***2017-2018 PRESIDENTIAL CITATION: MAKING A DIFFERENCE***

***HELP YOUR CLUB TO QUALIFY!!***

******

I love the expression: “*NO EXCUSE BEATS SUCCESS”.* Sometimes we assume responsibilities for achieving success in our Rotary Clubs falls to our Presidents and the Club Board of Directors.

The reality is that all Rotarians have a responsibility, duty and obligation to assist our Clubs to remain healthy, vibrant, and successful. When our Rotary Club succeeds in achieving our goals, we all share the credit and the well-deserved pride as Rotarians for what we have achieved. Conversely, when we fail, we all share in the responsibility to learn from our mistakes and to move forward a little smarter and wiser.

Our District Directory for 2017-2018 has the information you and your Club needs in order to qualify for the Presidential Citation. In addition to the hard copies being distributed by your Assistant Governors and club leadership, a PDF of the Directory is being sent by email to all the Rotarians in the District. The Directory can also be found on the District Website. Please review the section” How to Qualify for the Citation.” Please share your thoughts on the Citation with your Club’s leadership, during the Club Assembly, and do not hesitate to contact your Assistant Governor for assistance.

 An important new requirement this year for achieving the Citation is that we will begin reporting volunteer hours and service project contributions in Rotary Club Central. All Rotarians need to help us to achieve this important goal. Your club needs to know this information to measure your success from year to year, and so that you can share your achievements with your community during your fundraisers and in your press releases. When we succeed in collecting this important data we can then let the world know that Rotary is truly “*MAKING A DIFFERENCE*”. This information should also be collected for our Interact and Rotaract Clubs. You and your community will be amazed by the achievements of our Rotary youth.

The Presidential Citation is divided into the following sections: A) Support and Strengthen Clubs, B) Focus and Increase Humanitarian Service and C) Enhance Rotary’s Public Image and Awareness.

Two areas that are most challenging for our Clubs are: Membership- and support for our Rotary Foundation. If everyone could bring one new member into our Rotary Family, we would be recognized by the entire Rotary world. The key is to simply “*ASK*” those in our community who are the leaders in their vocations, business, and leaders in our community. “*ASK*” those individuals who are “making a difference” to join the Rotary family. When you think of the reason you joined Rotary, most of us would say it is because we were *ASKED* to visit a Rotary Club or join in a service project or fundraiser and we were made to feel welcome. Yes, the Club must approve new members, but we first must bring these recruits to our events and then follow-up by presenting these prospects to our membership chair and our Club members for a prompt decision.

Next, we must be sure to “*ENGAGE*” and “*MENTOR’* our new Rotarians. We see too many our newer Rotarians leave after a year of two. This trend can be reversed by your willingness to welcome, orient and involve our newer members in all aspects of the Club. Discover the passions for service that our newer Rotarians bring to the Club and help them realize that passion with disciplined action.

Finally, Every Rotarians Every year should support our Rotary Foundation. Donations made by the Club must be combined with donations from each Rotarian. We must get away from the outdated notion that Paul Harris Fellows should only be given by a third party such as a Club or District. Donations by individuals who reach into their own pockets to support the wonderful work of our Foundation should be appreciated as much as those who receive Paul Harris recognition for their service or achievements.

Our goal is at least an annual fund contribution of $100 per member and $26.50 for Polio. Remember that 50% of our Annual fund contribution returns to our District for distribution for our Clubs service projects and to support our Global Service initiatives.

*Thank You for your Service, and I wish you and your Rotary Club every success in qualifying for the Presidential Citation.*

*David A. Mangs Ph.D.*

*Rotary District 7890 – District Governor 2017-2018*