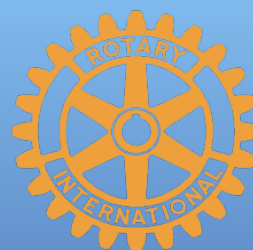




March 2019

Rotary

District 7280



Peace Pipeline – See Page 2!

A Message from District Governor Scott Bayline

First, the Groundhog ... I'm pretty sure he failed 3 of the 4 questions of the four-way test. Maybe all 4. I'm tired of snow, cold, and darkness. The good news is when we do see the sun it's usually warm enough to melt the snow. I think that's good news at least until the next dusting of snow comes along and hides the ice it creates.

On to Rotary. If you are like me, I have more things I need or want to read than I can get to each month. One such item is the Rotarian Magazine. I'm dating myself by recalling when newspapers and magazines were the source of most of my information and I was excited to see the next issue arrive. Now I get very few such items, but I do enjoy the Rotarian. In the February issue, the President's message had a great tip. President Barry gave us an interesting challenge: he challenged every Rotary Club to come up with at least one high-impact service project. Going on to state all our clubs have the potential and resources to make it happen. I agree because after all, Rotarians are "People of Action." Think about a need in your community. It's probably not hard to find a project. Put your resources to work, find partners and improve your community. It's a simple and direct message that we should take to heart. I've seen what our clubs can accomplish. The visibility in your community may solve a host of challenges you might be facing, such as membership or member engagement. President Barry goes on to say it doesn't have to involve lots of money but instead focus on reaching people and impacting the community. Many projects just need someone(s) to lead. Take the lead.

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GET TO KNOW RICK TOTE, 2021-22 DGND



Cindy & Rick Tote at the Rotary Conference at Peak 'n Peak in 2016.

Why Rotary? *I have been a member of many different organizations and activities, but none for me can compare to the captivating experience, inspiration, and satisfaction as Rotary. It has much to do with the connections that are possible both locally and internationally to take on something like the Eradication of Polio.*

Continued on Page 4

MARCH

is

RI WATER AND SANITATION MONTH

PEACE PIPELINE: Rotary Peace Fellowships and Congratulations to Wisdom Addo!

By Diane Chido, Peace Committee Chair



Congratulations to District 7280's dear friend, Wisdom Addo! He was awarded a Rotary Peace Fellowship for the Master's Degree Program in Peace and Conflict Resolution. Wisdom will begin his Peace Fellowship this summer at the International Christian University (ICU) Graduate School in Tokyo.

Wisdom also completed the RI Peace Fellowship Certificate program in 2012 and was in the same cohort as Erie Club Rotarian, Dr. Joyce Miller. Wisdom and Joyce became close friends and over the years, Wisdom has visited the District and Erie Club several times. Also, the Erie Club has provided support for Wisdom's peace activities in Ghana, where he administers a program of peace and conflict resolution for youth and annually hosts a PEACE JAM Conference where the featured guest is an Internationally recognized Nobel Peace Laureate. For more information on Peace Jam, please see here: <http://www.peacejam.org/>.

The opportunity to apply for a 2020-21 Peace Fellowship is open now! ***The deadline for application submission to the District is May 31.*** Each year, the Rotary Foundation awards up to 50 fellowships for master's degrees and 50 for certificate studies at premier universities. Our District Governor Scott Bayline has expressed his hope that District 7280 will be able to recommend at least two worthy candidates to RI for consideration in each category:

- **Master's degree programs:** Accepted candidates study peace and development issues with research-informed teaching and a diverse student body. The program lasts 15 to 24 months and includes a 2-3 month field study, which participants design themselves.
- **Professional development certificate program:** Experienced leaders gain practical tools for promoting peace and international development during an intensive, 3-month program, which includes 3 weeks of field study and peer learning opportunities with a diverse group.

Through academic training, practice, and global networking opportunities, the Rotary Peace Centers program develops the fellows into experienced and effective catalysts for peace. The fellowships cover tuition and fees, room and board, round-trip transportation, and all internship and field-study expenses.

Our District Peace Committee would be very pleased if you would pass on the information to anyone you think would make a globally competitive candidate. Application information is available here:

<https://my.rotary.org/en/peace-fellowship-application> but please contact Peace Committee Chair Diane Chido for additional information and to submit applications: dchido@dcanalytcis.net.

DISTRICT SHELTERBOX AMBASSADORS NEED YOUR HELP THIS MONTH



Rotary has a special relationship with ShelterBox USA and District 7280 even has its own ShelterBox Ambassadors, Tom Grant and John Marshall. They are hosting the second annual "Shine for ShelterBox" Gourmet Dinner Fundraiser on Friday, April 5, at the Stables of Connequenessing in Renfrew (near Butler).

The fundraising effort includes a gift basket raffle. Tom and John are asking every club to donate a gift card/gift basket donation. The minimum value requested is \$25.

If your club is able to participate, please send an email to Kathy Corcoran at corcoran7667@gmail.com. Arrangements can be made for basket pick up. The deadline for providing a gift basket is Friday, March 29. Thank you for your consideration. Please direct any questions to Kathy at her email.

Here is The Rotary Foundation Annual Program Fund (APF) Giving Statistics for our District. Your donations to the Annual Program Fund not only support the projects Rotary clubs do throughout the year but, a portion of your donations is returned to the District and is used for District Grants. A common question asked is: "Why should I donate to the Foundation when we have so many needs locally?" There are many answers for that but one is that some of your money returns to the District to support those local needs. Additionally, part of your donation support Global Needs. We asked our Foundation Chair, PDG Patty Meehan for her insight:

*Our giving to the Rotary Foundation has a multitude of benefits. The money that is donated comes back to the District in 3 years to fund our District Grants and Global Grants. Global grants!!!! **What are Global grants???***

*Global grants fund projects of \$30,000 or more and the projects must be outside of the US with a purpose within the 6 Areas of Focus. The District can participate in global grants with cash, assigning some of the money already given by clubs that is in our "bank account" as well as partner with other clubs or Districts to complete a global grant. **All grant activity begins within the District.***

The Rotary Foundation staff reviews and approves the applications, but the staff does not initiate the application process, nor can they be the Sponsor.

If you have questions on global grants please contact PDG Patty Meehan, Foundation Chair or DG Scott Bayline. Patty and Scott are your contacts for District resources that you need to start the process.

This month we welcome the 4th club who qualifies for the EREY Banner. Kittanning joins Sharon, Butler and Evans City. Additionally we have a 10th club who has reached the \$100 per capita mark. Cranberry Township joins the nine clubs noted last month.

The top 3 in per capita giving are starting to show some separation from the rest. Those that have exceed \$150 per capita are:

1. Sharon \$332.21
2. Port Allegany \$230.95
3. Butler \$216.73
4. Kane \$157.81
5. Zelienople \$154.75
6. Greenville \$152.00

Our District giving continues to trend higher than 2017-18. As always, thank you for supporting our Foundation.

District 7280 Giving as of February 2019 YTD Compared to February 2018 YTD

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
# of members	1,330	1,393
Goals Achieved	57.10%	50.94%
Annual program fund giving YTD	\$83,236.60	\$80,221.35
AF per Capita Giving	\$62.58	\$57.59
Clubs who have donated	32 of 43 (74.42%)	31 of 43 (72.09%)

Continued from Page 1 – Scott's Message

Speaking of the Rotarian, another reason you should read it is you might see some local projects. Did you see "Slippery Rock in Bloom" on page 12 of the March issue?

A few thoughts from the last few weeks:

- International travel is expensive.
- Look for two emails coming soon. First: the **District Conference registration**. We are still working out the meals but hope to have things finalized soon. You can still sign up for your room at the Sheraton: [Discounted Room Rate Link](#). Second: the **"People of Action" award**. It will be sent to your Club President and Secretary.
- District Awards: Fill out the paperwork. I bet many clubs have already qualified for recognition.
- Congratulations to the DuBois Club! They are celebrating 100 Years of Service next month.
- February and March are Fund Raiser Months in District 7280
- I'll see many of you at President-Elect Training (PETs). I know DGE Ken has worked hard to make this year educational, inspirational and a valuable use of your time.

Scott

GETTING TO KNOW RICK TOTE, 2021-22 District Governor Nominee Designee

Continued from Page 1

What brought you to Rotary and when? - I learned about Rotary from our company's Clarion office Manager, Dennis Stidinger. He saw I had an interest and passion for community service, so when he relocated to become our CEO, he encouraged me to join. It was later that year, in 2001, that I had a casual conversation with Bill Hearst, a Clarion Rotary Club member who asked if I was interested, and I agreed to join.

What has led you to become District Governor? - I always believed if you are part of something, you should contribute and be willing to be involved and take your turn for the heavy lifting both as service to the club, but also to be able to have a larger say in order to shape the organization.

What has Rotary done for you? - First I would like to say the Rotary has done more for me than I have given. I have reached a much higher level of confidence and satisfaction in all aspects of my life. My experiences with the Club, programs, and international efforts are fun and inspiring. Also my opportunities to be involved in the Youth Exchange Program and Jackson Christie Golf Exchange are especially rewarding experiences that I would have never otherwise thought possible.

How will you prepare to become District Governor over the next 2.5 years? - The preparation begins immediately with more acute observation and note taking at District meetings and events. I will also strive to attend other Club meetings, Zone Leadership Training and be more involved in our PETS program. I think meeting and getting to know as many Rotary people as possible is a key. On a more personal note, I need to start focusing my schedule and effort so that I can devote the time and effort necessary to this position as well as pray for the guidance and vision to help lead our District.

Working on the Habitat for Humanity Project at the 2018 District Conference.



Rick Tote with son, Nate and daughter, Jess taking in a Pirates Baseball Game.



Granddaughter Charlotte Rose (Charlie) and Rick a/k/a "Pap" rooting on the Nittany Lions.

District Match for new PHF: A benefactor has offered to encourage those not yet a Paul Harris Fellow to become a PHF. Foundation points will be used to match any cash donation to the Foundation 1 point for \$1 to make any member a first time PHF. For example, if a member has never donated to TRF and would like to become a PHF, a donation of \$500 will be matched with 500 points. Likewise, if someone has 800 points accumulated and needs an additional \$200 or points to become a PHF. A donation of \$100 will be matched with 100 points to reach PHF status. To obtain the match please send DG Scott, a copy of the online receipt or donor form showing the amount donated. This can be done via email or hard copy. Once DG Scott is able to verify the donation amount, the points transfer will be requested and the PHF recognition will be sent to the club President.

District Assembly:

Please mark your calendars and plan to attend the District Assembly which will be held on Saturday, April 13, 2019 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. Some new ones and updates to those previously communicated:

- **HANWASH** or Haiti National Clean Water, Sanitation and Health Strategy is the project to bring clean water and sanitation to all of Haiti.
This project provides clubs and individuals an opportunity to support a global grant financially or with your talents. 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. The goal is to raise the equivalent of 10 Million meals. Many clubs already have a relationship with or have been approached by a food bank in your area. Please download the toolkit and [Join the 10 Million Meal Challenge](#) here. Once you sign up YOUR local foodbank 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

District 7280 Calendar

March 2019	Water and Sanitation Month
March 8-10, 2019	PETS & AG Training, Penn Stater, State College, PA
April 2019	Maternal and Child Health Month
April 3, 2019	District Dues Deadline
April 5, 2019	'Shine for ShelterBox' Gourmet Dinner in Renfrew. Make a Reservation
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 1-6, 2019	110th International Convention, Hamburg, Germany
June 9-14, 2019	RYLA, Westminster College
June 28-29, 2019	Zone 33 Leadership Training, Greensboro, NC
July 2019	District Governor Ken Fleeson's official visits begin
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

Please contact each respective Club for additional information.

- March 1-8, 2019 Kittanning is hosting an international exchange team from the Ukraine.
- March 9th Dubois Radio Auction
- March 13th Warren Pancake Breakfast
- March 16th Punxsutawney Radio Auction
- March 16th Zelienople's Shamrock Shuffle
- March 31st Kane Radio Auction
- March 31st Ellwood City, *The Tamburitzans Return* performance
- April 6th, Leechburg Pancake Breakfast

The Rotary District 7280 Newsletter is published monthly for District Clubs. District News is also available on Facebook – Rotary District 7280 -- and on our website: www.rotarydistrict7280.org. Email article suggestions, comments and/or questions to Kathy Corcoran, District Public Information Chair at corcoran7667@gmail.com