing to give a Foundation presentation to your club.

This month **Rich-Mar** and **Dubois** reached the \$100 per capita mark to make 12 Clubs that have reached this milestone. The other 10 clubs are: **Butler, Cranberry Township, Evans City, Greenville, Kane, Port Allegany, Presque Isle, Sharon, Slippery Rock, and Zelienople**. Thank you!

A clarification to last month's report: Kittanning Achieved the TRF Giving banner. This month we welcome two more clubs who qualify for the EREY Banner: **Dubois** and **Rich-Mar** join **Sharon, Butler, and Evans City** for a total of five clubs in District 7280. Those clubs, plus **Kittanning**, have qualified for TRF Giving banner as well.

The top 3 in per capita giving continue to show some separation from the rest. Those that have exceed \$160 per capita are:

1. Sharon	\$340.54
2. Port Allegany	\$245.76
3. Butler	\$217.07
4. Rich-Mar	\$166.57
5. Kane	\$165.22
6. Zelienople	\$161.00

District 7280 giving as of March 2019 YTD compared to March 2018 YTD

	2019	2018
# of members	1,330	1,393
Goals Achieved	66.47%	57.54%
Annual program Fund Giving YTD	\$96,900.10	\$90,628.38
AF per Capita Giving	\$72.86	\$65.06
Clubs who have donated	34 of 43 (79.07%)	32 of 43 (74.42%)

Meet Aäron Blomme



Aäron is a performing violinist and a Regional Coordinator for Davidsfonds, the largest cultural foundation of Flanders, Belgium. Seven hundred and fifty volunteers count on him for advice on all aspects of cultural management such as attracting and retaining members, marketing and new media, and PR and fundraising.

Aäron's first passion is music. He picked up the violin at age six and has not let it go since. He trained under Mikhaïl L. Bezverkhny (1976 First Prize Winner of the Queen Elisabeth Competition) and Olga Zolotareva at the Royal Conservatory of Ghent, Belgium.

In 2008 Aäron received the Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholarship that enabled him to study under renowned violinist, Prof. Viktor A. Pikayzen (People's Artist of Russia) at the Moscow P.I. Tchaikovsky Conservatory, Russia. Aäron has performed as a soloist with multiple ensembles and orchestras, gaining musical experience in Belgium, the Netherlands, Norway, France, USA, Canada, Russia and Morocco.

Aäron is the co-creator of *Remembrance through Music & Emotions*, a multimedia event in which he co-composed and performed a soundtrack to the events of WWI. Premiering in 2014 in his native home of Flanders' Fields to commemorate the beginning of WWI, *Remembrance* exemplifies the message of international understanding, intercultural goodwill and world peace.

As a former Rotaractor and now Rotarian with Rotary Club Kokslide-De Panne-Veurne in Belgium, Aäron is committed to *Be the Inspiration through Music and Culture!*



Meet Lynn Petzold

Lynn Petzold was a Rotary Exchange Student in Santa Cruz, Bolivia during 1982 - 1983. She had such a great experience that she also became a Cultural Ambassadorial Scholar in Christchurch, New Zealand, where she studied at the University of Canterbury.

Currently working as an account manager and field faculty at NOLS, National Outdoor Leadership School, Lynn has been leading domestic and international sea kayak and backpack trips since 1990. She works with a range of student groups including secondary schools, scholarship programs, colleges, MBA programs, executives, NASA astronauts and alumni. Lynn appreciates the complexity of human dynamics, disconnecting to connect and the art of creating healthy inclusive communities.

Lynn holds a Masters degree in Leadership and Organizational Systems from Saybrook University. She works part-time as an executive coach and consultant.

When not leading wilderness trips you can still find Lynn enjoying kayaking and backpacking trips to remote areas. She lives in the Seattle area near one of her favorite places on the planet, the Pacific Northwest coastline.

District Match for new PHF: Details on the match can be found in prior newsletters. The offer continues throughout the year.

District Assembly: Please mark your calendars and plan to attend the District Assembly that will be held on Saturday, April 13, at the Ramanda Inn, Clarion, PA. The assembly provides the opportunity for Club President-Elects to bring their leadership team and club members together for training and information sessions that enhance their club's opportunity for success. This year we will be offering breakout sessions for more in depth trainings for Club Secretaries as well as Membership, Foundation, and Public Image chairs. There will also be a session for those that would like to learn more about how to develop a strategic plan for their club.

Service and Support Opportunities:

The following are grants and other service projects looking for support. Additional details on previously communicated items can be found in prior newsletters.

- **HANWASH** or Haiti National Clean Water, Sanitation and Health Strategy. Go to www.Hanwash.org to learn more.
- **10 Million Meal Challenge** –Rotary Zones 33 and 34 have partnered with 40 Regional and Local food banks from Florida to Pennsylvania. Please download the toolkit and [Join the 10 Million Meal Challenge](#) here. Once you sign up YOUR local food bank will be notified to help you begin planning activities.
- **Clean Water and Sanitation project in Guatemala:** Our own Assistant Governor, Mike McElhanney from Kittanning Rotary club is coordinating efforts to support this Global Grant. Details are on the webpage [here](#).
- Rotary District 7330, in conjunction with 900+ clubs in 23 Districts from Zones 33 and 34 is sponsoring a fund raiser for CART (COINS for ALZHEIMER'S RESEARCH TRUST). For a chance to win a new Car and support Alzheimer's Research [click here](#).
- The Dates for ROVA are May 5-6 at Camp Nazareth in Mercer. If you have any questions please contact ROVA Chair, Tracy Becker at 814-226-9161 (work); 814-229-2709 (cell), tracy@clarionpa.com



Ron assists in the distribution of dictionaries to local third graders by the Rotary Club of Cranberry Township Sunrise.

MY ROTARY STORY *by Ron Gigler, Rotary Club of Cranberry Township Sunrise*

I was introduced to Rotary by my employer, an architectural firm. The shareholders and the firm principals (owners) are strongly encouraged to participate in community service groups that would be of interest to them. Four people in the firm were already members in various Rotary Clubs in the western PA area and I had attended a couple of meetings at the Cranberry Township (Noon) Club. When the Cranberry Township Sunrise Club was formed, I already knew some of the members and wanted to be part of this group to help serve the community. I became the first new member in 2000.

Rotary has benefitted me by providing an avenue to help give back to the community as part of a local like-minded group of business people, but as part of a larger, worldwide organization. I value the fellowship, friendships, business relationships and having the opportunity to meet many Rotarians locally and nationally. I know I can go just about anywhere and be welcomed at a Rotary club meeting as a visiting Rotarian. I have new resources to call upon, if needed, and a sense of well-being as I help others in need.

District 7280 Calendar

April 2019	Maternal and Child Health Month
April 3, 2019	District Dues Deadline
April 13, 2019	District Assembly, Ramada Inn (formerly Park Inn) Clarion
May 2019	Youth Service Month
May 5-6, 2019	ROVA, Camp Nazareth, Mercer
May 17-19, 2019	District Conference, Sheraton Erie Bayfront Hotel Reservation Link
June 2019	Rotary Fellowships Month
June 1-6, 2019	110th International Convention, Hamburg, Germany
June 9-14, 2019	RYLA, Westminster College
June 23, 2019	Pirates game, Hosted by Slippery Rock & Kittanning
June 28-29, 2019	Zone 33 Leadership Training, Greensboro, NC
July 2019	District Governor Ken Fleeson's official visits begin
August 31, 2019	Last day to submit District Grant Applications
September 2019	District 7280 Scholarship applications due
October 5, 2019	RLI, First Lutheran Church, Greensburg – deadline 9/21
October 19, 2019	Fall Workshop – New date
November 2, 2019	RLI, Washington County Public Schools, Hagerstown, MD
November 19-22, 2019	Zone 33-34 Leadership Summit, Atlanta, GA
January 19-25, 2020	International Assembly – DGN Beth Marshall, San Diego
March 6-8, 2020	PETS & AG Training, Penn Stater, State College, PA
May 15-17, 2020	District Conference, Doubletree, Cranberry Twp. PA
June 6-10, 2020	111th international Convention, Honolulu, Hawaii

UPCOMING CLUB FUNDRAISERS/EVENTS

Please contact each respective Club for additional information.

- April 5th, 'Shine for ShelterBox' Gourmet Dinner, Renfrew, PA (Zelienople)
- April 6th, Leechburg Pancake Breakfast
- April 24th, 'Dine and Donate' – Warren
- April 26th, "Rotary Wins with Pins" – Cranberry Twp Noon bowling fundraiser
- April 27th & May 4th, Punsutawney Mutliphasic Blood Screening



People of Action!

Special thanks to Bradford Rotary Club President, Angela Erway, for helping out at this year's basketball mini camp for CARE for Children. Erway is carrying on a long tradition of Rotarians supporting CARE programs and services. Fun fact: the Bradford and Kane Rotary Clubs began the McKean County Society for Crippled Children in 1924 and later on this organization transformed into CARE for Children.