



District 7500 Governor's Newsletter

Monmouth, Ocean & Burlington Counties

Rotary International President 2015-16

H.R. "Ravi" Ravindran

District Governor 2015-16

David C. Forward

March 2016



Governor David's Diary



I realized today there are two ways to look at almost anything.

On the one hand, an approaching birthday seems to mark the passing of yet another year that leaves me thinking "I'm getting old, and yet I have so much left to do!" But that is

what my old mentor Zig Ziglar would call *Stinkin' thinkin'* and he would challenge me to get *A check-up from the neck up* for such negative thoughts. After all, after what I went through this past December, I realize how truly blessed I am to just be able to be here for another birthday!

That same happy/sad dichotomy applies to my term as your Governor. This is the time of year when Rotarians around the world attend PETS (Presidents-Elect Training Seminars), and all the incoming club presidents, Assistant Governors and District Governors assemble with great excitement to plan their year, which begins on July 1st. I either have attended, or am about to attend PETS in Valley Forge, State College, Toronto, Atlanta, and North Carolina, and it is inspiring to see their level of anticipation as the next class of Rotary leaders make big plans for their year. I have enjoyed many great conversations with my own class of DGs, comparing notes about the challenges and joys of our year of service. That has been the positive experience.

But then I realize that my Team7500 and I only have four more months to serve you. And when I review the membership goals that each club set this time last year, 28 of our 37 clubs have not met the membership goals they set. 26 of our 37 clubs have not met their Rotary Foundation goals. Not one of the new clubs that looked

like being chartered have come close to becoming a reality.

So there I go again: should I feel negative, or positive? Not one of us wants to end up falling short of the goals we set, and those membership and Rotary Foundation goals are published right in the District Directory for everybody to see.

I realize that I have no control over the goals set by the individual clubs, so let us hit the "Recalculate" button. If we are following our GPS and make a wrong turn, the voice does not say, "You idiot! What a failure you are. You set a goal and now are way off track!" Rather, she calmly says, "Recalculating," and then finds a different route to get us to our destination.

In the Biblical story of David and Goliath, the Israelites essentially told David, "You're crazy to take that guy on! He's going to crush you like a bug!" (Not a verbatim quote from the Bible!). But David, ever the optimist, said, "Look at this guy. He's huge. He's so big of a target I cannot miss."

So let's adopt David's attitude to recalculate our final journey towards June 30th. We have four months left. That is plenty of time to bring new members into our club. Let us engage our existing members to ensure they so enjoy Rotary that they'd never consider leaving. And let us bring in some speakers from our Membership or Foundation teams that can inspire your members to want to support the wonderful work of our Rotary Foundation before June 30th.

Yes, we have had a great year. But with your help, the best is yet to come!

David

How Does Rotary “Touch” the Community?

One Club Counts the Ways a generous donation arrived in the mail from a resident with no apparent relationship to the local Rotary Club. As she deposited the check, the club treasurer wondered what motivated the donor to choose Rotary as a recipient of his generosity. She writes: “The wonderful thing is that there are so many possible reasons that he might have decided we are a worthy cause!

Some things that come to mind:

- “He has a child who received a scholarship from us.
- “He is a veteran and read in the paper of the donations we have made to help homeless vets. He saw the signs describing all our donations to Ft. Williams Park.
- “He or his wife are active with the community food bank and aware of all our efforts to help.
- “He has a grandchild who participated in RYLA or Interact.

- “He saw the recent local community television segment about what we do as volunteer at the soup kitchen.
- “He buys his Christmas tree at our fundraiser every year and has read our signage there about every thing we do for our communities.
- “He heard in the news what Rotary has done to eradicate polio.
- “He’s a fan of lighthouses and is aware that we are the “keepers” of the local light.
- “He’s an ex-hockey player and sees the skating shelter we donated every time he drives by Mill Creek Park.

“And many more ...”

When local citizens think about your club, what is it they think about? —Nancy Hawes, South Portland-Cape Elizabeth Rotary Club, District 7780 (Reprinted from the Beyond Borders newsletter for Zones 28-32)

Rotary



A monthly question on Rotary history or trivia.

This month’s Rotary trivia question is in two parts:

- 1) In what year was the idea for what we now know as The Rotary Foundation launched, and,
- 2) What was the amount of the first donation to this new fund?

If you think you know the answer, email it to newsletter editor, Chris Forward at CCFRN1@aol.com before March 31st.

In December’s newsletter, our Trivia Challenge question was: “If you headed due south from Detroit, what would be the first foreign country you came to? The only correct answer came from David Jost of the **Mount Holly Rotary Club**, who answered: Canada. Well done, David!

Last month, our Trivia Challenge question was:

Before women were allowed to join Rotary, the wives of Rotarians were affectionately called by this name. What is the name, and what is its derivation?

There were many correct answers of the first part of the question. The first one we received was from Joe Derise of **Freehold Rotary Club**, who said “Rotary Anns.” But nobody answered correctly the second part of the question. In 1914, the Rotary Convention was held in Houston, Texas. Rotarians from California chartered a train to make the trip, and from all the convention-goers that boarded, the only woman was Ann Brunier, wife of RI President Bru Brunier. Needless to say, she was treated like royalty for the entire trip across country. Of course, Ann was not a Rotarian, and so the men called her their “Rotary Ann.” Meanwhile, another train was heading to Houston filled with Rotarians from the Northeast, and future RI President Guy Gundaker had brought along his own wife—also called Ann. When the two trains arrived in Houston and the hundreds of Rotarians began their parade to the convention hotel, the California Rotarians lifted Ann Brunier on their shoulders and announced her new name, Rotary Ann. The Philadelphia Rotarians followed suit with Ann Gundaker, announcing, “From this day forward, all ladies of Rotary will be our Rotary Anns!”

Final Call to meet the Rotary International President

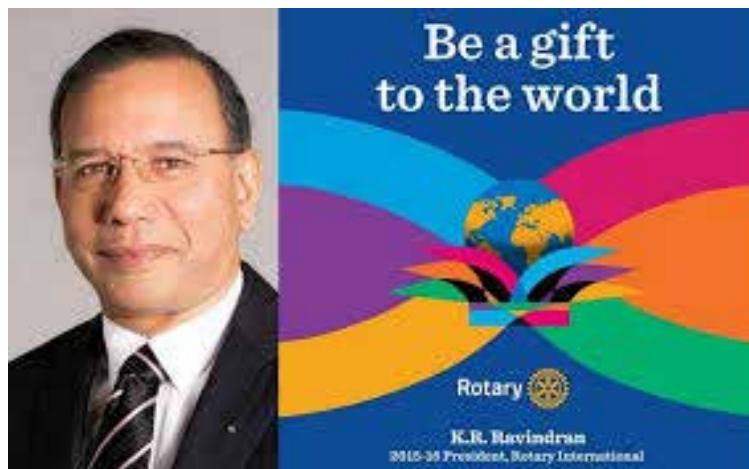
Be a part of the “Be a Gift to the World” Dinner

On Monday, March 21st, we are joining with our southern District (7640) to welcome the President of Rotary International, K. R. “Ravi” Ravindran to a spectacular function we are calling the “Be a Gift to the World Dinner.”

Firstly, the dinner is open to anybody who would like to meet the president and hear this renowned and eloquent speaker. (What a great opportunity for your club to buy tickets for its new members!). We have kept the price at only \$60—or \$50 per person if you bring 10 or more people—and you should register NOW at www.RotaryDistrict7500.org.

But we will be conferring special honor on anybody who contributes to the Rotary Foundation (contributions from April 1st through February 29th count) in the following ways:

1. If you donate \$1,000 to The Rotary Foundation, you or the person in whose name you make the contribution will have their PHF presented by President Ravi.
2. Ditto if you are already a Paul Harris Fellow and you add a \$1,000 contribution to earn a multiple donor pin.
3. If you commit to joining the Paul Harris Society, wherein you can have an automatic bank draft make quarterly donations that add up to \$1,000 a year to the Foundation, you will be invited to a private VIP reception with President Ravi, in addition to the above presentation. Contact Lois Currie at 973-715-1053 (Lois973@aol.com)
4. If you join the Rotary Foundation Bequest Society, with a pledge of \$10,000 or more to The Rotary Foundation in your estate plan, you will also be



invited to the VIP reception with President Ravi. Contact Lou Mann at 609-560-5484 (LouisMann@Comcast.net)

5. If you are, or become, a Major Donor, you will also be invited to the VIP reception with President Ravi. Major Donors give \$10,000 or more, which can be in cash, stock, real estate—or a pledge over 3 years totaling \$10,000 or more. Contact Foundation Chair David Legg at 908-902-6196 (legg46@aol.com)

The event will be held at the beautiful Lucien’s Manor on Route 30, Berlin, NJ. The VIP reception runs from 5-6PM. Everybody else can enjoy the cash bar beginning at 5:30 and dinner at 6:25PM

This is a unique and rare event for the sitting RI President to present you with a Paul Harris Fellow (or higher recognition). At press time, **IT IS ALMOST SOLD OUT**. To be sure you and your club gets seats, please register today at www.RotaryDistrict7500.org.

PolioPlus Update



Update on the outbreak of the wild polio virus (WPV) as of February 24, 2016

	YTD 24 Feb 2015	All of 2015	YTD 24 Feb 2016
Afghanistan	1	20	0
Pakistan	9	54	2
All other countries	0	0	0



Figure 1 Pope Francis administers two drops of polio vaccine to a 5-year-old boy named Rodrigo during his recent visit to Mexico

It's ACCOUNTABILITY Time!

Before this Rotary year began, each club made its goals for membership and Rotary Foundation Giving During the 2015-16 Rotary Year.

As of January 31st, here is what the official RI records show as each club's progress towards its goals.

We now only have less than four months left to reach our goals. What is YOUR club doing to ensure that you meet or exceed the goals you set for the year?



Club	Membership Goal	1/31 members	Difference	TRF goal	1/31 \$	Difference
Bordentown	34	40	6	\$2,155	\$1,858	-\$297
Burlington	29	22	-7	\$1,300	\$0	-\$1,300
Maple Shade	45	35	-10		\$2,425	\$2,425
Marlton	21	23	2	\$2,100	\$1,560	-\$540
Medford Sunrise	17	15	-2	\$2,700	\$11,411	\$8,711
Medford-Vincetown	50	42	-8	\$4,400	\$0	-\$4,400
Moorestown	85	79	-6	\$7,800	\$27,932	\$20,132
Moorestown Bfst	65	58	-7	\$5,002	\$300	-\$4,702
Mt Holly	54	47	-7	\$4,000	\$1,100	-\$2,900
Mt. Laurel	29	17	-12	\$2,500	\$1,425	-\$1,075
Pemberton	25	25	0	\$2,500	\$350	-\$2,150
PRC	35	26	-9	\$3,000	\$2,805	-\$195
Willingboro	50	41	-9	\$7,500	\$6,412	-\$1,088
Asbury Park	68	60	-8	\$4,600	\$2,425	-\$2,175
Barneget	27	19	-8	\$2,700	\$1,638	-\$1,062
Belmar Wall	12	10	-2	\$1,200	\$0	-\$1,200
Brick	39	31	-8	\$2,500	\$3,895	\$1,395
Brick morning	17	15	-2	\$2,500	\$2,125	-\$375
Central Ocean	24	23	-1	\$1,000	\$470	-\$530
D7500 eClub	25	12	-13	\$1,000	\$3,910	\$2,910
Forked River	54	48	-6	\$4,000	\$5,603	\$1,603
Freehold	35	34	-1	\$3,600	\$1,330	-\$2,270
Great Bay (Tuckerton)	22	19	-3	\$2,000	\$500	-\$1,500
Greater Long Branch	40	50	10	\$2,500	\$1,675	-\$825
Hazlet	12	8	-4	\$250	\$200	-\$50
Jackson	26	21	-5	\$2,600	\$1,300	-\$1,300
Lakehurst-Manchester	15	19	4	\$500	\$1,000	\$500
Long Beach Island	35	34	-1	\$3,000	\$1,500	-\$1,500
Matawan-Aberdeen	10	8	-2	\$500	\$1,000	\$500
Pt Pleasant Beach	32	36	4	\$3,200	\$1,000	-\$2,200
Pt Pleasant Boro	37	32	-5	\$4,500	\$315	-\$4,185
Red Bank	58	60	2	\$7,750	\$22,900	\$15,150
Southern Ocean	25	24	-1	\$3,500	\$490	-\$3,010
Spring Lake-Brielle	42	38	-4	\$1,975	\$3,000	\$1,025
Tinton Falls	11	12	1	\$2,100	\$2,450	\$350
Toms River	40	43	3	\$6,000	\$2,450	-\$3,550
Toms River Sunrise	23	21	-2	\$3,100	\$330	-\$2,770
District Membership	1268	1147	-121			

WHAT CAN DO?

So what can YOU do if your club is one of those that is still looking to increase its membership?

FIRST, recognize that membership growth and retention is not just the membership chair or the president's responsibility---it is EVERYBODY's job!

SECOND, realize that with more good members, your fellowship, your networking opportunities, your fundraising results and community service activities will ALL be better.

THIRD, as Brian says, "What gets measured gets done."

Look at what Burlington County Membership Chair Brian Flynn suggests. Brian's club, Bordentown, leads the District in membership growth this year, so we can all learn from what he has seen work in Bordentown and other net-positive clubs in our District:

Three actionable and proven ideas that club leadership can do NOW to get new members into your club in the next 4 months!

1. Host an Open House in the Evening – Bill Ridgway in Barnegat hosted a recent Open House which is the same as a Meet and Greet, just with a more inviting name. Results? One member joined with 3 more close to joining. INVITE a lot of people. Use a nice invitation. Make the evening fun. Briefly and passionately explain why Rotary is so awesome. Show the new Rotary commercial at the Open House. Focus on the local community service you do and the awesome network of friends you have developed. Cancel your regular meeting time that week and hold this after work. Serving some food will attract more people. Email Bill for a sample of the invitation that works for the Barnegat club.
2. Conduct an old fashioned membership drive with incentives to Rotarians that sponsor new members AND email a monthly cumulative tally of every member in declining order of new members sponsored. Praise members sponsoring new members and remember, "what gets measured, gets done". Moorestown Breakfast, which is + 6 net members this year with more ready to join has a

similar incentive program and it is working. The new member must pay their first invoice before the incentive is given to the sponsor. For every new member sponsored, the sponsoring Rotarian gets an option of:

- Free dues for a month for the sponsoring Rotarian for every new Rotarian they recruit and bring into the club.
- Free tickets to an event like one of your fundraisers
- Credit of \$XX toward a sponsorship at an event or fundraiser

And of course, everyone gets recognition in the monthly email or club newsletter. If someone brings in multiple members, that is a lot of money simply for asking someone to join a wonderful organization that is Rotary.

3. Launch an Alternative Meeting time – The membership team has a roadmap on how to launch an additional meeting time for your club. Three clubs in the District have successfully launched an alternative meeting time. The result? Many more members, more hands to do service, more energy, brand new ideas and an enhanced public image. For example, Bordentown is +13 net members this year and is continuing to grow. Three more clubs in Burlington County are beginning to launch an alternative meeting. Act now and your club can offer its community TWO very different ways to join your club by June 1. If you want to learn more about launching an alternative meeting, contact your membership area rep or your AG. Bigger, bolder, better. Email Brian Flynn for a copy of Bordentown's Recruiting Flyer.



Time is Running Out

How is YOUR club progressing towards the Presidential Citation?



RI President K. R. “Ravi” Ravindran will award the Presidential Citation to any club that meets the following criteria **BY APRIL 1ST**.

- 1) Mandatory Activities:
 - a. Set at least 15 goals in Rotary Club Central
 - b. Have paid your semi-annual dues on time this year.
 - 2) Membership. Achieve 3 of the following 4 goals:
 - a. Achieve a net gain in membership of at least 1 member (clubs up to 49 members) or 2 members (clubs above 50 members)
 - b. Achieve a net gain of female members of at least one female member (clubs up to 49 members) or 2 female members (clubs above 50 members)
 - c. Improve the member retention rate by at least 1 percent from last year.
 - d. Improve new member sponsors by at least 1 percent from last year.
 - 3) Foundation Giving. Clubs must achieve at least 2 of the following 4 goals:
 - a. Support our Foundation by giving at least \$20
 - b. Attain a minimum Annual Fund contribution of at least \$100 per capita.
 - c. Have at least 10 percent of members enrolled in Rotary’s recurring program (Rotary Direct).
 - d. Increase the total number of Benefactors, Bequest Society members, or Paul Harris Fellows in the club by at least one.
 - 4) Online Tool Adoption. Clubs must achieve 2 of the following 4 goals:
 - a. Have at least 50 percent of club members registered in My Rotary.
 - b. Post at least one initiative on Rotary Showcase.
 - c. Maintain a project in need of assistance on Rotary Ideas or contribute to a project in Rotary Ideas.
 - d. Have at least two club members participate in Discussion Groups on My Rotary.
 - 5) Humanitarian Service. Clubs must achieve 3 of the following 7 goals:
 - a. Sponsor at least one Rotary Community Corps to enhance community engagement and ensure project sustainability. Your RCC must be certified with RI.
 - b. Ensure at least one club member belongs to a Board-recognized Rotarian Action Group (club must report in Rotary Club Central).
 - c. Have at least one club member attend a grant management seminar (club must report in Rotary Club Central).
 - d. Partner with The Rotary Foundation by sponsoring at least one project funded by a global grant or district grant.
 - e. Get 75 percent of your club’s members involved in a hands-on project. (Club must report in Rotary Club Central).
 - f. Establish partnerships with one or more corporate or governmental entities and conduct a project together. (Club must report in Rotary Club Central).
 - g. Enhance a project’s scope and visibility by partnering with at least five other Rotary clubs in your region. (Club must report in Rotary Club Central).
 - 6) New Generations. Clubs must achieve at least 2 of the following 4 goals:
 - a. Currently sponsor or cosponsor a Rotaract club.
 - b. Currently sponsor a community-based Rotaract club.
 - c. Currently sponsor or cosponsor an Interact club.
 - d. Have at least 3 members mentor an Interactor or Rotaractor.
 - 7) Public Image. Clubs must achieve at least 1 of the following 2 goals:
 - a. Update club’s Website and social media using Rotary’s visual identify guidelines (visit the Brand Center at www.Rotary.org/brandcenter). (Club must report in Rotary Club Central).
 - b. Update club brochure and newsletter using Rotary’s visual identify guidelines (visit the Brand Center at www.Rotary.org/brandcenter). (Club must report in Rotary Club Central).
- NOTE: ALL goals attained must be registered and shown in Rotary Club Central this year. Most of the criteria for the Presidential Citation are reachable, but you MUST meet them prior to April 1st.**

2016-17 RI President John Germ announces his Presidential theme for upcoming Rotary Year:



ROTARY SERVING HUMANITY

District Public Image Committee scores BIG!



Our District 7500 Public Image Committee has had a hugely successful year. The Public Image Manual they produced in January has been applauded far and wide and Rotary districts and clubs across the country and in several other countries have asked for copies for their own use.

The committee, headed by DGN Diane Rotondelli, has some incredibly talented members, one of whom had connections with WABC in New York. We have produced a video PSA (Public Service Announcement) that invited people to join or support Rotary, and our District has a tag line at the end, inviting people to go to "WhatsRotary.org" to find a club nearby. We have received shocked phone calls from Rotarians as far away as New York and Connecticut saying they saw the PSA on prime time daytime TV shows.

In February, we expanded our coverage to include radio, and District 7500 members have already heard the PSA several times on radio 101.5. The team promises additional radio stations that should air our PSA in the coming months.

**Congratulations to our motivated, action-oriented
Public Image team!**

Looking to partner with another Rotary Club for a meaningful project?

Go to Rotary.org and then go to
"Rotary Showcase"

Perhaps you would like to fund a project in a certain area of focus, such as literacy. Or maybe you have a fondness for a particular part of the world and want to make a difference there. Rotary Showcase is where clubs enter the projects where they are seeking help, either from volunteers or with donations.

Just this year, look at the numbers for projects featured in Rotary Showcase:

Total volunteer hours: 8,646,330 hours
Number of volunteers: 991,395 people
Total cash contributions: US\$280,712,966
Total in-kind contributions: US\$110,548,498

NEWS FROM AROUND THE DISTRICT

News from the clubs and news *for* the clubs



Mount Holly Rotary Club's Brian Curtis explains to the club the exciting news about the club's new "Alternative Meeting Time." For decades, the Mt. Holly club has met at lunchtime, but have found a number of potential members were unable to join because of work conflicts at midday. So effective April 7th, Mount Holly will also meet at 5:30PM on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays at Deerwood Country Club.

This convenient time, the lower cost of membership since there is no meal involved, and the great location promises to attract some new members that the club has hitherto been unable to recruit. For more information on how your club can arrange an alternative meeting time, call District Membership Chair Mike Colasurdo, Sr. Meanwhile, stop by the Deerwood Country Club during one of Mt Holly's new meeting times!

Recently, the **Moorestown Breakfast Rotary Club** hosted three officers from the Moorestown Police Dept who are riding in the Police Unity Tour. The Club donated \$500 to the Moorestown Police Department who will have 5 Officers participating in the three day ride. This is a charity event that plays out all across the US with a Bicycle Ride to the Police Memorial that is located in Washington DC. This Memorial has the names all the Police Officers killed in the line of duty across the United States, unfortunately for Moorestown the Memorial has two of our own officers' names on this memorial.

The Ride occurs every year with a ceremony in our nation's capital during Law Enforcement week. This year Five of Moorestown Police officers will be riding in this event which starts in North Jersey and ending in Washington after three days of bicycling. Each officer that participates is required to either raise or pay \$ 1500.00 each to participate with this money going to the Unity Tour and the Memorial to help with expenses and scholarships for the family of the falling. This is done on the Officers own time and not paid by the township for the four days that they participate. Club President Aschoff said, "We are honored to partner with the Moorestown Police Department in support of the Police Unity Tour, and trust other local leaders and Moorestown businesses will support our officers who protect and serve the community".

Featured in the picture from left to right are Dr. Ben Blank - Rotary President Elect, Sgt. Rick Gunning, Ptl. Jeff Pascual, Ptl. John Rulli.



Twenty-seven members of the **Rotary Club of Forked River** recently spent a night of fellowship and food at a Cooking with Carlo night at the [Three B's Bar and Bistro](#) in Lakehurst! We enjoyed a fabulous 4 course food and wine paired menu that satisfied even the most demanding gourmet among us. A how-to demonstration of making fresh mozzarella and a lively music accompaniment to dinner left us feeling full, informed and happy!! Thank you to Carlo and his family and staff for making our 2nd trip to the Three B's informative as well as fun and tasty. From the folks at Tables 3 & 4, Grazie Tanto for a delightful evening! We will be back!

NEWS FROM AROUND THE DISTRICT

News from the clubs and news *for* the clubs

Recently the Moorestown Rotary Breakfast Club hosted Susan Buchwald, CEO of Community Treatment Solutions (CTS) in Moorestown, NJ. This was Susan's 5th time in visiting the Club and was presented a check in the amount of \$1000. CTS is the *'last line of defense and hope' for abused, neglected, abandoned and / or trafficked children and youth almost all suffering from delayed development and trauma*, said Scott Aschoff, Rotary President.

Without CTS, these children would fall 'outside the system', meaning that they would not get the care, supervision, clinical services and therapy they need, Buchwald told the Club.

CTS, a (501.3c) non-profit organization, was established in 1990. Today, they serve more than 400 children, youth and families every year in a variety of clinical intensive and specialized in-community services across southern New Jersey. They are experts in their field and dedicated to serving the most at-risk children and give them confidence, competence (skills) and hope.

CTS receives funds from the State (of NJ) for their clinical services only. All other programs and activities, such as art, music, reading, sports to name few, which are so critical in the betterment of these children, need to be funded through fund raising and (private) donations.



Featured in the picture is Dr. Ben Blank - President Elect Rotary, Susan Buchwald - CEO Community Treatment Solutions, & Michel Merckx - CTS Board Member & VP of American Biltrite

Congratulations to the **Greater Long Branch Rotary Club** for a creative and very successful public image project. The club put together a 16-page insert in the popular local weekly newspaper, *The Link*. Readers would be skimming through the paper, reading all the local news, and suddenly come across the pull-out section called, "The Rotary Club of Greater Long Branch: Our Year in Review and a Look Ahead 2015 – 2016." It included articles on the club's food drive, scholarship awards, a piece on why to join Rotary, a profile of some of their newer, younger members and more, generally extending a wonderful image of Rotary in general and the Long Branch club in particular. It is hard to image reading the many articles and not wanting to join—or at least *support*—the Rotary club.

So what did it cost the club for such a 16-page Public Image piece that went to every resident in the community with a readership of 9,000 people? *Absolutely nothing!* About 15 members of the club, along with several community business, had ads mixed in with the editorial content, making this a zero-cost project for the club.

Congratulations to President Mike Ciavolino and the club's Public Image committee for this outstanding project.



And speaking of Public Image . . .

The **Rotary Club of Forked River** was invited by the Lacey Shoprite to showcase some of their 43 years of Service to Lacey Township. Since 1973 the Forked River Rotary has contributed more than \$2,250,000.00 to local causes including scholarships to graduating high school seniors, community projects such as improvements to local parks and recreation areas, school projects for both curricular and extracurricular activities at all age levels and extraordinary contributions to Lacey citizens through programs such as the club's Thanksgiving dinner distribution and the Christmas Elf programs and so much more. During the month of March, check out the display window in the Lacey Shoprite lobby and see what how the Forked River Rotary club is presenting such a great image of their community service to the public

Time is running out to get your early-bird District Conference discount

April 29th to May 1st, 2016

The final registration date to get your early-bird discount for our MORE in BaltiMORE District Conference is March 31st. Even more importantly, the hotel will release our block of discounted rooms on April 5th, so anybody that books after that date could end up paying the hotel's regular rate, which is close to \$100 per night more.

So YES, Rotarians always wait until the last minute to book things, but THIS IS the last minute!

If you have not yet reserved your spot, let's briefly summarize 40 reasons why you will benefit from being part of the huge group of fellow Rotarians and friends that are coming to this year's conference:

- 1) A weekend away with friends—and new friends you will surely meet.
- 2) Luxurious accommodations in a beautiful, recently renovated Embassy Suites hotel.
- 3) No cooking or housekeeping for an entire weekend! Gov David will even make your bed!
- 4) Wonderful meals
- 5) The 1st Friday afternoon "Idea Exchange" workshop includes:
 - a. 10 Great club projects that make you go "WOW!"
 - b. How your club can start a Community Garden
 - c. How to attract younger members to your club. What attracts and repels Rotarians in their 20s and 30s.
- 6) The 2nd Friday afternoon "Idea Exchange" workshop includes:
 - a. Finding your PASSION in Rotary! (And how this helps with membership retention)
 - b. Understanding how to use Social Media to attract members and community support
 - c. Heroin Addiction: It's not an inner-city problem; it's happening next door. How Rotarians can detect it and what to do if it happens within our own family or circle of friends
- 7) Free pre-dinner cocktail party on Friday night to meet old and new friends.
- 8) Informal dinner on Friday night using a western "Rotary Roundup" theme. Ye Ha!
- 9) Friday night keynote address from the most-requested speaker in the Rotary world: Past RI President Rick King.
- 10) Hospitality suite for both Friday and Saturday.
- 11) Club Project Exhibit. Browse through the displays of great projects and fund raising ideas of clubs around our District.
- 12) Incredibly moving Saturday morning keynote speaker: Razia Jan, a Rotarian who ignored death threats to build and run a school that provides education for girls in Afghanistan. A movie has been made of her work and Razia was named one of 6 "Global Women of Action" by RI and a "CNN Hero" by the TV network.
- 13) The 1st Saturday morning "Idea Exchange" workshop includes:
 - a. ShelterBox in Action
 - b. How Rotary is helping solve the global problem of human trafficking
- 14) The 2nd Saturday morning "Idea Exchange" workshop includes:
 - a. Remaking your Rotary Club for better new member attraction
 - b. Top 10 membership retention ideas
 - c. Best Practices in Club Extension
- 15) Saturday afternoon free for fabulous shopping in the nearby HarborPlace, or for sightseeing in fascinating spots such as Fort McHenry, the National Aquarium, The Maryland Science Center, the USS Constellation, the B & O Railroad Museum--and SO much more!
- 16) Voluntary participation in the District 7500 Dragon Boat Race in the Inner Harbor. Compete for your club's honor as part of the 2-person crew, or cheer them on from the quayside.
- 17) Saturday evening Governor's Reception.
- 18) Glittering Saturday evening Governor's Banquet, "A Star-Spangled Evening." Guests are encouraged to dress in a red, white or blue theme.
- 19) Keynote address on Saturday evening by one of the Rotary world's most beloved leaders: Past RI President Frank Devlyn from Mexico City.
- 20) Interfaith worship and memorial service on Sunday morning.
- 21) The 1st Saturday morning "Idea Exchange" workshop includes:
 - a. RYLA: our bright shining star in Rotary youth service
 - b. New opportunities for membership in 55+ communities
- 22) Be inspired by and get to know our representative of RI President Ravi Ravindran: Allan and Debbie James from Australia.
- 23) Prizes!
- 24) Silent Auction of fabulous gifts—with all proceeds going to the Rotary Foundation
- 25) Optional golf outing at a nearby country club

- 26) A great way to give you new ideas and inspiration about Rotary—and how you can adopt some of those ideas in your personal life and your club's activities.
- 27) FUN! You are absolutely GUARANTEED to come away from the District Conference glad that you went to it.

- 1) Register for the conference at www.RotaryDistrict7500.org
- 2) THEN follow the link on the registration form to book your hotel at the discounted rate. Your credit card won't be charged for the hotel portion until you check out.

This will never be repeated! So act now to register and save money. It is this easy:

If you have any questions or suggestions, call District Conference Chair Jim Robinson at 609.923.3881

**After May 1st, there will be only 2 types of people in District 7500:
Those who ATTENDED the MORE in BaltiMORE District Conference---
and those who WISH they had!**

Attention all golfers!



If you are going to the District Conference and would like to play golf with other District 7500 golfers, this is the time to let Jim Davidson know. Give him a call at 856.296.3676 or email him at JDavidsonJr@comcast.net.

He is ready to arrange a fun time at one of the Baltimore area's great courses, but needs to determine the interest, and then the preferred day & time for you.

Rotary Global Rewards offers great deals for every Rotarian

New this year, Rotary has negotiated a special member benefit for Rotarians to get discounts or special offers from hundreds of vendors around the world. Better yet, many of them ALSO donate a percentage of your purchase back to the Rotary Foundation.

For a full list of vendors and their offers, go to Rotary.org and go into the "Rotary Global Rewards" page in "My Rotary." Here is just a tiny sampling of the participating vendors:

1-800-Flowers	Crowne Plaza	Kohl's
Accor Hotels	Dave & Buster's	Madame Tussauds New York
Adidas	DELL	Microsoft
ADT	DIRECTV	Neiman Marcus
Airbnb	Doubletree	Nike
Amazon	Eddie Bauer	Nordstrom
AMC Theatres® Movie Tickets	Empire State Building Observatory	Nunn Busch
Apple Store	Enterprise Rent-A-Car	Old Navy
Avis Rent-A-Car	Expedia	Staples
BabyGap	Godiva	Starbucks
Banana Republic	Harry & David	Verizon Wireless
Bank of America	Hawaiian Airlines	Victoria's Secret
Bed Bath & Beyond	Hertz	Virgin Atlantic Airways
BJ's	Hilton	Vistaprint
Bloomingdale's	Holiday Inn	Walgreens
Brooks Brothers	Home Depot	Walmart
Busch Gardens®	Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum	
CheapOair	Kennedy Space Center	

ACT NOW to SAVE MONEY!

Our fabulous District Conference will be held in Baltimore next April.



"MORE" in Balti *MORE* District Conference!

Conference Cost:
\$237

Registration Fee:
\$25

Plus cost of Hotel

Registration is easy:

- 1) Register through www.RotaryDistrict7500.org and click on the "2016 District Conference" link.
- 2) Call the hotel at 1.800.873.6668 and book your room, giving them the "Rotary District 7500" code to get your discounted rate. You don't have to pay for the room until you check out.



**April 29
thru
May 1**



***Save
money by
registering
now...***

MORE History...

**MORE Great Rotary
Networking...**

**MORE Great Food
and Shopping...**

**MORE Fun for the
whole weekend!**

