

Welcome to a New Rotary Year!

July 1, 2016

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Happy New Year! Well, Happy New *ROTARY* Year, at least! Unlike that New Year that happens every January 1st and is publicly celebrated by virtually all of our friends and neighbors, this New Year is a bit more reserved and considerably less well known, but very important none the less. The start of a new Rotary year is an opportunity for all Rotarians to look back upon and celebrate our many successes of this past year, as well as to commit to building upon those successes by setting new and even higher goals in all that we do. It is also a time when our Clubs and District transition to new leadership teams, and I am personally very honored by the opportunity to serve as your District Governor in 2016-17. I take the responsibilities of this position very seriously, and I promise you that I will always do my absolute best to be worthy of the trust that you, my fellow Rotarians, have placed in me as a leader. Our District is blessed with nearly 1,700 hardworking and talented Members in our 59 incredible Clubs, and you deserve nothing but the best from your District's leadership. That is, after all, our only job; to provide you the support that you need for the great work that you do.

Do Good, Have Fun, We are Rotary!

So that brings us to an obvious question; who are we and what DO we do? I believe that the answers to those questions are simple; We are ROTARY, and we Do GOOD & Have FUN! That's the bottom line! Your 2016-17 District leadership, we call them the ExecTeam, has been working hard for the past six months developing very specific goals for each of our program areas, and we will spend the coming year working with you and your Clubs to do such things as strengthening your Club's membership and increasing public awareness of what Rotary is in your community and beyond. We will also be carefully leading our Clubs through a very necessary transition in Rotary to ensure that we continue to be relevant in today's society and for future generations; you'll be hearing a lot about the new flexibility in such things as Club membership and meetings. But threaded throughout all of that, the bottom line is that we Do GOOD and Have FUN. We should never lose sight of that primary goal.

Leadership & TEAMwork

When the incoming Rotary International President, John Germ of Tennessee, announced that the Rotary International theme for 2016-17 was "Rotary Serving Humanity", he used the acronym T-E-A-M team to point out the importance of teamwork in Rotary, noting that Together Everyone Achieves More. So, in that context of teamwork, I think that it's useful for our members to understand that our District's leadership is not just one person, but is an ongoing collaboration of our most experienced Rotarians who give generously of their time and talents to make sure that every Club and their members have access to the tools that may ensure their success. The ExecTeam is divided into three parts, the Board of Governors, the Assistant Governors, and the Program Directors. Our Board of Governors includes seven of our current, future and past District Governors, and they are our District's senior-most leaders. Our Assistant Governors represent the nine different geographic regions throughout the eight Hudson Valley counties in our District, and they are more often than not your Club's front line contact with the District and Rotary International. Lastly, new for 2016-17 and beyond, we've added the role of Program Directors to our District leadership team. Where the AG's responsibilities are defined geographically within the District, the six Program Directors responsibilities are defined by the specific Programs that they lead. As noted above, the ExecTeam's entire purpose is to support you and your Club, helping you to Do GOOD & Have FUN! You can find contact information for the ExecTeam and other District committee leaders on our District website at:

<http://portal.clubrunner.ca/50045/DistrictOrganizationChart/2016>

District & Club Goals

The record number of you who attended our recent District Assembly at the Culinary Institute of America are well acquainted with our Goals for 2016-17, but for those who did not (and you missed a



GREAT event!), here's a summary of just a few of the things that we want to ensure that EVERY Club is doing this year and beyond in each of our six Program areas:

Service: Do GOOD. Ensure that every Club is engaged in local and global service projects.

Membership & Fellowship: Have FUN. Engaging programs lead to increased membership.

Public Awareness: Ensure that your Community is aware of who you are and what you do!

Rotary Foundation: Sets us apart from local service clubs. Support TRF; 100% & \$100/member.

Youth: Our organization's and world's future; get involved in YEX, RYLA, Interact, etc.

Club Administration: Presidential Citation, Goals on RCC, leadership development.

There is a wealth of useful information on our District website, including our specific 2016-17 Goals:

<https://clubrunner.blob.core.windows.net/00000050045/en-ca/files/page/club-leadership/district-7210-16-17-goals-summary/160130-District-7210-2016-17-Goals-Summary.pdf>

and the 2016-17 Presidential Citation (which EVERY Club should plan to achieve):

<https://clubrunner.blob.core.windows.net/00000050045/en-ca/files/page/club-leadership/presidential-citation-2016-17/Presidential-Citation-2016-17.pdf>

Beyond the Club

The heartbeat of our organization is our Clubs and their members, but there are amazing opportunities Beyond the Club which offer even more opportunities to Do GOOD & Have FUN! Here's just a few of those for which you should immediately mark in your calendar and attend (see <http://rotarydistrict7210.org/> for further details):

July 17: District 7210 at the Hudson Valley Renegades

November 5: Rotary Leadership Institute at Mt. Saint Mary College, Newburgh

November 6: Rotary Foundation Gala Brunch at West Point

November 12: Rotary UN Day at the United Nations in New York City

February 26: Women in Rotary Brunch (TBD)

March 24-25: President Elect Training Seminar in Whippany, NJ

April 22: Rotary Day Service Projects

April 29: District Conference at Mohonk Mountain House in New Paltz

April 30: District Assembly at Mohonk Mountain House in New Paltz

June 10-14: Rotary International Convention in Atlanta, Georgia

June 25-29: Rotary Youth Leadership Awards, Mt. Saint Mary College, Newburgh

District Governor Visits to Your Club

I look forward to spending time with each of you often in the coming year, including during my official visits in the Fall, at which we can discuss in detail your Club's plans for this year and beyond, and how your District's leaders can help you be successful in achieving your goals. You will find a schedule of the District Governor's visits to your Clubs at:

<http://clubrunner.blob.core.windows.net/00000050045/en-ca/files/page/club-leadership/2016-17-dg-official-club-visit-list/2016-DG-Visit.pdf>

So, there you have it. Do GOOD, Have FUN. We are Rotary my friends.

I am very excited by this opportunity to work with each of you in the coming year. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me at any time if I can be of assistance in any way.

Most sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "J. Louis Turpin".

J. Louis Turpin
District Governor 2016-17
Rotary District 7210
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