

# The Toolbox



May 2020

Barb Wyllie ~ Editor

Distribution 1,113

Please send submissions to Barb at: [THETOOLBOX7190@GMAIL.COM](mailto:THETOOLBOX7190@GMAIL.COM)

Deadline: 20<sup>th</sup> of the month

## From the Governor's Desk

### Rotary Is Being Re-Created

My Fellow District 7190 Rotarians,

I am pleased to report that throughout the world, Rotarians are finding new ways to serve their communities – and resurrecting some old ones. Meetings are now held on Zoom or other platforms, and old acquaintances are being renewed. Many of our clubs have members who have moved to warmer climes, who have started to join meetings from Florida or Arizona. Or, from the comfort of their living room as they have been unable to attend meetings in person. It's different, to be sure, but we are adapting. If you are not yet meeting via Zoom, please be aware that Rotary Global Rewards offers a 20% discount to all Rotarians. Your District Leadership, and members of some of our clubs will help you learn about how to effectively conduct meetings in this way.

Rotarians in Lake George have responded to community needs and have organized a work-at-home crew that has made over 2,000 face masks, and counting. They are being provided to first responders and community members who reach out.

The Glens Falls Rotary organized a massive drive-through food pantry. Over 600 vehicles were filled with 54,000 pounds of food donated by the Northeast Regional Food Bank. To make that happen, they reached out to every community organization they could think of and asked for volunteer help. An undertaking this large needed many hands, and the other organizations pitched in and the day was a success. It worked so well, they are going to do it again! Look for details as to how your club can help.

These are just two examples of how clubs locally are responding. There are many others to learn about!

Across the world, Rotary is stepping up. What is your club doing? What needs do you see? Please send

along information about what your club is doing. You can send it directly to me, [dglarry2019@gmail.com](mailto:dglarry2019@gmail.com). If you would like information about having your virtual club meetings posted on the District website, please forward that to me as well.

Together, we can keep Rotary relevant in our communities. Please reach out to other clubs in your area and consider joint meetings and projects that will help your communities!

Yours in Rotary Service,  
DG Larry

## DISTRICT EVENTS AT A GLANCE

- **May 16: District Conference**  
(On hold/watch for updates)
- **June 20: District Change Over** (Details to follow)
- **June 20-26: Rotary International VIRTUAL Convention** (Details to follow)
- **September 21: Gift of Life Golf Tournament**

## CLUB EVENTS AT A GLANCE

- **Now: Flower Sale** by Schenectady Rotary p 3
- **June 6: Annual Winery Tour** by Glenville Rotary p 3  
*Postponed until June 5, 2021*

## Members Called to a Higher Service

District 7190 bids a heartfelt farewell with prayers and very fond memories to:

**Salem Rotary Club's  
William Eberle**

**Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake Rotary Club's  
Richard O'Rourke**

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**New Members**

District 7190 Welcomes  
the Following New Members!

**Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake Rotary Club**  
**David Haughey**

**Ballston Spa Rotary Club**  
**Patti Bowers**

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**A Note from Your Editor**

Greetings All,

Congratulations on following directions and helping to ‘flatten the curve’. By now, the fortunate of us have experienced a pause in life that has allowed us to step back, take a deep breath and remember what living life is really all about. Please continue to pray for those who haven’t been as fortunate. But, all in all, I’m confident most of us will emerge from this experience more appreciative of the blessings we may have previously taken for granted. I believe we will be more proactive in sharing kudos and words of encouragement. Sometimes we keep silent fearing what others may think if we expose our feelings. If this pandemic has taught us anything, let it be that our feelings are not what we should fear. Go ahead! Make sure you tell at least one person a day how they have ‘made your day’, impacted your life, made you smile, etc. You make me smile when I hear from you and you send items for inclusion in the Toolbox. 😊

So, in addition to the Club news that has been sent my way, this month’s Toolbox includes some items to help you reflect, some that will make you smile, one that will urge you to get up and dance, one that will inspire you to sing along, and one that will make you very proud to be living in America. Be sure to click all of the links included.

Hopefully, this month’s Toolbox will help you feel uplifted and empowered. Let me know what you think.

I do this for you, joyfully!

Very fondly,

Barb Wyllie, Editor

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**Attention All Clubs**

Every month, kindly submit the names of your new members, and the names of your members who have passed on to higher service, to [thetoolbox7190@gmail.com](mailto:thetoolbox7190@gmail.com).

Thank You

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**Looking for NEW ROTARIANS**

We are starting a new club in Troy, so if you know someone working or living in the Troy area who would make a good Rotarian please send contact info to Bruce McConnelee @ [Barrelbackbuilder@gmail.com](mailto:Barrelbackbuilder@gmail.com).

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**For a Certain Smile,  
click link below!**

***Remember: he’s 94 and she’s 91!***

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0?ui=2&ik=8e142e1870&attid=0.1&permmmsgid=msg-f:1665301683000885763&th=171c570ebb20c203&view=att&disp=safe>

*(This is a large file and may take a minute to load, but it’s worth it.)*



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**We have successfully  
flattened the curve!**



**Thank you all for your diligence!!!**

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Schenectady Rotary presents its annual  
**Flower Sale  
 Through May**

*Spring Flower  
 Fundraiser*

\$22 each  
 Flowers or Herbs

*Pickup Dates*  
 May 8 & 9  
 May 22 & 23



Hello Rotarians!

The Schenectady Rotary Club will be conducting its Spring Flower sale throughout the remainder of April and May 2020.

As always, they are selling a variety of beautiful plants grown by individuals with developmental disabilities at Schenectady ARC's horticulture center in Rotterdam. You can adorn your home or business with a variety of BEAUTIFUL plants. Plants also make wonderful gifts for your friends and family!

- **10" Hanging Baskets:** A variety of flowering hanging baskets including petunias, geraniums and more!
- **10" Patio Herb Pots:** Mixed herb garden with several varieties of herb plants
- **10" Patio Flower Pots:** Mixed variety of flowers, including petunias, impatiens, geraniums & more!

**All plants are \$22 each.** This year, because of the current public health crisis, they are **accepting on-line credit card payment only.** Secure payment can be made by visiting the following website [www.schenectadyrotary.org/fundraisers](http://www.schenectadyrotary.org/fundraisers). **The option is also available to make a donation if you are not in need of flowers.**

**Pick-Up Dates**

- May 8 and 9 for orders placed by May 7
- May 22 and 23 for orders placed between May 8 and May 21

**Pick-Up Times**

- May 8: 8:00 am – 3:00 pm
- May 9: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
- May 22: 8:00 am – 3:00 pm
- May 23: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

**Location**

Schenectady ARC's Maple Ridge Day Center  
 2999 Hamburg Street  
 Rotterdam, NY 12303

Please drive to the rear of the building where the outdoor pick-up site will be located. *Social distancing precautions will be observed. Simply notify them of your arrival and take your plants!*

Thank you for your support of this fundraiser which supports both Schenectady ARC's horticulture program and the Schenectady Rotary Club's many local and international humanitarian projects.

Please feel free to contact [schenectadyrotaryclub@gmail.com](mailto:schenectadyrotaryclub@gmail.com) with any questions and follow the club Facebook page for more information ([www.facebook.com/schenectadyrotary](http://www.facebook.com/schenectadyrotary))

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**Postponed to 2021!**  
 Glensville Rotary has  
**POSTPONED** its  
**11<sup>th</sup> Annual  
 Winery Tour**  
 to  
**Saturday  
 June 5, 2021**  
*due to CoVid19.*



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**All God's Children Have a  
 Place in the Choir**  
 (You're sure to be singing along in no time!)

**Click link below.**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sTKJUxl8TL4&list=RDsTKJUxl8TL4&index=1>

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## Council on Legislation and Council on Resolutions

### Council on Resolutions

Your district will need to decide if it will submit resolutions to the 2020 Council on Resolutions. Details on drafting and submitting resolutions can be found in [How to Propose Resolutions](#). Rotary must receive all submissions by **30 June 2020** through the online form [here](#). Take a look [here](#) to see what was considered by the 2019 Council on Resolutions.

### Council on Legislation

The deadline for submitting enactments to the 2022 Council on Legislation is **31 December 2020**. If your district plans to submit an enactment, please remember that it must also be endorsed by the district. Drafting details can be found in [How to Propose Enactments](#) and remember to review our [How to Propose Enactments and Resolutions](#) course in the Learning Center. Please submit your enactments online [here](#) and remember that the deadline is firm and will not be extended.

If you have any questions about Rotary's legislative process, please email [council\\_services@rotary.org](mailto:council_services@rotary.org) or contact PDG Melissa Ward, the 7190 COL representative at [Melissa@Rotary7190.org](mailto:Melissa@Rotary7190.org)

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### Ballston Spa Rotary Update

The world has somewhat stopped for all of us for now. But the needs in the Community haven't. We have continued to be supportive of the BSCSD Backpack Program which helps feed those students in need as well as the Food Pantries in Ballston Spa.

Our Spring Cleanup projects are on hold for now and may just happen a bit later in the year based on governmental guidelines.

We will continue to meet weekly, though via ZOOM, to discuss ideas and keep track of our members, including our newest addition, Patti Bowers, a longtime resident and village worker. Welcome Patti.

~ ~ ~

## A Corona Virus Prayer

By Kim Klematowski

May we who are merely inconvenienced  
Remember those whose lives are at stake

May we who have risk factors  
Remember the most vulnerable

May we who have the luxury of working from home  
Remember those who must choose between preserving their health or paying their rent

May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when their schools close  
Remember those who have no options

May we who have to cancel our trips  
Remember those who have no place to go

May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of the economic market  
Remember those who have no margin at all

May we who settle in for a quarantine at home  
Remember those who have no home

During this time when we cannot physically wrap our arms around each other, let us find ways to be the warm embrace of God to our neighbors.

Amen

~ ~ ~

### These Changing Times (Anonymous)

2019: Stay away from negative people.  
2020: Stay away from positive people.

\*\*\*

The world has turned upside down. Old folks are sneaking out of the house, and their kids are yelling at them to stay indoors!

\*\*\*

I never thought the comment "I wouldn't touch him/her with a 6-foot pole" would become a national policy, but here we are!

~ ~ ~

## Using All Your Strength

Derived by Michael Josephson of Character Counts from a story by David Wolpe in *Teaching Your Children About God* (Harper Perennial, 1995)

A young boy was walking with his father along a country road. When they came across a very large tree branch, the boy asked, "Do you think I could move that?"

His father answered, "If you use all your strength, I'm sure you can."

The boy tried mightily to lift, pull, and push the branch, but he couldn't budge it. Discouraged, he said, "Dad, you were wrong. I can't do it."

His dad said, "Try again."

This time, as the boy struggled with the task, his father joined him. Together they pushed the branch aside.

"Son," the father said, "the first time you didn't use all your strength. You didn't ask me for help."

This is an important lesson. There are many things we can't do alone, but that doesn't mean we can't get them done. We're all surrounded by resources that can be mobilized to help us achieve our goals including family, friends, and faith.

Sometimes we fail to ask for help because of pride or stubbornness. Sometimes we think it's a sign of weakness to admit we need a hand. And sometimes we don't even think about asking for help. Whatever the reason, it's a waste.

It's important that we learn to use all our strength. This includes inner resources such as discipline, courage, and even love. It also includes outer resources. Just as we should be willing to help others, we should be willing to ask help of others. It's one of the great things about being human.

*Editor's note:* As Rotarians, we are terrific at pitching in and helping others where we see fit or

when we are summoned. It's who we are and what we do. But, don't be afraid to summon help if you need it. Our current climate of social distancing makes this **task more challenging, but not impossible.**

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## A Socially Distanced Night Out

*Editor's note:* So, if you're missing your social interactions: your dinners or concerts with friends. I have a solution to both. Pack a snack, grab a lawn chair, a blanket and your phone and head outside after dark. Now, call someone you're missing, enjoy your snack together and explore the night sky...together apart. An evening out at a safe distance.

To help you with what you'll be seeing in the night sky this month please read the item that follows. It's amazing the spectacles we miss by running through life. Do yourself a favor. Slow down and enjoy what life has to offer. (If you choose to enjoy the night sky, you may consider an afternoon nap. Ahhh, happiness is!)

### What's Happening in the Night Sky This Month

(According to the 2019-2020 Old Farmer's Almanac. Yankee Publishing 2019)

"This is a transition month. At nightfall on the 1<sup>st</sup>, Orion stands upright on the western horizon but vanishes by month's end. Mars, fading rapidly, starts this month in Taurus but zooms into Gemini by midmonth. Jupiter, in the "13<sup>th</sup> zodiac constellation," Ophiuchus, now rises well before midnight and is near the Moon on the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. Saturn, in Sagittarius, rises at about 1:00am on the 1<sup>st</sup> and is well placed for the rest of the short night. In the predawn east, the planetary alignments have ended: only Venus remains, hovering low to float above the waning crescent Moon on the 2<sup>nd</sup>."

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## Proud to be an American!!

### Kate Smith singing "God Bless America" for the very first time!

*What a great song & story! Worth every minute during these tough times.*

Frank Sinatra considered Kate Smith the best singer of her time, and said that when he and a million other guys first heard her sing "God Bless America" on the radio, they all pretended to have dust in their eyes as they wiped away a tear or two.

Here are the facts; The link at the bottom will take you to a video showing the very first public singing of "God Bless America." But before you watch it you should know the story behind it.

The time was 1940. America was still in a terrible economic depression. Hitler was taking over Europe and Americans were afraid we'd have to go to war. It was a time of hardship and worry for most Americans.

This was the era before television when radio shows were HUGE and American families sat around their radios in the evenings, listening to their favorite entertainers and no entertainer of that era was bigger than Kate Smith.

Kate was large; "plus" size as we now say and the popular phrase still used today is in deference to her; "It ain't over till the fat lady sings."

Kate Smith might not have made it big in the age of TV but with her voice coming over the radio, she was the biggest star of her time.

Kate was also patriotic. It hurt her to see Americans so depressed and afraid of what the next day would bring (sound familiar?). She had hope for America, and faith in her fellow Americans. She wanted to do something to cheer them up, so she went to the famous American song-writer Irving Berlin (who also wrote White Christmas) and asked him to write a song that would make Americans feel good again about their country. When she described what she was looking for, he said he had just the song for her. He went to his files and dusted off a song that he

had written but never published, 22 years before - in 1917. He gave it to her and she worked on it with her studio orchestra. She and Irving Berlin were not sure how the song would be received by the public, but both agreed they would not take any profits from God Bless America. Any profits would go to the Boy Scouts of America. Over the years, the Boy Scouts has received millions of dollars in royalties from this song.

This video starts out with Kate Smith coming into the radio studio with the orchestra and an audience. She introduces the new song for the very first time and starts singing. After the first couple verses, with her voice in the background, scenes are shown from the 1940 movie, "You're in The Army Now" At the 4:20 mark of the video you see a young actor in the movie, sitting in an office, reading a paper - it's Ronald Reagan. You will recognize other old stars but probably have forgotten their names. You may remember George Murphy near the end, though.

To this day, God Bless America stirs our patriotic feelings and pride in our country. Back in 1940, when Kate Smith went looking for a song to raise the spirits of her fellow Americans, I doubt whether she realized just how successful the results would be during those years of hardship and worry... and for many generations of Americans to follow.

Now that you know the story of the song, I hope you'll enjoy it.

Many people don't know there's a lead in to the song since it usually starts with God Bless America. So here's the entire song as originally sung. Enjoy it!

(Author unknown)

**Click link below and turn your volume up.**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TnQDW-NMaRs>



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## Some Levity to See You Through These Days

*(All items on this page have been appropriately socially distanced.)*

**Does anyone know if we can take showers yet or should we just keep washing our hands ??**

**So technically showing up at the bank in a mask and gloves is ok now.**

#Coronavirus has turned us all into dogs. We roam the house all day looking for food. We're told "no" if we get too close to strangers. And we get really excited about car rides.

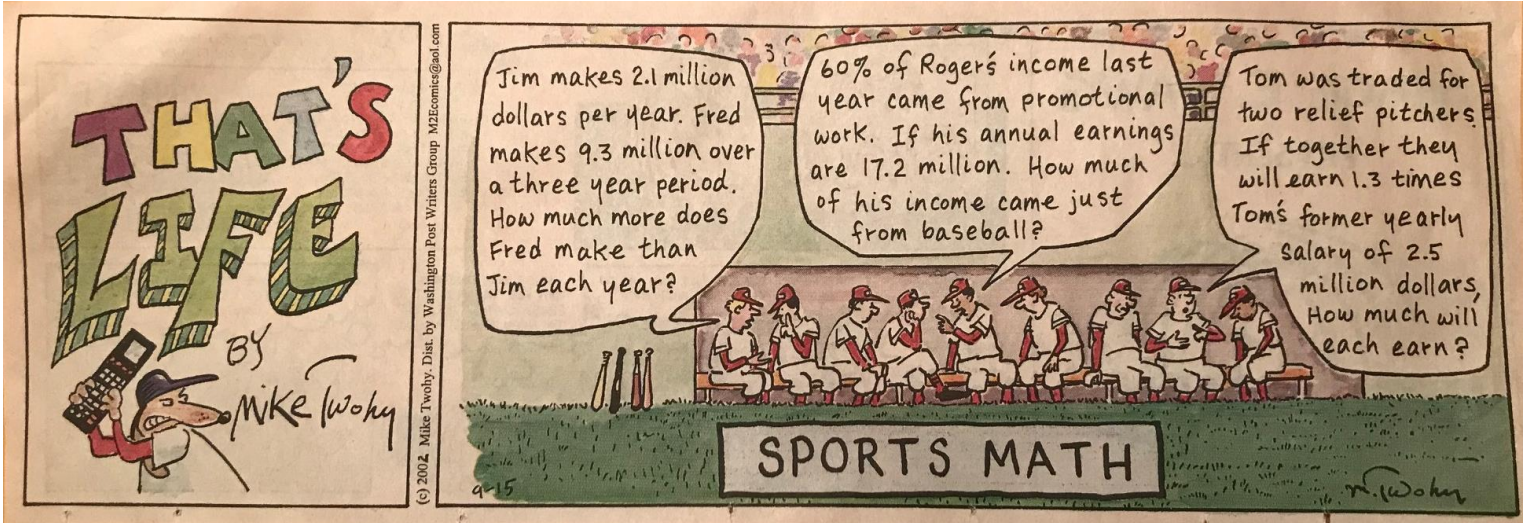


**IF YOU SEE THIS BIN FLOATING, YOU HAVE BEEN INSIDE FOR TOO LONG. IT'S JUST A WET SPOT ON THE PAVEMENT**

**THE POWERBALL IS UP TO AN 18 PACK OF CHARMIN.**

**I miss the days when we were terrified of Romaine Lettuce.**

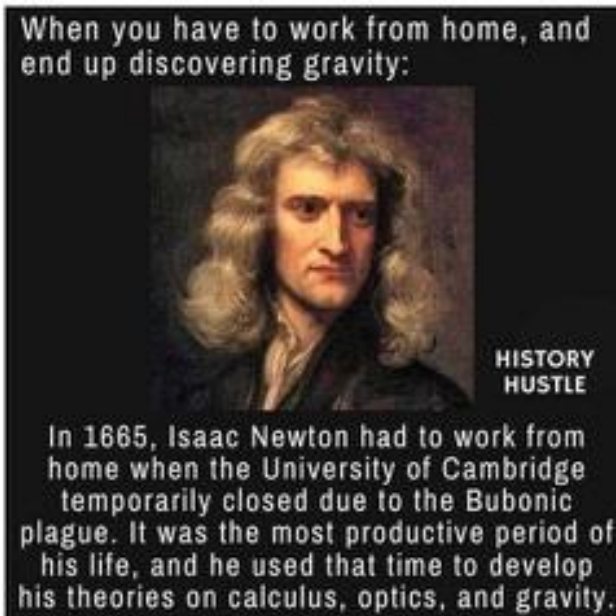
**For those of you who would like to keep your mind sharp and are missing sports:**



*(Good Luck! The correct answers will NOT to be found anywhere in this publication.) :)*



**For those bosses who thought their employees couldn't be productive at home, this one's for you:**



*And now, as the kids used to say, "Peace out!"*