

# District 6780 Newsletter

## September is Literacy Month

September 2019  
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#People of Action



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### Bahamas and Hurricane Dorian - Relief Fund

#### Hurricane Dorian Update and Relief Fund

Pushed by William Innes on Sep 02, 2019



Hurricane Dorian dealt a severe blow to the Bahamas specifically to the Island of Abaco. Other islands were affected as well. They need a lot of help and donating funds is the quickest and best way to help in the Bahamas. Our District found that out when our Rotarians ran Boyd's Bear Relief Center after the Sevier County wildfires in November 2016. It is better to have the funds to purchase what is needed and not to receive supplies, while well intended, that may not be what is needed at the time.

A lot of clubs have been asking the best way to help the Bahamas. Click on the link that follows and you will see ways in which

to donate money as a club or individual that benefits the relief efforts that are underway. Thank you for wanting to help. <https://7020.org/stories/hurricane-dorian-update-and-relief-fund>

### District Governor's September Message



Happy September, fellow District 6780 Rotarians. Kids are back in school, one of these days the days will be cooler and before you know it the leaves will be turning colors. Life is good in East Tennessee.

**September is Basic Education and Literacy Month.** There is nothing more important in the life of a child than to get a good education, be able to read to learn, to discover life through books and make things happen. Unfortunately, in East TN the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade reading levels aren't where we would like to see them. In many counties the reading levels are 40% and below. In Knox County, reading levels are at 40% up 1% from last year but that is a dismal percentage.

Statistics show that if a child can't read properly in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, that child has only a 10% chance of learning to read properly which puts the child at a disadvantage in life.

In the play South Pacific, a character named Momma Rosa says, "You can have dreams come true if you don't have dreams. Many of these kids who can't read don't have dreams. They don't know the possibilities of life because they can't see the future."

That's why one of my goals for the District's Rotary Clubs is to take on reading programs in their elementary schools. Educators are telling me that we should focus on 1<sup>st</sup> graders so they learn to read and the read to learn as they progress through school. What is your club doing for literacy in your local schools? Check with the principal at your school and see how you can help.

#### Club Visits

So far, I have visited 46 clubs in the District which includes one Satellite Club. I continue to be

impressed with the energy and talent in the clubs and the service projects they embrace. I also addressed the Rotaract Club at Sewanee, The University of the South. They were having an introduction meeting about Rotaract. They had over 30 students looking at joining the Rotaract Club! The club president, Caroline, a senior, was quite impressive. Looks like they are on good footing at their club.

### Club Annual Reports

As we progress through the year, I am asking the clubs' leadership to report on their members as far as volunteer hours, club donations towards service projects, the number of people they are impacting and to monetize the hours. I will start posting the numbers about mid-September when I have the information. These numbers are the ones that would go into Rotary Club Central and into a club's Annual Report. My intention is to publish a District Annual Report next July and take it around the District to get it publicized in the press and on radio and television. Rotarians report your volunteer hours to your club's point of contact for this project. You can review the guidelines at this [LINK](#).

**RYLA:** RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) takes place on Saturday, September 21<sup>st</sup> at Camp Nakawana in Crossville. I spoke with Pepe Perron, at whose camp we hold RYLA. He says everything is in place to have a successful day. Get your students registered so that Committee Chair, Don Randolph, has all the information he needs. This is a great event for the students. If you haven't attended one you may want to do so and see what the students experience.

**PETS-O:** September 28<sup>th</sup> is Presidents-elect Training Seminar Orientation for club presidents-elect. This is required training. In the morning going on simultaneously will be Global Grants training. After lunch, District Grants Training will take place. If your club intends to participate in a grant next Rotary Year, two members of the club must attend this training to be certified for a grant.

**WORLD POLIO DAY:** On Thursday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, we will once again partner with Dunkin' Donuts to raise funds for the eradication of polio. This year with the District and World Fund match along with the Gates match, each \$2 donation for a Purple Pinky Donut will be worth \$18! Additionally, the campaign is going across the whole state of Tennessee. We raised \$100,000 last year for PolioPlus. We hope to double that this year.

Order forms will be out near the end of September so you can pre-order boxes of donuts. Each box has 10 donuts and costs \$20. On the form will be a place for your name and Rotary Club so that you will receive Paul Harris credit for your donation to PolioPlus. Pre-ordering is important so that Dunkin' knows how many donuts to bake. Last year 366 boxes were order and another 2,533 donuts were purchased with walk-up business.

### Hugh Barnett 103 Years Old

Last month I did a video with Hugh Barnett, a member of the Rotary Club of Maryville. He celebrated his 103<sup>rd</sup> birthday on August 14<sup>th</sup>. He still attends most meetings and shows up at service projects. He was an Eagle Scout at 14 in 1931 and he and his other fellow Eagle Scouts from Mississippi were invited to the White House by president Herbert Hoover. He has been a Rotarian since 1976 and spent 30 years with the Clarksville Rotary Club. He also worked in Oak Ridge during the Manhattan Project and was one of the 100 or so employees who knew what the project was. You can view the video at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NW16kkjCQPc&t=883s>

That's it for now. Again, it is an honor and privilege to be your District Governor. We have a great Rotarians in our District.

Greg Maciolek

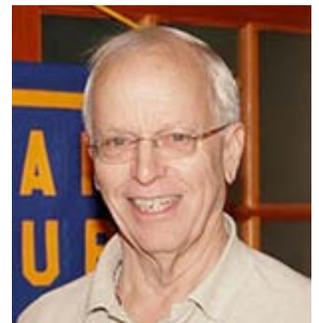
District 6780 Governor

The Year of Cyrano!

## Past District Governor James Andrews Passed Away

Sad to report that Past District 6780 Governor (1992-1993) James Andrews passed away on Sunday night. He was a member of the Rotary Club of Cookeville Breakfast. He was an effective governor and worked hard on matching grants in India. He was the District Trainer in 1996-1997.

He leaves behind his wife, Rosalie, and three children. No services are planned at this time. Please keep the Andrews family in your thoughts and prayers.



## District Rolls Out New Member Recruitment System



Our goal from District Governor Greg Maciolek is an increase of 128 members, with a BHAG (Big Highly Ambitious Goal) of 192 for the District.

If we will be successful in reaching this goal, we must have implemented **the new recruitment system** in as many clubs as possible to attain these goals. It starts with a formal club recruitment system, then district assistance in developing those club plans, and district tracking of their progress throughout the year.

In the membership committee, we have five outstanding and engaged members, we appreciate all of their support in rolling this out!

Jarrold Casteel, Bearden  
Naomi Asher, Oak Ridge

Donna Fare, Sparta  
Jim Roxlo, Chattanooga Breakfast  
Mike Ayalon, Lebanon

There is one system that I've been focused on last year, and a second that we are adding this year:

1. The Secrets of Rotary Recruitment: Building a names list in every club with targets of companies and leaders not currently represented in their club, then evenly distributing the list to all members of the club to get 100% club participation in membership. Review of best practices from our district.
2. Zone 30-31 Membership Initiative: 12 Attraction Strategies, 12 Engagement Strategies, Attraction Strategy Action Plan & Engagement Strategy Action Plan to specifically identify which strategies will be implemented, who will do it, when it will be done, the results we anticipate, and who will champion this strategy to track and report on club progress.

Please let me know if your club is looking to inject some excitement into your membership efforts to help grow your club. One of our committee members will contact you to set up a time to discuss membership as a program in your club meeting, and then we will take 5 volunteers from the meeting to implement the strategy and report back to the district on their results.

In order to contact me, please send an email to: [bookings@greekuniversity.org](mailto:bookings@greekuniversity.org) or you can reach me on my cell phone: 516-642-3108.

We appreciate all of your help in continuing District 6780's membership growth!

## Club Visioning Provides Clubs a Clear Path to Future Success



District 6780 began offering clubs the Rotary Club Visioning experience in 2012. Club Visioning is a foundation element for clubs that brings members both long-time and short-time together to develop a continuity of leadership and consistency in programming. Through this interactive Visioning process clubs brainstorm ideas,

condense those ideas, and come to consensus on future programs and activities, thus building solidarity and unanimity in purpose and action. The product of the session is a clear set of goals and objectives that become part of the club's strategic plan.

A Club Visioning session is generally conducted in a separate meeting about three hours long with plenty of fellowship, fun and food. The process helps build stronger clubs that attract new members and retain members. It also makes the role of each new President easier.

Since the District began offering Club Visioning, 32 clubs have taken advantage of the opportunity; six clubs have conducted Club Visioning for the second time. Evaluations of the events have been very positive from every club. However, half the clubs in the District have not taken advantage of this opportunity.

Any club interested in scheduling a Club Visioning Session or getting more information should contact **Ivan Jones, Visioning Chair**, at 931-607-5013.

## The Rotary Foundation Rates Four Stars



For the 12th consecutive year, The Rotary Foundation has received the highest rating ♦ four stars ♦ from [Charity Navigator](#), an independent evaluator of charities in the U.S.

The [Foundation](#) earned the recognition for demonstrating both strong financial health and commitment to accountability and transparency. Only one percent of the organizations Charity Navigator evaluates have received 12 consecutive 4-star evaluations.

"Attaining a 4-star rating verifies that The Rotary Foundation exceeds industry standards and outperforms most charities in your area of work", says Michael Thatcher, president and chief executive officer of Charity Navigator. "This exceptional designation sets the Foundation apart from its peers and demonstrates to the public its trustworthiness."

The rating reflects Charity Navigator's assessment of how the Foundation uses donations, sustains its programs and services, and practices good governance and openness.

## Important District Training Session Scheduled for September 28

Three important training sessions will take place on Saturday, September 28, at Stone Memorial High School in Crossville.

**PETS Orientation for Presidents-Elect and Assistant Governors will start at 8:30 a.m.** Central time and go until noon.

**Global Grant Training** is required for any club that plans to participate in a global grant in 2020-21. That session will go from 9:00 a.m. central time to 11:30 a.m.

**District Grant Training is required** for any club that anticipates requesting and participating in a district grant in 2020-21. This session will go from 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. central time.

Participation in either grant training session will count toward club qualification.

Register now by logging into DACdb, click on Calendar, and scroll down to September 28. Click on the **REGISTER NOW** button at the bottom of the page. You will see the three options, depending on whether you are a President Elect, an Assistant Governor, or other attendees who may be attending one or more sessions.

Lunch will be provided for those attendees who participate in one of the morning session and also participates in the afternoon session.

**Please register as soon as possible but no later than Monday, September 23, so that lunches can be ordered.**

Stone Memorial High School is located at 2800 Cook Road, Crossville TN 38571 (Interstate 40 exit 320).



## Global Polio Eradication Update

By John Downs

*By John Downs, District End Polio Now Chair*

This is a brief update that you can the Global Eradication of Polio.

As of August 28, there had been 71 confirmed cases of wild polio virus in 2019. That's up sharply from 15 cases during the same period in 2018. All of the cases occurred in either Pakistan or Afghanistan, with the majority (58 cases) occurring in Pakistan.

However, there is good news! In July more than five million children under the age of five were immunized during focused immunization campaigns in Pakistan, and these campaigns have been extended through December. Also in July, Nigeria celebrated three years polio free making it possible to start the official process to certify the entire continent of Africa free of wild polio virus.

Our tenth annual "Pack the Park to End Polio Now!" baseball game with the Tennessee Smokies was held on August 26 after the July 22 game was rained out. Despite gloomy weather, 113 Rotarians, friends and family turned out to see District Governor Greg throw out the opening pitch, and he did not disappoint. We had a great time and raised nearly \$3,300 to End Polio Now!. With the Gates Foundation match, that's \$9,900.00. Mark your calendars now for "Pack the Rink" with the Ice Bears, which will be on Sunday February 9, 2020 at 3:00 PM.

October 24th is **World Polio Day**. Many clubs around the world hold special events to commemorate this day. If yours is one of them let us know so we can help promote it. At the district level we will once again be running the **Purple Pinkie Donut Project** with Dunkin' Donuts, but this year it will expand to cover the entire state of Tennessee. More details will be coming your way very soon.

Thank you for all you do for Rotary, and for your club's support of a polio free world.

## It's Time to Start Planning Your World Polio Day Event



Rotary's fourth World Polio Day celebration, on 24 October, will highlight extraordinary progress in the eradication campaign and emphasize the work that remains before we wipe out the virus for good. With the number of new cases worldwide nearly halved from this time last year, we have the opportunity to rally our resources and see the last case of polio this year.

Health officials and Rotary's celebrity polio ambassadors will head to Atlanta, Georgia, USA, for the event, the first to be held at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). It will be streamed live and

then will be available for viewing anytime at [endpolio.org](http://endpolio.org).

[Download World Polio Day materials](#) for information and resources on planning and promoting a successful World Polio Day event, such as a viewing party or fundraiser:

- [Register your event here](#) for a chance to be recognized in Atlanta, or to be featured on our website and social media pages.
- Use our graphics to craft engaging social media posts, and use #endpolio to follow and join the global conversation.
- Write to local media and government officials: Pitch a story about your club's contributions to the campaign, and remind them why it's important to keep fighting.

## Knoxville Club Finishes the Polio Puzzle



The Knoxville Club is raising money to End Polio Now with a Polio Puzzle Fundraiser. For a minimum donation of \$10 members may purchase a puzzle piece. The pieces are available after each meeting until the full puzzle is revealed. When all the puzzle pieces are sold, the club will have raised at least \$5,000 to Finish the Fight and End Polio Now.

## 2019 RYLA is September 21

The 2019 Rotary Youth Leadership Awards is set for Saturday, September 21, at Camp Nakanawa. RYLA is aimed at high school juniors, but seniors are



accepted to. Registration and breakfast begin at 7:30 AM Central time, and the seminar begins promptly at 8:15 AM. Every club in the district is encouraged to send at least one student to RYLA.

Perron (931-260-8244 or 260-6061).

The camp, at 1084 Camp Nakanawa Road Crossville, TN 38571, is operated by Rotarian Pepe and Ann

For registration information go to [RYLA Link](#) on the website.

## McMinnville Rotarians Sponsor Global Scholar

By Rachel Killebrew, District Grants Coordinator



Four years ago, a young man came to my door at home and explained that he had been referred to me to get help with a goal for his life. That certainly interested me and I asked what he was trying to achieve. I will never forget his answer and will never again bypass listening when someone asks for help! He said, ♦I want to serve humanity in Africa while researching contagious and infectious diseases spread by mosquitoes. My goal is to get my masters in contagious and infectious diseases at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, the best school in the world. ♦ I was speechless and hooked to learn more.

Bascum grew up in McMinnville and graduated *cum laude* from The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga in 2010 with a BS in International/Comparative Politics. He began his career as an interne for two sessions at President Carter ♦s international development organization at The Carter Center in Atlanta, after which he taught English and designed a sustainable hygiene and sanitation program at two orphanages in Chennai, India.

In 2012 Chris accepted an invitation to serve as a health volunteer with the United States Peace Corps in the West African nation of Burkina Faso. Living in a remote border town, Chris designed health awareness campaigns for isolated villages on issues such as malaria, tuberculosis, and family planning. He also participated in polio vaccination campaigns, insecticidal mosquito net distributions, and other health projects. After completing his Peace Corps service in 2014, Chris returned to Atlanta where he worked with Children ♦s Healthcare of Atlanta, a non-profit network of pediatric hospitals, where he oversaw the management training of approximately 10,000 employees.  
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## Rotary Leads the Way with Leadership Franklin County



As he has done for the past five years, Alan Clark, of the Franklin County A.M. Club, recently kicked off the Leadership Franklin County program with a discussion titled ♦The Leadership Initiative. ♦ Clark and other members of his club developed the ideas presented to the 27 members of the Chamber of Commerce Leadership Franklin County Class of 2019. ♦We try to make it [the discussion] participative and learn so much ourselves about leadership from the class discussions, ♦ said Clark. ♦The new ideas are used to update the presentation each year. ♦

From research he conducted about leadership beginning in 1998, Clark published ♦The Leadership Initiative♦ two years ago with input from Rotarians Dr. Brad Schapiro, Dr. Garrett Orr, the late Burl Hiles and others. ♦Leadership is an evolving concept that has an everyday effect on our lives, ♦ he added. ♦We take into consideration several different leadership styles and have participants discuss their own theories of leadership, as well. Hopefully, they come away with a better understanding of the dynamics of leadership and their own philosophy of it. ♦

Alan Clark is currently an Affiliate Broker with Lynch-Rigsby Realty and Auction and the editorial writer for the *Herald-Chronicle*. He is retired from the US Army where he achieved the rank of Colonel. With a doctorate in Education Administration from UTK, Clark has worked at all levels of education from kindergarten through graduate school, in public and private environments both military and civilian.

◆The Leadership Initiative◆ program is available for any organization that desires to understand how to meet the challenges of change in the 21st century. Organizations interested in the program may contact Clark on his website [alclarkvoice.com](http://alclarkvoice.com), or by calling 931-691-1452.

## Kingston Club Teams up to Fight Teen Drug Abuse, Bullying and Suicide

The Rotary Club of Kingston is teaming with the Roane County Anti-Drug Coalition, the Rotary Club of Harriman, and Roane County Schools to host special events at three Roane County high schools October 29, 30, and 31. To fund the events the club is using matching funds from a District Grant.

Speaker Bob Holmes will display his unusual athletic skills as a one-man volley-ball team before he shares his message about substance abuse, bullying and suicide with the high school students.

## Caleb (Caribou) Nabors Rotary Youth Exchange (RYE) August Monthly Report from Japan

Disclaimers: It's currently 3:00 in the morning. My body won't sleep, so this is what I'm doing instead. Also, the town I'm staying in is called Nasukarasuyama, but since it's so long, it shall be referred to as Nasu from here on out. Also, Japanese has an entirely different alphabet, so I am going to safely assume you guys don't know how to read Japanese. So, I will put in the *romaji*, which is the format where it is basically spelled how it's pronounced, in italics, so you know when I am using Japanese.



*Ohayou!* I left for Narita Airport (which is in Tokyo) on August 18, and that flight was long. Like real long. It was around 14 hours, and I watched *Breaking Bad* the entire way there. Once I arrived, I attempted to find the correct way to get my baggage. I went through 3 different lines only to be shut down 3 different times because I was in the wrong one each time. Whoops.

I ended up finding a translator, and I had to get an immigration form. After the inspector asked me if I had a part-time job, he gave me my temporary residence card, which basically means I won't get deported. Hurrah!

After I got my card, I found my luggage and went through customs. Since I didn't have anything of extreme value coming with me, they didn't care what I had. I went out to the arrival gate, and I was overwhelmed by the amount of people. Crowds on crowds next to each other saying people's names. I saw a picture of me with long hair that said ◆Caleb Nabors: Rotary Exchange Student in Nasu.◆

The man holding the picture told me his name, but I had no clue what he said to be honest. After he told me, he walked away. I thought he was totally ditching me, but in fact, he just got the rest of people. He and his wife introduced themselves once again as Toshio and Nobuko Hagiwara. They waited for me to respond, and I just repeated their name back to make sure I got it. I was then introduced to my first host father Takashi Takaguchi and his eldest son. We then started to head back to their car. It gave me multiple heart attacks when they started driving on the wrong side of the road and continuously kept doing it. Turns out, that's just every country besides America's way of doing things.

[Read More](#)

## Maddie Knudsen's RYE August Report from Germany

My first month in Germany has been amazing! My trip here was very smooth, and I had a warm welcome at the airport from my first host family. The first week after I arrived was very busy. It was the last week of summer break, and there were lots of things they wanted to do



before school began. Some of my favorites were paddle boarding on the lake, going to a trampoline park with my host sister, and taking a bike ride to Bordesholm where we got ice cream and took pictures.

The next week school started, and so far I've loved it. The school here is much more laid back, and the days are shorter. As of now, I'm not able to understand much more than some phrases here and there in class, but my classmates have

been very helpful. Before she left, my host sister was able to introduce me to everyone (which I am extremely grateful for), and they have all been so welcoming.

That week was also the week of my host sister's birthday. We woke up early to sing happy birthday and give her gifts, and that night we went to an Italian restaurant to celebrate. On Saturday she had her birthday party with some of the girls from school, and it was a lot of fun. We made food, watched movies, and it was a great chance to get to know them better.

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## Kate Dansereau's RYE August Monthly Report from India



The first month of exchange is full. Full of new adventures, vibrant people, unique cuisine, and culture shock. While I expected to experience culture shock, I was not expecting it immediately. After a long, confusing journey, traveling from Knoxville to Chicago to Doha and finally, to Nagpur, I was expecting normality. I headed through the cramped, unclear airport in Nagpur expecting to soon meet my family. I had not experienced any delays so far in my travel and expected to be home soon. Then in the last leg of my journey, it took me nearly an hour to go through customs. After a long wait,

I was united with my host dad, host sister, and several other Rotarians. They welcomed me with bright smiles and open arms, ushering me to the car through the rain, a product of Monsoon Season.

After putting my bags in the trunk, I got in on what I thought was the driverside. But no, India was once a British colony; therefore, the driver is on the right rather than the left. My host sister laughed as I started to buckle my seatbelt, explaining that people do not wear seatbelts. However, I did not let this phase me and got ready to go to my new home.

We exited onto an empty street. Everything seemed normal. Then suddenly, horns we honked, people were walking in front of the car, and traffic laws were void. India appeared to be a lawless land. People were rushing in the streets, despite the heavy rains ignoring laws.

I got to know my family as we drove home, my host sister explained, in awe, that the rain had only started when I arrived. I had brought the rain with me. That night, after getting home around 4:00 in the morning, I got to know my host sister well and grew close to her immediately. We stayed up all night talking, waiting to see the sunrise light up Nagpur on the roof of our flat.

[Read More](#)

## Claira Green's RYE August Report from Peru

On July 25th I hugged my family goodbye at El Paso International Airport and began my journey to Lima, Peru. One layover, two movies, and ten hours of flying later, I arrived at Jorge Chavez International Airport where my host mom and siblings were waiting for me. It was almost midnight when we left the airport, but my excitement overpowered my exhaustion, and I laughed and talked with my host siblings the whole ride home.

I stayed in Lima for ten days and loved every minute of it! There, all of the Peruvian inbounds attended a two-day orientation camp and *Noche de los Blazer* (Night of the Blazer) before we split up to our final destinations.

On August 4th, I flew from Lima to Arequipa. Although I was sad to leave



Lima so soon, arriving in ♦The White City♦ and finally meeting my host family was exhilarating. At the airport, my host family and Arequipa♦s Rotary Youth Exchange Chairman were waiting for me with balloons and birthday presents!

Over the next week, I had plenty of time to rest as the schools were still out for winter break. I introduced my host sisters to my favorite telenovela, *Gran Hotel*, and we went to the movies, downtown to try *bu♦uelos*, and to church for mass. I also attended several Rotary events and got to

meet my host club, Rotary Club Rijchary Arequipa (*rijchary* is a Quechua word that means ♦to wake up♦).

There are three other exchange students in my Rotary club, and we were all invited to a *parrillada* (barbeque) where we talked and ate for hours. We even got to learn a little bit about Peruvian cuisine by helping to prepare the food. I am so excited to get to know the club members better and work on service projects together!

[Read More](#)

## Please Send Us Your News!



Rotarians are people of action! And, every club♦s activities should be reported to other Rotarians in our District. If you have news about a club project or an upcoming fundraiser; if you have good news about a member or members or someone being honored, please share it with us so we can share it with the rest of the District in the newsletter!

Simply send an email about your news to SUEANNE LEWIS and attach an article or information you would like to have in the newsletter. Articles don♦t have to be written out; a bullet list will do. Tell us the who, what, when, where, and how of your event, and we♦ll write it up. Please include contact information so we can call or email if we have questions.

And, send us pictures and videos too! Pictures should be in .jpg and .png format.

We can only report what you tell us. If you have questions, please call SueAnne at 865-482-1386 or email to 6780news@gmail.com.