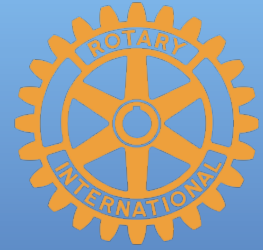




APRIL 2020

Rotary

District 7280



*Let's all work together to make our Clubs and District stronger and become
'Simply Irresistible'*

A Message from District Governor Ken Fleeson

I hope that everyone is staying safe and healthy through this very trying time. Not to make light of those that may be suffering from the effects of COVID 19, but while we are asked to "Shelter in Place" it reminds me of my grandfather and when asked where he was going on vacation he would reply "Porchview and BedSprings." This is pretty much where we are all now. My guess is there will be a lot of "to do lists" that will get attention, and the garage sales will be well stocked when we are able to move about freely.

As I view the situation we are in, I think of those that have preceded us, and the trials they went through. Our daughter passed along a comment from one of her friends : "Our parents, grandparents and great grandparents were sent to war, we are being asked to sit on our couches".

At some point, this pandemic will be behind us and we will resume life as "normal". But as Rotarians and People of Action, we cannot wait for life to return to "normal". Our communities and the programs we support depend upon us and will need even more for help and assistance. As I have been communicating with our Club and District Leadership, our clubs need to stay connected through online meetings, conference call meetings or some other method of keeping our clubs and their members connected and conduct business as usual. As clubs and members, I ask that you start thinking about how you can offer that support. I recently attended an online board meeting of one of our clubs that requires their members to prepay for meals. As they have not had meetings for the last three weeks, and may not have for another couple of weeks, they will be directing these funds to a local food pantry.

With all of that said, we need to stay focused on the future, not on the past.

My ask is that you consider how we as Rotarians and clubs can become stronger in despite of the now. *Continued on page 3.*

DISTRICT CONFERNECE UPDATE

As you should be aware our District Conference which was scheduled for May 15 -17, 2020, has been postponed until August 28 – 30, 2020. Once we get through this unprecedented time, we all need to connect and celebrate with a "helluva" party.

DISTRICT CONFERENCE 2019-2020 CHALLENGE

A member of our District has offered two challenges regarding attendance at the conference, For those clubs in Butler County that have the highest attendance, 1,000 points will be awarded to the club toward their next Paul Harris Fellow. For those clubs outside of Butler County that have the highest attendance, 1,000 points will be awarded toward their next Paul Harris Fellow. In both cases, attendance includes club members, spouses/partners, family members, children, grandchildren and guests.

APRIL

is

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH MONTH



Peacebuilder Clubs Update: Welcome Cranberry (Noon), Edinboro and Kitanning Clubs! District #7280 now has 18 Peacebuilder Clubs! Only 31 more to go!

Lots of folks were asking about the process at PETS in State College – RI couldn't make it easier. Step 1. Your Club's Board submits your very simple one-page [application, which is normally](#) processed within a single working day. That's it – ONE STEP! Then your Club will join the other 18 and those that follow on the global [Peacebuilder Map](#) for all the world to see your Club's commitment to peace.

District #7280 Peace Committee to Convene Inaugural Meeting in April

Now that we have a good number of Peacebuilder Clubs (but not enough!), I will contact the Chair of each Club's Peace Committee soon to schedule a Zoom meeting to plan what our District Peace Committee is thinking about to move us all forward in Peacebuilding. If I don't have your contact information, please email me at dchido@dcanalytics.net.

Peace Pole Dedication Postponed

Due to the need for self-quarantine while we prevent Coronavirus spread, the dedication ceremony for the Slippery Rock Club's Peace Pole will be postponed. Once we have the new plan in place, we'll let you know what date to save and join us.

Rotarian Action Group for Peace (RAG-P) at-home Engagement Opportunities

To get in the mood for peacebuilding while we are all stuck at home, RAG-P has two great videos, each only about 5 minutes long at: <https://www.rotarianactiongroupforpeace.org/>

Time to Apply for RI Peace Fellowships!!!!

The 2021 Rotary Peace Fellowship application is now open. Candidates have **until 31 May to submit** applications to their District. Each year, the Rotary Foundation awards up to 50 fellowships for master's degrees and 50 for certificate studies. The fellowships cover tuition and fees, room and board, round-trip transportation, and all internship and field-study expenses. It would be so great if District 7280 could recommend at least two worthy candidates to RI for consideration in each category:

- **Master's degree programs:** Rotary awards fellowships for master's degrees in peace and development studies at six premier universities around the world. Teaching is grounded in practical research, and students have diverse backgrounds and professional experience. Programs vary in length from 15 to 24 months and include two to three months of applied field experience designed by the peace fellow.
- **Professional development certificate program:** Takes place at Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand and at the new Rotary Peace Center that will open in 2021 at Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda. Experienced leaders gain practical tools for promoting peace and international development during an intensive, 3-month program, which includes a preliminary online course, a 10-week on-site course, field studies, a social change initiative, and a one-week on-site capstone seminar.

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>. Please contact District Peace Committee Chair Diane Chido for additional information and to submit applications: dchido@dcanalytics.net.

A benefactor has offered to help and 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 every \$1 to make any member a first time PHF. For example, if a member has never donated to the Rotary Foundation 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 addition \$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 Ken a copy of the online receipt or donor form showing the amount donated. This can be done via email or hard copy. After DG Ken is able to verify the donation amount, the point transfer will be requested and the PHF recognition will be sent to the Club President.

DISTRICT GOVERNOR MESSAGE - *Continued from Page 1*

Our district team and I are committed to help in any way we can. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us for any help we can offer.

I hope that you and your families, club members and friends all stay healthy. I remain hopeful that this experience will help strengthen our connectivity with our members, our clubs, our district and our communities.

Yours in Rotary Service,

Ken



A BRIGHT SPOT AMID THE COVID-19 THREAT

The Rotary Club of Ellwood City worked with Boy Scout Troop 806 to build wood duck and bluebird boxes. Before the State Parks were closed because of the COVID-19 threat, Doug Slade, President of the Ellwood City Rotary Club, and the Boy Scouts were able to install the boxes at Moraine State Park.

The project was funded by the Rotary Club of Ellwood City with the assistance of our District Grant program.

By Jack Cohen, District Membership Chair

As I stated in last months article, I want to talk about diversity. Rotary recognizes diversity and its value in all of its clubs. It's a great strength, as we welcome all and are open to new and exciting ideas. Right now with the Coronavirus, there is no better time for Rotary. As Rotarians, we assist the underserved and the underprivileged. We'll need to step up and serve our communities and help build them back up. By assisting and leading the way now, those that we help today will have the encouragement to pay it forward to others who will need help getting back on their feet. Despite the hardships that we may face now and in the upcoming weeks, we as fellow Rotarians will do what we do best - take this adversity and connect the world through hope.

Jack

Jcohen@zoominternet.net

DISTRICT FOUNDATION UPDATE

District 7280 giving as of MARCH 2020 YTD compared to MARCH 2019 YTD

	2020	2019
Clubs who have given:	36 of 43 (83.7%)	39 of 43 (90.7%)
Number of Members:	1301	1330
<i>July 1 values</i>		
Annual Program Fund Giving Year to Date:	\$111,907.49	\$158,419.00
Annual Fund per Capita Giving Year to Date:	\$86.02	\$119.11

The following clubs have achieved or exceeded the \$100 per capita mark:

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------|
| 1. Cranberry Township | \$294.80 |
| 2. Sharon | \$271.33 |
| 3. Greenville | \$194.16 |
| 4. Evans City | \$180.63 |
| 5. Zelienople | \$181.63 |
| 6. Kane | \$171.32 |
| 7. Butler | \$152.80 |
| 8. Slippery Rock | \$150.00 |
| 9. Rich-Mar | \$142.38 |
| 10. Presque Isle | \$142.35 |
| 11. Port Allegany | \$139.70 |
| 12. Clarion | \$120.69 |
| 13. New Wilmington | \$104.77 |
| 14. Kittanning | \$102.73 |
| 15. Ellwood City | \$102.17 |

The following clubs have 100% of their members that have donated to the Foundation: Bradford, Butler, Cranberry Township, Ellwood City, Evans City, Kittanning, Portersville-Prospect, Rich-Mar and Smethport.

The following clubs have 100% of their members that have donated to the Foundation and have exceeded the \$100.00 per capita: Butler, Cranberry Township, Ellwood City, Evans City, Kittanning, Rich-mar, Portersville-Prospect and Smethport.

The District is grateful to the Keystone International E-Club for offering the use of their ZOOM link for online meetings. Using our link at <https://zoom.us/j/202547917> you can join:

- Slippery Rock Rotary at noon on Monday
- Presque Isle Rotary at 7:15 AM on Tuesday
- Zelienople Rotary at 7:00 AM on Friday
- District 7280's International E-Club at 2:00 PM on Friday

Helpful hints when using zoom

- You can join these calls without a computer or smartphone by calling in from your home or cell phone. Dial 301-715-8592 and when it asks for the meeting id - type 202 547 917#
- If you have difficulty hearing, use earphones that plug in to the computer or phone OR call in to the meeting as directed above.
- It is important everyone keep their microphones on MUTE when they are not speaking, otherwise your microphone picks up background noise that interferes with the call for everyone else.
- If connecting through a computer, keep your microphone on MUTE and press and hold down the spacebar to unmute while you talk.
- If connecting to a meeting through a phone or ipad - once connected, swipe the screen to see others participating. If you log in from a computer, you will be able to see everyone participating.



Zelienople

CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY BINGO

MAIL YOUR BUDDY A CARD	READ THE ROTARIAN	ATTEND AN ONLINE ROTARY MEETING	THANK A DELIVERY PERSON	THANK A HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONAL
WASH HANDS FOR 20 SECONDS EVERYTIME FOR 3 DAYS	CHECK ON YOUR NEIGHBOR	TIP BIG	HOLD FAMILY GAME NIGHT	PRACTICE SOCIAL DISTANCING
MAKE YOUR OWN HAND SANITIZER	DONATE TO A CHARITY		DONATE TO ROTARY FOUNDATION	DID NOT HOARD TOILET PAPER
RUN AN ERRAND FOR SOMEONE	THANK THE STORE CASHIER	ORDER TAKEOUT	DONATE BLOOD	CHECK IN OR CONNECT WITH SOMEONE NEW
CALL YOUR ROTARY BUDDY	PURCHASE A GIFT CARD TO USE AT A LATER DATE	COOK DINNER FOR FAMILY	WALK OUTSIDE AND BREATHE DEEPLY	CHECK CLUB'S FACEBOOK PAGE

Reaching Out to One Another: The Rotary Club of Zelienople has implemented a "Buddy System" for its membership. Buddies are asked to call their Buddy at least weekly. The Club also posted this "Caring for Our Community Bingo" for Club Members to play. They are awarding prizes to the first three Bingo winners.

April 2020	Maternal and Child Health Month
April 25, 2020	POSTPONED Shine for Shelter Box, Renfrew, PA
April 25, 2020	RLI, Muncy, Pa
May 2020	Youth Service Month
May 9, 2020	RLI, Zelienople, PA
June 2020	Rotary Fellowships Month
June 27, 2020	RLI, Shepherdstown, WV
August 28-30, 2020	District Conference, Doubletree, Cranberry Twp., PA

CALL FOR DISTRICT TEAM MEMBERS

All members of Rotary District 7280 are encouraged to volunteer to be a member of one of our District teams and share their experience and talents to help strengthen and support clubs in our District. The following is a list of our teams:

Community Service	Peace Fellows
Foundation	Public Image
Interact	Scholarships
Membership	Strategic Planning

If you have an interest in serving on one of these committees, please contact Ken Fleeson by email at kfleeson@lectromat.com, or by phone at 724-355-1619.

