

FEBRUARY 1, 2021

ROTARY DISTRICT 7280 NEWSLETTER



DG'S MESSAGE

Hello Everyone!

I have always felt that the month with the least number of days has always been the one that lingers to the end! Maybe it is because the holidays are over, and yet there is still a stretch until spring. The days are lengthening, but still short, and the magic of glistening snow has, for the most part, worn off unless you are a skier! But I encourage you to take this time to reflect and plan, time does still march on! I am planning to meet with club presidents in groups this month and March. My hope is that this will give Club presidents opportunities to discuss with one another the successes and learning curves they have experienced so far. Working in groups and getting together we can develop new and better relationships, and inspire one another.

February is Peace and Conflict Resolution Month. Rotary takes the position that Peace is essential for Rotarians to implement and support any and all of the areas of focus. We cannot prevent disease, support economies, educate, improve water and sanitation, provide child and maternal care or support the environment without peace. In this month's newsletter, District Peacebuilder Chair Diane Chido will offer an outline about a new initiative in our Zone, Youth and Peace in Action. Our hope is that clubs will take this to their school districts to offer a program that allows students to study the implications of conflict in society, and equip them to work towards solutions. We also continue our support of the Rotary Peace Scholarships as one of three District Governors Projects.

Lastly, I would like to remind all that February 23rd marks Rotary's 116th Birthday! I hope your club can find a special way to celebrate. I know the Keystone club has encouraged members to do "something" 116 times and or ways to recognize this occasion!

Be Well,
DG Beth

WHAT'S INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

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PEACE PIPELINE: IT'S RI PEACE MONTH!!!!

by Diane Chido

Join Zones 33 & 34 in Supporting Youth & Peace in Action Rotary has a history of advocating for peace that goes back over 100 years. Through **Youth & Peace in Action: Engaging 100,000 Young Community Peacebuilders (YPA)** we now have the opportunity to instill that legacy into 100,000 young people across our Zones, as well as the more than 65,000 Rotarians serving in our clubs. Planned out in four phases across nearly 18 months, it will allow our clubs and districts to participate, increasing everyone's knowledge of key ideas such as Positive Peace and how to bring peace to action, and mapping out paths to long-term sustainability and impact. **For more information on this exciting program, watch the YPA Information Session video here: <https://www.rizones33-34.org/youth-peace-in-action/>.** We will bring you more information as this exciting program develops in the next few months!



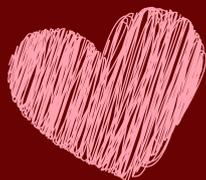
Celebrating RI Peace Month with Peace Fellow Nominations!

The 2021 Rotary Peace Fellowship application opens on 3 February 2020. Candidates have until 31 May to submit applications to their District.

Each year, the Rotary Foundation awards up to 50 fellowships for master's degrees and 50 for certificate studies. The fellowships cover tuition and fees, room and board, round-trip transportation, and all internship and field-study expenses. It would be so great if District 7280 could recommend at least two worthy candidates to RI for consideration in each category.

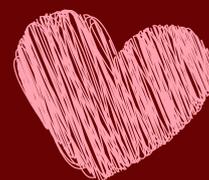
Our District Peace Committee would be very pleased if you would pass on the information to anyone you think would make a globally competitive candidate. Application information is available here: <https://my.rotary.org/en/peace-fellowship-application>. Please contact District Peace Committee Chair Diane Chido for additional information and to submit applications: dchido@dcanalytcis.net.

There's Still Time for your Club to Become and RI Peacebuilder! Your Club's Board just submits your one-page application found here: <https://rotaryactiongroupforpeace.org/peacebuilder-clubs-2/> and in 24 hours, you will join the ranks of Rotary Clubs worldwide who have made building peace their driving force!



ROTARY WORKS

by Lisa Graff



Remember traveling...when it was fun before COVID-19? Perhaps you have recently or not so recently traveled by plane. When you fly, it seems like the airlines use the exact same language to explain the emergency oxygen mask. The flight attendants tell us that in the event that supplemental oxygen is needed on the flight, the masks will automatically deploy. They stress that you should put on your mask before you assist someone else. For parents, it's easy to understand that their knee-jerk reaction may be to help their child first. The reality is that if you are incapacitated, because you did not put on your mask first, then you may not be able to assist your child.

While Rotary Works has nothing to do with oxygen, it may help some of us breathe more easily. Before we can take care of others in our community and across the globe, we must first provide for ourselves and our families.

As Rotarians, we typically enjoy privileges and financial security. Due to the pandemic, some of us are experiencing financial challenges which affect our families and our ability to help others.

Designed for Rotarians and Rotaractors within Zones 33 & 44, Rotary Works is an initiative for those experiencing career transition for any reason. The initiative consists of three distinct programs – providing education, networking and/or financial resources for participants as well as providing mentorship opportunities for personal and professional development. There are opportunities to help as a mentor, search for employment, post a job, contribute to the Impact Fund and apply for a one-time grant of \$500 for those with a financial need due to unforeseen career upheaval.

The Rotary Works flier below has the details --- please review and share it with your membership. It's an initiative that can help you and give you the opportunity to help fellow Rotarians.

Rotary Zones 33-34



Rotary WORKS



Rotary Works is an initiative provided for Rotarians and Rotaractors within Zones 33 & 34 experiencing career transition. This initiative consists of three distinct programs, providing education, networking, and/or financial resources for participants, providing mentorship opportunities for personal and professional development.

The first Rotary Works program launched was our **Career Development Professional Series**, which is being offered via monthly Zoom calls. We collaborate with business professionals in career development, exchanging ideas and conversations with career experts. These "mentors" will provide information and inspiration for those who are seeking employment or entrepreneurial prospects. We had our first zoom event on December 9th and it went well with 200 in attendance. We plan to continue to build on that success, helping many Rotarians in the process. Here are the upcoming calls in the series, visit the www.rotary.works website to register :

- Jan. 13, 2021 – Vocation, Evaluation & Opportunities
- Feb. 10, 2021 – Building Your Personal Brand
- Mar 10, 2021 – Essential Tech Tools for Marketability
- Apr. 14, 2021 – So You Want to be Your Own Boss?

In the spring we plan to provide a **Job Board**, where you'll be able to search for employment, post open positions, become or request a mentor, and find relevant career transition resources.

Helping those in need is Rotary's top priority and that is why we are establishing an **Impact Fund** designed to assist Zone 33 & 34 Rotarians who may have a financial need due to unforeseen career upheaval. We are giving them an opportunity to apply for a one-time grant of \$500.

To make the Impact Fund project a reality will take funding and assistance from every organization. We need to build the project financially in order to distribute to those in need due to unanticipated career transition. We are requesting that each District donate \$1,000 to the Impact Fund by January 31, 2021 to bring this project to life.

To learn more about the Rotary Works works program visit the website: www.rotary.works

To contribute to the Impact Fund, make out your check to Rotary Zones 33-34 Foundation ("Impact Fund" in the memo field) and mail to P.O. Box 785, Troy, NC 27371. If you want to contribute by credit card, please email Zone Treasurer Larry Lassiter and he will send you a PayPal invoice: llassiter@connectnc.net

The Rotary District 7280 Servant Leader Scholarship

by Robert R. Richardson

The Rotary District 7280 Servant Leader Scholarship is awarded annually to a college sophomore, junior, senior or graduate student who demonstrates exceptional leadership and service experience and aptitude. The scholarship award, which can be up to \$5,000.00, considers a student's leadership experience, community service, academic achievement and financial need. Winners of the award invariably help to define the Rotary Motto of "Service Above Self" for a new generation. **Scholarship eligibility requires a student to be:**

- permanent residents of District 7280.
- completing or having already completed the first semester of their sophomore year.
- in good academic standing.
- able to show evidence of being involved in at least three (3) community service activities.
- endorsed by their local Rotary club.
- able to submit a resume which lists involvement and leadership in school and community activities.
- able to include a cover letter explaining how these activities relate to the Rotary Motto of "Service Above Self."
- capable of providing their most recent academic transcript.

The District 7280 Servant Leader Scholarship Selection Committee included four Rotarians whose experience in community work, leadership and education is extensive. In fact, in the realm of education alone the committee has logged nearly a century of experience among them. The committee included Linda Clautti, Jim Evans, Mike Patsy, and committee chair, Randy Richardson representing the Rotary Clubs of Cranberry-Noon, Bradford, Cranberry-AM and New Wilmington, respectively. This year's outstanding competition featured six impressive scholarship finalists representing five rotary clubs and four colleges and universities. The elite group of servant leader scholars demonstrated public service, leadership achievements and academic scholarship that resonates in the District, on college campuses and in the world beyond! The impressive records of leadership and inspiring narratives of service provided a daunting challenge for the scholarship committee. Special recognition and congratulations to our **Rotary 7280 Servant Leader Scholar for 2020, Christopher Wig**, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Titusville. Chris receives a scholarship of \$5,000.00 in support of his study at Lycoming College. Chris is majoring in Corporate Communication with minors in Business Administration and Entrepreneurship.

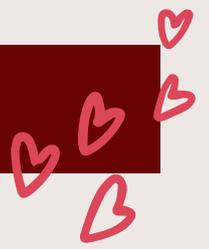


"I am extremely grateful for the recognition as the Rotary 7280 Servant Leader Scholar Award and scholarship. Giving back to my community has been a major factor in my life for years and it is what truly makes me happy. Rotary has helped me do that since a young age and has continued through my adult life. Rotary is an integral part of my life that allows people like me to network with like-minded individuals come together as family and give back to worthy causes. From raising money to help end polio to trips to third world nations, Rotary has molded me into the person I am today.

I am grateful to Rotary District 7280 and to the Titusville Rotary Club for their assistance."

Thank you to all the students and clubs who made this competition so grueling. As Rotarians, we can all hope that the future will bring these exceptional citizens into our clubs to continue their legacy of "service over self." Our communities, our country, and our world will be better for it.

ROTARIANS ACHIEVE



Each Year, the **Venango Area Chamber of Commerce** recognizes the **Citizen of the Year**, and this year we are excited to announce our **2020 Citizen of the Year** as **Lisa Winger**. Lisa has facilitated an Alzheimer's Support Group at the Oil City YWCA, where she used her experience to help those going through difficult times. She has also been the Venango County Toys for Tots Program Coordinator since 2014. The program did not exist in our county, so Lisa and her family created the campaign here. shorturl.at/artBV

In December, Bradford Rotarian **Tina M. Martin**, was named a Rotary District #7280 **"Person of Action"** for 2019-2020. Martin is the executive director of CARE for Children and has been a Rotary Club member for more than fourteen years. She currently serves on the Rotary Club board of directors, as the chair of the community service committee and also supports the public relations committee. As community services chair, Martin works with the club on the Operation Warm Coat Drive, the annual pancake breakfast to support Rotary Club initiatives, food drives, the Route 219 Clean Up, and other community projects.



Curt Whipple of the Rotary Club of Cranberry Township (Noon) presented **John Barnett** of the Salvation Army with a check for \$1730. The money was raised through bell ringing, club contributions, individual contributions and dedicated happy bucks.



International Bites Cookbook



Keystone International
Rotary 
E-Club of District 7280

ORDER YOUR COPY TODAY at
KeystoneRotaryClub.org
A digital option is also available for \$20

PRE-SALE ORDERS
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AVAILABLE FOR ONLY \$30

OFFER ENDS MARCH 5TH

Contact us with any questions
KeystoneRotaryEClub@gmail.com

OVER 100 PAGES,
8 1/2" x 11", full color,
professionally printed and
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Printed cookbooks
arrive in April -

Makes a wonderful gift
for Mother's Day
or any occasion!

Deadline for ad space
is extended to Feb. 10th
Full pg \$200 / 1/2 pg \$100 / 1/4 pg \$50

Here are just a few of our
International Club Projects:

ShelterBox / End Polio
Kosova Community Center
Wheelchairs in Tanzania
Water Filters in Honduras
Crutches for Africa

Visit our website for more
details and to view sample
pages of the cookbook!

The Cookbook is dedicated in Memory of

Tom & Marie Grant



All of the proceeds from
this fundraiser will be used for
humanitarian work around the world
in memory of our dear friends and
Keystone Friends & Family
Members - Tom & Marie
who lived life by Rotary's Motto:

Service Above Self

IN MEMORIAM



Harold Richard Fox

Sept. 10, 1956- Jan 13, 2021

Harold had a big voice, a big laugh, and an even bigger heart. Everyone felt loved by Harold. He was often the first one to welcome others, and make them feel seen, known, and loved. He brought joy and life wherever he went with his booming voice, infectious laugh, and robust personality. “Jesus loves you, and so do I!” was almost always on his lips to both friends and strangers alike. And anyone fraught with discouragement, fear, or confusion was often comforted by Harold reminding them, “God has a plan.” He believed this with all his heart, and fully surrendered his life to God’s plan. Even when that plan meant he would be leaving this world and going home to heaven.

Harold was married to Lisa (Watson) Fox, his high school sweetheart, whom he adored. They were married for 43 years and enjoyed train rides, traveling, spending time with family, game nights, crosswords, Mustang rides with friends, and beach trips. Harold was the father of three sons: Jody Fox, married to Sarah (Pollack) Fox, Brandon Fox, married to Rebekah (Aluise) Fox, and Kurtis Fox, married to Alyssa (Powell) Fox. He was the grandfather of Camryn, Jordan, Lauren, Xavier, Selah, Jesse, Zion, Rory, Blakely, Jazlyn, Raymond, and a granddaughter due in May. Harold especially adored his grandchildren, and had nicknames for each of them. He loved spending time with them, reading them stories, taking them to the beach, to plays and musicals, and making each one feel special. If asked who Harold loved the most, each person in the family would be sure it was them.

Harold began working at Fox Insurance in 1976 and immersed himself in the insurance business from that point on. He enjoyed working with his father who started the business. Later, his sisters, Susan and then Beth joined the agency and it was truly a family business. Harold, Susan, and Beth formed a partnership when their father retired. In 2012, Fox Family Insurance team combined forces with the Rossbacher Insurance team. He was affectionately referred to as “Big H,” by his coworkers and he was a big force and competitor in his insurance work.

Harold’s hobbies included playing basketball, coaching, reading the Bible, watching football, biking and most importantly devoting much of his time to his grandkids. He was very involved for several years in Community Theatre. His most memorable performance had to be as “Tevia” in Fiddler on the Roof. He would perform excerpts from it on demand at family functions. Harold was deeply involved in the Rotary Club in Corry and served as president and secretary at different times during his many years of service in the club. Harold was also very involved with youth programs through his church as well as “Royal Kids Camp” which served at-risk foster kids. He also supported the Corry athletic community for many years in a variety of roles.



ROTARY DUES 101



Rotary International sent out the January dues statement a few days ago. What period of time does this cover? July 1-December 31. Clubs are billed for the members of record as of January 1. The number of members included in the invoice is not up for discussion. Secretaries have the opportunity to purge a member up to January 1. The invoices include the magazine subscription as well. If there are 2 members in the same household you may request that just one member receive the magazine.

Rotary International bills twice a year. So the next billing will be in July for members of record as of July 1. Clubs should try to keep the membership records current to reflect the true number of paid members in their club.

The District bills for dues ONCE a year. The District 7280 dues will be prepared in late February and will be mailed or emailed to club secretaries (some clubs want paper). The District uses the December 31 records of members for the billing. The Annual District dues also includes the assessment for PETs (President Elect Training).

If anyone has questions or concerns on the District dues please contact PDG Patty Meehan, District 7280 Treasurer, at meehanmong@verizon.net or 724-866-6007.

DISTRICT FOUNDATION UPDATE

District 7280 giving as of January 2021 YTD compared to January 2020 YTD

	2021	2020
Clubs who have given:	30 of 43 (69.8%)	33 of 43 (76.7%)
Number of Members: <i>July 1 values</i>	1309	1301
Annual Program Fund Giving Year to Date:	\$74,427.20	\$90,710.90
Annual Fund per Capita Giving Year to Date:	\$56.86	\$69.72

Clubs that have achieved or exceeded the \$100 per capita mark

1.	Sharon	\$251.22
2.	Cranberry Twp.	\$186.93
3.	Keystone	\$164.14
4.	Port Allegany	\$158.30
5.	Greenville	\$146.09
6.	Zelienople	\$143.00
7.	Butler	\$135.00
8.	Clarion	\$117.65
9.	Bradford	\$110.25
10.	Slippery Rock	\$101.19



The Rotary District 7280 Newsletter is published monthly for District Clubs. District News is also available on Facebook – Rotary District 7280, and at www.rotarydistrict7280.org. Email article suggestions to Ermira Kusari, Newsletter Editor, by the 25th of the month at ermirakusari@gmail.com