

# Governor Jeff's District News

Rotary



*Happy Holidays*

**“Together we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change – across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves.”**

## **Happy Holidays!!**

2019 is quickly coming to a close. Jeanne and I wish you the best during the upcoming holiday season. We thank you for all of the great work you have accomplished for your community and the world. When you list all of the accomplishments of our 44 clubs, Interact clubs, Rotaract Clubs, our Rotary Community Corp, Exchange Students and Friends of Rotary you see a very significant impact. This is a great time of the year to reflect on what you have accomplished, and to get energized for the next year.

If you were to pick one new thing to try in the coming year to excite your club and community, what would it be? Many clubs are looking for new ideas and would like to know what you are doing. I have promised to develop four lists for all clubs in the District: fundraising, community projects, international projects and speaker programs. I will probably list some ideas from other Districts. A request will be coming soon.

**Calling all President Elects:** DGE Dave Bensley is busy getting prepared for his year as DG. He has been filling out the many committees, developing the President-Elect training program to be held in Syracuse in mid-March and developing a strategy for his year. In January Dave will be attending the International Assembly for training. This event is also an opportunity to network with classmates from 215 countries and territories.

We expect RI to present an updated Strategic Plan. Dave will be factoring any new directions in his plan for the District. Please complete your election of officers for the next Rotary year including President Elects.

**Women Advancing to Positions of Leadership in Rotary International:** A draft resolution on this topic prepared by the Ithaca Noon Club has been forwarded to all clubs in the District for their review. A copy has been shared with RI President Barry Rassin. Further discussions will be held outside of our District in order to garner further support.



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**Club and Community Visits:** The first round of club and community visits is nearly completed. The next step is to meet with community leaders, businesses, higher education and non-profits to promote Rotary and to explore collaboration opportunities. We are especially looking for ideas to help our smaller communities grow their economies and improve the quality of life. The following picture is from the First Industry Summit held in Binghamton where over 200 gathered to discuss strategies for our region. Rotary District 7170 was a participant and sponsor of this event.

**Whitney Point Rotary Lobster Fest:** The ever popular Whitney Point Lobster Fest served 400 over a two-hour period. Many clubs were represented in addition to the general public. The event is a great value.



DG Jeff

## Rotarian of the Month

Our Rotarian of the month is **Lida Bassler of Colesville-Harpursville Rotary**. Lida is a long-standing member who has created invocations for her club. These beautiful passages were created over several decades and cover every month, season and holiday of the year along with topics of inspiration. The club wanted to capture this dedication and created "a book of club invocations". The book was designed by club member Desiree Ford. We thank Lida for her dedication to create these poems. This book is available from the club.





# Transforming our Communities And Rotary

May 10-12, 2019

Binghamton NY Doubletree Hotel

- Our 30<sup>th</sup> annual District Conference will be an opportunity for Rotarians and community members to celebrate progress, exchange ideas and take action on the future of our communities and Rotary
- Transformation experts from across the country will speak as well as regional Rotary and community leaders.
- Fun events will be sprinkled throughout the weekend including:
  - Drone tour of District 7170
  - Taste of New York room
  - Polio Plus fun walk and riding tour
  - Exhibits: clubs, Interact, Rotaract, Partnerships, Exchange Students
  - Virtual Reality and the story of LUMA FEST
  - Running tour (5k fun run) of Binghamton, Golf
  - Biking tour of Binghamton
  - Fun raffles and door prizes
  - Musical performances from our exchange students and others

***We want to showcase all of our communities  
Local clubs, communities, service providers and RI will have marketing space.***



*cont.*

***Transforming our communities will transform Rotary***

Topics to be addressed include:

- The art of community collaboration
- Making your club irresistible and creating new clubs
- Creating resources through Interact, Rotaract, Rotary Community Corp, Friends of Rotary, Community Collaboration and Partnerships
- Raising funds inside and outside of Rotary
- Transforming communities around the world
- Environmental sustainability strategy
- A strategic plan for our smaller communities
- Arts and culture in District 7170
- Needs assessment of our District with expert panels
- Building the “people of action” brand
- Vision 2025
- New Generations

***Other topics can be suggested by Rotary and community partners. Our entire District is invited to participate in the design of this event***

Look for **Early Bird** special.





# Rotary Salutes



Mike Jimenez, (L) President of the **Trumansburg Rotary**, accepted the Organization of the Year award on behalf of the Trumansburg Rotary Club.

## Rotary In Motion



Members of the Trumansburg Rotary  
Celebrate their award!!

Top Row  
L-R Joseph Barrett, Mike Jimenez

Bottom Row  
Peggy Haine, Mary Bouchard

# Rotary Salutes cont.

## Oneonta Rotarians are Fall's *People of Action*

Oneonta Rotarians were truly “People of Action” during the fall months of 2018. Activities over October and November included the Fall Roadside Cleanup, distribution of over 200 new coats to community children in Oneonta and Laurens through Operation Warm, the annual Rotary Youth Exchange Pancake Day fundraiser, distribution of hundreds of dictionaries and Thesauri to area students, and induction of new member Evan Rees. As Fall ends and the holidays begin, we look forward to our upcoming winter activities: ringing the bell for the Salvation Army, holiday shopping for families in need, and planning the Ross Cordell Wrestling Tournament which takes place in January.



Fall Roadside Cleanup. Dr. Robert Davidson heads a hearty crew of Rotarians, friends and family for the Fall Roadside Cleanup.

Operation Warm\_Riverside Elementary School. Warm smiles greeted Oneonta Rotarians at Riverside Elementary School as children selected new coats.



Operation Warm\_ Laurens Central School. Laughter and Laurens spirit filled the gym as Oneonta Rotarians helped students select the perfect coats.

PancakeDay 2018. Oneonta Rotary Youth Exchange Pancake Day, headed by Ed Forman, was a sweet success filled with fluffy pancakes, sweet maple syrup and fun and laughter.



President Cindy Struckle welcomes new member Evan Rees



# Rotary Salutes cont.

## **Owego Rotary** hosts 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Arts & Craft Fair

Just in time for the holidays, the Owego Rotary club held its Arts & Craft Fair to benefit Polio Plus. There were a unique variety of artists and craft persons offering their works for sale. There was something for everyone; from woodworking, jewelry and holiday decorations to textiles, Alpaca products and repurposed vintage furniture. Owego Free Academy Interact students took care of the Rotary baked good table for us. All proceeds from this event are donated to RI Polio Plus fund and this year we raised over \$1500. Our thanks to Nancy Della Pia and Mere Bocek who have organized this community service for the past several years.



## Rotary Salutes cont.

Sunday, October 14, 2018, was a cool, brisk day, yet nearly a dozen members of ***The Southern Tier Young Professionals Association*** journeyed to Port Dickinson's Community Park to assist in a county-wide riverbank cleanup project!

Volunteer groups throughout Broome County gave of their time, their energy, and their clean clothes to collect, bag up, rake up, or stack up debris found along the Susquehanna and Chenango Rivers. Nimmonsburg Rotary supported the effort by supplying food and beverage to the volunteers, and the Port Dickinson Public Works Department picked up the bags of trash and the 21 tires collected. Fox-40 TV sent a camera crew to cover the efforts in the Park and featured it on the 10pm news.

The cleanup effort is done by communities all along the Susquehanna River Watershed and it makes a BIG difference in keeping the Chesapeake Bay clean. Thank you, ***Nimmonsburg Rotary*** for doing YOUR part!!



Food for the workers



A few members of the cleanup crew





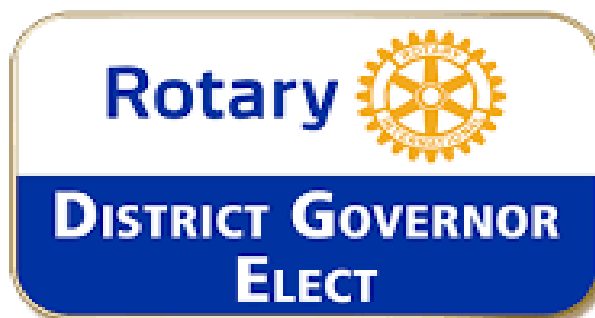
Please remember that all club officers for 2019-2020 need to be elected and that their names are entered into the District and RI websites ***no later than December 31st.*** It will be assumed that names in those sites after December 31st will be the officers for the coming year.

I will be meeting with all president elects are a series of “Fireside Chats” during late January, February and early March. These meeting will give us a chance to meet one another and plan for the coming year in an informal, relaxed setting. A complete schedule will be posted in the January Newsletter.

The President Elect Training Seminar (PETS) for 2019-2020 Presidents will be held at the Sheraton Syracuse University Hotel and Conference Center on March 15-16. All president elects are required to attend this seminar. Links to registration for this important seminar will be posted in the January Newsletter.



Dave Bensley  
DGE



## Your Help Is Needed

Clubs in our district are invited to participate in humanitarian and educational projects in Kosova (Southeastern Europe) by “adopting” a specific need. Minimum contribution for each project is \$500; there is no maximum. You can –

Adopt a Student by providing braille classes, computers or watches for blind children; support purchase of wheelchairs, toilet chairs, sports chairs, crutches, diapers and first aid kits for children with disabilities; Help put handball leagues into 10 elementary schools arounds Gjakova; fix a window, a door, or a portion of a leaking roof and provide supplies for autistic children and other educational supplies for special needs populations; support educational learning tools such as science labs and equipment, chairs and tables, computers, and laptops for a medical high school, technical high school, intermediate school, or elementary schools. (Adopting a student for any of the above supports the basic education and literacy, disease treatment, and peace and conflict resolution areas of focus.)

Adopt a Beekeeper by promoting the apiology career through early education “Bee Week” programs; Help support addition of bee hives and bee colonies to support local economies. Adopting a beekeeper supports the economic and community development area of focus.

Adopt a Firefighter by providing boots, gloves, helmets, flashlights, flame resistant clothing, breathing apparatuses, jaws of life, and handheld fire extinguishers. Adopting a firefighter supports the economic and community development area of focus.

Adopt a Medical Professional by supporting the acquisition of X-Ray equipment technologies for various hospitals and clinics; providing technologies and supplies to create dental appliances in safe and environmentally friendly manner; establish a program to improve access to qualify health care for RAE mothers and children; promote proper hygiene pre-and post-natal care, vaccinations, and nutrition education for RAE mothers and children. Adopting a medical professional supports focus areas of disease treatment and prevention and child and maternal health.

Adopt a Woman Becoming an Entrepreneur – help create 11 new women-owned businesses in Kosova – Adopting a woman who wishes to become an entrepreneur supports the economic and community development area of focus.

Should your club be interested in any of these projects – contact Rotary International Director Elect Stephanie Urchick at [saurchick@gmail.com](mailto:saurchick@gmail.com).





# ROTARY DIRECT FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## **HOW CAN I SIGN UP FOR ROTARY DIRECT?**

There are three ways to enroll in Rotary Direct, The Rotary Foundation's recurring giving program:

At [www.rotary.org/give](http://www.rotary.org/give): Enrolling online is the easiest and most secure way to support Rotary with a recurring gift. Rotary members and friends can set up Rotary Direct accounts by clicking on the **Give** button from any part of Rotary's website, then choosing how to direct their donations. Rotary's online system can accept one-time or recurring contributions in a number of currencies. For a recurring gift, in Step 2 of the donation process, under **Frequency**, choose a monthly, quarterly, or annual gift.

By mail: Donors may enroll using one of the Foundation's various contribution forms, such as [The Rotary Foundation Contribution Form \(123\)](#) or the [Rotary Direct enrollment form](#). □ By phone: Enroll in Rotary Direct by calling +1-866-976-8279.

## **IS THERE A MINIMUM CONTRIBUTION?**

Because we pay processing fees for credit card contributions, we ask for a minimum of \$10 per transaction (i.e., \$10 per month, \$10 per quarter, or \$10 per year).

## **CAN I HAVE MY DONATION DEBITED DIRECTLY FROM MY CHECKING ACCOUNT?**

Direct debit using a checking account number is not an option for Rotary Direct. Donors can, however, donate using a credit card or a debit card that is associated with a personal checking account. Which card types can be used depends on the donor's country and currency.

## **CAN A CLUB TREASURER ESTABLISH RECURRING GIFTS FOR AN ENTIRE CLUB ONLINE?**

No. Club leaders can make one-time contributions on behalf of the club or individual club members online, but they can't enroll their members in recurring giving. Each donor must enroll in Rotary Direct with his or her own credit or debit card.

## **WHAT FREQUENCY OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE FOR ROTARY DIRECT GIFTS?**

You can choose to make your gift every month, quarter, or year. Monthly gifts are charged on the first day of the month. Quarterly gifts are charged July 1, October 1, January 1, and April 1. For annual gifts, you choose the month, and your card is charged on the first of that month.

## **HOW DO I CHANGE OR STOP MY ROTARY DIRECT CONTRIBUTIONS?**

To change the amount or frequency of your gift, or your method of payment, or to stop your contributions, contact the Rotary International office that serves your area or Rotary's Support Center at +1-866-9768279. For security reasons, please do not send credit card information by email.

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**WILL THE ROTARY FOUNDATION CONTACT ME IF MY CREDIT CARD EXPIRES?**

Yes. Rotary staff will contact you approximately two weeks before your credit card expires, first by email and later, if necessary, by phone.

ONE ROTARY CENTER 1560 SHERMAN AVENUE EVANSTON, ILLINOIS 60201-3698 USA • T +1-847-866-3000 F +1-847-328-4101 • WWW.ROTARY.ORG

**WILL THE ROTARY FOUNDATION CONTACT ME IF MY CARD IS REJECTED AND I MISS A SCHEDULED CONTRIBUTION?**

Yes. The Rotary Foundation will notify you by email if a scheduled transaction fails. If we are unable to reach you by email, we will attempt to notify you by phone and then by mail. If you miss a scheduled contribution, we can arrange a one-time make-up gift to help you meet your annual contribution goal.

**MY CREDIT CARD IS ABOUT TO EXPIRE OR HAS EXPIRED. WHAT INFORMATION DO YOU NEED IN ORDER TO UPDATE MY ACCOUNT?**

To update your account, we need your complete credit card number, expiration date, and the three- or four-digit security number. Remember not to send credit card information by email; instead, call the Rotary International office that serves your area or Rotary's Support Center, at +1-866-976-8279.

**DO I HAVE TO NOTIFY ROTARY IF I TRANSFER TO A DIFFERENT ROTARY CLUB?**

Yes, please do. Notifying the Foundation of your transfer allows your new club to receive credit for your contributions.

**DO I HAVE TO BE A ROTARY MEMBER TO ENROLL IN ROTARY DIRECT?**

No, you do not need to be a Rotarian to give through Rotary Direct. Anyone who wishes to support the Foundation's mission is welcome to do so with a recurring contribution.

**HOW WILL MY ROTARY DIRECT CONTRIBUTIONS BE ACKNOWLEDGED?**

Upon enrollment, new Rotary Direct participants will receive an acknowledgement letter confirming the amount and frequency of their contributions. Gifts made to The Rotary Foundation via Rotary Direct will be receipted individually at the time of contribution. Each scheduled contribution will be credited to a donor's individual account, Rotary club and district and will be used wisely on quality Rotary projects.





Come to Hamburg, a city with a unique blend of historical and contemporary culture. This will be an exciting event with thousands of Rotarians from around the world. It will be held at the Hamburg Messe.

Enjoy the wonderful House of Friendship and special tours and events held by the Host Organizing Committee. There will be great entertainment, inspiring guest speakers and great breakouts.

REGISTER NOW for the **discounted price of \$395!** This is **good until December 15**, after that it will be \$495. To register, go to: [www.riconvention.org](http://www.riconvention.org). There you will find information on hotels and transportation. If you have any questions, you can e-mail me at: [pkriebel@stny.rr.com](mailto:pkriebel@stny.rr.com)

Hope to see everybody there!

Submitted by Pat Kriebel, PDG





A question for every Rotarian – do you contribute to The Rotary Foundation (TRF)? Whether you do or don't, are you aware that some of your donation is returned to our District three years later?

Each year our District learns how much money will be coming back from the donations we made three years earlier. Our 44 clubs then apply to our District Grants Committee for grants to fund local or international projects.

I encourage every Rotarian to look for opportunities in their community that could benefit from a \$500 to \$2,500 grant. Think about local organizations that have needs that their own budgets are not able to cover. Do you belong to other groups besides Rotary? How would a Rotary grant support their missions?

The local projects we have approved for 2018-2019 include assisting the hearing impaired and the physically challenged, improving spaces for youth mentoring and community gathering, purchasing new equipment for fire departments and a food pantry, providing food and hygiene items for youth, and replacing trees.

Our District grants fund projects in other countries. The Grants Committee approved grants to four projects for this year – school desks in Liberia, a marketplace roof in Ghana, a water system fence in Haiti and classrooms in Lesotho. International grants can range from \$1,000 to \$5,000.

In addition to the local and international projects that we fund, our clubs and District can participate in Global Grants. These are projects that involve clubs or districts in at least two countries. This means that a large project in your community (minimum budget of \$30,000) can qualify for a Global Grant if your club can identify a club or district in another country that will work with you.

Bottom line – dream big! If you have an idea but aren't sure how to begin, contact me at [csburger@frontiernet.net](mailto:csburger@frontiernet.net) or (607) 692-3442. **Let's be the inspiration!**

Cindy Burger

2018-2019 District 7170 Grants Subcommittee



## Resistible vs Irresistible

On Saturday September 15<sup>th</sup> a regional membership seminar was held in Syracuse, New York for our Rotary District 7170 along with Districts 7120, 7150 and 7190. Presenters included the four District Membership Chairs along with Zone 29 Coordinator Bill Gormont.

Key Presenters were Doug Logan PDG from District 7820 and Louisa V.B. Horne, the District 7820 trainer and DGE.

Doug and Louisa were presenters at a breakout session held in Toronto for the International Convention.

As we all know, membership is a hot button topic, but Doug and Louisa argue that simply looking for and asking more people to join Rotary is not the answer. Rather, clubs need to look within and examine ways that they themselves can change and improve to become:

**SIMPLY IRRESISTABLE** to non Rotarians.

As we all know, Rotarians are People Of Action. Therefore, we must consider being

- A Agile and adaptive
- C Collaborative and community minded
- T Tenacious with resilient leadership
- I Impactful
- O Open minded
- N Nurturing

Breakout sessions were held as follows:

Concurrent Interactive Breakouts

- Methods for Managing Membership Leads
- Considerations for Determining “Is Your Club Healthy?”
- Techniques for Attracting New Members
- Ideas to Kick-start Your New Member Orientation
- Approaches to Become Flexible, Innovative and Diverse Strategies

Many ideas and thoughts were taken away from this successful event. Actions plans are being developed as well as a District Membership Strategic Plan.

Matt Adler

District Membership Chair and DGN 20-21

Looking for a Christmas gift for that “Hard To Find” person?



## Tree Peony Club Order Sheet

Name:

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Rotary Club:

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Address:

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Phone Number, E-mail Address:

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*\$25 September 16, 2018 – March 30, 2019*

Color	Price/Plant	Quantity	Sub-Total
Pink	\$25		
Red	\$25		
Purple	\$25		
White	\$25		
Yellow	\$25		
Total			

**Make check payable to: Rotary District 7170**

**Send check and club order form to:** Tony Salerno, District Treasurer  
8 Hanford Dr.  
Dryden, NY 13053

\$10 from each plant sold by your club will be donated to the Rotary Foundation in your club's name. Your club will receive the per capita credit and Foundation points.

Your order will be ready to pick-up at the District Training Assemblies and Grants Management Seminars in spring 2019.

**Tree Peony Planting Project | Richard Matsushima | 3405 Almar Dr. | Vestal, NY 13850 |  
607-770-9428 | dg7170.2016@gmail.com**



*Save The Date*

*Jeff Smith  
District Governor  
2018-2019*

*3600 Lorne Drive  
Endwell, NY 13760*

Phone:  
(H) 607-754-0673

(C) 607-727-0341

E-mail:  
[jsmith1532@aol.com](mailto:jsmith1532@aol.com)



*District Conference*

*Friday, May 10th through Sunday, May 12th, 2019*

*DoubleTree Binghamton*

[WWW.ROTARY  
DISTRICT7170.ORG](http://WWW.ROTARYDISTRICT7170.ORG)



*District Pass the Gavel*

*Wednesday, June 19th, 2019*

*TBD*

Register for Hamburg  
International Conven-  
tion June 1-5, 2019

[Hamburg 2019](#)