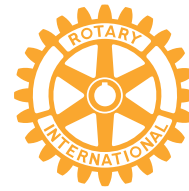




Rotary

District 7280



District Governor's message

As I write this address, I have recently returned from Zone Institute in Erie. As some of you have heard me say in the past my first Zone experience put me on the path of doing more in Rotary. The inspiration you receive from the numerous speakers and overall experience is difficult to articulate. If you have someone in your club who attended Zone, I encourage you to give them 5 or 10 minutes at a meeting soon to share their experience. I think you will find each person in attendance has something unique to share. In addition to the usual Zone experiences, this year as the District Governor of the host District, Paula and I had the pleasure of hosting RI President Elect Mark Maloney and his wife Gay. We greatly enjoyed spending time with them and the opportunity to have numerous conversations with RIPE Mark about his vision for the future of Rotary. I returned from Erie energized and excited about our ability to create lasting change for the better in the world and our communities.

I do have a number of observations I want to share from September. I do have a notepad and half of another filled with notes from my official visits as well which I plan to organize and pull a few common items from to expand on in future newsletters:

- First, District Directories are out. If you haven't gotten 2 for your Club look for them at the Fall workshop which is November 3rd. Please sign up soon
- Gas has gotten cheaper close to home. Competition is good for the short run, I'm not sure about the long run it.
- Does your club have a Strategic Plan?
- It is not likely I will have a career in purse modeling - Nor will Jim Cassidy.
- Register your World Polio Day events with RI
- There is a Bruin, PA. I'm guessing there is a story to that name.
- I would estimate clubs raise and invest 3/4 of million dollars to improve our communities each year.

Don't underestimate the impact your members and your club have on your communities and the world.

My Rotary Story

by Aaron Sines, Rotary Club of Mercer

The nice thing about everyone's "Rotary Story," is that there will never be two of the same. My story starts with "Rotary Fries."

The Rotary Club of Oakland, Maryland sells French Fries at all the local events in the area. And you don't go to the Autumn Glory Parade without getting "Rotary Fries". And yes, they are amazing! So up until Katlin Bowser, past Mercer Rotary President, invited me to a meeting, I still wasn't quite sure what Rotary actually was, or did, besides making French Fries.

My first Rotary meeting was when then District Governor Ruzhdi Bakalli was making his visit to the Mercer Club. I have to admit it was a little overwhelming but I kept coming back. After a few meetings, it felt like I just belonged there, so why not join?

A little backstory on myself... I have always had a passion and desire to volunteer and serve others. I've been to other countries on many mission trips, but it's not always possible to go to other places and serve others, so why not make Mercer my mission field? And Rotary gives me that opportunity to do many of those things!

Rotary has given me a purpose in my life. I think we all struggle with questions like: *What is my purpose? Why am I here?* The whole "Service Above Self" is what I've always lived by even before I knew anything about Rotary. Having the passion to help others doesn't just appear overnight; it is with you from the start. It's the way you are raised as a child. It molds you as a young adult. It's the example you want to set for your kids. I strive daily to be that example and surround my children with people who have the same passion for serving others. Whether it's my personal life or in my career, I have met numerous people that I consider lifelong friends and some even family.

I am often asked, why Rotary? This is what I tell them... Rotary is just one avenue that we can use to try and make our world a better place, whether we are talking "our world" here in Mercer or "the world" as in the Nakivale Rotaract Club, the first ever club inside a refugee settlement camp, located in Uganda. We are part of a community that strives to #BeTheInspiration in the world.

1 Peter 4:10 in the Bible says: "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." We all have special gifts and we all come from different walks of life, but that's what makes Rotary such a unique service organization. Whether it's pouring wine at a wine tasting raising money for Polio or giving a child in Africa the Polio vaccine, each role is just as important as the next.

My words to live by:

Be Proud To Be A Rotarian. Be Passionate About What You Do.

Be The Good In The World! Dream small to make a bigger impact.

And simply: Live your Life and Be A Person of Action.



On the left: Aaron Sines and his daughter Amelia at Road Clean-up with the Rotary Club of Mercer.

On the right: Aaron (left) with Ken Fleeson, District Governor Elect from the Rotary Club of Rich-Mar, working on the Playhouse Construction Project at this year's District Conference in June.

What's Your Rotary Story? We'd love to hear from you! Send an email to Kathy Corcoran, District Public Image Chair, at corcoran7667@gmail.com to get started.

Announcements:

- **Advisory Board** will meeting early in November. Details will be sent shortly
- **Butler AM** is holding a fund raiser October 27, 2018. More info here: [Ghosts And Giggles](#)
- **Smethport** is having a fund raiser October 21, 2018. For information: [Purse Bingo](#)
- **Fall workshop** is scheduled for Sharon, November 3, 2018: [Registration form](#)
- **District Match for new PHF**: Reminder that the District will match one for one dollars contributed to become a first time Paul Harris Fellow.
- **Mercer** Rotary club is having a **Fundraiser** selling Rotary Logo items made by Wendell August Forge: [More information on Mercer's Wendell August Forge Fund Raiser](#)

DG Project Contributions: Thank you

CLUBS	AMOUNT		CLUBS	AMOUNT
Bessemer/ Mohawk	\$220.00		Meadville A.M.	\$300.00
Bradford	\$420.00		Mercer	\$640.00
Butler	\$1,000.00		Mt. Jewett	\$350.00
Butler A.M.	\$760.00		New Castle	
Chicora-East Brady			New Wilmington	\$460.00
Clarion	\$1,140.00		Oil City	\$300.00
Corry			Port Allegany	\$520.00
Cranberry Township	\$740.00		Portersville- Prospect	\$340.00
Cranberry Twp. Sunrise	\$840.00		Presque Isle (Erie)	\$420.00
DuBois	\$740.00		Punxsutawney	
Edinboro	\$180.00		Rich-Mar	\$1,100.00
Ellwood City	\$480.00		Sharon	\$480.00
Erie	\$3,140.00		Sheffield	\$180.00
Evans City	\$180.00		Slippery Rock	\$760.00
Franklin	\$820.00		Smethport	\$300.00
Greenville	\$660.00		Titusville	\$515.00
Grove City	\$720.00		Warren	\$1,025.00
Hermitage	\$380.00		Wesleyville	\$120.00
Kane	\$1,080.00		Zelienople	\$880.00
Kittanning	\$400.00			
Leechburg	\$340.00		TOTAL COLLECTED	\$23,950.00
Linesville	\$260.00			
Meadville	\$760.00		CLUBS PARTICIPATING	38

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Vocational Scholarship Contributions:

Voc Tech Scholarship				
CLUBS	AMOUNT		CLUBS	AMOUNT
Bessemer/ Mohawk	\$100.00		Meadville A.M.	\$100.00
Bradford	\$100.00		Mercer	\$100.00
Butler	\$100.00		Mt. Jewett	\$100.00
Butler A.M.	\$100.00		New Castle	
Chicora-East Brady			New Wilmington	\$100.00
Clarion	\$100.00		Oil City	
Corry			Port Allegany	\$100.00
Cranberry Township	\$100.00		Portersville- Prospect	\$100.00
Cranberry Twp. Sunrise	\$100.00		Presque Isle (Erie)	\$100.00
DuBois	\$100.00		Punxsutawney	
Edinboro	\$100.00		Rich-Mar	\$100.00
Ellwood City	\$100.00		Sharon	\$100.00
Erie	\$100.00		Sheffield	\$100.00
Evans City	\$100.00		Slippery Rock	\$100.00
Franklin	\$100.00		Smethport	\$100.00
Greenville	\$100.00		Titusville	\$100.00
Grove City	\$100.00		Warren	\$100.00
Hermitage	\$100.00		Wesleyville	\$100.00
Kane	\$100.00		Zelienople	\$100.00
Kittanning	\$100.00			
Leechburg	\$100.00			
Linesville	\$100.00		TOTAL COLLECTED	\$3,700.00
Meadville	\$100.00		CLUBS PARTICIPATING	37
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District 7280 Calendar

October 24, 2018	World Polio Day
November 3, 2018	Fall Workshop, First Presbyterian Church of Sharon, PA
November, 2018	Advisory Board - location/time TBD
November 30, 2018	World Affairs
January 5, 2019	District Finance Meeting - location/time TBD
January 2019	International Assembly - DGE Ken Fleeson San Diego, CA
February 2019	PETS Orientation - Multiple
March 8-10, 2019	PETS & AG Training, Penn Stater, State College, PA
April, 2019	District Assembly
May 17-19, 2019	District Conference - Sheraton Erie Bayfront, Erie, PA
	To book your room: <u>Reservations link</u>
June 1-6, 2019	110th International Convention, Hamburg, Germany
June 2019	Zone 33 Foundation Training
July 2019	District Governor Ken Fleeson's official visits
November 19-22, 2019	Zone 33-34 Leadership Summit, Atlanta, GA
May 15-17, 2020	District Conference - DoubleTree, Warrendale, PA
June 6-10, 2020	111th International Convention, Honolulu, Hawaii