



## **District Council Minutes Saturday, April 7, 2018**

**Location:** Best Western Hotel & Conference Center, St. Catharines, ON

**No. of Attendees:** 43 physically present/ 1 Zoom guest introduced: Gordon Crann, president of new Rotary E-club of Social Innovators (RESI), and also District Membership Recruitment chair, joined by Zoom online meeting software.

**Call to Order:** 08:45 a.m. by Governor Reg Madison, welcoming all to the meeting. “Wow! Never before have I seen this many Rotarians at District Council”. In honor of National Beer Day!

**Introductions:** DG Reg asked us to announce ourselves with our name, club name and role(s), District involvement(s).

Special announcement by Bob Artis that the District Conference in his year 2019 – 2020, will be a Rotary D7090 Cruise!

**Invocation:** Margaret Andrewes, AG. Margaret invited us to reflect – in saying, that service happens in laughter and friendship, in quiet conviction, with firm intention, in growing kinship to all humanity, in attention to *service above self*. She encouraged the attendees that as we wait for the weather to turn, let us think spring thoughts - thoughts about our DGE, our presidents elect, our clubs. Let us think about new opportunities to serve in new ways as we craft our new strategic plan, about the role each of us plays to make the world a better place through Rotary, thankfulness for our friends in Rotary, and thankful that spring will arrive.

Margaret also noted that this invocation was inspired by a fellow Rotarian from Salmon Arm, British Columbia, Shawn Bird. She noted that Shawn will create a special invocation for a special Rotary event upon request and in exchange for a Rotary Foundation donation. Her website is [www.shawnbird.com](http://www.shawnbird.com).

**Rotary Moment:** Jim Morabito, Chair of Paul Harris Society. Jim shared that his Rotary moment was 30 years in the making. His love of the Rotary Foundation (a 4-star charity) was reflected in his years of support. It culminated at a District Foundation Dinner when PDG Art Wing put his hand on his shoulder and said, “It’s time for you to join the Paul Harris Society”.

Today, Jim said, “I am chair of D7090 Paul Harris Society. He also noted his willingness to come speak to the clubs about the opportunity to take your giving to a new level.

### **Consent Agenda:**

**MOTION BY KAREN OAKES, PDG, TO ACCEPT THE CONSENT AGENDA;  
SECONDED BY MARLEE DIEHL, IPDG. MOTION CARRIED.**

**New D7090 District Strategic Plan: Marlee Diehl, IPDG, Chair & Kevin Crosby, PDG.**  
Marlee introduced her committee members that did the planning, including Anne Bermingham, Kevin Crosby, Karen Oakes, Reg Madison and Melisa Schrock.

Kevin kicked off the workshop portion with a question, “How many customers from our community of 2200 Rotarians in D7090 shop at our store”? Several responses, but Kevin indicated his best guess is 10 to 20 percent. And, further stated that you can’t force members to shop at our store. So, in considering this – the committee with input from all the surveys and face to face meeting developed a vision and five strategic directions.

**Vision: Cultivating club ownership for being even more vibrant and effective.**

### **5 Strategic Directions:**

- **Educate and guide club on innovative ways to recruit and retain new members.**
- **Train the current and future club leaders to provide stronger leadership at the club level.**
- **Assist the clubs to embrace image and awareness.**
- **Provide relevant and meaningful resources to support clubs.**
- **Educate and guide club on getting more involved with youth.**

With that, Kevin asked everyone to pick a table to work on one of the 5 strategic directions. Each table has 10 minutes to work on developing 3 actions or tactics to work on first. Scribes assigned by each table for reporting.

Kevin then shared the current D7090 organizational structure. He asked us to consider a blank page and the question - should we reorganize the resources/positions/committee structure of the district to better support the plan? Each table was asked to make a list of ideas generated and report out on one of them.

The notes from the tables will be typed up to be considered by the strategic planning committee as part of its planning process. Strategic Plan will be presented to District Council for approval in June.

### **MOPP Amendment: Kevin Crosby, PDG**

*Prepare a budget of District Expenditures for the upcoming Rotary year in cooperation with the relative District Governor (District Governor Elect) to be submitted to the clubs, at least 2 weeks prior to the event at which the incoming club presidents, or their delegates, must vote to approve the budget. This event may be either (1) District Club Leadership Training, or (2) an*

*online meeting of incoming club presidents or their delegates. In either case, there must be an opportunity for incoming presidents (or their delegates) to ask questions and seek clarification prior to voting on the proposed budget. The attendance at the event and the final vote tally will be recorded and the budget must be approved by 2/3 of the voting members in attendance.*

**MOTION BY JACK AMICO, PDG, TO ACCEPT THE AMENDMENT TO THE MOPP; SECONDED BY GLEN CHRISTENSEN, RLI CHAIR. MOTION CARRIED.**

**District Governance – Incorporation: Karen Oakes, PDG, Zone 24 FND Coordinator**

Karen spoke to the background of her bringing the issue of D7090 incorporation to the District Council. She shared her research, training, discussions with attorneys and insurance and leadership encouragement to proceed. Next steps will include coordinating a proposal with Finance and Legislation committees. Costs, though reduced due to the assistance of Rotarian attorney Arnie Zellman (Buffalo) and partner, could be approximately \$20K (rough estimate), which would be paid by D7090 reserves. Karen also indicated that the approval will have to be gained by 2/3 of the clubs. She indicates this will be accomplished through a Zoom information meeting, followed by a letter delivered by postal service delivered ballot.

~~**Membership Zone & Rotary International: Brian Carmichael, ARC, PDG.**~~ Brian was unable to make the meeting.

**Bob Morrow presented DG Reg with framed “Tomato Seeds” badge - certified to have traveled in outer space”. See January Rotarian magazine for more information on Bob’s project.**

**Area Realignment: Bob Morrow, Co-chair, AG Dev. & Kevin Crosby, PDG**

Bob shared the ad hoc committee’s recommendation regarding Assistant Governor areas. It will take effect July 1. (See report attached).

**International Service Committee: John DePaolo, Director, Service Projects**

(See minutes of International Service Committee recommendation to District Council, attached).

**MOTION BY JACK AMICO, PDG; SECONDED BY KAREN OAKES, PDG, TO APPROVE THE WEST SENECA CLUB FOR CLUB TO CLUB SOLICITATION TO RAISE MONEY FOR THE MEDICAL CLINIC EXPANSION IN SIERRA LEONE. THERE WILL BE NO MATCHING FUNDS FROM RI OR D7090 FOR THIS PARTICULAR PROJECT. MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION BY RICK STERNE, PDG; SECONDED BY BOB MORROW, AG DEV. CO-CHAIR, TO APPROVE THE AMHERST SOUTH CLUB FOR CLUB TO CLUB SOLICITATION FOR THE SCIENCE LAB UPGRADE AT KVKV SCHOOL. MOTION CARRIED.**

**Membership & Onboarding: Kevin Crosby, Director & Tamara Coleman-Lawrie, Chair**

Tamara shared the key learning results of the committee’s new member survey. She also shared key considerations for future member development and what the committee learned from the

respondents. **(See report attached).** Announcement – food truck webinars. The one on New Member Onboarding is April 24<sup>th</sup>. Register online.

**District Accessibility Committee: Rob Benzel, Co-chair**

Rob indicated that a survey was distributed at MDPETS with the assistance of Bob Artis, DGN. He noted there were about 20 responses to the survey (30%). **(See report attached).** Announcement - food truck webinar on June 14 at 7:30 p.m. Register online.

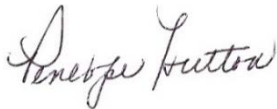
IPDG Marlee announced also Membership Retention webinar on May 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. Register online.

**Other Business:** Matt Falcone, Rotaractor, announced a need to raise \$2500 to travel to Tanzania for a project. Would welcome the opportunity to speak to clubs about it.

DG Reg thanked everyone for their participation.

**Meeting adjourned by acclaim at 12:05 p.m.**

**Respectfully submitted,**



**Penelope Hutton**  
**Executive Secretary**

NEXT MEETING: Hyatt Place Hotel, Amherst, NY from 8:45 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 2, 2018.

**Reports Attached:**

**Note the bolder reports were not in the original meeting agenda packet or have had amendments to them.**

**Consent Agenda Reports approved**

- Secretary's Report - Minutes of January 13, 2018 District Council Meeting
- Treasurer's Report
- DG Report
- DGE Report
- Membership Report
  - District Accessibility Report
  - Member Recruitment Report
  - New member On-boarding Report & Survey Results
- District Rotary Foundation Report
- Training Report
- Youth Services Report

**Additional Reports submitted**

MOPP Amendment

AG Reconfiguration Report Final

International Service Committee Minutes

**DGN Report**

March 29, 2018

## District Treasurer's Report.

### YTD Financial report - July 1, 2017 to February 28, 2018.

Please find attached the following financial reports:

1. Balance Sheet as at February 28, 2018.
2. Profit & Loss for the period July 1, 2017 to February 28, 2018.
3. Trial Balance as at February 28, 2018.
4. Key Bank Statement February 28, 2018.
5. BMO Bank Statement February 28, 2018.
6. Key Bank Grant Statement February 28, 2018.

Please note that financial statements have not been converted to be reported solely in U.S. dollars. At this time, balances are reported in both Canadian and U.S. dollars. The conversion to U.S. dollars will be completed at the year end during the audit process.

### Annual Assessment Dues

I am pleased to inform you that we have collected from all Rotary clubs in our District and there are no additional clubs remaining to pay their Annual Assessment Dues.

### Account Highlights

We had \$146,847 in the Key Bank U.S. account and \$117,461 in the BMO Canadian Account at February 28, 2018. Both in very strong positions.

The Key Bank U.S. Grant account balance per the bank statement is \$70,427. A difference from our accounting records exist from a prior year of \$5,660. I believe the correct balance is closer to the actual bank balance of \$70,427. To be confirmed.

The Accounts Receivables of \$5,225 U.S. and \$6,518 Cdn. represent mostly Slapshot monies received and one club's Annual Assessment dues that have been deposited in March 2018.

The Accounts Receivable loan - \$50,000 Cdn. is to the Rotary International Hosting Committee for the Rotary International conference held in Toronto June 2018.

### District Conference October 26 -29, 2017.

All the receipts and disbursements have been included in the financial reports ended February 28, 2018. I am pleased to inform you that the shortfall was only \$7,663. We had receipts from Club Assessment dues, registrations, and sponsorships totaling \$81,929. Disbursements for the hotel, speakers, entertainment, etc totaled \$89,592.

New Budget Format Proposed.

It is the intention for the 2018 - 2019 Rotary year to have a revised budget format. The new budget would ideally have a numbering system that ties directly to the chart of accounts so that cheque requests and deposits would be allocated exactly where they are intended.

We would anticipate having a draft format within the next few weeks to review.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rino Bidenti', written in a cursive style.

Rino Bidenti, CPA, CA, CMA

Rotary District 7090 Treasurer.

10:42 AM

## Rotary International District 7090

## Balance Sheet

03/30/18

As of February 28, 2018

Accrual Basis

	Feb 28, 18
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Chequing/Savings	
1010 · First Niagara US	146,303.15
1020 · BoM Cdn	117,461.43
1090 · Restricted Grants Committee	62,548.33
Total Chequing/Savings	326,312.91
Accounts Receivable	
1110 · Accounts Receivable - USD	5,225.00
1115 · Account Receivable - CDN	6,518.40
1117 · Accounts Receivable - Loan	50,000.00
Total Accounts Receivable	61,743.40
Other Current Assets	
1451 · Prepaid District Conference	500.00
Total Other Current Assets	500.00
Total Current Assets	388,556.31
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>388,556.31</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
2010 · Accounts Payable - USD	5,296.16
2020 · Accounts Payable - Cdn	121.31
Total Accounts Payable	5,417.47
Other Current Liabilities	
2025 · Future Rotaract Deposits	90.00
2350 · Unearned/deferred revenue	4,675.47
Total Other Current Liabilities	4,765.47
Total Current Liabilities	10,182.94
Total Liabilities	10,182.94
Equity	
3900 · Retained Earnings	213,900.89
Net Income	164,472.48
Total Equity	378,373.37
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>388,556.31</b>



10:37 AM

03/30/18

Accrual Basis

## Rotary International District 7090

## Profit &amp; Loss

July 2017 through February 2018

Jul '17 - Feb 18

## Ordinary Income/Expense

## Income

4000 · Club assessment	
4010 · General assessment	87,619.45
4020 · District Conference assessment	7,336.53
4030 · Insurance Assessment	34,008.97
<b>Total 4000 · Club assessment</b>	<b>128,964.95</b>
4200 · District Conference	
4202 · DC - Registrations	70,792.65
4204 · DC - Sponsorships	3,800.00
<b>Total 4200 · District Conference</b>	<b>74,592.65</b>
4400 · AG reimbursement	1,548.00
49900 · Uncategorized Income	0.00
5000 · Earned revenues	
5010 · Foundation dinner	4,516.00
5030 · RYLA	895.00
5035 · Slapshot	21,675.00
5040 · PETS	23,714.00
<b>Total 5000 · Earned revenues</b>	<b>50,800.00</b>
5060 · District Simplified Grants	72,144.00
5400 · Other income	
5401 · Other Income	2,175.00
5405 · Grant Management Seminar Revenue	496.65
5420 · RLI Training Revenue	4,425.00
<b>Total 5400 · Other income</b>	<b>7,096.65</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>335,146.25</b>

## Expense

6000 · Administration	
6030 · District council	733.01
6061 · District Website Club Runner	1,788.00
6062 · District Newsletter	1,600.00
6063 · Zoom Meetings	1,295.12
6080 · District office	
6081 · Office Support	12,400.00
6082 · Phone Charges	700.17
6083 · Postage	146.31
6084 · Office Supplies	59.91
6085 · Bank Charges	3,817.03
6080 · District office - Other	408.00
<b>Total 6080 · District office</b>	<b>17,531.42</b>
<b>Total 6000 · Administration</b>	<b>22,947.55</b>
69800 · Uncategorized Expenses	2,522.47
7000 · Directors and Committees	
7015 · District Simplified Grants	9,607.96
7050 · Rotary foundation	2,149.77
7100 · RYLA	615.70
7105 · Slapshot	12,610.00
7134 · Promotion of RI Theme	6,719.35
7135 · District badges and pins	471.72
7200 · Other committees	
7215 · District Gov - Change Over Even	382.98
<b>Total 7200 · Other committees</b>	<b>382.98</b>
<b>Total 7000 · Directors and Committees</b>	<b>32,557.48</b>
7132 · President/ Business card	1,221.76

10:37 AM

03/30/18

Accrual Basis

## Rotary International District 7090

## Profit &amp; Loss

July 2017 through February 2018

	Jul '17 - Feb 18
7500 · Standing Committees	
7520 · District insurance	27,679.40
7530 · Finance and audit	5,200.00
Total 7500 · Standing Committees	32,879.40
8000 · Training	
8010 · District conference	
8012 · DC - Expenses	89,591.85
Total 8010 · District conference	89,591.85
8030 · Club Leadership Training	1,845.00
8036 · Visioning/Release Your Inner Ro	156.48
8040 · District training	3,149.23
8050 · Assist Gov Training	1,065.35
8070 · Dist Gov Nominee Training	1,700.00
8085 · District Gov Training	1,830.00
Total 8000 · Training	99,337.91
8025 · President Training	2,477.08
8048 · Rotary Leadership Institue	4,011.12
8500 · Foundation Dinner Costs	4,213.47
Total Expense	202,168.24
Net Ordinary Income	132,978.01
Other Income/Expense	
Other Expense	
5409 · Exchange Gain/Loss	-31,494.47
Total Other Expense	-31,494.47
Net Other Income	31,494.47
Net Income	164,472.48

10:34 AM

## Rotary International District 7090

## Trial Balance

As of February 28, 2018

03/30/18

Accrual Basis

	Feb 28, 18	
	Debit	Credit
1010 · First Niagara US	146,303.15	
1015 · First Niagara Short Term Invest	0.00	
1020 · BoM Cdn	117,461.43	
1021 · Exchange on CDN bank balances	0.00	
1025 · BoM GIC	0.00	
1030 · Petty Cash Cdn	0.00	
1031 · Exchange Contra - Petty Cash	0.00	
1040 · Petty cash	0.00	
1050 · Transfers	0.00	
1070 · First Niagara Bank Special Acct	0.00	
1075 · Conference Grant	0.00	
1090 · Restricted Grants Committee	62,548.33	
1110 · Accounts Receivable - USD	5,225.00	
1115 · Account Receivable - CDN	6,518.40	
1117 · Accounts Receivable - Loan	50,000.00	
1099 · Undeposited Funds	0.00	
1116 · Exchange Contra - A/R	0.00	
1120 · Due from Summit at the Falls	0.00	
1450 · Prepaid Expenses	0.00	
1451 · Prepaid District Conference	500.00	
1452 · Exchange Contra - Prepaid Exp	0.00	
1454 · Exchange Contra - Prepaid Confe	0.00	
2352 · Exchange Contra - Deferred	0.00	
1700 · Equipment	0.00	
1750 · Accum Amort - Equipment	0.00	
2010 · Accounts Payable - USD		5,296.16
2020 · Accounts Payable - Cdn		121.31
2021 · Exchange Contra - A/P	0.00	
2025 · Future Rotaract Deposits		90.00
2030 · Accrued Expenses	0.00	
2350 · Unearned/deferred revenue		4,675.47
2400 · Funds Held in Trust	0.00	
2410 · Katrina Relief Funds	0.00	
2420 · Polio Funds	0.00	
3000 · Opening Bal Equity	0.00	
3100 · Restricted funds	0.00	
3900 · Retained Earnings		213,900.89
4010 · General assessment		87,619.45
4020 · District Conference assessment		7,336.53
4030 · Insurance Assessment		34,008.97
4202 · DC - Registrations		70,792.65
4204 · DC - Sponsorships		3,800.00
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6082 · Phone Charges	700.17	
6083 · Postage	146.31	
6084 · Office Supplies	59.91	
6085 · Bank Charges	3,817.03	
69800 · Uncategorized Expenses	2,522.47	
7015 · District Simplified Grants	9,607.96	

10:34 AM

## Rotary International District 7090

## Trial Balance

03/30/18

Accrual Basis

As of February 28, 2018

		Feb 28, 18	
		Debit	Credit
7050 · Rotary foundation		2,149.77	
7100 · RYLA		615.70	
7105 · Slapshot		12,610.00	
7134 · Promotion of RI Theme		6,719.35	
7135 · District badges and pins		471.72	
7215 · District Gov - Change Over Even		382.98	
7132 · President/ Business card		1,221.76	
7520 · District Insurance		27,679.40	
7530 · Finance and audit		5,200.00	
8012 · DC - Expenses		89,591.85	
8030 · Club Leadership Training		1,845.00	
8036 · Visioning/Release Your Inner Ro		156.48	
8040 · District training		3,149.23	
8050 · Assist Gov Training		1,065.35	
8070 · Dist Gov Nominee Training		1,700.00	
8085 · District Gov Training		1,830.00	
8025 · President Training		2,477.08	
8048 · Rotary Leadership Institue		4,011.12	
8500 · Foundation Dinner Costs		4,213.47	
5409 · Exchange Gain/Loss			31,494.47
TOTAL		<u>590,724.55</u>	<u>590,724.55</u>



KeyBank  
P.O. Box 93885  
Cleveland, OH 44101-5885

**Business Banking Statement**  
**February 28, 2018**  
page 1 of 2

750755911

2 T 929 00000 R EM T1  
ROTARY DISTRICT 7090  
505 PARK ROAD NORTH UNIT 1  
BRANTFORD ONTARIO n3r7k8

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ROTARY DISTRICT 7090

Beginning balance 1-31-18	\$147,571.32
3 Additions	+2,073.36
4 Subtractions	-2,796.80
<b>Ending balance 2-28-18</b>	<b>\$146,847.88</b>

**Additions**

Deposits	Date	Serial #	Source	
	2-15		Bankcard Merch Dep 948908732439435	\$75.00
	2-20		Bankcard Merch Dep 948908732439435	75.00
	2-20		Deposit Branch 0929 New York	1,923.36
<b>Total additions</b>				<b>\$2,073.36</b>

**Subtractions**

*Paper Checks* \* check missing from sequence

Check	Date	Amount	Check	Date	Amount
4605	2-12	\$762.24	*4613	2-12	1,855.17

**Paper Checks Paid \$2,617.41**

Withdrawals	Date	Serial #	Location	
	2-2		Bankcard Merch Fees 948908732439435	\$17.50
	2-15		Direct Withdrawal, Paypal Inst Xfer	161.89
<b>Total subtractions</b>				<b>\$2,796.80</b>

# Chequing

0315 8300-963

The current balance shown is as of today's date. Please report any items that do not match your records.

Account No: 8300-963

Financial Institution No: 001

Branch Transit No: 03152

Account Balance: \$117,387.81

Available Funds: \$117,387.81

Funds on Hold: \$0.00

## Transaction History

View transactions by selecting a time period or date range, or filter your results by entering a description.

View: Select Option

or show from: 02/01/2018

to: 02/28/2018

MM/DD/YYYY

MM/DD/YYYY

Filter description:

Submit

Transaction Date	Code	Description	Debit	Credit	Balance
		Balance Forward			\$103,445.65
Feb 1, 2018	DS	BAM CC JAN 29 BUS/ENT		\$129.45	\$103,575.10
Feb 1, 2018	DN	MIN MDR FEE MSP/DIV	\$20.00		\$103,555.10
Feb 1, 2018	DN	MON FEE01452309 MSP/DIV	\$9.95		\$103,545.15
Feb 2, 2018	DS	BAM CC JAN 30 BUS/ENT		\$466.95	\$104,012.10
Feb 5, 2018	DS	BAM CC JAN 31 BUS/ENT		\$129.45	\$104,141.55
Feb 5, 2018	CK	NO.1354	\$2,149.77		\$101,991.78
Feb 6, 2018	DS	BAM CC FEB 01 BUS/ENT		\$129.45 ✓	\$102,121.23
Feb 9, 2018	DS	BAM CC FEB 06 BUS/ENT		\$1,350.00 ✓	\$103,471.23
Feb 12, 2018	DS	BAM CC FEB 07 BUS/ENT		\$675.00 ✓	\$104,146.23
Feb 15, 2018	DS	BAM CC FEB 12 BUS/ENT		\$337.50 ✓	\$104,483.73
Feb 21, 2018	DS	BAM CC FEB 15 BUS/ENT	\$10.00		\$104,473.73
Feb 22, 2018	DS	BAM CC FEB 18 BUS/ENT		\$337.50 ✓	\$104,811.23
Feb 26, 2018	DS	BAM CC FEB 21 BUS/ENT		\$337.50 ✓	\$105,148.73
Feb 26, 2018	CK	NO.1355	\$640.00		\$104,508.73
Feb 27, 2018	DS	BAM CC FEB 22 BUS/ENT		\$337.50 ✓	\$104,846.23
Feb 28, 2018	CD			\$12,615.20	\$117,461.43



KeyBank  
P.O. Box 93885  
Cleveland, OH 44101-5885

**Business Banking Statement**  
**February 28, 2018**  
page 1 of 2



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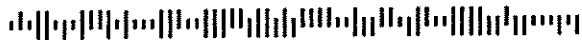


6001 1 AV 0.378 T23 P1 AUTO T 929 00000 R EM T1 64756928

773956859

ROTARY DISTRICT 7090  
C/O SCHUNK WILSON CO  
701 SENECA ST STE 604  
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ROTARY DISTRICT 7090

Beginning balance 1-31-18	\$70,427.87
Ending balance 2-28-18	\$70,427.87

#### Rewards

Rewards point balance, as of 02-28-2018 500

Rewards Number	Name
773956859000	ROTARY DISTRICT 7090
773956859002	DONALD A DEMEO

Rewards Number	Name
773956859003	JOHN TEIBERT

Visit [key.com/rewards](http://key.com/rewards) for details

## **DG Report to District Council – April 7, 2018**

As we move into the final quarter of my term, the pace has not slowed as evidenced by the very busy council agenda. While official club visits were completed last November, many other events have kept me travelling - club fundraisers, new member inductions, club anniversaries, Paul Harris luncheons and dinners, the chartering of a new Rotaract club, Rotaract club meetings and other District committee meetings.

In addition to on-line PETS, AG meetings, Club Leadership Training and Strategic Planning committee meetings there has not been a dull moment. One of the highlights of the past quarter was attendance at my first Rotary Peace Conference in Vancouver. What an experience! I was joined by DGE Melisa, DGN Bob and DGND Frank, all at our own expense. President Risely has scheduled six of these this year with two more near our district. The first is June 2<sup>nd</sup> in Chicago and will focus on Education and Literacy and the final one, a Peacebuilding Summit, is just prior to the Toronto convention on June 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. That conference will deal with creating peace in our communities.

And speaking of Toronto, what a great showing our district has made in registrations! The last report I received prior to March month end had 347 signed up from our district - fantastic! Many thanks to PDG Kevin Crosby, and our District Convention Co-chairs Donna Banach and Wayne Fyffe, for their great efforts in getting our numbers up! Over 35,000 from 180 countries have already registered for the convention, a once in a lifetime opportunity so close to home! No wonder that hotel accommodations are in short supply. There's no doubt that Toronto will be a big success and I am grateful for the support our district has given this event.

Finally, I encourage all District Leaders to both commit to attending Club Leadership Training in Buffalo on Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, and also encourage their clubs to have excellent attendance as well. We are the leaders of the 'Best of Friends' District so let us lead by example. Register and encourage others to make this the most successful Club Leadership Training day in recent history!

Thank you all for all you do in **Making a Difference!**



# **District Governor Elect Report**

## **District Council**

**April 7, 2018**

Submitted by Melisa Schrock

With only 3 months to go before the start of our new Rotary year, the planning and preparation is well underway. Most of the positions currently held will be carrying over into the new year. New AG's have been identified where necessary, and only 1 position remains to be filled.

MDPETS appears to have been very successful and the feedback has been fantastic. The President Elects seem to feel that the training and networking they received was well worth the time and money and plan to encourage their PE to attend next year. A great deal of effort was put into giving our leaders a new 'tool box' of resources and ideas. All PE's were provided with a "sack of knowledge" which included a backpack full of materials provided by RI and our District. Also included in this sack, was a USB which contained all sorts of documents, pdfs, training materials, RI Citation and other resources we continually ask the PE's to consult. While most of this information is available on the District or RI website, I thought it would be more beneficial to have it available in one location and readily accessible. This approach seems to be appreciated and embraced by the new PE class. In fact, we had participants from other districts asking if they could have a copy of the USB!

There continues to be great work going on around the CLT training and the Strategic Plan. Both of these committees are submitting reports so I will not repeat the information. I would just like to say that I am very proud of the work our District is doing in both of these areas. CLT training is being approached with fresh eyes and new ideas. The sessions are being developed to be more interactive and appealing to Rotarians outside the traditional role of Board Member, thus making it relevant for more attendees.

My focus for the next three months will be on the following:

1. Creating a more effective use of our time at District Council
2. Developing ways to implement and focus on the new Strategic Plan being created
3. Finding more effective ways to communicate with Club Presidents
  - a. PE's have requested monthly online meetings in exchange for reduced email communications
  - b. PE's are creating their own private Facebook group as an internal support system and vehicle for communication
  - c. PE's have requested to continue the 2 face to face President meetings next year
4. Offering a simplified way for the Clubs to achieve the Rotary Citation for 2018-2019
  - a. DG "string" will be used to oversee each area of the citation; IPDG Reg will work on Public Image, DGE Bob will handle Membership, DGN Frank will focus on the Youth portion and DG Melisa and Vice Governor Jack will handle Humanitarian Service. The goal is to have a specific resource who will work with the Directors and Clubs to reach the goals in each of these categories.

- b. A planning calendar will be provided to all PE's to help structure their monthly messages to be in line with the RI planning calendar. Social media posts, guest speakers, and other resources will be provided for the Clubs to use (at will) to achieve various citation goals.
- 5. Finalizing Area DG Visits
  - a. Several Areas have embraced this idea and already have plans in the works; other Areas are still formulating their ideas... but they have them!!
- 6. Focusing on ways to integrate more Rotaract Training and inclusion into our District in 2018-2019

Overall, I am extremely excited for the opportunity to serve as DG in 2018-2019. I have received a lot of support and words of encouragement from not only our PE class, but many other Rotarians as well. I feel that Rotary in general is perfectly poised to begin transitioning to the next "version" of itself. Call it Rotary 2.0, Rotary Y2K... it doesn't matter – the feelings are all the same... there is a growing excitement to see what the next generation of Rotary will look like and many of us want to be a part of that change! We are excited to be #Changemakers and part of Rotary's new People of Action campaign!



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## **District Council 4/7/18 Report of Membership Director**

District Membership update:

July 1, 2017 – 2,124

February 28, 2018 – 2,223 (+99)

Our District Membership team consists of the following committees:

- **Recruitment** – Chair, Gordon Crann (Rotary E-club of Social Innovators – “RESI”)
- **Retention** – Chair, IPDG Marlee Diehl (Albion)
- **New Member Onboarding** – Chair, Tamara Coleman-Lawrie (Welland)
- **Young Professionals** – Co-chair, Amy Gringhuis (Hamilton Tonic After 5) and Co-chair, Jamie Perry (Buffalo Sunrise)
- **Rotary District Accessibilities Committee** – Co-chair, Rob Benzel (Lancaster-Depew) and Co-chair Terrence Ho (Rotary E-club of Social Innovators – “RESI”)
- **NEW! Club Extension Committee** – Co-chair, Margaret Andrewes (Lincoln) and Co-chair, Aysia Welch-Chester (Niagara Falls, NY)

Since the previous District Council, there are three developments of note:

1. We have launched a series of ten webinars on various topics related to membership, offered from February through June 2018
2. We appointed co-chairs for a new district committee, Club Extension. They are Margaret Andrewes of the Lincoln club and Alysia Welch-Chester of the Niagara Falls, NY club. Beginning in July, 2018, they will support clubs that want to establish satellite clubs and they will identify and foster opportunities to create new Rotary clubs in areas of the district that are not being served by Rotary.
3. We began an initiative to form a new Rotary club in the Tonawandas (NY). The Rotary Club of Kenmore has agreed to sponsor a satellite club in the Tonawandas as a first step.

Committee reports are attached.

Respectfully submitted,

PDG Kevin Crosby, Director of Membership



# District Council Report

April 7, 2018

We shouldn't allow ourselves to be defined by what happens to us. It's how we make those things either into opportunities or obstacles that is important. It is life's successes that should define us.

Rotary District 7090 wants to remove reasonable obstacles that are barriers for persons with reduced function, so that their lives and the lives of others might be benefited as a result of their service and serving to Make a Difference. This also holds true whether you are the disabled person given a chance to participate in volunteer roles, or if you are the Rotarian wishing to help these participants succeed in that quest.

It is with these thoughts in mind that District 7090 formed the Rotary District Accessibility Committee (R-DAC).

R-DAC came about as a result of PDG Kevin Crosby observing a few Rotarians within the district that liked to serve and be involved, but whose efforts were inhibited in different ways because of a disability. We have a few committed Rotarians with mobility issues, ranging from ascending and descending stairs to being confined to a wheelchair. We have a variety of less visible individuals: people with dexterity issues, vision loss, hearing impaired, or completely deaf as myself.

One of the first steps of the new committee was to determine how many members might have a problem, and if clubs felt they could increase participation or even membership by instituting recommended fixes. The initial survey was completed by new incoming presidents, while at PETS. To keep current, the survey will be repeated annually.

Additionally Kevin Crosby and Rob Benzel visited the UB Center for Assistive Technology to discuss with resident experts Tina and Kim, ways we could help our clubs become more familiar with accommodations clubs could make for participants in the meetings and activities. We also saw demonstrations of some of the newest equipment available for assistances. Informational webinars are currently in planning.

## MD-PETS Survey Analysis:

Method: DGN Bob Artis administered on behalf of the R-DAC committee. Surveys were given to the incoming 2018 class of D7090 PE's, at MD-PETS in Toronto. Of 68 clubs in our district we received responses from 20 (about 30%). Based on the responses received, it is appropriate to assume two things: this is a representative sample and that had additional responses been received, the added data would have had no significant impact on our final conclusion. The following information was given and questions asked (shown in bold). A summary of responses (regular type):

<b>Committee Members:</b>	<b>Robert Benzel</b>	<b>Co-Chair</b>
	<b>Terrence Ho</b>	<b>Co-Chair</b>
	<b>Alan Gustafsen</b>	<b>Member</b>
	<b>Wendy Sanders</b>	<b>Member</b>
	<b>PDG Kevin Crosby</b>	<b>Member</b>

**District 7090 has formed an Accessibilities Committee to help clubs and district evaluate need and make recommendations to help them navigate creating greater access to Rotary events and service for the disabled.**

Since this is a needs driven process, evaluation of our current district-wide membership is something that should be assessed up front. As in-coming presidents, each of you should know your club members well enough to create a base-line of data for that use. Throughout be as specific as possible. Please feel free to write any additional information on the back of the survey, or add pages. Check the contact box(es) below if you wish to be contacted. There is a R-DAC webinar scheduled June 14, at 19:30.

**Our evaluation currently covers Mobility, Hearing and Vision Impairments. Have we missed a basic impediment for which you might wish to improve access?**

- 15 – No
- 1 -- “Thank You” for addressing this.
- 1 -- Speech / Sign
- 1 -- Mobility – Walkers & Wheelchairs
- 1 -- Mobility should include Dexterity – use of Hands & Arms

**Do currently or have you had in the past any club members with these or other impairments?**

- 1 -- Stroke victims
- 4 – Hearing Impairment
- 2 – Mobility
- 8 – NO
- 3 – Past members (one had MS)

**Do you have any potential members that you would like to bring into your club, but there are restrictions on their potential participation? Removing these barriers would make it possible for them to become a Rotarian?**

100% No (only one with the clarification “yet”)

**When setting up an event, are considerations such as ramps signing or special seating arrangements a consideration?**

- 2 -- Meet in ADA acceptable locations
- 1 -- Barrier is cost
- 1 – We use a Bluetooth microphone and earpieces
- 3 – Yes, when feasible
- 4 – Yes, keep events open and accessible
- 1 -- Yes always ramps & elevators
- 2 – No
- 1 – No, but we should

**How might this improve attendance to your function?**

- 1 -- Keep, especially older members active longer
- 1 -- Attract Greater participation
- 1 -- Create conscious awareness and make improvement
- 3 – Make people feel more welcome
- 2 – Uncertain
- 1 – Unlikely any difference

**Five Presidents-Elect wish to be contacted, which we will do soon.**

On behalf of our committee, this document created by Robert Benzel, on March 19, 2018. End of report.

**DISTRICT 7090 MEMBER RECRUITMENT REPORT**  
**April 7, 2018**

**Gordon Crann, Chair**

The initial District 7090 Member Recruitment Webinar scheduled for Tuesday, March 6, 2018 was, quite literally, a bust – no one attended other than myself. I discovered that only one person had registered for this webinar.

Clearly, we need to keep track of webinar registrations and cancel the webinar if there are insufficient registrations. We also need to better publicize our membership webinars.

District 7090's membership has continued to grow over the last month with the result that it has climbed back over 2,200 to reach 2,204 members as of March 19, 2018.

Our membership growth during the 2017-18 Rotary year has solidified District 7090's position as the largest Rotary District in Zone 24 East by widening our lead over District 7070, which includes the City of Toronto, York Region and Durham Region, as the only other district in Zone 24 East with more than 2,000 members sitting at 2012 members, respectively, as of March 19, 2018.

Within all of Zone 24, District 7090 is third largest trailing District 5060 (parts of B.C. & Washington State) with 2,709 members and District 5050 (parts of B.C. & Washington State) with 2,574 members, respectively, as of March 19, 2018.

District 5370 (parts of Alberta, B.C., Saskatchewan & Northwest Territories) - with 2,103 members as of March 19, 2018 - is the remaining district in Zone 24 to exceed the 2,000 members level.

**District 7090 Council Meeting Report**  
**April 7, 2018**  
**Committee: New Member On-Boarding**  
**March 2018**

The New Member On-Boarding Committee has 5 members: Tamara Coleman-Lawrie, Marie Bindeman, Bilal Mirza, Wendy Jacobson and District Membership Chair Kevin Crosby (Keith Artis has recently stepped away). We continue to meet the second Thursday of each month at 12pm via Zoom.

**Update on our work to achieve committee goals outlined below:**

**NEW MEMBER SURVEY:**

- The New Members Survey was distributed on January 26<sup>th</sup> to 189 members, with 66 respondents
- Key learning's include: why people join Rotary, that education and communication are critical, mentorship and having a liaison with the club is key, there are many variations to how clubs are on-boarding new members. Kevin will request that a complete overview of the survey and key learning's be presented at the April District Council.
- Key items: people often become a member to volunteer or offer service – a potential recruitment strategy can be volunteer associations such as Volunteer Niagara, InCommunities, Volunteer Hamilton, etc... Many of these “new” members were actually returning Rotarians from years past – this also represents an opportunity to recruit lapsed members. Younger members may not feel that their experiences bring value to their Club – we need to ensure we include in best practices for on-boarding how to truly make younger professionals feel welcome and valued. How can we encourage Rotarians to meet Rotarians outside of their club? Many members do not understand that there are other Clubs/meeting times – we need to do a better job of promoting membership at any Club rather than potentially losing a member all together

**ENGAGEMENT OF CLUBS:**

- The Membership Chairs Survey was distributed in late January to 65 members, with 18 respondents
- Much of the feedback identified the need for support with tools, resources and standardization
- Key learning's and items to note will be included in the package prepared for the District Council

**INVENTORY OF RESOURCES:**

- An inventory of all Club, District and RI resources has been created. These have been categorized and we have slimmed down the list of resources to the most important for our Clubs. These are now available on the District Club Resources web page: <http://www.rotary7090.org/sitepage/club-resources-1>

**DISTRICT WEBSITE MEMBERSHIP PAGE & RESOURCES:**

- The District will adopt a new practice to welcome new Rotarians which will encompass an electronic letter from the DG. Both the Welcome New Rotarians and Member Resources links will be included in the letter.
- Membership Landing Page: <http://www.rotary7090.org/sitepage/rotary-membership>
- Welcome New Rotarians: <http://www.rotary7090.org/sitepage/welcome-new-rotarians-1>
- Club Resources: <http://www.rotary7090.org/sitepage/club-resources-1>
- Member Resources: <http://www.rotary7090.org/sitepage/member-resources/member-resources>
- Membership Newsletter: <http://rotary7090.org/sitepage/7090-membership-newsletter>
- Global Rewards Program: <http://rotary7090.org/sitepage/rotary-global-rewards-program>

## **NEW CLUB TOOLS AND BEST PRACTICES DEVELOPED**

The newly developed tools below, available on the District Membership area website, which will be highlighted in upcoming webinars, will support consistency in on-boarding practices throughout the District:

- Getting To Know Your District
- Best Practices for New Member Engagement
- Best Practices for Mentors
- New Member Checklist
- Rotary Terminology
- Club Committees
- District Committees and Leadership Opportunities: approved for use
- Getting To Know Your Club Template

## **NEXT STEPS**

- Develop Webinar Content for On-Boarding Practices & New Member Orientation
- Develop a Club Orientation Manual Template for Clubs

Respectfully submitted,



Tamara Coleman-Lawrie

Chair, New Member On-Boarding Committee, District 7090



**District Membership Committee**  
**New Member On-Boarding (NMOB) Sub-Committee Survey Results Overview**  
**January 2018**

**Survey Overview**

- The New Member On-Boarding Survey was created by the District Membership NMOB Sub-Committee
- The survey was sent to 189 new members who had joined Rotary between January 1, 2017 and January 1, 2018
- Of the 189 members that received the survey, 66 responded
- The survey consisted of 19 questions (see Appendix A)
- The survey will set a baseline of data for the NMOB Committee to determine success with future on-boarding initiatives. The survey will be sent to new members in January 2019 and each year thereafter

**Key Survey Learning's**

- Top 4 reasons for joining Rotary: To volunteer in my local community; To learn about, and become engaged in my community; To network and/or meet new people; Fellowship
- People join Rotary because they are asked
- Age category of respondents: 1) 50-59 years of age 2) 30-39 years of age 3) 65+ years of age
- Many of the new Rotarians were actually past Rotarians from years ago (see recommendation below)
- When asked if they felt engaged and involved as a new member of Rotary, nearly 10% disagreed and 6% neither agreed or disagreed
- More than 20% of respondents did not have a mentor, someone stated they wish they had
- More than 20% of respondents did not receive a welcome kit and nearly 10% weren't sure if they had
- When asked if they received key information about Rotary (i.e. club's procedures/policies, service projects, avenues of service, District 7090, RI, TRF, how to attend other club's meetings or the real cost of Rotary), on average, less than 45% of the respondents had received this vital information and 13% weren't sure
- When asked if they felt welcome in their club, 83% said yes, 10% said somewhat, 6% neither agreed/disagreed
- Top 3 activities members are participating in: club social/event; member of a club committee; participant in club service project
- When asked how, as a new Rotarian, they are finding the time for Rotary, we received 61 responses (see Appendix B)
- When asked if they were having any issues with finding time for Rotary, and if there were other ways their club can keep them involved, most noted timing was fine, however other electronic options would be great (See Appendix C)
- When asked if their Rotary Membership has met their expectations 66% agreed, 22% somewhat agreed, 5% neither agreed/disagreed, 5% somewhat disagreed and 2% disagreed
- When asked what information they would have valued receiving as a new member yet did not receive, we received 50 responses (See Appendix D)
- When asked if there was anything else they would like us to know, we received 41 responses (see Appendix E)

**Key Considerations For Future Membership Development**

- Access community Volunteer Organizations to promote Rotary as a volunteer organization (i.e. InCommunities, Volunteer WNY, Volunteer Hamilton, Volunteer Niagara, etc...)
- Now is the time to engage lapsed members and past program participants (i.e. RYLA, Rotaract)
- A standardized welcome kit to Rotary is essential
  - The NMOB committee is preparing best practices for the kit as well as best practices for new member engagement, with links to these resources directly from the District website
- It is imperative that we provide vital information (i.e. club's procedures/policies, service projects, avenues of service, District 7090, RI, TRF, how to attend other club's meetings or the real cost of Rotary) to ensure members are aware and engaged
  - The NMOB committee is preparing new tools ("Getting To Know Your District" and Getting To Know Your Club") that will help ensure key information is provided to all members
- Focus on how we can support members to meet other new Rotarians outside of their club
- It is important to educate clubs that it is better to be a Rotarian at any club than not at all. We need to educate clubs that it is important to engage members in other clubs in their area rather than lose them as a member.
- We need to communicate what membership has to offer so that it meets our members expectations

Appendix A – Survey Questions

Appendix B – Responses: How are they finding the time for Rotary.

Appendix C – Responses: If finding time for Rotary difficult, what other ways can we keep them involved.

Appendix D – Responses: What members would have liked to receive yet did not.

Appendix E – Responses: What else respondents wanted us to know.

## **Appendix A – Survey Questions**

1. Why did you join Rotary?
  - a. Fellowship
  - b. To learn about, and become engaged in my community
  - c. To volunteer in my local community
  - d. Business/client development
  - e. Networking and or to meet new people
  - f. To volunteer in international service
  
2. Please tell us a little about yourself:
 

Female	Male	Prefer Not To Answer
--------	------	----------------------
  
3.
 

Age 24-29	Age 30-39	Age 40-49	Age 50-59	Age 60-65	Age 65+
Prefer Not To Answer					
  
4. How long have you been in Rotary?
 

0-3 months	4-6 months	7-9 months	10-12 months	13-15 months
------------	------------	------------	--------------	--------------
  
5. I feel engaged and involved as a new member or Rotary
 

Agree	Somewhat Agree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Disagree
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6. Did you have a sponsor or mentor to assist you as a new member of Rotary?
  - a. Yes                      No
  
7. Do you have a regular contact with your sponsor/mentor?
  - a. Yes      No      N/A
  
8. Were you provided with a welcome kit?
  - a. Yes      No
  
9. As a new member, did you receive orientation to information pertaining to the following?
 

a. Your club's procedures and policies?	Yes	No	Not sure
b. Your club's service projects and activities?	Yes	No	Not sure
c. Rotary's Avenue's of Service?	Yes	No	Not sure
d. Rotary District 7090?	Yes	No	Not sure
e. Rotary International?	Yes	No	Not sure
f. The Rotary Foundation?	Yes	No	Not sure
g. Other clubs and how to attend meetings	Yes	No	Not sure
h. Expenses not included in your membership	Yes	No	Not sure

10. I feel welcome in my club and experience a sense of true fellowship.

Agree   Somewhat Agree   Neither Agree or Disagree   Somewhat Disagree   Disagree

11. I typically attend this percentage of my club's meetings:

25%                      50%                      75%                      100%

12. How many new acquaintances have you made in your Club?

0-2      3-5      6-10      10 or more

13. How many Rotarians have you met who are not members of your Club?

0-2      3-5      6-10      10 or more

14. In which of the following club activities are you a participant? Please check all that apply.

- a. A member of a club committee
- b. Participant in a club service project
- c. Participant in a club social event or activity
- d. Participant in an International project
- e. Attended a District 7090 meeting, workshop or conference
- f. Attended other Rotary sponsored conferences

15. How, as a new Rotarian, are you finding the time for Rotary?

Comment box

16. If you are having issues with finding the time for Rotary, are there better ways your Club can keep you involved?

Comment box

17. My Rotary membership has met my expectations.

Agree   Somewhat agree                      Neither agree or disagree   Somewhat disagree   Disagree

18. What information would you have valued as a new member of Rotary but did not receive?

Comment box

19. Is there anything else you would like us to know about your experience in becoming a new Rotarian or something you feel we should know about welcoming new Rotarians?

Comment box

**Appendix B – Responses: How are they finding the time for Rotary.**

- I'm retired and like to keep busy.
- I appreciate that we two times a month, in the evening. This allows me to arrange my schedule accordingly.
- Club meetings typically fit well in to my work schedule, and I participate in service projects according to my availability.
- Rotary meetings are a must on my calendar of activities
- It is not easy. I would like to see an early meeting time, as our lunch time meeting schedule is not only inconvenient but I believe a barrier to new members.
- I have been a member since Jan 2nd, so three weeks is pretty short amount of time to make any assessments
- As secretary of the club, I make sure to plan a couple hours into my week to keep up on attendance, club communications and newsletters, and updates in clubRunner. At least one meeting a month is in the evening which makes it easier to balance with work. Other meetings are early in the morning and only last one hour in a central location in town and includes breakfast which makes it an efficient usage of time and easier to get there early.
- I don't understand how to answer this.
- As a retired person i thought i would have the time to commit to charity functions .I was wrong ! my lifestyle took both me and my family in a different direction. So this has now become very difficult to be a part off.
- It has been taken some work to fit it in but I am doing my best.
- it is difficult as my job is very demanding however early morning meetings are best for my schedule
- I try to make time every Monday night. Events are planned far enough in advance that I can schedule them to make sure I can assist.
- Just learning. Feel very welcomed.
- I have some conflicts with evening activities
- Struggling with a family and new job
- I always set time aside in my schedule and make Rotary a priority. As with every aspect of life, if you don't set time aside and set priorities, things slip aside.
- I'm retired
- Lunch time is a great time for meetings. Other activities are known well in advance to allow for planning.
- On a leave from work right now.
- At the moment I am recuperating from a month in the hospital.
- I have always been able to fit Rotary activities into work and life commitments
- I retired two years ago and Rotary is now a part of my weekly routine.
- It's great!
- Before I joined Rotary, my wife was already fairly involved with our local library. We worked out a system of taking care of our daughter to make sure I got home on time and my wife was able to do her work. We just expanded that system to my Rotary meetings and events.
- So far with what I have been involved with, I have been able to work in the time. Fortunately our meetings are during the day, and not evening.

- I care very deeply about my involvement with Rotary as a result of my passion for international development and humanitarian work, so I am able to fit it well in my schedule as a result.
- Work schedule changes to make it to afternoon meetings
- You make time for what you want to.
- "I really enjoy my time as a Rotarian! Makes me proud and I feel that I am learning a lot about Rotary (on all levels). There is a lot to take in, but the people from my Club are wonderful. As a young Rotarian, my suggestion for future Rotarians is the overall cost of club membership. With the combined expense of membership, weekly means and event support, I find the financial commitment will be extremely difficult to attract a younger generation.
- Krystal "
- so far it has been a positive experience
- good
- I joined just before giving birth. When I return to work, I will also resume Rotary involvement!
- It is difficult to balance the time commitment of meetings and other events with other responsibilities, and as my membership is shared, it is more manageable to only attend every few meetings
- Semi-retired
- The time commitment is not an issue; however, I believed membership would be a bit more "engaging"
- I would like to attend more meeting but work conflicts make it difficult. I attend meeting when I can.
- Enjoying it.
- "Finding" time? My employer allows me to attend meetings during working hours.
- Recently retired with hours available for service. Demands from Rotary can be met easily.
- I am flexible to balance my time.
- I am able to go to meetings during my work day. I find time for other events in my usual free time.
- I'm retired, but assist with my family's childcare. Some times of the year are busier than others, and I was a tad overwhelmed last summer with time commitments, but overall, I enjoy the time I spend on my own engaged in Rotary activities.
- You make time for what you consider important in your life. When I commit to anything, it is 100%. If I cannot do that then I would reconsider my involvement.
- I liked that we met in the morning before work. I am currently pulling away from this specific club and looking to transition to another
- I make time
- good
- great
- The meetings are during the work day, which works out great for me. I am able to bring my kids to some of the additional service opportunities, which is helpful.
- I have been able to build meetings and activities into my daily life/routine just as I would work, school for my children and other things for myself. I have made it a part of my life and its been pretty seamless so far.
- We have a fairly regular meeting schedule, which makes it easy for me to attend. As far as events, and volunteer services are concerned, we schedule these so far in advance that, even if it might conflict with work, there is usually no issue with finding time to participate.
- I have recently retired so I am able to make time for Rotary and attend meetings
- retired 2009



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- I enjoy being involved in my community and find that there are enough members in the club so each project is not overwhelming.
- Keeps me busy
- I am retired.
- I make time
- Part of an e-club so I like that type of time commitment and interaction
- Our meetings are in the am before work so that makes it easy to attend and they are so warm and welcoming it makes it easy to give time outside of the meetings
- So far it has not been a problem getting to meetings. When it has occurred I was not chastised for it.
- I make time for volunteer activities
- I have a flexible work schedule and I have excellent time management skills

**Appendix C – Responses: If finding time for Rotary difficult, what other ways can we keep them involved.**

- Club communication is very good; no suggestions.
- I would love to be able to meet online and/or for breakfast. We badly need new members. I also think the fee to belong can be a barrier for many.
- Online meetings would be helpful for board meetings and extra committee meetings. I think it would also be helpful to use these tools for boards of clubs to meet together to plan shared events and fundraisers.
- I do my best to be available for any club functions
- Maybe have meetings at other times.
- sure any of these alternatives are always welcome
- I'm not currently having issues, but I could see how having some alternative avenues of service would be useful.
- My club makes it pretty easy to be involved with enough other activities to stay involved. There is another meeting I could attend, but not during the school year, so that's always an option for the summer months.
- Online meeting might be a great idea, but I will still make time for Rotary regardless.
- Having meetings at alternative times or locations, as well as online meetings or forums would be helpful.
- Alternative times. Lower attendance standard.
- I am able to attend the majority of my club's meetings without any issues.
- I really believe that if we are to grow our membership, we need to a) reduce the number of required monthly meetings, and b) become more visible in higher education settings, and throughout all District 7090 communities, to inform prospective Rotarians of our work, and to bring young(er) people the excitement of service to others.
- My club is very accommodating
- I think we do a pretty good job actually. We are not the only club in our area. Though we like having all the members we can, having an evening club makes it possible to still be involved in Rotary even if it is not our morning club.
- Better orientation
- E-clubs are best for me
- My club is flexible, meetings have good content, people are genuine and interesting.



**Appendix D – Responses: What members would have liked to receive yet did not.**

- comprehensive orientation steps provided
- More info on the day to day workings and hands on.
- attending a special orientation for new members
- Idea of time commitment, all the programs involved
- How to engage in community activities.
- While a more organized "onboarding" process would have been appreciated, the club is small enough that I was able to catch on fairly quickly. Becoming treasurer early on really helped with that.
- Maybe an overview packet, and or tri-fold or brochure from the very first meeting invite. i.e. The welcome kit only comes after you have been vetted so to speak, and committed to joining, but really not much of a handle, I felt, on the whole club earlier on.
- Rotary International, Rotary Foundation and how to access resources.
- A package of what Rotary is involved in locally
- Orientation of the organization as a whole.
- the exact outlay of all membership fees & dues and expected time for payment
- I would have valued more information on what to expect and what the criteria are for guest speakers
- more information on the backgrounds of fellow Rotarians
- I would have valued information BEFORE becoming a member. I did not know about their projects, committees, board members, what my initiation would be, what oath I would take, the typical meeting agenda. I didn't receive previous newsletters. I had no way to evaluate the fit of the club with my goals.
- More about 7090 and Rotary international. How they tie together. What is the overall hierarchy.
- Orientation to club service projects and club committees.
- "I would have benefitted from detailed written information concerning the club's annual fundraising and community service events. This would have included a description of the project, it's goals, and possible dates.
- It's taken me a long time, and I still don't feel well versed in the Rotary Foundation.
- So much...see above responses
- Initially a list of the membership and contact information.
- more about what we do and how I can fit in to that picture
- More district information and how all that aligns
- How the club, district and international levels of Rotary all work together
- What happens at the District and International level
- Intro to the current members
- a new badge! the person in charge has been ill so I have been without a name badge. Except for visitors, everyone knows me.

**Appendix E – Responses: What else respondents wanted us to know.**

- I am delighted to be accepted into and to participate as a new Rotarian.
- Rotary needs to rebrand as an organization that warmly welcomes the young, those in the trades, and those who may not be able to contribute a great deal financially. Perhaps offer a "scholarship" membership to really have an impact on those starting careers or who have retired on a lower income than hoped. There is a lot of competition for volunteers; what Rotary can offer should be mentorship and networking. What it needs is creativity, youth, and energy.
- procedures and policies, grant writing
- Had i been more aware that being a Rotarian meant more commitment than i can offer at this time i would have thought twice about joining. However i have joined and will do my very best to participate. So i think New Rotarians need to be more informed as to what is expected of them before they join.
- Overall, I would like more hands on and accomplishing things, with less social. I have a good social life and want to get things done for the community.
- need to participate more and learn more
- I have absolutely enjoyed becoming a Rotarian. The club has been very welcoming and I have found it extremely easy to be involved in many of our events.
- It's a great group of people.
- I am happy I joined the Rotary. It was my goal to get involved after my retirement.
- Maybe just the idea of an actual designated coach/sponsor for new members, perhaps for the duration of the first 6 months. And there didn't seem to be a set practice for getting a new member signed up and running.
- More emphasis on engaging new Rotarians in meaningful activities designed to help them with the transition. Reduce cost of attending RLI or subsidy for new Rotarians who cannot afford.
- Members are very welcoming
- Provide a welcome kit during recruitment.
- Our club is marvelous at welcoming others, whether they're new Rotarians or guests. I think the public in general is mystified by Rotary. Despite great public relations and many community service projects on a local level, I encounter people weekly who have no idea what Rotary is or does.
- How do I transition groups?
- be friendly and flexible
- met our District Governor. 1st meeting back I was inducted along with 1 other (new) member
- just wish I would have joined sooner

**District Membership Committee**  
**District 7090 Club Membership Chairs Survey Results Overview**  
**February 2018**

**Survey Overview**

- The Club Membership Chairs Survey was created by the District Membership NMOB Sub-Committee
- The survey was sent to all 68 Clubs
- The email also asked the Clubs to send any tools/resources they use/provide to members
- Of the 68 Clubs that received the survey, 18 responded and 6 forwarded tools/resources
- The survey consisted of 9 questions (see Appendix A)
- The survey goal was to determine what Clubs do when they have prospective members and new members and how they engage, train and orient them to Rotary

**Key Survey Learning's**

- 50% of Club's induct members within the first month and 50% within the first 1-3 months
- 20% of Club's assign a Mentor, 20% never do and 60% assign their Sponsor as the Mentor
- 72% of Club's always provide a Welcome Kit, 6% sometimes do, 17% never do and 5% weren't sure
- 29% of Club's host an orientation or training session for their members, while 65% never do and 6% weren't sure
- Many Club's were/are in the process of defining what to provide to their new members or what they would require of their new members with respect to training – many are looking for something standardized or a systematic approach to on-boarding new members
- Some Club's provide a Club info/FAQ sheet to their new members or a communication email that outlines specific details about their Club
- Many Club's attempt to engage their members in their Club by having them join a Club committee or participate in a service project
- Some Club's have written guidelines for mentorship, a new member package, a member checklist, or an orientation handout, but nothing that is utilized across all District Club's

**Key Considerations For Future Club Membership Support**

- Provide a clear process and tools for all Club's to utilize that support recruitment, engagement, retention and allow the Club and the Membership Committee to seamlessly implement these strategies
- The New Member On-Boarding Committee has developed these items for the Clubs/Chairs:
  - Enhanced Rotary Membership web pages through the District site:
    - Membership Landing Page: <http://www.rotary7090.org/sitepage/rotary-membership>
    - Welcome New Rotarians: <http://www.rotary7090.org/sitepage/welcome-new-rotarians-1>
    - Club Resources: <http://www.rotary7090.org/sitepage/club-resources-1>
    - Member Resources: <http://www.rotary7090.org/sitepage/member-resources/member-resources>
    - Membership Newsletter: <http://rotary7090.org/sitepage/7090-membership-newsletter>
    - Global Rewards Program: <http://rotary7090.org/sitepage/rotary-global-rewards-program>

- Diverse Club Resources Page (above) directly linked to download files that we will be actively promoting to Membership Chairs/Committees
- New Club Tools
  - o Getting To Know Your District
  - o Best Practices for New Member Engagement
  - o Best Practices for Mentors
  - o New Member Checklist
  - o Rotary Terminology
  - o Club Committees
  - o District Committees & Leadership Opportunities
  - o Getting To Know Your Club Template
- Training Webinar will be held twice per year for Club Membership Chairs/Reps to understand how to best support a positive and successful on-boarding process for new members

#### Appendix A – Survey Questions

**Appendix A – Survey Questions**

1. What do you do when you get a prospective member?
2. Do you conduct an interview, fireside chat or other formal/informal discussion?
3. How long after you have a prospective member do you typically induct them?
4. Do you assign a mentor to your new members?
5. If so, how long is the mentor assigned to the new member and what is their responsibility to the new member?
6. Do you provide a welcome kit to your new members?
7. Do you provide anything else to your new members?
8. Do you host an orientation or training session for your new members?
9. What do you require of your new members (i.e. to do RI online training, to join a club committee, to participate in a service project, etc...) if anything?
10. What else do you feel we should know about what you do for new members that can be shared with other clubs?

District 7090 Rotary Foundation Committee  
District Council Report April 7, 2018



The Rotary Foundation “Doing Good in the World”.

John Teibert, Director, District 7090 Rotary Foundation  
The reports from the Chair persons are copied below for your review.

**Alumni - Chair – Patricia Johnson**

**No Report**

**Annual Fund – Chair – Pat Castiglia**

Rotary District 7090  
Annual Fund Committee Report  
April 7, 2018

There has been a minor improvement in donations to the Annual Fund but we are still lagging behind our goal and certainly the benchmark set for this year. No clubs have asked for a Foundation visit since the last District Council meeting. I am preparing to send an email letter to all club presidents and foundation chairs asking them to make their donations prior to the end of May. This deadline is encouraged so that proper recording of donations can occur prior to July 1<sup>st</sup>. Obviously donations will be accepted after May but there have been occasions in the past where clubs could not have their donations credited for that year because they were received too late. The status of our donations follows:

Benchmark Goal	\$212,400
District Annual Fund Goal	\$158,584
Current Club Donations	\$151,322
Difference from Benchmark Goal	\$61,078
Difference from District Annual Fund Goal	\$7,262

While we can assume that these differences will be made up by the end of the Rotary year, the total amount that we receive back to the District in three years may mean cut- backs in district funded activities at that time. It is hoped that clubs will contribute more than the District Annual Fund Goal amount for this year. Final donations are difficult to calculate because: only 61.2% of all clubs entered Annual Fund Goals (41/67 clubs), while 80.6% (54/67) of clubs have donated YTD. There are 13 non-giving clubs thus far and we have the lowest per capita donation (\$71.24) in the past 5 years. A key to success next year is to have clubs enter their Annual Fund Goals and this needs to be addressed with President Elects at a variety of venues. Foundation Chairs need to be encouraged to address the Annual Fund drive with their clubs as often as they feel expedient to do so.

Respectfully submitted,  
Pat Castiglia, Annual Fund Chair

## **End Polio Now – Chair – Pat Castiglia**

Rotary District 7090  
End Polio Now Committee Report  
April 7, 2018

Efforts to eradicate Polio continue to be supported by our member clubs. Although we do not have 100% of our clubs donating, the amount raised in our District is encouraging thus far with a number of clubs sponsoring events, in the process of being held or just held, to benefit this effort. To date, this is where we stand with donations:

District DDF Goal	\$28,858	(this amount is 20% of the Beginning Balance on 7/1)
District Identified DDF	\$35,000	
Total District Giving	\$141,232	
Total Giving from Clubs	\$106,232	(this plus the District Identified DDF =Total District Giving)

While our giving is admirable, it should be noted that 44 clubs (65.7%) have donated thus far and there are 23 non-giving clubs – the highest number of non-giving clubs in 5 years. No clubs have requested a presentation on the End Polio Now campaign. We have the lowest number of goals set by clubs in 5 years (58.2% of clubs set End Polio Now goals totaling \$106,232). Setting goals for the End Polio Now Campaign should be stressed for PE's. Foundation Chairs should ensure that club donations are built into their budgets as well as encouraging individual contributions as appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,  
Pat Castiglia, Chair of End Polio Now

## **District Grants – Chair – Sandra Yeater**

Rotary District 7090  
District Grants Committee Report  
April 7, 2018

The Committee has received 20 applications for 2018-19 District grants for a total of \$37,036.28. Four applications have been approved for submission for the 2018-19 budget to date. The Committee is hard at work with Clubs to review and approve the remaining 16 applications.

Three Clubs have completed their 2017-18 District grants and submitted their final reports. Final reports are due no later than May 15, 2018. A reminder will be sent to the outstanding Clubs to submit their reports.

Sandra Yeater  
District 7090 Grants Committee Chair

## **Endowment “Permanent” Fund – Chair – Frank Adamson**

Rotary District 7090  
Endowment Fund Council Report  
April 7, 2018

No Report

## **Global Grants – Chair –PDG Karen L. Oakes**

Rotary District 7090  
Global Grants Council Report  
April 7, 2018

### **Primary Goal:**

**Facilitate global grant approvals to maintain our clubs history of approved grant approvals.**

**Action: serve as key resource for global grant questions and concerns.**

### **Current status:**

#### **Approved Global Grants:**

15 global grants in various stages of completion with ongoing reporting tracked for timely submissions.

#### **Submitted Global Grants:**

5 Grant applications have been submitted with various discussions underway to address TRF concerns.

#### **Draft Global Grants:**

5 grant applications in various stages of development with dialogue/discussions ongoing with the primary contacts as these grants requires DDF monies, thus necessitating our District authorization.

#### **Closed Global Grants:**

14 grant applications have been closed with final reporting accepted in good order since July 1, 2013.

Respectfully submitted,

*Karen L. Oakes*

Karen L. Oakes

## **Paul Harris Society – Chair – Jim Morabito**

Rotary District 7090  
Paul Harris Society Council Report  
November 18, 2017

One new member added to PHS.

Paperwork has been submitted.

Jim Morabito



## **Scholarship – Chair – Stephen Keefe**

Rotary District 7090  
Scholarship Committee Council Report  
April 7, 2018

### **District Scholarship**

As part of a comprehensive review of all of the scholarship applications, 23 in total, our committee chose Ashley Abraham for the \$4,000 scholarship. Ashley was sponsored by the Simcoe Rotary Club. I have contacted her and she has accepted the scholarship. It was a difficult decision with so many outstanding applicants.

### **Peace Fellowship**

The process for accepting applications for The Rotary Foundation's Peace Fellowship program is underway.

Stephen Keefe  
Rotary District 7090 Scholarships Chair

## **Stewardship – Chair – Wally Ochterski**

Stewardship Committee  
Report for District Council  
April 7, 2018

No Report

## **Vocational Training Team – Chair – Dan Smith**

Vocational Training Team  
Report for District Council  
April 7, 2018

### **INBOUND VTT TEAM:**

We are very excited to have the opportunity to Host a VTT within our District as we are well suited to their training requirements in Fruit Farming. Our VTT Committee has held it 1st organizational meeting where we chose VTT Coordinators – Tom O'Neill for CA and Janet Walker for US. Our Committee discussed many potential Venues for the Inbound VTT Team from District 9790, Australia, to visit. The coordinators will be analyzing the offerings and working out the preliminary scheduling. That will be the primary discussion of the next VTT Committee meeting which follows this DC meeting this afternoon.

Their Visitation to our District will be from May 23rd arriving in Buffalo and departing June 16th

Additionally, the Coordinators will be seeking out Clubs to sponsor activities and soliciting Rotarian Families to Host the Inbound Team Members. This will bring much excitement and exposure of VTT within our District.

### **The District 9790 VTT Team details are as follows:**

**Team Leader: Les Mitchell**, Rotary Club of Shepparton Central: A career Agricultural Scientist specialising in crop protection and agronomy but with experience in all areas of horticulture principally for apples, pears, peaches, nectarines cherries and almonds. Les has particular expertise in the development of plant growth regulators and pheromone delivery systems for fruit crops.

Les coordinated all of the activities in the Goulburn Valley for the incoming Vocational Training Team from D7090 in 2017. **(Side note is that Les was on the GSE Team that came to our District in the early 2000's)**

**Team Members:**     **Ross Abberfield** (non-Rotarian): Goulburn Murray Valley Regional Fruit Fly Project Manager managing the Area Wide Pest Control Management Plan for the Goulburn Murray Valley Region.

**Elizabeth Mace** (non-Rotarian): Technical Field Officer, Goulburn Valley Crop Protection, Facilitator for the Goulburn Valley Emerging Leaders Group, member of the Skilled Workforce Industry Committee and Reference Group and a Director of Fruit Growers Victoria.

**Jonathan Van Poperling** (non-Rotarian): An experienced operator in the horticultural industry (19 years) with 9 years at management level overseeing all aspects of horticultural production.

### **2018-2019 VTT PROPOSALS:**

The District has provided a \$7,000 Grant for the VTT proposal for the upcoming Rotary Year. As in the past, the proposal can be Outbound or Inbound with coordination with another Rotary District. See the VTT Web Page for application and additional detail information.

**Daniel F Smith**

**District 7090 VTT Chair**

(716) 269-9900    dsmith4416@gmail.com.

### **Year to Date Summary**

As you can see from the above reports, our Foundation Committee has been hard at work. We have our challenges. They include getting clubs to enter their goals, encouraging clubs to make their contributions to the Annual Fund, and looking at ways to improve the Grant Management Seminar. We do have a great committee in place to take on these tasks.

John Teibert

The Rotary Foundation

**From:** Ralph Montesanto  
**To:** [Pene Hutton](#)  
**Subject:** April Training Report for district Council  
**Date:** Monday, April 02, 2018 12:15:19 PM

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Pene  
Here it is.  
Ralph

District Trainer Report to District Council April 7, 2018  
Ralph Montesanto

Thank you again to chairs Anne Bermingham (CLT and ON Club Visioning), Glen Christensen (RLI), Al Lutchin and Sue Czyrny (PETS and MD PETS), and Barbara Ochterski (NY Club Future Visioning). They do remarkable work to further the training of our district's members. Also a special thank you to Brian Carmichael for his behind the scenes work for PETS and MDPETS.

The following are their reports as submitted to me.

#### Club Visioning

We are in the process of preparing to facilitate a session with the Dundas Valley Sunrise Club in April and also working to establish a date for the Hamilton Mountain club for this spring as well. There are new materials that have come out from the Club Visioning organizing arm that I am needing to review - looks like some good upgrades and changes to make it easier to help clubs move from visioning to having a full strategic plan developed.

#### CLT

The registration is open. Go to District 7090 website for all the details. Saturday May 5 is the date. Now is the time for each and every member of District Council to be promoting the event. We are encouraging each club to bring a car full of board members, committee chairs and interested Rotarians. So please spread the word. Be sure to get your own club registered. If you are able, please encourage others in your area or network to register as there are specific sessions for those interested in public relations, communications, club secretary, treasurer, fundraising, Rotary alumni and so much more.

Anne Bermingham

#### RLI

We had another successful RLI on March 24 with 26 District Rotarians participating. Another 9 District 7090 Rotarians graduated and received their certificates and pins.

The RLI Chair has discussed with the facilitators about offering the RLI Graduate Courses to RLI Part 3 graduates. There are 6 half day and 1 full day graduate courses. It is hoped that this will come to fruition during the next twelve months.

The RLI chair is also exploring the possibility of holding an RLI session in the SouthWest New York area of the District. It would be a Saturday/Sunday offering of Parts 1 and 2. To take Part 3 participants would likely be asked to travel to either Sanborn or Niagara-on-the-Lake at our regular offering of RLI.

Also, discussions are being held about offering RLI to our Rotaractors as well..... more to come in this regard. Over the next year I hope to possibly have some other creative ideas for offering RLI to our members. Stay tuned. I would like to personally thank the RLI facilitators we have in the District for their commitment to RLI. Our feedback from participants is that our facilitators are doing an excellent job and for that I thank them.

NB: On a combined basis all three RLI's were in a positive position this Rotary year.

Sanborn - September 2017 \$441.04

NOTL - December 2017 <177.14>

Sanborn - March 2019 \$385.77

Total Net Revenue for RLI \$649.67.

(Director of Training Comment: it is much less costly to hold these events at NCCC

Glen Christensen

#### Club Future Visioning NY

Visioning-called Futuring on the US side completed a successful event with the Lockport RC on 3/28. Next up is Batavia on 4/28. BNMC and Leroy Rotary Clubs are interested in setting up Futuring Events this season.  
Barbara E. Ochterski Ph.D.

PETS training was held online using ZOOM – the second year this has been done. The sessions were split into two Parts in the January /February time frame for a total of 4 hours of training. Topics included: Rotary Web Tools, Board Governance, District Grants, Strategic Planning and Executive Succession, Membership & Youth Services. Participation was strong with 80 per cent of incoming Presidents attending. The PETS training team is currently reviewing feedback in preparation for next year's training activities and will continue to refine the training experience. We are also planning an open forum online meeting in a few weeks to provide an opportunity to provide support.

MDPETS was held the first weekend of March at the BMO Institute for Learning Centre in Toronto. Participants from across Districts, 7090-7080-7070 took part in various workshops Saturday and attended an opening session Friday evening with keynote Speaker Jeffry Cadorette – Rotary International Director (18-20). 65 per cent of District 7090 President Elects attended and feedback was very positive. The District PETS program in combination with MDPETS provides complimentary training and learning opportunities to support President Elects in their transition to leading their club.

Alexander Lutchin and Susan Czyrny

## **Youth Services Report for District Council - 6 April 2018.**

### **General**

The youth services side of our district has been extremely active this past quarter as you will see below in the different committee reports. I'm pleased that with the support of many district leaders, we tentatively will see youth as a strategic goal, if approved by DC.

### **Youth Services Marketing Automation**

Still waiting for Finance Committee.

### **Youth Exchange (Long Term)**

Mike Taylor reports on the Long Term program:

Long Term program had a total of 31 student applications this year. Two withdrew ahead of District interviews and one was deferred and will be participating in Short Term program instead with the idea of applying again for Long Term program next year. There are a total of 28 long term outbound students in queue at this point and we are looking to possibly bringing in two additional inbounds for a total of 30 visiting 7090 this coming year.

Changes to the District Long Term YE committee include the transition of Chair to Jill Norton of Buffalo Sunrise Club starting in July. This will mark the first time a female has taken on YE Chair leadership in 7090. One of our longest serving vice-chairs John Bradley (Buffalo Club) will be succeeded by Stan Simmons (Buffalo Sunrise). Likewise, another veteran Vice Chair leader Jessica Wooder (Ancaster AM) will be stepping back as she takes on her year as Club President. In her place we are pleased to have the addition of Patricia Murenbeeld (Niagara-on-the-Lake Club). Patricia is a recent transplant to 7090 having previously moved here from Ottawa. Patricia is a past Exchange student herself as is her daughter. She also served at a District committee in Ottawa as well.

Our newly revitalized YE Corporate Board have been looking at ways to reclaim and engage our graduated returning YE students. As a means of doing so, we have recently confirmed that we will be holding the very first District 7090 Youth Exchange Celebration Gala. It will be held on Sunday, June 10th, 2018 from noon to 4 PM at the Niagara-on-the-Lake Community Centre and has been integrated with the annual Youth Exchange YE weekend. We are excited to host this event which will feature and celebrate our current inbound students, the next crop of outbound students who are now preparing to head out for their year AND as well our past (ROTEX) students. This event - intended to be an annual celebration - will look to host 200 attendees and will also provide us a great opportunity to express our appreciation for our Host families.

We are exceptionally pleased with the strong resurgence of our program this past year, and with new leadership, revitalized membership and exciting new Board initiatives like our Celebration Gala, we look forward to not only an exciting year but

more importantly a strong foundation for continued excitement and growth for YE in 7090.

### **Youth Exchange** (Short Term - STEP)

Bob Stevenson reports on the STEP program:

As most of you are aware, the Short Term Exchange Programme (STEP) is a family to family exchange held during July and August, for high school age students. Two students, one from our district and one from overseas are matched. The match is made based on age, gender and interests. One student goes overseas for 3-4 weeks and lives with the family of the other, doing the things the things your exchange partner and host family does. At the end of that period of time the two exchange partners would travel to the country of their exchange partner and live with the family of the partner for 3-4 weeks. Your family would take him/her to various places of interest. The whole exchange would be about 6-8 weeks (3-4 weeks at your home and 3-4 weeks at the home of your partner and his/her family).

There has been a noticeable increase in interest in the STEP programme this year. We have had an increase in participants from 8 students in the summer of 2017 to 12 students this year. We had 13 students until a week ago, but one student regretfully had to withdraw because of family reasons.

I have been very happy that Janet Walker and Connie Forsyth have joined me in operating the programme. Janet is from the Holley Rotary Club and Connie from the Simcoe Rotary Club. We have divided the students and the countries amongst us. We have made some changes in the countries with which we exchange. We have dropped Finland because their policy is to have their students arrive in the middle of June, whilst our students in Canada and US are still in school. Our students are mostly in the midst of studying and writing final exams.

Other countries with which we have exchanged in the past and still exchange are Belgium, Hungary Austria, Germany, Spain, Italy The new countries added this year are Denmark, the Netherlands and the Czech Republic.

The recruitment and interview process is just about the same as for the long term exchange: Club interviews in the fall, District interviews in January and the Orientation Day in March. The one big difference is that we take all applicants that are the interviewers deem suitable for the programme.

Something new that we are adding this year is a STEP preparation day on a Saturday in June. The outbound STEP students will have a chance to get to know each other, hear experiences of former STEP students, to ask more questions, and to mingle socially.

Much appreciation to Aad Vermeyden and Mike Taylor who have helped promote the programme in the District and a special thanks to Aad, who oversees this part of youth exchange and has come up with very creative ideas to develop it.

## **RYLA**

June 10-16, 2018 at State University in Fredonia (NY).

As of March 24<sup>th</sup> registration sits at 10 (out of 40). No further report available at this time. Rino reports \$895 deposited to date with another 7 club cheques to be deposited.

## **SLAPSHOT**

April 27-29, 2018 at Canterbury Hills in Ancaster (ON).

Rob Nagy provides the following report:

- Program date is fast approaching and set for April 27-29 @ Canterbury Hills in Ancaster Ontario
- Program planning is fully underway with the registration deadline approaching. Currently we are sitting at around 80 registrants which is 20 shy of our mandate. We are struggling with American club's participation falling short with that of the Canadian Clubs. This is a concern because one of our goals is even participation between the two Countries. Historically we have had 70% Canadian to 30% American clubs participation. Our American friends are having difficulty finding participants so we need to find a way to help. The Slapshot program is vital to our district youth programming overall so we need to find a way to push promotion better south of the border.
- Weekend activity planning is well underway with our program committee putting together a well-versed schedule for the participants. Last year we had Adventureworks lead most of the programming but this year we are taking back the majority of the programming to make it feel like our program again. This was a decision that the committee wanted to address and incorporate.
- Returning Speakers for the weekend are set for Joel Hilchey and Annaleise Carr but we may also have a past participant come to present to the students. This will be an added bonus for the program because this young lady is now a rotarian and can shed some light on the importance of giving back to the community and doing good.

That's the progress report for the program thus far. Even though we are tracking registration short from the year prior I am confident that we will hit our target. Let me know if you need me to add anything else Aad and I can. If you're looking for anything in particular let me know.

Rino reports total income of \$21,675 deposited for Slapshot, with a US\$ 1,100 yet to be deposited.

## **ROTARACT**

The district Rotaract team of Jen, Larry and Matt have been super busy. We meet very regularly using Zoom/GTM and can report that it is looking like >25 Rotaractors will be sponsored by Rotary Clubs to attend (the Rotaract part of) the RI Convention!! Following is the report that they put together:  
District 7090 Rotaract is kicking it up in high gear this year! Currently there are 10 active Rotaract Clubs in our District. Below please find a complete list of active Rotaract Clubs and their sponsoring Rotary Clubs.

### **Rotaract Club**

Buffalo State Rotaract Club  
Hilbert College Rotaract Club  
Rotaract Club of University at Buffalo  
St. Bonaventure University  
Brock Niagara Rotaract Club  
Hamilton Community  
McMaster Rotaract Club  
Ontario College of Health & Technology  
Rotaract Club of Norfolk  
Rotaract Niagara

### **Sponsoring Rotary Club(s)**

Amherst South  
Hamburg Sunrise  
Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus  
Olean  
St. Catherine's South  
Hamilton East-Wentworth  
Ancaster/Hamilton  
Stoney Creek  
Norfolk Sunrise, Simcoe  
Fonthill, St. Catherines South,  
Niagara Falls Sunrise

## **Overview of Rotaract Club Activities**

- Brock - Future Leader Social (youth engagement)
- UB - Lake LaSalle Shoreline Restoration (environmental restoration), Fundraising for Tanzania Project Trip (international community development)
- Niagara - Coldest Night of the Year (support for homeless)
- Norfolk - Chelsea Addison Memorial Bursary (mental health support)
- Hilbert is gathering materials to be shipped to a Nicaraguan Mission

## **District Rotaract Goals for 2018**

- Send 15+ Rotaractors to the Rotary International Pre-Convention for Rotaractors in Toronto
- Present a Rotaract budget to district
- Zone Conference
- District Conference
- PETS Training
- District Conference
- Rotary Leadership Institute
- Focus on encouraging referrals for membership from Rotarians
- Increase Rotaract Club count (reviving the inactive Rotaract Clubs)
- Plan an event for Rotaract Week 2018



- Improve communication and collaboration between Rotaract Clubs, encouraging closer partnerships between Rotaract Clubs and sponsoring Rotary Clubs
- Personally, I think that it would be a stronger move for youth across the District to support existing clubs more than starting new ones. For that reason, I would suggest changing that last goal to "Increase Rotaract Club membership" rather than count. I know we all have different opinions on this, and we can certainly revisit it in our next conversation.

We are in the process of developing an annual timeline of events that we feel Rotaractors should be attending each year in our District/Zone/Internationally (including the above mentioned items). This timeline will help Rotarians and Rotaractors plan ahead for upcoming events that Rotaractors need to be a part of.

### **What is necessary for Rotaract Clubs to stay active?**

- Constant support and communication with your Rotaractors. They depend on you!
- Invite them to your Rotary meetings weekly. Invite them personally!
- Set aside a Rotaract budget each year to send members to training, cover costs of materials etc
  - Sit down with your Rotaract Club to discuss what they need and what their goals are
- If your Rotaract Club is inactive appoint a member of the club to start actively working towards getting your Rotaract Club up and running, all you need to do is find ONE champion Rotaractor and they will help you build the club back up!
- Constant attendance of Rotary Club Rotaract Liaison at Rotaract Club meetings and events
- Consistent recruitment of responsible young adults (relatives, neighbors, employees) to local Rotaract Clubs
- Purple Pinkie Project as a Polio fundraiser AND as a way to recruit new members at a table in a high traffic location on campus or in the community (piggyback other community or Rotary club events/meetings)
- Seek publicity in monthly District Newsletter of events on pre and post basis to increase awareness and attendance
- Direct and encourage Rotaract members to view the District Newsletter monthly

## INTERACT

Rick Sterne reported no news from the Canadian side.

John Heise submitted the following report for the US side:

I have been in contact with most of the U. S. clubs about Interact. An interesting process. I have been able to identify a dozen clubs that have Interact at their local high school. A couple of them are new, such as Holley (my club) and Mayville-Westfield. I have attached a composite list for you. If I received a No answer from a club, that is so indicated. If I am not sure of the answer or status, that is indicated by a ?

My inquiry resulted in at least one club exploring the idea. Hopefully they will attempt the formation of an Interact Club.

The response I received from some of the clubs is the “union problem” on the U. S. side. Most union contracts here do not allow a teacher to get involved in an extra-curricular activity without the union approval **AND** compensation. This is a real problem. I think it can be solved, but it is difficulty. (I encountered the same problem in forming the Interact Club at our local school. We worked it out, but then I am a school board member and my daughter is the Social Worker in the high school. Also, there was a teacher in the school who had served three years as the president of her local Interact Club.)

I will keep working on the list. I also intend to encourage Interact Clubs to contribute news articles to our District Newsletter, their local papers, and to establish a Face Book page. (Our Interact Club has such a page. Many local people comment on it. Two days ago, after I published some photos from our recent activity, a couple of parents from our elementary school contacted me about forming a club (Early Act) there. So, these do have an effect.)

US Interact clubs:

Club	Club Contact	School	School Contact
Akron-Newstead	Erin Behm <a href="mailto:Erinjane1973@yahoo.com">Erinjane1973@yahoo.com</a>	Akron	
Albion	Tim Archer	Albion HS	Tim Archer <a href="mailto:tarcher@albionk12.org">tarcher@albionk12.org</a>
Amherst	?		
Amherst South	?		
Batavia	NO		
BNMC	No		
Buffalo	No		
Buffalo Niagara Roundabout	No		
Buffalo Sunrise	NO		
Clarence	Rev. Greg Hall <a href="mailto:gkrhall@aol.com">gkrhall@aol.com</a>	Clarence HS	B Schmidt <a href="mailto:bschmidt@clarenceschool.org">bschmidt@clarenceschool.org</a>
Dunkirk Fredonia	Joe Reyda <a href="mailto:jreda@fcsd.wnyrix.org">jreda@fcsd.wnyrix.org</a>		

East Aurora	No		
Eastern Hills Sunrise	No		
Ellicottville	NO		
Falconer			
Grand Island	NO, did but no longer		
Greater Jamestown A.M.	?		
Hamburg	No Club		
Hamburg Sunrise	No Club		
Holley	John Heise	Holley HS/MS	Samantha Zelent szelent@holleycsd.org
Jamestown	Ruth Lundin <a href="mailto:rlundin@netsync.net">rlundin@netsync.net</a>	Jamestown	
Kenmore	Larry Coon <a href="mailto:lorenzocoon@yahoo.com">lorenzocoon@yahoo.com</a>	Kenmore West	Darcy France dfrance@ktufsd.org
Kenmore	Larry Coon <a href="mailto:lorenzocoon@yahoo.com">lorenzocoon@yahoo.com</a>	Kenmore East	Kyle Witul kwitul@ktufsd.org
Lancaster-Depew	John Trojanowsky johntrajanowsky@lancasterny.com	Lancaster HS	Run by a teacher member of East Aurora
LeRoy	Samantha Vagg samvagg@gmail.com	LeRoy HS	Linda Lowe llowe@leroycsd.org
Medina	No		
Middleport	No		
Niagara County Central	<a href="mailto:Davidevans3466@gmail.com">Davidevans3466@gmail.com</a> ???		
Niagara Falls	?		
Olean	?		
Orchard Park	?		
West Seneca	NO		
Mayville-Westfield	Shawn McKane, Counselor Sherman School		Shawn McKane smckane@sherman.wnyric.org
Williamsville	?		

## EARLYACT

No news at this point.

Any questions, email or call me:

Aad Vermeyden

(519) 717-1570

[aad@blueprintagencies.com](mailto:aad@blueprintagencies.com)

Previously distributed by email notice 3/18/18 to all District Council as per MOPP requirement.

Proposed change to the District 7090 Manual of Procedure and Policy (MOPP)

For approval at District Council meeting on April 7, 2018.

**Replace** the following paragraph:

(Under Duties and Responsibilities of the District Finance Committee)

Prepare a budget of District Expenditures for the upcoming Rotary year in cooperation with the relative District Governor (District Governor Elect) to be submitted to the clubs at least 4 weeks prior to the District Club Leadership Training and approved at a meeting of incoming presidents at said Club Leadership Training (p. 60 of MOPP)

**With** the following paragraph: (change noted in red)

Prepare a budget of District Expenditures for the upcoming Rotary year in cooperation with the relative District Governor (District Governor Elect) to be submitted to the clubs **at least 2 weeks prior to the event at which the incoming club presidents, or their delegates, must vote to approve the budget. This event may be either (1) District Club Leadership Training, or (2) an online meeting of incoming club presidents or their delegates. In either case, there must be an opportunity for incoming presidents (or their delegates) to ask questions and seek clarification prior to voting on the proposed budget. The attendance at the event and the final vote tally will be recorded and the budget must be approved by 2/3 of the voting members in attendance.**

**District Council 1/13/18**  
**Final Report on ASSISTANT GOVERNOR Area Reconfiguration Project**

District Governor Reg appointed an ad hoc committee of Kevin Crosby and Robert Morrow to undertake an assessment of the current configuration of our ASSISTANT GOVERNOR areas and other issues related to the selection, development, and coordination of ASSISTANT GOVERNORS. This is the final report of this ad hoc committee.

**A. Configuration of ASSISTANT GOVERNOR Areas**

Following a process of surveying club leaders, ASSISTANT GOVERNORS, and other district leaders, and having follow-up discussions, we recommend the following configuration of ASSISTANT GOVERNOR Areas (as Assistant Governor agreed to by affected clubs and ASSISTANT GOVERNORS): (changes noted in red)

- **Area 1** – Delhi, Norfolk Sunrise, Simcoe (no change)
- **Area 2** – Ancaster, Ancaster AM, Brantford, Brantford Sunrise, Caledonia, **RESI e-club**
- **Area 3** – Dundas, Dundas Valley Sunrise, Flamborough AM, Waterdown (no change)
- **Area 4** - Hamilton, Hamilton East Wentworth, Stoney Creek, **Hamilton AM, Hamilton Mountain, Hamilton Tonic After 5, and E-club of SOWNY; this area will be represented by two ASSISTANT GOVERNORS**
- **Area 5** – Grimsby, Grimsby@Noon, Lincoln (no change)
- **Area 6** – St. Catharines, St. Catharines Lakeshore, St. Catharines South (no change)
- **Area 7** – Dunville, Fonthill, Welland (**move Ft. Erie to Area 8**)
- **Area 8** – Niagara Falls, ON, Niagara Falls Sunrise, NOTL, Lewiston-NOTL, **Ft. Erie**
- **Area 9** – Grand Island, Niagara Falls, NY, Niagara Falls County Central (no change)
- **Area 10** – Buffalo, Buffalo Sunrise, BNMC, Kenmore (no change)

- **Area 11** – Amherst, Amherst South, Williamsville, Lancaster-Depew, Buffalo-Niagara Falls Roundabout (no change)
- **Area 12** – Lockport, Middleport, Clarence, Eastern Hills, Akron-Newstead (no change)
- **Area 13** – East Aurora, Orchard Park, West Seneca, Hamburg, Hamburg Sunrise (no change)
- **Area 14** – Le Roy, Batavia, Medina, Albion, Holley (no change)
- **Area 15** – Ellicottville, Olean, **Falconer, Jamestown, Greater Jamestown AM**
- **Area 16** – Dunkirk-Fredonia, Westfield-Mayville (no change)

NOTE: Areas 17 and 18 are eliminated due to merging of areas

## **B. Participation of E-clubs in Area meetings**

We recommend that any ASSISTANT GOVERNOR area that includes an e-club should make arrangements for the participation of the e-club President and PE in area meetings virtually if they are unable to attend in person. Virtual participation could be by conference call, Skype, Zoom, or other similar technology.

## **C. Participation of Rotaract Clubs in Area meetings**

We recommend that the Presidents and President-Elects of Rotaract clubs be invited to participate in the Area meetings of their sponsoring Rotary clubs in order to foster greater integration of Rotaract clubs and Rotary clubs.

## **D. Creation of ASSISTANT GOVERNOR Coordinator Position**

We recommend the creation of the position of ASSISTANT GOVERNOR COORDINATOR. This position would have a three-year term, renewable annually. The ASSISTANT GOVERNOR Coordinator would share responsibility for coordination and support of ASSISTANT GOVERNORS with the District Governor Nominee. A position description is attached.

## **E. Selection of Assistant Governors**

We recommend that an ASSISTANT GOVERNOR-ELECT candidate (or candidates) be recommended to the District Governor-elect by the incumbent ASSISTANT GOVERNOR between September and January of the incumbent ASSISTANT GOVERNOR's third year of service. The District Governor-Elect should interview the ASSISTANT GOVERNOR-ELECT candidate(s) and ensure that all ASSISTANT GOVERNORS-ELECT are appointed by December 31 of the Rotary year preceding their first term.

## **F. Preparation and Training of Assistant Governors**

We recommend that all ASSISTANT GOVERNORS-ELECT participate in Area meetings and monthly ASSISTANT GOVERNOR meetings starting no later than January prior to their first term.

The incumbent ASSISTANT GOVERNOR will be expected to provide appropriate mentoring.

We recommend the practice of the DGE conducting a "District Team Training Seminar" in the spring prior to the start of his or her District Governor year. This seminar would include all incumbent ASSISTANT GOVERNORS, ASSISTANT GOVERNORS-ELECT, and other district leaders for the purpose of team-building and communicating priorities and goals for the coming Rotary year.

We recommend continuing the practice of having an ASSISTANT GOVERNOR training track at Club Leadership Training. All incumbent ASSISTANT GOVERNORS and ASSISTANT GOVERNORS-ELECT are expected to participate.

The district's ASSISTANT GOVERNOR Manual should be reviewed and updated as needed but at least annually. The ASSISTANT GOVERNOR Coordinator and District Governor Nominee should manage this process.

## **G. Collaboration Among ASSISTANT GOVERNOR Areas**

Based on strong support expressed in our surveys, we recommend that ASSISTANT GOVERNOR Areas be encouraged to collaborate on an ad hoc basis

for the purpose of regional activities related to public image, recruitment or service projects. (We are *not* recommending the formation of defined regions consisting of multiple ASSISTANT GOVERNOR Areas at this time. Although there is support for ASSISTANT GOVERNOR Areas working together, there was a clear desire to avoid the creation of a new layer of bureaucracy in the district.)

Respectfully submitted,

Past District Governor Kevin Crosby and ASSISTANT GOVERNOR TRAINER, Robert Morrow



## **Minutes of the International Service Committee (ISC) 7090 Wednesday March 21, 2018**

### **In attendance:**

Members: Najeeb Syed (St. Catharine's South), Barbara Ochterski (Buffalo Sunrise), PDG Jack Amico (West Seneca), PDG Karen Oakes (Delhi), Roger Mann (Brantford), DG Reg Madison (Brantford Sunrise), PDG Art Wing (St. Catharines), Lezlie Murch, (St. Catharines) David Johnson (BNMC), DGE Melisa Schrock (Akron-Newstead)

Guests: Fiona Barretto (Amherst S), Linda Milke (Brantford), John Boronkay (West Seneca), Shefali Clerk (Amherst South),

Chair Roger Mann opened the meeting at 5:55. Members and guests were introduced and welcomed .

**Minutes of January 3, 2018:** A motion was made to accept the minutes by Jack Amico and seconded by Karen Oakes. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Old Business:**

Later in the meeting David Johnson gave a brief update on the Women's Project in Ethiopia. The potential project is with the Health, Development and Anti Malaria Association (HDAMA), an Ethiopian Residents' Charity. BNMC will be participating in a project to develop a girls' school in Ethiopia, serving 120 students at a time. The initial project participation would involve @ \$35,000 to be raised locally. The foci of the project would be Basic Education and Literacy and Economic and Community Development. The initial estimates were more than anticipated so Dave has gone back to Abere Mihretie to get costs reduced. Fundraising is going on for the project with a major event scheduled for April 29, 2018.

### **New Business:**

**Sierra Leone Clinic Expansion:** John Boronkay gave background on the affiliation of West Seneca Rotarians and a refugee family from Sierra Leone who now live in Buffalo. The parents are professionals and Phebian, the mother is a registered nurse who has returned often to Sierra Leone to develop and maintain a medical clinic. This clinic is essential to the wellbeing of the community it serves, most recently training local volunteers to assist with the Ebola crisis. Medical paraprofessionals from the community now work at the clinic. The need for additional space is great especially in the areas of prenatal, birthing and pediatric care, as well as for hernia repair, and so this Project proposal to build an addition to the Adama Martha Memorial Community Health Clinic in the Kono District of Sierra Leone.

Questions followed and the affiliation with Jericho Road was explained by John. Melisa Schrock has knowledge of and connections with that area and with the Bo Rotary Club in the area. She will be going to Sierra Leone in a few months and encouraged John to connect with her. The need for on the ground personnel who are Rotarians was stressed and the expansion project

would benefit from significant Rotary involvement. It was suggested that a Global Grant might be considered for equipment but not for bricks and mortar work. John was reminded that John Harbison has previously had a medical clinic project in the area and that perhaps clubs might not be willing to give to a similar project again.

**A motion was made that ISC recommend to the District Council that the West Seneca Rotary Club's efforts to raise money for the medical clinic expansion in Sierra Leone be approved for club-to-club solicitation. This motion is made with the understanding of West Seneca Rotary that no matching funds from Rotary International or District 7090 for this particular project. A motion was made by DGE Melisa Schrock and seconded by PDG Karen Oakes. The motion was unanimously approved.**

Global Grant Calculator(GGC) : Karen Oakes gave a brief presentation on the merits of using the GGC. She reminded us that all clubs that donated must be listed separately. At least 30% must come from the International Partner and 70% from the Host partner. (see attached example)

Science Lab upgrade, Water and Sanitation for KVKV School in Gujarat, India: Shefali Clerk KVKV School for Girls, established in 1946 serves students from nearby villages. In 2008 the school was the recipient of a Matching Grant for uniforms. Now the need is for science equipment and supplies. In addition to the equipment, a water filtration system and a dispenser for hygiene products for the students are needed. Repairs are also needed for the dormitory building since this is a boarding school. A Global Grant application is in process, however, Amherst South is also raising money to assist the school.

**A motion was made that ISC recommend to the District Council that the Amherst South Rotary Club's efforts to raise money for the science lab upgrade, water and sanitary needs of students at KVKV School be approved for club-to-club solicitation. Motion was made by Karen Oakes and seconded by Cathy Henry. Passed unanimously.**

#### Other:

Fiona Barretto provided insights on work Amherst South is doing on these projects: Global project with partnered with Rotary Riobamba, Ecuador for the indigenous people and the Peanut Butter Malnutrition Project that is being considered for Tanzania. It was suggested that more detailed information is needed before ISC members can be helpful in providing direction.

Melissa Schrock reported on a trip to the Dominican Republic that she took with female Interact students from her school district. The project was to assist in repair to a school. As a future project there may be an opportunity to plant an avocado plantation in the area with the help of area Rotarians, possibly through a micro-loan program.

Cathy Henry provided an update on Tree That Feed. (attached)

Announcements: We will consider best day and dates for 2018-19 meetings at or before the next meeting.

**\*\*It is likely that the May 16, 2018 ISC meeting will be rescheduled due to conflicts. Members will be informed.\*\***

The meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara E. Ochterski, ISC Secretary

## District 7090 Council Report

Period Beginning 1/10/18 Ending 4/1/28

1 Jan I visited AG Cathy Henrys' Area 8 meeting and met several of her Presidents. What I enjoyed most was the espritdecorps exhibited by her team. They were exhaling the virtues of YE, 50<sup>th</sup> year celebration, some gigit group(?) and a joint PP event (I really liked this idea) in April. John Crossingham was present and shared with the group recent RI updated updates on a bike ride from various locations in Ontario to converge in Toronto City. He also mention home hospitality and how that would play out.

11 Jan Moving more toward the falls, met w/AG Dave Berry Area 8 and his troops. The **BIG** talk here was about **cluster grants**, but their Earlyact initiative was second to none, high emphasis are placed on this program. Of course they are also proud of their Rotaractors.

11 Jan Holiday celebrations were still going on with the Clarence Rotarians, my home club. Wow was it well planned, well attended and executed. Very different format from past lavished parties held in Country Club atmosphere. Prez Keith wanted to keep a low budget but just enough to raise funds to purchase

18 Jan was a super day with the beginning life cycle of chartering a newly formed Rotaract club in Welland. To see the joy in the officers and members face was overwhelming for the dawning of a new day!! Presenting their charter was DG Reg and DGND Frank Adamson.

24 Jan was a special day in meeting the Interim President, Dr. Moribito of NCCC and hearing his vision and expansion for the institution. In tow was IPDG Marlee and a "bunch" of PDGs

24 Jan was PETS A1 of which I was an attendee. Susan Czyrny and Al Lutchin did a fabulous job of moderating.

29 Jan was CLT Zoom meeting in preparation for the big event

2 Feb was our customary first Friday "DLT" District Team Leadership meeting hosted by DGE Melisa Schrock, #Rotarianforever.

5 Feb the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary for St Catharine's Rotary has arrived and the festive spirit was high in celebrating a half century of doing good in the world. Prez. Jeff did a splendid job in presiding with former presidents in attendance. Our illustrious leadership team was also in attendance, DG Reg, #Rotarianforever, DGDD Frank and yours truly.

9 Feb – 11 Feb was Zone 24 & 32 Institute in Vancouver. For me the highlight was the closing Keynote Speaker, Derran Moss-Dalmau.

One of our District's missions is establishing **satellite clubs** in areas that are under served or NOT served at all.

20 Feb I held an exploratory meeting with a member of the African American community to assess and gage the possibility of establishing **satellite club**. The meeting was fruitful and I expect to hold another meeting soon with a larger audience.

22 Feb Rotary Club of Lancaster made a presentation to PDG Jack D'Amico for Gift of Life. In attendance was PDG Kevin Crosby. Their speaker was Mary Alice Demler from TV channel 2

26 Feb Zoom planning for MDPETS

! March visit to NCCC, small but active with inspired and engaged members.

1 March Rotary Club of Clarence put on their annual New Generation program with participating seniors from local high schools. Topics of interest were

1. Assault weapons, Anxiety Depression, Empowerment, and Mental health

2 March – 3 March MDPETS fine event and there was lots of collaborating among the attendees.

6 March an attempt to attend AG Allyson Wenzowski Area 3 meeting but ended up at wrong location...very long drive home. Lesson learned: GET EXACT DIRECTIONS

13 March visited Lincoln Rotary Club and AG Margaret Andrewes Area meeting. Three new members were inducted, John Tiebert shared with the group his first RI convention in Indianapolis and the tree planting event.

13 March was a noon visit to Rotary Club of Niagara Falls, Ontario. Very active and vibrant club.

[illegible]