



2018-2019 Club Visits

Dear Club President,

It is an honor to be in my position to work with a strong group of Club Presidents to ***Be The Inspiration*** and ***#Changemakers*** in our communities, the district and the world. I'm excited about visiting your club and meeting your board and members.

During my club visit, I'd like to:

1. Share my "Rotary Moment" and passion for Service Above Self.
2. Promote the District Conference, October 20 at the Community Center in Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON.
3. Recognize your club's unsung heroes who benefit your club and your community. **Please share their names, along with a brief outline of their efforts, one week prior to my visit.**

During my meeting with your board, I'd like to:

1. Have a candid discussion about what you see as the most significant challenges/opportunities and how the District could provide helpful support.
2. Share your community service projects and their impact.
3. Interact with the board during the reports and the open discussions.
4. Review your goals in RCC and discuss strategies for success.

Your Assistant Governor will introduce me prior to my presentation at your club meeting. Please avoid scheduling other speakers for this day and allow 15 -20 minutes for my talk. I will be using a video presentation and will bring my laptop computer. Please arrange for a projector and screen for me and **confirm in advance that both will be available.**

If you'd like me to participate in special presentations, such as Paul Harris Fellow recognition or inducting a new member, I would be most pleased. **Let me know in advance, so I am prepared.**

To recap, please send the following information **at least one week** prior to my club visit:

1. A list of your club's achievement over the past year.
2. The names of club members you'd like me to recognize and the reasons.
3. Whether or not a projector and screen is available.
4. Any special presentations you wish me on your behalf.

If you have any questions, please let me know. In most cases, my husband will not be attending. Also, there is no need for much of the pomp and circumstance typically associated with the District Governor visit! Rather, I am looking forward to a relaxing, enjoyable visit with your Club members!

Working together, we can **Be The Inspiration!**

Following is the list of District 7090 guidelines for the annual official District Governor visit, which has been developed over the years.

Guidelines for the Governor Visit

Part of the rich history of Rotary is the annual visit to each club by its District Governor. This tradition is repeated every year in each of the over 34,000 Rotary clubs worldwide. The District Governor is elected to a one year term of office by representatives of the district. During that one special year in the Governor's life, he or she serves as the one officer of Rotary International in the district and directly represents the President of Rotary International. The guidelines below are offered to assist clubs in preparing for the Governor visit in a more causal manner, as requested by DG Melisa.

Guideline 1 – Pay attention to the visit schedule.

Remember that the Governor has a tight schedule for visiting the 68 clubs in the district plus the other official duties of the office.

Guideline 2 – Stay in touch with your Assistant Governor.

The Assistant Governor is responsible for coordinating the visit details between the Governor and the club. The AG should be consulted if there are any questions by the club. It is better to ask than to guess.

Guideline 3 – Plan for extra time before or after the visit to handle related activities.

Your Governor will meet with the club board immediately before or after the Official Visit. You may wish to take the Governor on a tour of the community to see the club's projects in the community. Be sure to coordinate this with the Governor in advance.

Guideline 4 – Invite partners and Youth members to the Governor visit.

Rotary is a family oriented activity. Partners of club members are always welcome at meetings. If possible, consider inviting members of your Interact or Rotaract Clubs. We want to do everything possible to make sure our Youth members feel like they are a part of the larger Rotary world!

Guideline 5 – Club members should plan on arriving early for the Governor Visit.

All club members, especially the President, should plan on arriving at the meeting at least 15 minutes early on the official visit date. This will give the Governor an opportunity to meet the Rotarians in a relaxed, social setting. The club President should always arrive early enough to welcome the Governor and Assistant Governor.

Guideline 6 – Make sure the Governor, Assistant Governor and their partners have a place to sit.

During the meal, the President, the Governor, the Assistant Governor and their partners should all be seated together and served first. A head table is optional and is not necessary if that is not the club's normal set up.

Guideline 7 – Recognize the nation of the Governor.

This district is fortunate to span two great countries. Make sure that both flags are displayed proudly in the meeting room. The flag of the club's country should be displayed left (as viewed from the audience) of the flag of the other country. If the club traditionally sings its national anthem before the meeting and the visiting Governor is from the other country, sing both anthems. Do the members a

favor and have the words to the other country's anthem available.

Guideline 8 – Do the official toast correctly.

If the club wishes to offer a toast before the meeting, here are the official toasts: "A toast to the Queen and Canada"; "A toast to the Office of the President of the United States;" and "A toast to Rotary International". Respectfully offer the toast to the visiting country first (that is, the Governor's country) followed by the home country. If individuals from other countries are present, typically an exchange student, the head of state of that country is often toasted as well. Remember, the toast is optional. If it is going to be done, make sure everyone has a beverage to toast with, even if it is only water.

Guideline 9 – The Governor is the program speaker for the Official Visit.

This seems obvious but surprisingly enough some clubs have been known to schedule another speaker on the day of the official visit. Allow the Governor 15 to 20 minutes to speak. This can be particularly tricky for breakfast and lunch clubs which run on a tight schedule. The President may elect to waive other business on this day.

Guideline 10 – The President introduces the Assistant Governor, the AG introduces the Governor.

The biography of the Governor is available on the district website. Be sure to ask the AG for his/her bio in advance of the meeting.

Guideline 11 – Someone should be appointed to thank the Governor.

The President or other member should thank the Governor following his/her speech. Presentation of a small gift is optional. Our recent governors have asked and suggested a presentation of a commitment or a check to The Rotary Foundation as a much appreciated thank you.

The most important guideline is to treat the Governor, the Assistant Governor and their partners as you would a guest in your own home. Make the Governor feel welcome and show that you respect and appreciate the time he/she gives to the role of Governor.

Melisa Schrock, District Governor 7090, 2018 - 2019



Melisa Schrock is a life-long resident of western New York. She and her husband John (also a Rotarian) are Partners at Schrock Metal Products, a manufacturing company specializing in custom metal fabrication. After her husband's retirement in 2016, Melisa is now in charge of managing the day-to-day operations of their family-owned business.

Melisa has been a proud member of the Rotary Club of Akron Newstead since 2003, and has held several leadership roles within the club and at the district level. Melisa's participation includes:

- Club Youth Services Director
- Club Vocational Service Director
- Co-Chair International Services Director
- Club President 2012-2013
- Assistant Governor Area 12
- District Director of Service Projects
- District Conference Chair 2016



Melisa is a dedicated and enthusiastic Rotarian, and *Service Above Self* is more than just a tagline to her. She lives out this passion everyday with the work she does on behalf of Rotary. Her passions include water and sanitation projects, as well as anything related to youth. She and fellow Rotarians have spent many years working on these initiatives in Mano Dasse, Sierra Leone, Guatemala and Haiti. Melisa believes deeply in the potential of our youth today. In addition to being involved in many youth service activities within Rotary, Melisa helped to develop a mentor program for troubled youth, called *Pathways to Success*, at Akron Central High School. This program involves placing “at risk” youth with community partners in a work/mentorship program. Proudly, the first student who came to her business through *Pathways to Success* is now a successful computer programmer/engineer at Schrock Metal Products and now helps to give back by helping mentor new students coming to the business from this program. She also shares her passion for service with youth in the local community. In December 2017, she will be chaperoning a group of 8 young ladies (some from the Akron Newstead Interact Club) to the Dominican Republic to work on a service project to build a new education center in the poor community of Bani, Dominican Republic. She hopes that by teaching kids how to serve others, this will inspire our future generations to continue practicing our motto *Service Above Self*.

Both Melisa and her husband John are members of the Paul Harris Society and the Bequest Society. Together they have 4 children and 5 grandchildren. In addition to spending time with her family, Melisa enjoys quilting, scrap booking and ANYTHING Rotary!