



Interact

Rotary District 7305



September 2019 Newsletter

CHANGE



No matter if your Interact Club was in former Rotary District 7300 or in former Rotary District 7330, there will be some “changes” in the new Rotary District 7305 which has doubled the number of Interact Clubs!

We now have Interact Clubs in Allegheny, southern Beaver, Westmoreland, Somerset, Cambria, Indiana, Greene, Washington and Somerset Counties. Several months ago the transition team that was charged with “merging” the two Districts into one decided that for the next couple of years there would be no major changes to the Interact program with the exception that ALL Interact Clubs would be invited to Interact activities no matter if the activity is in Allegheny County or Somerset County. With that in mind, Interactors from the District are invited to attend not only the Interact Conference on October 16 in Pittsburgh and also the Interact Symposium in Derry on October 19. The Conference is on a Wednesday and the Symposium is on a Saturday. Both events offer excellent opportunities to meet other Interactors and their Advisors and to exchange project ideas. Watch your email for further details of each event.

While you are watching your email, this newsletter which was originally just District 7330 Interact Clubs will be expanded to ALL Interact Clubs in District 7305. The newsletter will be published monthly, September through May and will be emailed the first day of each month. **You may submit articles and pictures no later than the 25th each month for publication in the District 7305 Interact Newsletter.** Articles and pictures should be emailed to Mark Barnhart at mbarnhar@verizon.net.

You should be assured that at no point are you going to be told that your Interact Club MUST do a certain activity. Your Interact Club is YOUR CLUB and you know what is best for YOUR CLUB. However, we may invite you to participate in District activities.

HOW DID YOU SPEND YOUR SUMMER?

Pictured below are all of the Interact Members from District 7330 who attended the District’s RYLA event in June at Outdoor Odyssey in Boswell, Pennsylvania from June 23 through June 28. They were a part of 30 young people who participated in the program. In short, 2/3 of this year’s participants were “Interactors”. Great job!



LOOKING AHEAD



District 7305 Interact Conference in Pittsburgh will be on Wednesday, October 16. (See Page 2)

District 7305 Interact Symposium will be held on Saturday, October 19 in Derry Area High School. (See Page 2)

WORLD POLIO DAY is October 24. (See Page 3)

INTERNATIONAL INTERACT WEEK is November 4 through November 10. (See page 3)

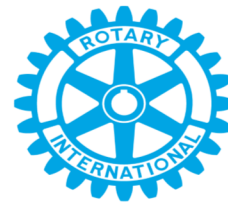
World Affairs Institute at the John Heinz History Center in Pittsburgh will be on Wednesday, November 13.

CARDS FOR VETERANS are due no later than Friday, December 4. (See Page 3)



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In May, the Norwin Middle School Interact Club planted flowers in the courtyard with Life Skills students in our school. The kids had fun cleaning out the space, planting, and watering the beautiful flowers. The flowers are now blooming in full force!



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There has been a change of venue for the District 7305's 1st Annual Interact Conference in Pittsburgh.

This year's Conference will be held on Wednesday, October 16 at the Doubletree by Hilton Pittsburgh Green Tree at 500 Mansfield Avenue in Pittsburgh. Details and registration information is attached to the email of this newsletter.

Please note that in addition to this Interact Conference there will also be an Interact Symposium on Saturday, October 19 at Derry Area High School. All District Interact Clubs are invited to attend either or both of these functions.



At a meeting of the Rotary Club of Greensburg, Melissa O'Brien, the Advisor for the Greensburg Salem High School



Interact Club was presented with a Paul Harris Fellow Award for her dedication to and leadership of the Interact Club. Pictured below are Melissa O'Brien and an Interactor who spoke and assisted the District Governor with the presentation. CONGRATULATIONS!



Did you take care of your Interact Club's 2019-2020 Incoming Officer Data Form? We asked that this be done by the end of each school year (May) but in the hustle and bustle of

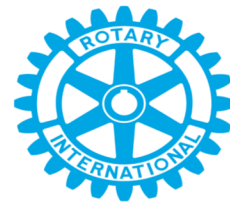


ending the school year it sometimes gets lost in the shuffle. Attached to the email by which you received this newsletter is an Incoming Officer Data Form. If you didn't do it last May, please fill it out and mail it to: Mark Barnhart; 505 E. Pittsburgh St.; Greensburg, PA 15601 or email it to: mbarnhar@verizon.net. Interact being a part of the Rotary Family is covered under Rotary International's insurance policy, if you are current with your paperwork, if you aren't you are not covered. Do not mail forms to Rotary International, we will make a copy of your paperwork for the District and then we will mail the form for you.



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It is time to start to think about our Cards for Veterans program. Last year you collected 9,748 cards that were distributed to Veterans in VA Medical facilities in Southwestern Pennsylvania. We started this District-wide Interact Project in 2014 and since then we have sent a total of 25,624 holiday cards to our veterans. Remember that cards **must not** be in envelopes (some veterans are unable to open them and the VA needs to know what is coming into their facilities), cards should not be religious in nature (as not all veterans are Christians), cards can contain a short message to thank the veteran for his/her service and can be signed with a first name only.

In the past Interact Clubs have gotten their schools involved, especially the elementary schools in their district and some Interact Clubs have also involved their sponsoring Rotary Club. Cards can be store bought or homemade! Cards however should not contain any glitter.

Once the cards have been collected and in one place, members of the VFW will take them to the various medical facilities when they make their Christmas visits. Each day for the week between Christmas and New Years the veterans receive a card with each meal they are served.

Additional details and dates will be announced in the October issue of the District 7305 Interact Newsletter but remember that ALL Interact Clubs in the District are invited to participate in this project.

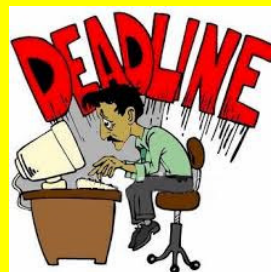


Two big international events are on the horizon that your Interact Club might want to observe and/or celebrate.

First is **World Polio Day** which is on October 24. You may want to consider a fund-raising event to End Polio Now. It could be something as simple as a “Purple Pinkie Day”. Remember that the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation is matching End Polio Funds \$2 for every \$1 donated to the Rotary Foundation.

Secondly is **International Interact Week** which runs from November 4 through November 10. Why that time frame? Well the first Interact Club was founded in 1962 in Melbourne, Florida on November 5, 1962. What activity or celebration will your Club do to publicize the great work that YOU do for your school and community?

Share your ideas with the other District 7305 Interact Clubs via this newsletter. See the information below to get your information published.



September 25 is the deadline to submit articles and photos for the October issue of the District 7305 Interact Newsletter. You can email articles and photos to Mark Barnhart at mbarnhar@verizon.net. Remember that this is YOUR newsletter and we depend on you submitting information about your Interact Club.