

Rotary



Newsletter No. XI

District Governor Isaac Owolabi

May 2019

Youth Service Month

Recently, someone asked me if I am counting the days before our Inspiration Year is over? My response is that; NO. I am just having more fun day by day. Why not? We are having the highest membership increase in many years. We have a record giving to CART fund. We are looking forward to 2019/2020 when our Rotaract will become members of Rotary. Yes, District 7670 has a few strong Rotaract Clubs. Can we do more? Yes. I am asking every club to begin the work now to charter Rotaract clubs in Universities and Community colleges near you. President Rassin said in recent Rotarian magazine: "You are paving the way for Rotaractors to become our future leaders, helping start new Rotaract clubs and working to include Rotaractors in Rotary events and projects in your communities."



In District 7670 - May and June are big challenges for our District because of attrition of members in these two months. However, I am so excited about your inner fire and "can do" attitude to reach our 7% membership goal for the District. Currently, we are 5% plus. Help us to meet our goal. I was in one of the zone training sessions where I was told that if membership increases, foundation will increase, CART fund will increase, Polio Plus will increase! One more reason why our focus in 2018/2019 is to grow membership.

One person informed me that we have not had an increase in membership at the end of the year in the last 6 or more years. Guess what? In 2018/2019, we are very optimistic that this will change. District 7670 will give a gift of increase to DGE Tiffany Ervin by the end of June 2019. Thank you, District membership chair, Inspiration presidents, club membership chairs, and the entire District 7670 for a superb job. Abigail and I could not have done it without your teamwork.

DG Isaac



June is Youth Services month for Rotary and it is a great time to talk about District 7670's reconstituted RYLA program. District 7670 has been offering RYLA to Western North Carolina students since 1964, seven years before Rotary International adopted it as a sanctioned program. Historically, in our District RYLA has been offered as a one week summer camp, usually in early June, at the Brevard Music Center campus. While that format worked well for several decades, recently attendance has been dropping and as a result, costs have been going up. In recent times, it has been hard to get a one week commitment from students whose summer time is consumed by work, mission trips, sports obligations, family vacations and a myriad of other opportunities. So in order to reach more students, District 7670 has followed the lead of several other districts and changed the format to a long weekend format. It starts on a Thursday after school and ends on Sunday after lunch. Again next year, it will be held at the YMCA's Blueridge Assembly in

Black Mountain over the last weekend in March.

Our goal at RYLA is to give selected teenagers an opportunity to meet and form friendships with other like-minded teenagers from across our district and teach them some techniques and skills to help them to unlock their potential and build their confidence as future leaders. All of this while having a great time. We do this through both structured and unstructured activities and through professional motivational speakers.

This year there were 72 students from 33 of the 48 clubs graduate from RYLA. We have been receiving accolades from parents, councilors, teachers and the teens themselves so we feel that we are on the right track. In the next Rotary year, we hope to increase the number of participants to 125. This is an achievable goal with the help of all of the clubs in the district. So be on the lookout for RYLA emails starting in August to fill you in on this year's program and what you can do to offer this outstanding opportunity to teenagers in your area.



CART IS SERIOUS BUSINESS...BUT RAISING FUNDS CAN BE "FUN"

Special thanks to Carillon Assisted Living in Hendersonville for co-hosting a "Jazz & Juleps" fundraiser with Four Seasons Rotary to support The CART Fund. Almost \$300 was raised at this fun event in honor of the Kentucky Derby. Everyone looked wonderful and a great time was had by all who attended! Carillon in Lincolnton also recently hosted an event with the Lincolnton Sunrise Satellite Club, raising \$110 for The CART Fund at their "Burgers & Brews" event.



INCLUDE POLIOPLUS!

On Sunday, February 19th, the Rotary Club of Madison County presented a benefit concert for Polio Plus. Entitled, "A Polio Plus Musical Mosaic", the concert featured a number of professional musicians performing in a wide variety of musical styles and genres. Special guests included DG Gary Dills and his wife Nancilee and members of the Land of the Sky Post Polio Survivors group. Along with the concert was a silent auction and a reception following the performance. According to Neil St. Clair, club Foundation Chairman, the concert netted \$2,686.00. That amount matched 2 to 1 by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation means \$8,058.00 was raised for Polio Plus. Not bad for two hours on a Sunday afternoon.

EMERGING LEADERS SUMMIT

More than 150 Rotarians from 42 clubs participated in the "Emerging Leaders Summit" on Saturday, May 18 at AB Tech. DGE Tiffany and various presenters offered training for numerous club leadership positions, as well as Public Speaking. The keynote speaker at the general session, Dave Clark, is the only professional baseball player to ever play the game on crutches. Diagnosed with polio at the age of 10 months, he shared stories of being bullied as a child and being encouraged by his parents to never stop dreaming. "Failure only happens when you don't try," he said. His stories touched the hearts of everyone in attendance and he encouraged us all to do one kind act each day. #APoundOfKindness goes a long way and you never know what impact you will have on someone's life.

Special guests at the session were six members of the Land Of Sky Post Polio Support Group, who are members of one of our district's two Rotary Community Corps. The event was sponsored by Ingles Markets and Duke Energy. For more information on the new children's book co-authored with Doug Cornfield, visit www.apoundofkindness.com.



RC of Madison County wasn't recognized as receiving the Governor's District Distinguished Club Citation Award in last month's newsletter...apologies!!



RI PRESIDENT 2020-2021

Holger Knaack, a member of the Rotary Club of Herzogtum Lauenburg-Mölln, Germany, has been selected to serve as president of Rotary International in 2020-21.

The Nominating Committee's decision follows the resignation last month of President-nominee Sushil Gupta due to health reasons. Knaack

will officially become president-nominee if no other candidates challenge him by 31 May.

Knaack is the CEO of Knaack KG, a real estate company. He was previously a partner and general manager of Knaack Enterprises, a 125-year-old family business.

Knaack and his wife, Susanne, are Major Donors to The Rotary Foundation and members of the Bequest Society.

The Rotary Club of Hendersonville presented a 'giant' check to The Henderson County School Board representing \$25,000 in Education Grants being distributed to teachers across Henderson County for special projects.





Chip Black, Valdese Mayor and charter member of the Rotary Club of Burke-Sunrise, spoke to his club members. Chip discussed the history of the morning club that was founded in May of 2001. There were 20 members. Their first project was to build a memorial to World War II veterans. With an initial goal of raising \$70,000 they were amazed when \$230,000 was raised. The memorial is located in downtown Morganton.



At the May 16th meeting of the Rotary Club of Tryon, Barbara Smith was introduced as the newest member of the Second Wind Hall of Fame in recognition of her service to the community. Barbara was nominated for this special recognition of service by the Green Blades Garden Club. Carol Browning made the presentation and spoke of some of Barbara's activities which include the Lanier Library, Green Blades Garden Society, and as the current President of the Rotary Club of Tryon Foundation. Both Barbara and Carol who are pictured are members of the Rotary Club of Tryon

Shrimp at the Farm—Saturday, June 30th
6:00-11:00 p.m.
Rotary Club of Asheville-Breakfast
Hickory Nut Gap, 57 Sugar Hollow Rd, Fairview, NC 28730



7th Annual Rotary Club of Highlands, NC
Highlands Twilight 5k 2019
Saturday, August 17th, 6:00 PM
Check in starts at 3:30 PM
\$30.00
\$35.00 starting July 17th
\$40.00 day of race



A little rain didn't stop Rotary Club of Lenoir from hosting their 13th annual Cycle to Serve Bicycle race! Riders chose between a 25 mile, 40, mile, and a 62 mile route. Despite the pouring rain, riders and Rotarians came out and joined in fun and fellowship and lots of food!



YOU ARE INVITED

District Governor Elect Tiffany Cordially Invites You to a "Southern Shindig" for District 7670 Officers' & Governor's Installation Saturday, June 22, 5-9 pm

The Party Place & Event Center, 221 Friendship Church Rd, Saluda, NC 28773. Tickets \$30 per person available online via EventBrite (link is in the DACdb calendar) or by mailing a check to Four Seasons Rotary Charitable Foundation, PO Box 2888, Hendersonville, NC 28793. Children tickets (ages 6-12) only \$10.

All Rotarians and their families are invited - the evening will include appetizers and dinner, a cash bar, the installation of DGE Tiffany and all district officers, and live music/dancing to The Carburetors. Thanks to a generous sponsorship by Trinity View Retirement Community, funds raised from this event will support Tiffany's favorite service project, Special Needs Sports in WNC. Several of the athletes will even be taking part in the program. Table sponsorships are also available to anyone who would like to help purchase tickets for the athletes and their families to attend.

Business/Rotary casual attire suggested (no ties necessary, but cute shoes are always encouraged!)

EDUCATION — AN IMPORTANT PART OF ROTARY SERVICE

SCHOLARS HONORED

On Saturday, May 4th, 2019, The Rotary Club of Franklin held its annual Rotary Scholars Banquet at Tartan Hall in Franklin, NC. The club's 2019 Scholastic Banquet honored the top ten students at Franklin High School's 10th, 11th and 12th grades. During the banquet, the Roy Rickman Scholarship Finalist (Maggie Baldwin, Tyler Harrell, Alan Martin, Aimee Roberts, and Olivia Scott) were honored. Miss Olivia Scott was selected as the Rickman Scholarship recipient and will be awarded \$15,000 (\$3,750 per year for four years). The other finalist each will be awarded a one time \$2,000. Miss Sydney Giaquinto was also selected the first annual Countryside Chevrolet Scholar during the banquet, a \$1,000 scholarship which was matched by the club for a total award of \$2,000. The Rotary Club of Franklin is a strong supporter of education, believing it is the foundation for successful citizens and future leaders.



Rickman Finalist- Rotary Club President Janet Greene, Tyler Harrell, Maggie Baldwin, Olivia Scott, Allen Martin, and Aimee Roberts.



At the May 9th meeting of the Rotary Club of Hickory, Rotarian Kathy Greathouse announced the 2019 Wilmer Jenkins Teacher of the Year for the Hickory Public Schools. The award is given annually in memory of Wilmer M. Jenkins, who served as superintendent of Hickory Public Schools from July 1, 1958 – June 30, 1967 and was a member and past President of the Rotary Club of Hickory.

This year the selection committee chose Douglas Byrd, a math teacher at Northview Middle School. Mr. Byrd has been a seventh grade teacher for his entire 10 year career in education, with the last three years spent at Northview.

Each nominee received a plaque and a check for \$500, and the Teacher of the Year received \$1,000.



AMERICAN IDOL EVENT

On May 17, 2019 an enthusiastic crowd at Lenoir Rhyne University's P.E. Monroe auditorium greeted contestants competing in the Rotary Club of Hickory's 10th Anniversary All Stars Rotarian Idol fundraiser for local educational initiatives.

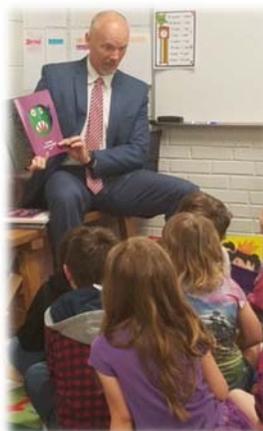
The special commemoration of Rotarian Idol's 10th Anniversary featured 9 past winners from the events nine previous contests. The prize winners were announced and presented checks. First prize of \$2,500 was awarded to Carol Anne Hartman. Jennifer Canterbury received a check for \$500 as the winner of the "Audience Favorite" vote. The real winner again was education. This year's contest is expected to raise around \$70,000 bringing the total raised for 10 years of Rotarian Idol competitions to well over half a million dollars.

Rotary Club of Hickory Awards SAS Scholarship



At the May 16th meeting of the Rotary Club of Hickory announced the winners of the 2019 Service Above Self scholarships. Sidney L. Brockenborough from Hickory High School and Marlet Gisel Castillo from

Hickory Career and Arts Magnet High School are this year's recipients of four year college scholarships. This is the first year the club has presented a scholarship to an HCAM senior. Each student will receive a \$12,000 scholarship payable to the university they attend. The annual scholarship amount is \$3,000 for four years. These scholarships are possible due to the continued financial success and popularity of Rotarian Idol.



Members of The Rotary Club of Franklin went back to kindergarten, if only for a portion of an hour, to read from one or more books to the classes in the Franklin area as well as Nantahala School.

Ten Rotarians visited 14 classes in five schools and donated 77 books to the classes. The project started with the kindergarten teachers choosing several books they wished to add to their classroom collections. The Rotary Club then ordered the books and organized Rotarians to visit the classrooms.

BIG GRILL, BIG DEAL



With 150 hot dogs and 120 hamburgers to cook on Friday, the RC of Sherrills Ford-Terrell needed a big grill. They were serving lunch at an annual cookout for students and staff at the Catawba Rosenwald Education Center in the town of Catawba.

Luckily, Rotarian Kevin Brady was able to secure a giant, two-tank grill from a friend at church. He hauled it to Catawba behind his red SUV and set up between buildings at the school, an alternative education center that serves around 70 students in Catawba County Schools. The school provides individual academic and behavioral support for students who didn't thrive in a traditional school setting.

CALDWELL COUNTY OUTREACH

Courtney Wright, President of RC of Caldwell County, updated members on the club's effort to fund and participate in District 7670 grant programs. The club has helped fund a grant that helps with the disposal of medical waste at a Kenya medical clinic. The club co-sponsored a project that gave all Caldwell County third grade students their own dictionary working with other area clubs for a decade on this project.



SUPPORTING THE FOUNDATION



The Rotary Club of Asheville-Biltmore presented Paul Harris Fellow status to four members! Fred Steinman (+1), Dick Johannes (+3), Don Brannon (+1) and Fred Brooking (+2). Thank you for your generosity and service!"



FOOD AND YOUTH AND FELLOWSHIP

The RC of Denver/Lake Norman hosted its spring social this past Saturday in honor of their Italian exchange student Andrea. An Italian potluck complete with a prize for the most authentic Italian dish and Italian trivia made for a fantastic evening of fellowship.



RC OF MARION SIGNATURE PROJECT

On Thursday, May 9, the Rotary Club of Marion voted to purchase this 2014 Dodge Caravan minivan for the McDowell County Schools' McKinney-Vento program for homeless students. This van will be decorated with the Rotary name and logo and will be used

for the transportation needs of these students who are considered homeless. This is President Dennis Whitson's signature project during his term as club president. They will formally present this van to the school system in the near future.



WELCOME VISITORS

DG Isaac Owolabi and AG Jim Cruickshank made an unannounced visit to the Rotary Club of Tryon on May 9th to recognize club president Fred Hartley for his outstanding leadership during the past year. Also, present was Ken Shull, DGND and a member of the RC of Tryon.

HELPING THE COMMUNITY

The Rotary Club of Highlands recently partnered with the Community Care Clinic of Highlands-Cashiers to provide free glucose screenings, flu shots and blood pressure readings. This effort was part of a District grant that allowed the Community Care Clinic to expand their reach in the community to provide preventive care.



<u>Club Growth for District #7670</u>	01-Jul	May 21, 2019		
Club Name (#)	2018-2019	#	NET	%
Arden (5995) #1	6	12	6	100.0%
Asheville (5996)	145	150	5	3.4%
Asheville-Biltmore (58266)	51	59	8	15.7%
Asheville Breakfast (23683)	52	53	1	1.9%
Asheville-Metro (84751)	13	14	1	7.7%
Asheville-South (81703) #3	29	39	10	34.5%
Asheville-West (6049)	17	16	-1	-5.9%
Avery County (29042)	20	25	5	25.0%
Black Mountain (5998)	54	56	2	3.7%
Blowing Rock (5999)	53	43	-10	-18.9%
Boone (6001)	12	12	0	0.0%
Boone Sunrise (23608)	51	56	5	9.8%
Brevard (6002)	25	25	0	0.0%
Bryson City (6003)	20	22	2	10.0%
Burke-Sunrise (55539)	21	24	3	14.3%
Burnsville (58596)	13	13	0	0.0%
Caldwell County (6004)	15	17	2	13.3%
Cashiers Valley (29349)	42	39	-3	-7.1%
Catawba Valley (Conover) (6005)	38	39	1	2.6%
Clay County (83934)	12	13	1	8.3%
Denver/Lake Norman (31056)	62	68	6	9.7%
Franklin (6013)	87	90	3	3.4%
Franklin Daybreak (50795)	37	39	2	5.4%
Granite Falls (6016)	17	14	-3	-17.6%
Haywood County (Canton) (6018)	27	21	-6	-22.2%
Hendersonville (6019)	141	137	-4	-2.8%
Hendersonville-Four Seasons (6020) #2	26	37	11	42.3%
Hickory (6021)	105	110	5	4.8%
Hickory Sunrise (54544)	24	26	2	8.3%
Highlands (6023)	94	98	4	4.3%
Highlands-Mountaintop (57907)	18	23	5	27.8%
Lake Hickory, (Hickory) (6022)	70	75	5	7.1%
Lenoir (6026)	84	81	-3	-3.6%
Lincolnton (6027)	74	76	2	2.7%
Lincolnton-Sunrise (55175)	20	26	6	30.0%
Madison County (64474)	37	49	12	32.4%
Marion (6028)	72	79	7	9.7%
Morganton (6035)	56	61	5	8.9%
Murphy (6037) #4	21	28	7	33.3%
Newton-Conover (6038)	62	55	-7	-11.3%
Pisgah Forest (50468)	59	61	2	3.4%
Sherrills Ford-Terrell (76222)	14	14	0	0.0%
Spruce Pine (6042)	36	37	1	2.8%
Sylva (6044)	59	60	1	1.7%
Tryon (6046)	57	64	7	12.3%
Valdese (6047)	37	37	0	0.0%
Waynesville (6048)	79	81	2	2.5%
Waynesville-Sunrise (24319)	17	16	-1	-5.9%
Total Member Count For District #7670	2181	2290	109	5.0%
EXCEEDS Governor Isaac's Goal				

MEMBERSHIP TIDBITS May 2019

The 2018-2019 Rotary year is almost over; in fact, **only one month** remains; not that anyone is counting. Our goal is to finish strong!!! Governor Isaac will recognize the clubs with the highest percentage of membership growth at the Foundation Banquet in November. I strongly encourage you to keep recruiting new members and work on retaining existing members whose engagement is diminishing. We need to support and encourage these members to reengage, which will help to lower your club's attrition rate. The 2018-2019 membership cycle ends on June 30, 2019.

CONGRATULATIONS are in order **again** for all the clubs in district 7670! Our district remains the top district in the Zone with the highest percentage of membership gains. Rotary membership worldwide is 1,226,553 as of April 30, 2019, which represents a growth of 31,446 since July 1, 2018. As of May 21, 2019, the district membership stands at 2,290, which represents a growth of **109**, since July 1, 2018. **Twenty Two** clubs have exceeded Governors Isaac's goal of a seven percent increase in membership. Additionally, a total of 34 clubs have growth in membership this year. **CONGRATULATIONS to the Rotary Club of ARDEN with a 100% growth.** That is correct they **doubled their size!!!** Eight clubs have a 20% or higher increase in membership. **Way to GO!** Please check the district membership chart to see where your club stands on membership growth.

How did RC of Arden increase their membership? They do it by hosting a Discover Rotary Event. Members invite and encourage potential members to a special meeting. Information about Rotary is shared with highlights of all the fantastic projects the club is doing, but most importantly, they ask each prospective member to join the fun, and it works! **The Rotary Club of Arden grew from six members to twelve! Your club can do this!**

*John Yermack
District Membership Chair*



The Four Seasons Rotary Club recently presented books to every media specialist in Henderson County Public Schools in recognition of the various speakers to the club in the past year. The George Sisson Speaker Book program is a long-standing tradition of recognizing guest speakers with gifts of books to the public schools. Special thanks to program chair Joanne Biddle for coordinating this activity again this year and to Rotary District 7670 for a "matching grant" to help with the project!