District News

Virtual District Change of Leadership and Awards Ceremony
For the first time ever, the District held it’s annual Change of Leadership and Awards Ceremony live using Zoom. The event was very well attended by members across the district. Clubs were presented awards in a variety of categories. For a summary of the event and a list of clubs earning awards go here > District Change of Leadership and Awards - Virtually

After the Awards, there was the official Change of Leadership ceremony. Above you see DG Judy repeating the oath of office administered virtually by PDG Susan ZW. Below is the official pinning by PDG Jayne Sullivan.
District Governor Judy shares this message for August:

Dear District 7600 Rotarians,

I can’t believe it is already August 1! The Rotary New Year is speeding along! I have been very busy visiting all the wonderful clubs in our District. Some are meeting on Zoom or another virtual platform. Some are meeting in person with careful social distancing and masks. Others are doing a hybrid meeting or a combination of the two. Rotarians are resilient! We will make it work.

By the time you are reading this I will have visited 23 clubs and 12 of those visits have been in person with everyone carefully following CDC guidelines. It continues to amaze me how wonderful all our Rotarians are. I have totally enjoyed visiting each club. It is so interesting driving to the clubs and seeing the geography of the area and the physical setting. It is also great fun seeing each different club culture. As different as the clubs are, they all focus on our Core Values of Fellowship, Leadership, Integrity, Diversity and Service.

It is wonderful that all the clubs are meeting in some fashion and are connecting both with their members and their communities. This year we had more money to give out in District Grants than ever before. In spite of the pandemic we had more total clubs participate in District Grants than ever in our history. Rotarians care about others and practice kindness and service to others.

Thanks for all you do for Rotary and for everyone in your community and around the globe. Keep up the good work.

Yours in Rotary Service,
DG Judy
To encourage fellowship among Alumni and Rotarians, and facilitate participation, sponsorship, and promotion of Rotary related projects, activities, and programs. Close association between Rotary and the Alumni Association is encouraged so that the achievements of the Alumni, as well as Rotary, can continue to be enhanced and recognized.

Alumni Association Leadership Team
Association President John Miller (Ambassadorial Scholar)
Past President and Asst Alumni Advisor Vadim Ostrovsky (Peace Scholar)
Association Secretary Adeeb Hamzey (Global Grant)
Social Media Chair Megan Smith (Ambassadorial Scholar)
Speakers Bureau Chair Alex Ritchie (Rotaract)
Team Members >

Kim Abney (Group Study Exchange)
Jamshid Bakhtiari (Global Scholar)
Colleen Bonadonna (PolioPlus/National Immunization Day)
Boo Elmore (Group Study Exchange)
Myles Quarchyeargin (Rotaract)

Jan Rowley (National Immunization Day)
Sarah Saville (National Immunization Day)
Honorary > Past District Governor Clenise Platt (Group Study Exchange)
Alumni Advisor > PDG Jim Probsdorfer

For more information or to be added to our distribution list to receive periodic updates and invitations to events via email, please contact Megan Smith (mcsmi2@gmail.com 202-384-7986). You can also like our Facebook page to stay in touch and see news and updates.

Alumni Class of 2019 - Ghana

It's not to early to begin working on the Rotary Citation for 2020-21. For details go HERE > Rotary Citation for 2020-21.

Club News
August is Membership and New Club Development Month. Congratulations to these clubs who have inducted new members recently...

**Hanover County:** Immediate Past President, Holly Austin congratulates two new members Mike and Rachel Swinford who were officially sworn into the Hanover Rotary Club at their recent outdoor, socially distanced Installation Ceremony.

**The Rotary Club of Goochland** welcomed newest member, Marc Orgain.
New Kent Club’s newest members include Jaime Royster Fitzgerald, Lori De Sanctis (virtual member in Italy), Brian Nichols, Cabell Lawton and Joshua Perry.

James City County Satellite Club:
At its June 10th meeting, the Satellite Club welcomed three new members and their commitment to do good in the world. Shown are new members Sarah Randall, Wally Erck, and Nick Khoury with their sponsors and Chair Grayson Moore. From the top: Melinda Snow, Sarah Randall, Wally Erck, Nick Khoury, Gary Chenault, Grayson Moore, and Neva Lynde.
Warwick Club:
NEW MEMBER ALERT! Sponsored by Anne Wozniak, Roberta Thayer-Smith was recently inducted as the newest member of our club! Roberta is a retired Newport News School Administrator and is currently employed as a VTSS Systems Coach for the Virginia Department of Education at VCU.

WELCOME to all the new members in the District.

Submitted by Sue Hicks

Above: On June 26-27 Henrico East and Sandston Rotary Clubs sponsored a Rise Against Hunger meal preparation event at the RAH warehouse. This was the first since the Covid shut down, so social distancing and masks were utilized. Over 19,000 meals were packaged! Two people to a station - quite a challenge!

Below: Henrico East Rotary club members supported Sandston's Community Project to Bless Our Blue on July 9th with Lunch and Dinner for any First Responders available. Henrico East provided the desserts and Volunteers. What a super event!
Rotary Club of James City County:  
submitted by Neva Lynde
The club once again generously supported our four major local charities this year (all hit hard financially by COVID-19), as well as scholarships to graduating high school seniors, dictionaries to 900+ 3rd graders, and Polio Plus. We recently presented the grants to the charities.

Rotarians Roger Saunders and Neva Lynde presented a $10K grant to Grove Christian Outreach Center for the entire turkey basket program in November and to buy a grab n' go refrigerator to offer healthy snacks to their clients. Then-President Sue Harmon presented a $5K grant to The Arc of Greater Williamsburg. It will buy masks to keep The Arc families safe and healthy and continue to support their Wheels4Work program. Rotarian Dr. Bob Pusateri responsibly provided a $10K grant to the Williamsburg House of Mercy to help feed our local community during the pandemic. We also presented a $7K grant to Literacy for Life to help onboard new clients to their many literacy programs.

Rotary Club of Huguenot Trail:  
Submitted by Merle Hirschman
The Club granted the Greenwich Walk Stitch Therapy Group $5,000 to design and create masks for local causes. The group, comprised of 28 members, has shared their good works with local hospitals such as St. Mary’s and Hunter Holmes McGuire Veteran’s, law enforcement, nursing homes and first responders. Greenwich member and Diversity Thrift shoppers, Glenn and Peggy Thomson, dropped off a number of masks for our staff and volunteers. This horrible time has connected us with so many good people. For more go HERE.

Photo: Glenn and Peggy Thomson donated masks made by Greenwich Walk for Diversity staff and volunteers.
Petersburg Club:
In response to the designation of June 28 as Service Day in Rotary District 7600, established as a way to recognize those who serve in the community and are impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Rotary Club of Petersburg presented a $500 gift certificate to each of the three Petersburg Fire Stations for the purchase of food for the firefighters. The accompanying letter stated that the Club wishes to recognize the dedication and service of individuals who make a difference in the lives of citizens in the Petersburg community. The presentation was made by Immediate Past President Brenda Mitchell to Division Chief Kevin Michalek on July 1.

Photo: in the center of the front row, Immediate Past President Brenda Mitchell presents the certificates to Petersburg Fire Department Division Chief Kevin Michalek. They are flanked by (from left) Rotarian Larry Tucker, Treasurer JoAnne Norman, Incoming President Betty Hobbs, and Petersburg Mayor Samuel Parham.

North Suffolk Club:
The Rotary Cup returns home! After the successful 13th North Suffolk Rotary Golf Classic, one of our teams brought the Rotary Cup back home for the 2020-21 year. Congrats to Rotarian Bo Garner and his team for the win! As for the tournament, the weather was perfect, the field was full, and the spirit of giving was high. Thanks to all for making this year's fundraising tournament the best one ever. And, many thanks for our wonderful friends at Cedar Point Country Club for a beautiful course and exceptional service.
James River Club:
Andrew Owens and Carl Duffey spent a morning collecting rollators, walkers, canes and crutches from Sheltering Arms Rehab. These articles are donated to the FREE organization for sanitizing and redistribution to needy people. James River Rotary has been participating with FREE for over four years. This was our first run since the start of the Covid pandemic.
Norfolk Club:
Norfolk President Jim Kitz and IPP Lorna Cochrane deliver new scooters to Brenda Gibbs COO at the William A Hunton YMCA today. The club’s new President, Jim Kitz, honored outgoing President Lorna Cochrane by letting her know the club is donating five scooters in her honor to the William A. Hunton YMCA. Preschoolers will be enjoying their new rides once Lorna and Jim give them up. The club and its Rotary partners have already furnished a new kitchen and children’s library at the Hunton Y.

Prince George County Club:
The Rotary Club of Prince George County visited Corey Starke this morning to present The Business of the Year 2020 Award! with Lillian King Boyd, Brian Manning, Shel Douglas, Steve Woith, and Donna Street. Congratulations to Starkes Muffler and Auto!

Goochland Club: This will be a special year for the Goochland Club. Chartered in 1995, this year the club will celebrate it’s 25th anniversary. The Club currently has 58 members and meets at the Richmond Country Club on Fridays at 7:30am. In addition to this anniversary, the club is also celebrating the 20th year of their signature project - the Woodchuckers. This community program provides firewood to those in need within the county and offers firewood for sale as a fundraiser.

Shown above are club members L-R: Bonnie Field, Vern Fleming, immediate Past President, Rich Salon, President Jay Shively, Dan Linnabary, John Aaron, Delbert Horn, Frank Huber, DG Judy Cocherell and Wayne Dementi. Not pictures are Jim Barden, Michael Kelly and Kavis Winston.

Tip of the Month
Flexibility is a key word in Rotary as it seeks to increase membership worldwide. There are several new models of Rotary Clubs each with its own distinctive assets to attract new members. For more details on each model go HERE.
A Message from Stephen Beer, DRFC is HERE.

Peter Kyle, Rotary International Director, 2020-2022 for Zone 33-34. Learn about Peter >HERE.

The Grants team and International Service project committee will try to provide information in
each newsletter on Rotary Global Grant opportunities around the world. These opportunities are available to partner with Rotarians from other Districts and Zones to make an impact in some other most needed areas of the world. The list is by no means, all inclusive. It only represents those opportunities we are aware of. Please feel free to reach out to us or the Contact identified in the list for more information. If a club is working on or would like to participate in an international project, of any kind, please contact Colleen Bonadonna. We can direct you to opportunities as well as promote your project. See the listing HERE.

New Seventh Area of Focus

For several years now Rotary has emphasized Six Areas of Focus for its service to its local community and communities around the world. Publicly, Rotary calls the Areas of Focus Our Causes. If you ask most Rotarians to name the Six Areas of Focus, most can identify at least four or five of them. The Rotary International board of directors and the trustees of The Rotary Foundation recently announced a new, seventh Area of Focus The Environment!

Starting July 1, 2021, clubs can initiate Global Grants for the new Seventh Area of Focus. It will take about a year for The Rotary Foundation to develop criteria for the new environmental grants.

Can you name the Seven Areas of Focus? They are (from top to bottom from above):
Promoting Peace
Growing Local Economies
Fighting Disease
Protecting the Environment
Supporting Education
Providing Clean Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
Saving Mothers and Children

New Global Grant Policy Change

The Rotary Foundation recently announced that cash contributions made directly toward a Global Grant project by individuals and clubs will no longer be matched by The Rotary Foundation's World Fund. Previously, such contributions were matched 50% by the World Fund. The World Fund match for district contributions toward a project (District Designated Funds DDF) will remain at a one-for-one match.

The Global Grant program has been highly successful since its inception seven years ago. The amount of funding for grants has increased more than 80% over this timeframe without a commensurate increase in giving to the Annual Fund.

To help promote increased giving to The Rotary Foundation, District 7600 will require clubs to make project contributions directly to the Annual Fund instead of to the project. The district will match club and club member contribution with DDF on a two for one basis. For example:

Total Cost of Global Grant Project = $32,000
Rotary Club Contribution to Annual Fund* = $7,500
District 7600 DDF Match to Club Contribution = $15,000 (two: one match)
Rotary Foundation Match of DDF = $15,000 (one: one match)
Funding from Host Club/District in Other Country = $2,000
*Guidelines are forthcoming to ensure project contributions are an actual increase in total contributions to the Annual Fund.

Rotary International Provides Covid Relief through Grants. Read about the program >HERE.

To read a general summary of the recent Covid-19 grants go >HERE.
Hanover, Mechanicsville and Ashland Clubs continue to work together to complete their District Grant supplying meals to area hard-working medical professionals and also support their local meeting places. This time it was 44 breakfast meals from Cold Harbor Restaurant.
Submitted by Ashley White
The Club received a District Grant to assist the Bread for Life Food Pantry of Gloucester, VA. Part I of the grant is a purchase of a commercial freezer to assist with the storage of their donations. It was delivered this week. In the photo on the left is our Club President, Harry Fagan and on the right Executive Director for Bread for Life, Monique Raposa.

Innsbrook Club:
Submitted by Tod Balsbaugh
The Rotary Club of Innsbrook received a district grant from Rotary District 7600 to install little libraries in a number of Henrico County communities. A little library is a neighborhood book exchange where readers are invited to leave a book and take a book. Rotary International has five tenets of service worldwide. One is to strengthen communities by improving literacy. The Innsbrook Club has constructed 11 little libraries and is committed to building more to improve literacy and help communities. The club has partnered with Henrico Recreation and Parks and the United Way to identify communities to install free libraries. The club has also partnered with SOAR 365 which serves individuals with disabilities and their families for over 65 years. It is a win-win for all. If you would like to support this effort you can donate gently used books, help Rotarians construct libraries or would like a library in your neighborhood please contact William Sutton at wasuttonjr@gmail.com.
The Richmond Club, Henrico East, James River, Sandston, Petersburg Lunch, Mechanicsville and Ashland Clubs joined with the Hanover County Club (International Club) and the Rotary Club of Monrovia (Host Club) to complete the deep well and water tower project at the Lott Carey School in Monrovia. At the time, the school didn't have running water or proper toilets. Children had to be trained how to use the toilet facility once they were functioning. And now, also at the school, there is a way for villagers to get water from the faucets. After years of hard work the Global Grant has been finalized. To see more photos go HERE.