



# Rotary District 7600



## Spirit of 7600



NOVEMBER 2021

### District News

#### District Conference a Success:

Almost 300 people, including Rotarians from six different districts, attended the recent District Conference. Also in attendance were Alumni and Rotaractors. During the event, there were times for social fun, learning, community service and recognitions. There were a lot of wow moments, with amazing speakers and House of Friendship vendors touching on all areas of focus.

RI president Representative, Steve Snyder, "shushed" everyone to not keep Rotary a secret anymore. Friday night's Sock Hop included a serve project which collected over 7000 pair of socks for two Richmond area homeless shelters. The 2nd day of service project had the Rotary Alumni organize six little libraries to be built and decorated, they were adopted by six clubs who will install them in their communities.

*Delivering the sock piles to TSA and Hillary House. It was a great service project.*

Saturday night Jim Bynum, lead attendees in a fun evening of Rotary Family feud. The silent auction raised more money than ever before, and the two live auction items had people on their feet. Attendees helped raise \$10,510 for PolioPlus. A special thanks to Clay McEldowney and his wife Pinky for the donation of their Hilton Head Home and to Ina Pinkney & Alex Wilkins for the trip and extraordinary meals in Chicago. There were also nineteen different End Polio Now items/events to celebrate World Polio Day.



During the award ceremony, Joan Pollard was recognized for her years of contribution to the District Conference and Silent Auction (Bill Pollard received it in her honor). Bill says, "Thank you to Rotary District 7600 Governor Debbie Wall and the conference committee for recognizing my mom, Joan Pollard, this evening for her past efforts with the silent auction at the annual conference raising funds for Rotary's polio eradication efforts. She was probably involved with the auction for at least 15 years, and she served as chair for several years.

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#### District Leaders

Deborah Altizer Wall  
District Governor

Kenneth Wayne Janes  
DG-Elect

Rudy L. Garcia  
District Governor Nominee

Judith W. Cocherell  
iPDG

William M. Mulvihill II  
District Treasurer

#### District Leadership Team

Appaiah Mudappa  
Ballachanda  
Friendship Exchange Chair

Stephen R. Beer  
District Rotary Foundation  
Chair

Colleen Bonadonna  
International Services Chair

SuAnne Hardee Bryant  
District Public Image Chair

Judith W. Cocherell  
iPDG

William C. Dages Jr.  
Finance Chair

**Patricia A. Edwards**  
District Membership Chair

**Adeeb Alex Hamzey**  
Community Service Chair

**Michael E. Jallo**  
Lieutenant Governor

**Joy L. Kline**  
District Awards Chair

**JoAnn Meaker**  
Newsletter Editor  
jomeaker51@gmail.com

**Maureen S. Patterson**  
District Youth Services Chair

**Camile L. Peter**  
District Secretary/DCO

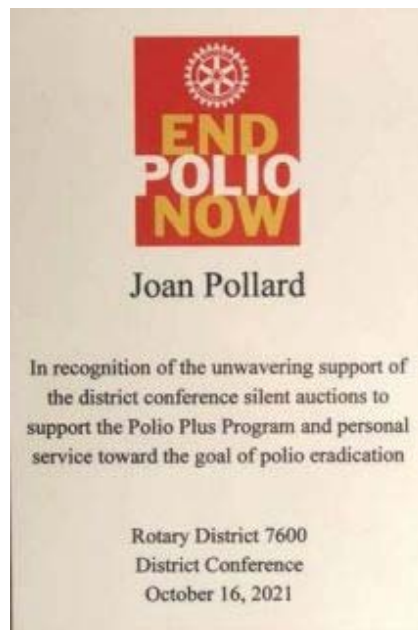
**Paul B. Peter**  
Special Assistant to the  
Governor

**Dana Lewellyn Rieves**  
DCO Chair

**Davetta Flinn Rinehart**  
Youth Protection Officer

**Raghavan Sadagopan**  
District Technology  
Committee Chair

**Tom Wilkinson**  
Lieutenant Governor



She loved attending the conference and she loved her Rotary friends. It was hard holding back the tears receiving this recognition in her memory. ♦

To read the Governor's proclamation for World Polio Day go [HERE](#).

#### **People of Action Awards were announced.**

Congratulations to Jan Rowley (RC Prince George), Sharon Martin (RC Warwick at City Center), Rich Salon (RC of Goochland) and Paul Sabatini (RC of Powhatan).

The Richmond Flying Squirrels were recognized for their contributions to the polio eradication efforts and Todd ♦ Parney ♦ Parnell was made a Paul Harris by two different clubs so he received a PHF Plus 1 (now that doesn't happen often) and Nutzy also made an appearance during the event.

The RC of Hampton and the RC of Richmond were recognized for becoming a 100% PH Fellow club.

Sunday ♦s Memorial remembrance was followed by an upbeat Rotary Today video that inspired all to get out and serve to change lives.

To view pictures taken by Rotarian Bill Billings, go [HERE](#).

#### **District 7600 Goal - \$50,000**

By now most of you have knowledge of the collaborative effort by District-wide clubs and The Salvation Army - a community service project for bell ringing and Angel Tree fundraising activity. It is going to take place during the first weekend in December, Dec 2 ♦ 4, 2021. The goal is for each club in District 7600 to raise \$800 in three days, by having Rotarians assist in ringing the bell for donations in front of businesses, whose approval has been obtained by The Salvation Army.

The Salvation Army will be in charge of all publicity, necessary supplies, and logistics. Clubs need to commit by November 15. We are counting on most, if not all, clubs to participate in this worthy, first-of-a-kind district community service project.



For clubs who cannot participate in the bell ringing, we encourage you to turn to the Angel Tree alternative, where you and members in your community can contribute to angels on that tree. Contributing is more important than the method thereof.

In order to have your Club name listed on the poster used on bell-ringing day(s), please send an email with your club commitment by November 15, 2021 to:

Adeeb Hamzey, District Community Service Chair, [adeeb.hamzey@gmail.com](mailto:adeeb.hamzey@gmail.com)  
Captain Jason Burns, [Jason.burns@uss.salvationarmy.org](mailto:Jason.burns@uss.salvationarmy.org)

Copy to:

DG Debbie Wall, [debbievt88@comcast.net](mailto:debbievt88@comcast.net) [debbievt88@comcast.net](mailto:debbievt88@comcast.net)  
Janice Henicheck, District Community Service member [jhenicheck2@gmail.com](mailto:jhenicheck2@gmail.com)

Several clubs have voiced their commitment, but we need your club's confirmation for further communication and planning. Once we receive your enrollment, Captain Burns and his regional team, will send you a list of the businesses in your area, where bellringing is scheduled.

More details will be forthcoming, and we look forward to active participation from Rotarians in all of our clubs. This is truly in line with our motto of **Service Above Self**, and there is no better time for us to show compassion for the less fortunate amongst us.

YIRS,  
DG Debbie Wall  
Adeeb Hamzey  
District Community Service Committee



*Rotary Foundation Awards  
Banquet  
Colonial Heritage CC  
Williamsburg, Virginia*



*Save the Date  
Friday, November 12, 2021  
@ 5:30 pm*

Registration is now open on DACdb for the Rotary Foundation Awards Banquet.

## Club News

### Richmond Club with Rotaract:



The Rotary Club of Richmond and Rotaract of VCU members and family walked over the Tyler Potterfield Bridge in Downtown Richmond on Sunday, October 24 in support of World PolioPlus day. The ROCR raised over \$2000 to help Rotary District 7600 and Rotary International to end this disease.

### Goochland Club:

The Goochland Rotary Woodchuckers have been active for over 16 years. The group evolved as a club service project to assist members of the community with their

winter home heating needs. The wood supply they use is donated from private citizens and local companies in the construction and land development businesses. Rotary member Joe Morgan said, **Service Above Self** We are really fortunate to have the support of companies like Liesfield Contractors and others, who generously supply and transport wood to our work area at Ragland woodyard.



In an average year the club cuts and splits between 100 and 150 pickup truck loads of wood and delivers them to client families that are referred to them by Goochland Cares. Sally Graham, Rotary member and Executive Director of Goochland Cares stated **Service Above Self** Last year, Rotary's Woodchucking program helped more than 30 Goochland Cares families stay warm by



providing firewood. These families cannot afford another heat source and depend on this wood to heat their homes. They include many elderly residents who are among the most vulnerable of our neighbors. Goochland Cares' partnership with Goochland Rotary is a great example of how our community works together to meet our neighbors' needs.

In addition to providing free wood, the Rotary Club Woodchuckers sells wood and the proceeds from sales go directly to the club's local foundation to fund other service projects in the county. Rotary Club president Dan Linnabary stated, "In Rotary, our motto is "Service above Self", and this program not only offers us one of the best opportunities as a Club to directly provide for Goochland residents in need of heating fuel but also allows us raise funds to contribute to other community initiatives.

Woodchuckers operates from October through March. While the work is hard and the conditions can be challenging, the Rotary Woodchuckers enjoy our fellowship time together and the teamwork that the service project fosters.

If interested in volunteering or purchasing wood, please contact us through our Fund-Raising Chair at the Club email: [Goochlandrotary@gmail.com](mailto:Goochlandrotary@gmail.com)

The Rotary Club of Goochland is offering businesses a way to partner with us and supporting our signature service project, the Woodchuckers. For the past 16 years, the Woodchuckers cut, split and deliver firewood to vulnerable families of the Goochland community who rely on wood to heat their homes throughout the winter. The project runs from October through March each year.

By becoming a sponsor, you directly impact the project to keep going. Your support goes to replacing and updating the equipment (chain saws, splitters, safety equipment, Etc.). Your business magnet on the delivery truck identifies YOU as a proud member of our community, one who goes out of the way to HELP those in NEED. You will also be added to our Monthly E-Newsletter distribution list and BE OUR GUEST at one of our weekly meetings (held at the Richmond Country Club every Friday at 7:30 am). Sponsorships are annually from July to July and include a magnet (made locally at EZ Ship) proudly displaying your business or name. Levels include Gold (\$500 14x14 magnet); Silver \$250 10x10 magnet) and Bronze (\$100 8x8 magnet).

If interested in becoming a sponsor, please contact us through our Fund-Raising Chair at the Club email: [Goochlandrotary@gmail.com](mailto:Goochlandrotary@gmail.com)



#### **Portsmouth Rotary Club:**

*Submitted by Steve Milner  
Photos by Maureen Mizelle*

#### **Portsmouth Rotary Club, goat scaping helping to protect the environment**

The Portsmouth, Virginia, Rotary Club, as is the case with all worldwide Rotary Clubs, benefits their local communities through many worthwhile projects.

But recently, the Portsmouth Club has helped fund one of its most unusual projects, one with an environmental tie-in and something it really sunk its teeth into it, or that goats and sheep have.

The Rotary Club of Portsmouth, the Southeast Virginia Community Foundation and Old Dominion University's Virginia Modeling, Analysis and Simulation Center provided a grant for a Richmond company, RVA Goats, for an environmental one-week trial period on a two-acre site. This grant will help determine if a team of goats and sheep could control invasive wisteria at the Hoffer Creek Wildlife Preserve in the Port City.

In a recent luncheon presentation at Roger Brown's restaurant to Portsmouth Rotarians, Ashley Morgan, Hoffer Creek's executive director, said this was the first time her

facility has taken this approach to control unwanted wisteria.

She mentioned that sheep are very effective at getting English Ivy on the ground, and goats are good climbers that eliminate some of these vines.

◆About a year ago, we discovered that the vines in this area had really invaded the forest, ◆ Morgan explained.

◆Doing nothing is not an option because the invasive wisteria will continue to spread and take down native trees, ◆ Morgan added.

She said experts from the state forestry department and city landscapers have looked at the unwanted overgrowth

problem.  
 Hoffler Creek Wildlife Preserve was established in 1997 and is a 142-acre-urban wildlife preserve.  
 A future story in our Rotary District 7600 newsletter will update this project as results are analyzed.



**South Hill Club:**



Members of the South Hill Rotary Club donated school supplies to South Hill Elementary School today. *Pictured: Mickey Moore Principal Michele Icenhour, Keith Ellis, Lisa Clary and Randy Cash.*

**AND...**

**SOUTH HILL ROTARY CLUB FUNDRAISER**

SOUTH HILL ROTARY CLUB WILL BE SELLING 2 LB. ROLLS OF DOCKERY BRANCH SAUSAGE (LOCAL MARTIN SMITH) FOR THE HOLIDAYS. PLACE YOUR ORDER FOR THANKSGIVING BY NOVEMBER 12TH AND IT WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP AT THE SOUTH HILL MARKET SQUARE PARKING LOT NOVEMBER 20 FROM 10 A.M. UNTIL 12 NOON. SEE ANY ROTARIAN OR CALL 434 447 9458 OR EMAIL UNDERMYHAT@EMBARQMAIL.COM OR RLCASH@APPRAISAL4U.COM . COST IS \$10.00 PER ROLL AT TIME OF PURCHASE. ALL ORDERS MUST BE PRE SOLD AND PRE PAID. CHOOSE FROM HOT, MILD OR BROWN SUGAR MAPLE FLAVORED.

**Emporia Club:**

The Emporia Rotary Club is excited to host their 3rd annual Grocery Grab Fundraiser! Tickets are \$10. The ticket includes a \$5 coupon that may be used toward \$50 or ore of purchases at Goods CashSaver.

The Grand Prize is a 5-minute grocery grab through the store (not to exceed \$2,000)! The



winner will be chosen on November 20th at Goods CashSavers. Winner must be present to win! The runners-up will be given \$50 gift cards to be used at Goods CashSaver.

If you would like to purchase a ticket, please send us a message or contact Rachael Correll (rachael@ptemporia.com), Barb Wry or Shirley Antes. Tickets are also

being sold at Goods CashSaver and Trox Gallery.

All proceeds will go towards our signature project, [Family Promise of the Flint Hills](#)

**James City County Satellite Club:**

Rotarians of the James City County Rotary Club decorated the entry way of the James River Elementary School for the fall season with hay bales, pumpkins, gourds, and scarecrows galore! The Club is also working to complete its stencil projection the blacktop behind the school, funded in part by Rotary District 7600.





**Norfolk Club:**

Historic Elmwood Cemetery got some

pre-Halloween pruning thanks to Norfolk Rotary Club members and spouses. In addition to removing weeds and unruly ivy we took out thorny Devil's walking stick. There is no room for that in this Victorian cemetery.



**Chesapeake Club:**



On behalf of the Chesapeake Rotary and the Chesapeake Rotary Foundation, we are proud to present Buffalow Family and Friends (BFF) with a Community Service Grant in recognition of their service to our community.

BFF serves hundreds in our community each month with food and essential supplies. After starting and operating this nonprofit out of their own home, they now have a pantry storefront in the South Norfolk area.

*Pictured (left to right): Janet McCaskey, Chesapeake Rotary President; Nischelle Buffalow, BFF Founder; Amanda Newins, Rotarian and BFF Volunteer*

**TIP OF THE MONTH:**

**New public relations course in the Learning Center**

Do you want to add to your club's positive image in your community? A new Learning Center course, [Public Relations and Your Club](#), has many tips about the best practices for club public image chairs and any other members who are interested in promoting their clubs. The 15-minute online course outlines strategies for using media and public relations to gain visibility, increase awareness of club initiatives, and publicize your impact in the community.

**Foundation News**

# The Rotary Foundation



## Foundation Month is a Time to Celebrate!



We often think about Foundation Month as the Time when Rotary clubs kick off their Rotary Foundation Annual Fund drive. We hear speakers about Foundation subjects at our club meetings and find out why we should make charitable gifts to our Foundation.

Foundation Month is really a time to celebrate our Foundation. More specifically we should celebrate our successes in serving our communities and communities around the world. That is, our service that has been made possible through Foundation grants.

In another week we will be having our Rotary Foundation Awards Banquet at Colonial Heritage in Williamsburg. Clubs will be recognized for their achievements during the last Rotary year. Our keynote speaker will be Julia Phelps, a past Rotary International Director and past Trustee of The Rotary Foundation. She is a gifted and

knowledgeable speaker. This is a great opportunity to celebrate!

Come join us at the Rotary Foundation Banquet on Friday, November 12. Register now on DACdb. Have a fun time!

## Register Now for the D7600 Rotary Foundation Awards Banquet

The Foundation Awards Banquet honoring the Foundation commitments from clubs and members for the 2020-2021 Rotary year will be on Friday, November 12, 2021. We will be at our traditional venue, the Colonial Heritage Country Club in Williamsburg.

Registration is open now on the dacdb.com calendar and reservations are requested by Friday, November 5 to provide an accurate head count to Colonial Heritage. Last minute walk-ins cannot be accommodated. Please note that the Banquet has been scheduled on a Friday night after receiving many suggestions that having it on a school night challenged people who had to go to work the next morning. The meal is buffet style, but special dietary meals are available on request in the registration process.



Our keynoter this year is Julia Phelps, a Past Trustee of The Rotary Foundation and a Past Director of Rotary International. Julia's Rotary resume is formidable and commendable. This retired educator is currently the Chair for the Basic Education and Literacy Major Gift Initiative and is the Moderator for training of regional leaders in 2022.

In addition to the presentation of awards to clubs there will also be individual service awards as well as the presentation of the James Russell Pierce Outstanding Leadership Award to an exemplary club foundation chair.

**Paul Harris Society Coordinator's Team:**



The Paul Harris Society (PHS) is a giving recognition program of The Rotary Foundation (TRF) in which the donor commits to donating at least \$1000 per year to TRF's Annual Fund. The donor can opt to make the \$1000 donation monthly or quarterly automatically online through Rotary Direct or he or she may donate \$1000 online in one donation or a donation by check through the club's club foundation chair or treasurer.

Stephen Beer, District Rotary Foundation Chair, created a team of seven Paul Harris Society Coordinators to assist and be a resource for clubs and club members wishing to participate in this popular program. Previously, there was one person designated to be the Paul Harris Society Chair, but the popularity of the PHS became too wieldy for just one person. Now, our 62 clubs have been aligned into 7 different areas with a PHS coordinator assigned to each area.

The PHS Coordinators are Tracy Pendleton (Richmond North/East), Stokes Grymes (Richmond West), Campbell Pendleton (Richmond South), Carol Woodward (Tri-Cities/Southside), Camile Peter (Hampton Roads/Eastern Shore) Tracy Lego (Hampton Roads), and Kevin Yeargin (Peninsula). Yes, the greater Hampton Roads areas warrants two coordinators.

This article features three of the coordinators. Each has his or her own Rotary story and PHS story. There are differences among the stories. But there are also common threads through all three.



Tracy Pendleton's area includes the Rotary Clubs of Sandston, Henrico East, New Kent, Hanover County, Ashland, and Mechanicsville. When Tracy became a Rotarian in the Sandston Club he was in his mid-thirties with a 5 year old and a 3 year old. Money was fairly tight, but he gave to The Rotary Foundation each year at about \$100 to \$150 a year which was what he felt he could fit into the family budget. He became a PHS member three or four years ago when Appaiah Ballachanda spoke at his club and asked for just one member to join the Paul Harris Society. Tracy is a banker whose mother was also a banker. His current role is as the First Vice President-Senior Relationship Manager for C&F Bank. He is hopeful that he will be able to encourage at least one member from each of his clubs to join the PHS, but most importantly he hopes the clubs' Rotary Foundation Chairs will consider him a resource about The Rotary Foundation in general so that members can get TRF questions answered directly and quickly. Tracy believes that Rotarians are natural donors but timing, priorities, and

information govern how and when a Rotarian commits to giving. The global work of Rotary and our commitment to Rotary Causes are the inspiration for individual giving. Tracy's special treat is an annual week-long motorcycle/golf trip with three other buddies.

The coordinator for the Richmond West area is Stokes Grymes. This Innsbrook Rotarian covers the Rotary Clubs of Church Hill, Innsbrook, Goochland, Fluvanna County, Short Pump, West Richmond, Western Henrico County, and Henrico North. He became a Rotarian in 1990 and has a deep pride in the fact that he is part of an international organization that is going to eradicate Polio from the face of the earth. He has been a committed supporter of TRF since becoming a member and he credits Fred Thompson, the club's long term Rotary Foundation Chair for educating him and others about the work of The Rotary Foundation. He became a PHS member six or seven years ago after a fellow member explained to the club why she became a Paul Harris Society member. A fun fact that many don't know about Stokes is that he ran in the first Richmond Marathon in 1979. He explained that he finished the race the same day.



Heading to the Hampton Roads/Eastern Shore region of District 7600, Camile Peter (Hampton Roads) is the coordinator for the Rotary Clubs of Virginia Beach, Cape Henry, Town Center, Hampton Roads, Norfolk, Norfolk Sunrise, Cape Charles, Onancock, and Exmore. Prior to her current position as the IT Director of the Virginia Beach School System, Camile was the Chief Operating Officer at the Girl Scouts. So, she has a long history of training others, especially youth, in developing leadership and service skills. She learned about Rotary when she met a very interesting Rotarian, Jack Hilgers. He invited her to Rotary. When she went to the next club event she realized that she already knew a number of members in the club. Upon joining Rotary, she realized the importance and impact of the work of The Rotary Foundation. She also soon determined that she wanted to be a donor to TRF at a leadership level. She learned about The Paul Harris Society when a fellow member asked her if she was aware of that program. Learning about it convinced

fellow member asked her



Camile that this was the leadership level of giving that she was seeking. People who know Camile are aware that she also found a husband in her Rotary Club. They met when she attended an RLI at David Rosenthal's urging. Both she and Paul Peter turned up at RLI I in Charlottesville not knowing that they were both attending and could have car pooled. Upon getting to know each other they learned that both had started their IT/electronic careers in the US Navy, he as submariner and she on surface vessels. Camile also serves in the vestry for her church and feels that asking fellow Rotarians to donate to The Rotary Foundation is a service she can provide to make the world better and especially to eradicate polio.

If you are Rotarian seeking a speaker for your club, a club Rotary Foundation Chair seeking a personal resource, or a member wanting to know more about becoming a Paul Harris Society member, do not hesitate to reach out to any of the PHS coordinators or members of the greater District Rotary Foundation Committee for assistance. Our mission is service.

**Multi-Club Grant Project:**



The Rotary Sunshade Rotary Foundation Project at the Washington Henry Elementary School "Classrooms without Walls" is a joint project by the Ashland, Hanover, Innsbrook, and Mechanicsville. The goal is to provide sun cover for students taking classes outside. This is a two-part project. In part one, Washington Henry ES students designed and built an outdoor learning center for future classroom and reading activities. The design included a flower bed, walkways, a

storage shed, a small green house, a reading area, and a teaching area. In part two, the four area Rotary Clubs combined resources to build two sunshade structures to cover the teaching and reading areas. The clubs purchased the hardware and sunshades from Carolina Shade Sails, LLC. in Greensboro, NC.

**James City County Club Grant Project:**

*submitted by Neva Lynde*  
Bubbles, the Dolphin the school mascot for the James River Elementary School helped accept the District Grant check presented by Stephen Beer, District Foundation Chair to The Rotary Satellite Club of James City County for the blacktop stencil project.



This is another great D-7600 grant project that has been very collaborative with the school leadership team in response to their greatest need for this academic year. There was hands-on participation by Rotarians, the PTA, Friends of Rotary, and the support of other community partners.



Go [HERE](#) to read

the article that was published in the Kingsmill HOA monthly magazine and mailed to over 2,400 homes ... a part of the club's Public Image campaign.

## The Richmond Club and VCU Rotaract Grant Project:

Rudy Garcia presented a District 7600 grant check (see attached photo) to the Rotary Club of Richmond and VCU Rotaract Club for George W. Carver Elementary School in Richmond on October 19. With the club's contribution, a total amount of \$8200 will be used for environment science water testing kits and school resource library books. Rotaract and club members are thrilled to mentor and participate with Carver students and teachers in class projects such as visits to the James River.

George W. Carver is a comprehensive elementary school that serves approximately 400 students from Gilpin Court, the largest housing project in the City of Richmond, Jackson Ward, and the Carver Community. The population is over 90% African American and 95% high poverty and 100% of the students are on free lunch. Very few of the student scholars have experiences outside of their limited surroundings. This grant supports under-resourced students at G. W. Carver by increasing student knowledge in the area of environmental science through hands-on experiments.

