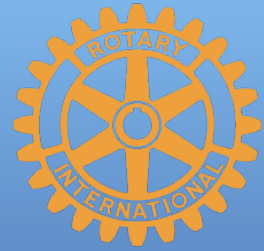




Rotary

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 September go? We are having fun visiting the clubs and learning about all the good they do for their communities. We are also having a blast attending club community service activities and look forward to many more.

The other great part of making the club visits is taking in all of the natural beauty of the countryside of our district and stopping from time to time to visit a State Park or attraction that I never knew existed. A great example is Kinzua State Park in Mt. Jewett. In 2003 a tornado took out the center portion of the Kinzua Viaduct, which was once the longest and tallest railroad structure at 2,053 feet long and 301 feet high over the Kinzua Gorge. In 2011 the state established a state park on the site and preserved a portion of the bridge. You can walk 600 feet out on the remaining support towers and gaze into the gorge as well as still see the support towers that were toppled as a result of the tornado. Amazing how we will travel hundreds or thousands of miles on vacation to see other parts of the country and totally ignore what sits in our own back yard.

October is "Economic and Community Development Month". In addition, October 24th is World Polio Day. Please take time to read more about both of these items later in this newsletter.

Continued on Page 3

WHERE IS DG KEN?

It's Contest Time again! First correct answer sent by email to the editor at corcoran7667@gmail.com will receive 100 points towards their next Paul Harris Award. Two conditions: You can't be a member of that Club and you can only win once in this contest. There are seven chances to win in this issue!



Photo #1



Photo #2

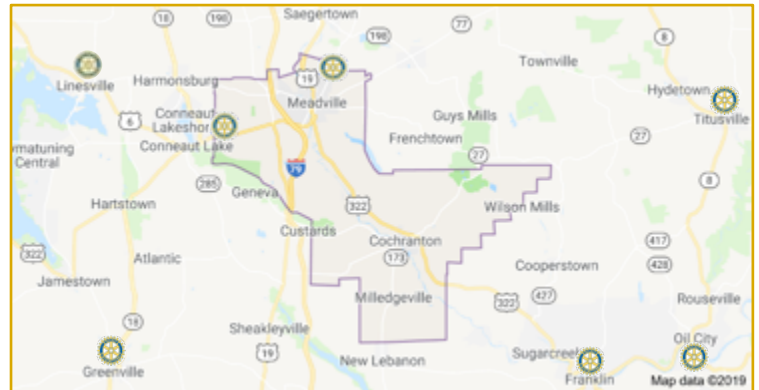
OCTOBER

is

ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MONTH



With the help of retired State Trooper Matt Harris, Crawford Central has been identified as the school district our 7280 District Peace Project will sponsor for the *Troopers Teaching Students* program. Once we have the funding secured, we can discuss with the school district which of the five elementary schools will be the most in need of this groundbreaking character development program.



Crawford Central School District and Proximate Rotary Clubs

Crawford Central has nearly 3,800 students from the City of Meadville, the Borough of Cochranton, Vernon, Union, West Mead, Fairfield, East Fairfield and Wayne Townships. The school district's central location and geographic dispersion gives lots of Clubs in our District a sense of kinship with it.

Matt is so excited to partner with Rotary that he has pledged to shift some other grant funding to support us, thus **reducing our annual sponsorship cost by \$4,000 to \$22,000**. The purpose of the program is for students to learn positive character traits and to learn to respect and trust law enforcement officers. Serving State Troopers will work with the students every week for the full 2020-21 school year. If you missed Matt's presentation on his *Character, Be About It* program at our 2019 District 7280 Conference, you can watch the video about the program, accessible here: <https://www.characterbeaboutit.org/>.

This character building program directly supports 4 of RI's 6 areas of focus: Peace and Conflict Prevention/Resolution, Maternal and Child Health; Basic Education and Literacy; and Economic and Community Development. Rotary encourages us to wage peace at the Community, Club, District, and International levels. This program supports our larger Community through the generosity of all of our Clubs for a District-wide project. We need to have all the funding in place by July 2020 to implement the program in the selected elementary school for Fall 2020. Please contact Diane Chido dchido@dcanalytics.net on how to support this District-level peace effort.

Peacebuilder Clubs 'Race to 43' Update!

Congratulations to the Clarion, Mercer, Zelienople, Oil City and Port Allegany Clubs for joining the Rotary Club of Erie as RI-designated Peacebuilder Clubs! They will no doubt blaze the trail forward for District 7280 to have the biggest Peacebuilding Club cluster in the entire world! See the [Peacebuilder Map](#) and submit your [application](#) today!

Nearly 800 million people live on less than \$1.90 a day. As Rotary members we are passionate about providing sustainable solutions to poverty. While I know we have a tremendous need in our local communities, we have networks and programs that offer food and other assistance to those in need. For many others across the world, such programs do not exist.

Through our support of the Rotary Foundation, we can help make an impact in those areas that are far less fortunate. We create opportunities to help individuals and communities thrive financially and socially. In addition, Rotary members train people to become resources for their community, offer networking activities, advise on new business development, and mathematics and financial management training.

Through microloans, individuals can learn to be entrepreneurs to become street vendors, rickshaw drivers, weavers and tailors. For example, in Ecuador, Rotary members helped grant more than 250 microloans and trained more than 270 community members in sewing, baking, plumbing, microcredit, business management and leadership. In West Cameroon, Rotary members gave farmers the skills needed to improve soil fertility, control of soil erosion, and market their produce.

There's an old saying, usually attributed to Confucius that goes something like "Give a man a fish, and you'll feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish, and you've fed him for a lifetime. Though our support of the Foundation, Rotary can teach individuals to "fish" as well as provide the fishing rod.

DISTRICT GOVERNOR MESSAGE - *Continued from Page 1*

On Saturday, October 19th, we will be hosting the District Workshop at the Ramada Inn, Clarion. Registration sheets were sent to the club presidents and secretaries in mid-September. The workshop will include the One Rotary Summit (ORS). The theme for this year's ORS is "Connected by our Stories". During the workshop we will learn about and understand the impact of telling stories to increase our connectivity. Those attending the ORS will jointly discover and develop creative ways to achieve and sustain membership growth and retention, to increase Rotary Foundation giving and project engagement, and to gain enhanced public image in their communities.

I encourage each club to send at least two members of their board or membership to the workshop and take home a personal action plan and a One Rotary Toolkit for use in their club.

Yours in Rotary Service,

Ken

MORE CONTEST PHOTOS – WHERE IS DG KEN?



Photo #3



Photo #4

By Jack Cohen, Membership Chair

Each Club should have a plan to bring in new members and continue the retention of existing members. These goals should be set-up by the President and the Board of Directors and reviewed at each meeting. At the meetings, the highs and lows of the Club's membership should be looked over and discussed. Using this review, a strategic plan for membership success can be created.

All members of the Club must be in agreement to ensure the success rate of their plans and goals. The key to success in planning and developing goals is to always discuss on a weekly basis. These issues need to be top of mind to the Club. The only way to succeed is by discussing the goals and how to achieve them.

Your Membership Chair must find ways to accomplish meeting the goals that are set. The success of every club is determined by the retention of the existing members and the ability to bring in new members. It's important to learn from new members the reason "why" they joined and to enhance the abilities of the current Rotarians to reach their own "why". If you are able to know the stories of one another, then the ability to achieve grows stronger.

Success breeds success. When we are all on the same track, we are going the same way. We know where we are and where we are headed. Good luck.

DISTRICT GRANT AWARDS FOR 2018 – 2019

Each year our District offers clubs the opportunity to apply for a District Grant of up to \$1,500.00 to help fund their efforts. The District Grant is a matching grant in that the club must fund at least fifty percent of the project. The following is a summary of the grants awarded. More detail on the grants can be found on the District Website under the "Programs" tab.

<u>Club</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Bessemer/Mohawk	Education	\$ 500.00
Butler A.M.	Community Development	1,500.00
Butler	Community Development	1,500.00
Cranberry Township	Food/agriculture	1,000.00
Cranberry Township Sunrise	Education	400.00
Cranberry Township Sunrise	Community Development	500.00
Cranberry Township Sunrise	Water	500.00
DuBois	Community Development	1,500.00
Greenville	Water	977.00
Grove City	Community Development	1,500.00
Hermitage	Education	1,412.00
Kane	Community Development	1,488.00
Kittanning	Community Development	1,000.00
Leechburg	Education	500.00
Leechburg	Community Development	553.00
Mercer	Community Development	1,500.00
Oil City	Community Development	1,500.00
Port Allegany	Education	757.00
Portersville-Prospect	Community Development	1,297.00
Presque Isle (Erie)	Education	1,140.00
Punxsutawney	Community Development	1,500.00
Rich-Mar	Water	750.00
Rich-Mar	Health	750.00
Sharon	Education	850.00
Zelienople	Water	1,400.00



World Polio Day is a day on which we celebrate the progress made in the campaign to rid the world of Polio. On October 24th, Rotary will be hosting an online Global update on Facebook. For those individuals or clubs that would like to join the update please visit the Rotary International Facebook page to RSVP for the event.

While huge gains have been made in the eradication of Polio worldwide, there is still a lot of work that still needs to be done. Year to date there have been a total of 78 new Wild Polio Virus outbreaks with sixteen of these in Afghanistan and 62 in Pakistan. This compares to a total of thirty-three outbreaks of the Wild Polio Virus for the entire year of 2018 with 21 and 12 in Afghanistan and Pakistan respectively.

During the month of October, we encourage clubs to consider hosting a World Polio Day event, dedicate a club meeting to learning more about the need to continue the campaign, and/or have a fundraiser dedicated to the End Polio campaign. To learn more about World Polio Day and to download a "Tool Kit" to help with your efforts, please go to www.endpolio.org/world-polio-day.

In addition to World Polio Day, I recommend that everyone take a few minutes and read pages 30 – 49 of the October 2019 Rotarian. This is a wonderful article about PolioPlus with examples of the unexpected outcomes that have been realized through Rotary's efforts to eradicating polio to help many more individuals and communities. In several instances, these unexpected outcomes fit in with "Economic and Community Development Month".

On a related topic, some of you may have heard about a recent outbreak of Polio in the Philippines along with a second case pending confirmation from the World Health Organization. When originally reported these outbreaks were linked to the Wild Polio Virus. Upon further investigation, these outbreaks have been confirmed as the circulating vaccine-derived polio virus type 2 (cVDPV2). No cases of wild poliovirus have been discovered, and the Philippines' polio-free status is not at risk.

While we are saddened by this news and for the child, especially as Rotary approached the 40 year anniversary of the first immunization project in the Philippines in 1979, it is important to remember that cVDPVs are extremely rare and only occur in under-immunized communities. Vaccination coverage in the Philippines has been steadily declining over the past few years, and the case reported underscores how critical it is to increase vaccination coverage to at least 95% of children to stop the future spread of polio.

Rotary and our partners are working with counterparts and public health authorities in the Philippines to strengthen surveillance and support immunization responses in the coming weeks and months. In addition, on September 20, 2019, the 10 District Governors in the Philippines signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Health to work together to ensure success of the upcoming polio immunization campaign.



District 7280 Calendar

OCTOBER 2019

October 2019	Economic and Community Development Month
October 5, 2019	RLI, Salvation Army, Mt. Lebanon, PA – Deadline to register is 9/21/19
October 6, 2019	Nominating Committee (DG 2022-2023), Ramada Inn, Clarion
October 19, 2019	Fall Workshop, Ramada Inn Clarion
October 24, 2019	World Polio Day
October 31, 2019	District “Servant Leader Scholarship” applications due
November 2019	Rotary Foundation Month
November 2, 2019	RLI, Washington County Public Schools, Hagerstown, MD
November 3, 2019	District Advisory Board Meeting, Butler Country Club, Butler, PA
November 10, 2019	Rotary Day at the UN
November 19-22, 2019	Zone 33 – 34 Leadership Summit, Atlanta, GA
December 2019	Disease Prevention and Treatment Month
January, 2020	Vocational Service Month
January 1, 2020	Updates of Club membership due to Rotary International
February 2020	Peace and Conflict Prevention / Resolution Month
February 2020	PETS Orientation – Multiple Sessions
February 23, 2020	Rotary’s 115 th Anniversary
March 2020	Water and Sanitation Month
March 6-8, 2020	PETS & AG Training, Penn Stater, State College, PA
April 2020	Maternal and Child Health Month
May 2020	Youth Service Month
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

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
- *Foundation
- *Interact
- *Membership
- *Peace Fellows
- *Public Image
- *Scholarships
- *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 Fleeason by email at kfleeason@lectromat.com, or by phone at 724-355-1619. Let’s all work together to make our Clubs and District stronger and become “Simply Irresistible.”



This is Photo #7 in our contest of “Where is DG Ken?” What club in our District meets online? Here’s a photo from their meeting on Sept. 27. This is too easy, right?

DISTRICT SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION DEADLINE IS OCT. 31ST

Rotary District 7280 offers scholarships for students who reside in the District and are in good standing of either their sophomore, junior or senior year of college. The scholarship, which can be up to \$5,000, is based upon the financial needs, academic achievement and community service activities of the applicant. Applicants will need the sponsorship of their local Rotary Club.

The application for the scholarship can be found on the District website, www.rotarydistrict7280.org, under the “Programs” tab. Deadline for the applications is October 31, 2019.

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