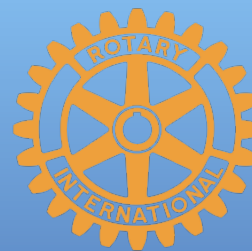




Rotary

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

Wow, where did February go! Someone said maybe it is because February is a short month, but this is a leap year and we are only one or two days short of a normal month which should not have a minor bearing. I then started to think about most typical February's and this is when most of us start to develop "cabin fever". With the mild winter we have had, that could not be the reason either. I then looked back at what has been going on in the District and it all made sense. Since "Ground Hog Day" there were over eight club fundraisers, the dedication of a new community room, a Rotary Ski Day, the International Dinner with the Youth Exchange, a District Finance Committee meeting, a District Strategic Planning Committee meeting, and five group club meetings with club officers and members from sixteen clubs. After being a part of most of these activities and seeing the fellowship and fun our clubs are having, it occurred to me, "time flies when you're having fun."

Speaking of fellowship and fun, I hope everyone is getting as excited about this year's District Conference as we are. All year we have been promoting the conference with the focus on family and fun. The purpose of District Conference is to recognize and celebrate the accomplishments that our members, clubs and district have had throughout the year while providing for a memorable fellowship experience. In order to achieve these successes, there is a great deal of hard work that is done, often behind the scenes, and it requires a good deal of our time. In some cases, this means taking time away from our families in order to achieve the desired results, and in some cases involves the family to help pull things off. To learn more about the conference and how you can register, [please click here](#).

Continued on Page 3.

DISTRICT CONFERENCE 2019-2020 CHALLENGE

A member of our District has offered two challenges regarding attendance at the District Conference in May:

- 1) 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.
- 2) 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.

MARCH
is

WATER & SANITATION MONTH



Peacebuilder Clubs Update: Welcome Bradford and Presque Isle!

District #7280 has hit the 15 Club mark for designated Peacebuilder Clubs. Thanks to Bradford and Presque Isle for sending in your applications!

Now we have a quorum to start holding regular meetings of the District-level Peacebuilder Committee and start planning our overall peace efforts. If each of the Peacebuilder Clubs would email District Peacebuilder Chair Diane Chido (dchido@dcanalytics.net) contact information for their Club representative to the District Committee, we can have our first planning teleconference.

I have faith that the remaining 28 Clubs will soon join us and we will have a huge, rowdy District Peacebuilder Committee that will do great things with District support, with widely diverging ideals on our direction and productive remote meetings. RI has made the process very simple: Your Club's Board agrees to submit your one-page [application, which is normally](#) processed within a single working day. Then you will be able to find your Club on the global [Peacebuilder Map](#) for the world to see your Club's commitment to peace. Let's have the first District-wide cluster and get our stories into *The Rotarian*!

Time to Apply for RI Peace Fellowships!!!!

The 2021 Rotary Peace Fellowship application period is now open. Candidates have **until 31 May to submit** applications to their District. 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.



Slippery Rock Peace Pole Dedication March 23 – All Rotarians and Friends Welcome!

A Peace Pole is an internationally-recognized symbol of the hopes and dreams of the entire human family, standing vigil in silent prayer for peace on earth. Each Peace Pole bears the message *May Peace Prevail on Earth* in different languages on each of its four or six sides. There are estimated to be more than 250,000 Peace Poles across the world dedicated as monuments to peace.

Planting a Peace Pole is a way of bringing people together to inspire, awaken and uplift the human consciousness the world over. It is a wonderful project for any community, organization or your home. Peace Poles are now recognized as the most prominent international symbol and monument to peace. They remind us to think, speak and act in the spirit of peace and harmony. They stand as a silent visual for peace to prevail on earth.

PDG Paul Rizza is sponsoring the Peace Pole for the Slippery Rock Rotary Club. It will be dedicated in a ceremony on March 23rd 2020 at 12:30pm outside the Community Library at 465 North Main Street in Slippery Rock. All Rotarians and Friends are welcome to join us for the ceremony, please RSVP to PDG Judy Hughes judy7280dg1718@gmail.com if you plan to attend.

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*

I hope you are considering attending the conference so that my family can celebrate with you and your family the successes you have accomplished and thank you for all you have done for your community, our District and Rotary.

As we move into March, DGE Beth, along with her counterparts from D7305 and D 7360, have been working on their President Elect Trainings which will be held on March 7th and 8th. The time spent during these trainings not only provides our incoming presidents with valuable information on how to plan for their year as club leaders, it is a great way to network with their peers and enjoy some great fellowship. We talk about being a "Family of Rotary", and events such as these help to reinforce this.

I would like to thank Bill Wagner and the District Strategic Planning Committee for their work on updating our Strategic Plan. Bill put together a very structured approach which resulted in a productive and informative meeting on how our District can improve on supporting our clubs and members. Bill is in the process of collating all of the information and will be working with the committee to finalize the plan which will be presented at District Assembly in April.

Earlier I referred to "Groundhog Day" as one of the many events this month. My initial reference was to Phil's prognostication for an early spring, and thus far he is correct. But to take it further, if you Google "Groundhog Day", there is another reference to "a situation in which a series of unwelcome or tedious events appear to be recurring in exactly the same way". To take it further, if you Google the meaning of "the spring season", it is the season of new beginnings and transformations. As I look back at the accomplishments of many of our clubs, I commend them for thinking it has been "the spring season" all year as they have found ways to create new beginnings, transform and not repeat tedious events that have yielded the same unwelcome events of the past.

Yours in Rotary Service,

Ken



By Jack Cohen, District Membership Chair

“District 7280 is breaking recent records with progress this year and with sustained effort should return to the Success Track for a net membership gain.” - Terry R Weaver, Assistant Rotary Coordinator, Data Analysis & Strategy, Zone 33

As you can see above, things are working. I want to congratulate you on bringing in new Rotarians to your clubs. Continue on that trend til the end of the year and our District Governor will be quite happy with the success of the gain in the District membership. I'll be sending out to all of our club memberships chairs, a new membership packet with a training program for each new member. You will receive a paper copy and an emailed copy, so that you may tailor it to your specific club. Always remember, if I may be of service to you or your club, do not hesitate to reach out or call me. Watch my next month's article on diversity.

Jack

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(724) 272-1248

DISTRICT FOUNDATION UPDATE

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

	2020	2019
Clubs who have given:	35 of 43 (81.4%)	31 of 43 (72.1%)
Number of Members: <i>July 1 values</i>	1301	1330
Annual Program Fund Giving Year to Date:	\$105,283.63	\$83,635.60
Annual Fund per Capita Giving Year to Date:	\$80.93	\$62.88

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

1. Cranberry Township	\$291.94
2. Sharon	\$251.15
3. Greenville	\$193.13
4. Evans City	\$187.50
5. Zelienople	\$167.72
6. Kane	\$157.08
7. Butler	\$152.40
8. Slippery Rock	\$150.00
9. Presque Isle	\$142.35
10. Port Allegany	\$134.05
11. Clarion	\$120.69
12. New Wilmington	\$100.91
13. Ellwood City	\$100.00

Congratulations, and thank you, the the members of Bradford, Butler, Cranberry Township, Ellwood City, Evans City, Kittanning, Portersville-Prospect and Smethport for achieving 100% giving to the Foundation.



The Rotaract Club of Pitt Bradford helped at the Pancake Breakfast hosted by the Bradford Rotary Club.



Congratulations to the Evans City Rotary on the dedication of the new community room at the Evans City Library.



Youth Exchange Students from Districts 7280, 7305 and 7360 at the International Dinner.



Mt. Jewett Rotarians preparing some "goodies" for their Chocolate Indulgence Fund Raiser.



Beautiful day for Butler AM's Carved in Ice event.

March 2020	Water and Sanitation Month
March 6-8, 2020	PETS & AG Training, Penn Stater, State College, PA
March 28, 2020	RLI, Johnstown, PA
April 2020	Maternal and Child Health Month
April 18, 2020	District Assembly, Dawndi's, Franklin, PA
April 25, 202	RLI, Muncy, Pa
April 30, 200	Zone 33 District Membership Chair Summit – Charlottesville, VA
May 2020	Youth Service Month
May 1-2, 202	Zone 33 Leadership Team Training Seminar – Charlottesville, VA
May 9, 2020	RLI, Zelienople, PA
May 15-17, 2020	District Conference, Doubletree, Cranberry Twp., PA
June 2020	Rotary Fellowships Month
June 6-10, 2020	111 th Rotary International Convention, Honolulu, Hawaii
June 27, 2020	RLI, Shepherdstown, WV



The 3rd Annual 'Shine for ShelterBox' Evening of Gourmet Dining Fundraiser, hosted by District ShelterBox Ambassadors John Marshall and Tom and Marie Grant, will be held on **Saturday, April 25**, at the Stables of Connoquenessing in Renfrew. Catering by John Marshall! Gift Basket Raffle! Entertainment! Fun! Registration is \$50/person with a table of 8 discount priced at \$350. Register at Zelienople.rotary.org. Call 412-303-2403 for more information.

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

UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

More Info On Club Facebook Pages & Websites

Port Allegany Purse Bingo – Sunday, March 1
 DuBois Rotary Auction – Saturday, March 7
 Punxsutawney Rotary Auction – Sat, March 21
 Zelienople Shamrock Shuffle – Sat, March 21
 Leechburg Pancake Breakfast – Sat, April 4

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:

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

We invite you to share your experience and talents to help strengthen and support clubs in our District.

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.