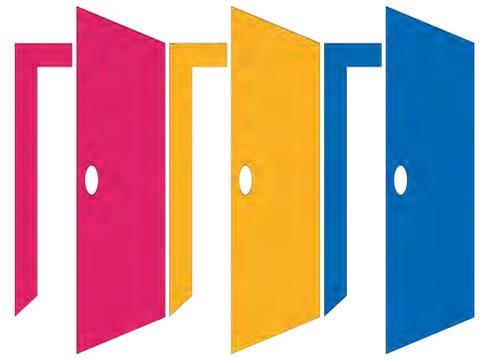


Rotary



District 7305

The Connector - June 2021

Rotary Opens Opportunities

District Conference In-Person!

Wow, what a weekend. If you weren't at Seven Springs Mountain Resort for our District Conference you missed a great time. Friday morning started out with a Governor's Breakfast. A casual breakfast for all PDGs, those in the current DG Chain, and their spouses and partners.

The House of Friendship opened up and we had a treasure chest game going on that had many prizes to win. We also had a Cork Pull Wine Game. Thanks to Bill Price and Susan Price from the Rotary Club of Washington for coordinating this event. We raised over \$1,100 for Polio Plus from the Cork Pull.

After breakfast, the golfers left for Seven Springs Golf Course and those not playing golf went to lunch. 54 golfers enjoyed perfect weather and beautiful conditions for a scramble format outing.

The guest speaker at lunch was Dr. Jeff Mallory from St. Vincent College. He gave a very inspirational talk about the need for peace and equity in our world.

Friday's dinner theme was Bahama Breeze. The opening entertainment was the Ambridge High School Steel Drum Band. This was the only live show the students did all year, and what a performance they gave us. They were having so much fun, they didn't want to leave. We also had

Quote of the Month:

"If you want happiness for an hour; take a nap.

If you want happiness for a day; go fishing

If you want happiness for a year; inherit a fortune.

If you want happiness for a lifetime; help somebody."

Chinese Proverb



Dan Dougherty from the Rotary Club of White Oak was named Rotarian of the Year by District Governor Al DeLucia. As District Communication Officer, Dan has been deeply involved in making sure that what our district does gets noticed by our membership and beyond.

a TapSnap photo booth and lots of Rotarians got some great shots with the island theme background. We had a Buffet of Island Fare that included a pig roast. After dinner and a conga line dance we had DJ Mark Rafail from the Rotary Club of Uniontown playing beach music until it was time for fireworks. When it got dark we had a fantastic fireworks display put on by Little Big Shots. DJ Mark had patriotic music playing in sync with the fireworks show. It was a great way to end Friday night.

Saturday morning started with a drop off of food for the local Somerset County Food Bank and a drop off of items for the Veterans project. We collected several hundred pounds of food for the local food bank and were able to fill 250 Rotary backpacks with much needed personal items for our veterans. Each backpack had

items like toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, non-slip socks, books, notepads, pens, pencils, chap sticks, candy, etc. All items were donated by Rotarians and all the backpacks were packed by Rotarians and their families. Thanks to Johnnie Mock and Chuck DeSabato for coordinating this project.

After the hands-on project was completed, we have several plenary sessions. PGDs Linda Fisher Bruce and Cherie Sears led "Al's Army" in a very informative and inspirational Membership session. After that, Felicia Mycyk and Joe Pisczcor put on a great Public Image session. When that concluded, DGE Vince Costa told us about the new Rotary theme "Serve To Change Lives" and what he would like to accomplish in his year as DG.

After the plenary sessions we had our annual District Business

Meeting. Stu Benson did a great job of keeping the meeting moving while we accomplished all the District business and elections that were on our agenda.

Once the Business Meeting concluded we broke for lunch. Our theme for lunch was youth based. Wayne Skelly, our Youth Exchange Coordinator, talked briefly about the Rotary Youth Exchange Program. We also had several of our impressive Interact students with us. Interact District Governor, Lena Voss, talked about what was accomplished during her year, and Interact District Governor Elect, Connor Herrington, talked about what he would like to accomplish in his year. Hannah Shin, a member of Rotary International's Interact Advisory Council, talked about the interview and selection process that she went through to be selected to the Council. She will be one of only eight members from across the globe representing hundreds of thousands of Interactors worldwide.

Our keynote speakers were our Global Grant Scholars – Baptiste Moreau-Pernet from France and Hyunyoung Shin from Korea. Unfortunately, Baptiste could not be with us for lunch because he was attending his graduation ceremony at CMU. But he did give us a video presentation of what he is doing at CMU. Shin gave us a fascinating in-person presentation of the work he is doing at CMU.

After hearing from our Global Scholars, Mike Sears from the



The Rotary Club of Carnegie-Collier, Club President Nathan E. Miller (above) and the Rotary Club of Craifton Ingram, Club President James Nagorski (below) shared the medium sized club Club of the Year award.

Rotary Club of California gave a short, powerful presentation about Shelter Box. Mike is the new Shelter Box Ambassador for Rotary District 7305.

After lunch we had two events going on at the same time. The fashion show arranged by Margie's Fashions and coordinated by Carol Mock was a big success. Models wore the fashions and were escorted on the runway to display the clothes. A very enthusiastic crowd cheered on each model and their escort.

While the fashion show was going on inside, the Straight Up and Toasted – Cigars and Cocktails – event was going on outside. Nate Miller, President of the Rotary Club of Carnegie-Collier and PDG Denny Crawford had a great turnout for

the event. There must have been at least 50 people outside enjoying the beautiful weather, fellowship, cigars, and drinks.

Saturday night started with a Parade of Presidents and Past District Governors. We had a great dinner of Filet and Stuffed Shrimp. Rotary International Director Stephanie Urchick was scheduled to be our keynote speaker. Unfortunately she could not make it due to illness. Instead, PDG Mary Berge, did her best Stephanie Urchick impersonation and did a great job of delivering Stephanie's keynote speech.

I took a few minutes to talk about all we accomplished this year and how much we have to be proud of this year. DGE Vince Costa wrapped up the speeches with a few remarks about how he and his team are getting ready for this year and what his goals are for the upcoming Rotary year.

We did the traditional exchange of pins among the DG Chain and we had a few gifts to exchange. PDG Tom Uram from the Rotary Club of Washington gave everyone in attendance a commemorative Pennsylvania \$1 coin that highlights the discovery of the polio vaccine by Dr. Jonas Salk.

Ivar Berge had an official Rotary theme tie with next year's Rotary theme. Since he is a "bowtie guy" we did a live auction to sell his tie and raised \$375 for Polio Plus.

We had a number of awards and



recognitions that we presented. We started with recognizing Rotarians that had 50 or more years of service.

Those that were recognized were, Arthur Bittner, Rotary Club of Shaler; Frank Ceriani, Rotary Club of Beaver Falls; Herbert "Herb" Ferguson, Rotary Club of Hampton; Harvey Hess, Rotary Club of Pleasant Hills; George Unger, Rotary Club of Moon; Eugene Fike, Rotary Club of Somerset; David Reiley, Rotary Club of Somerset; Vincent Jacob, Rotary Club of Somerset; James Cavallancia, Rotary Club of Blairsville; Richard "Rick" Shoemaker, Rotary Club of Blairsville; John Stoner, Rotary Club of Rockwood; James "Jim" Sisley, Rotary Club of New Brighton, and Art Thom, Rotary Club of New Brighton.

We had 13 clubs qualify for the Governor's Crystal Citation. To qualify clubs needed to earn at least 50 points in 4 categories – expand its reach and increase its ability to adapt, increase its impact, enhance participants engagement and strengthen youth services and outreach. The clubs that were able to achieve this were Carnegie-Collier, Charleroi, Crafton-Ingram, Delmont-Salem, Johnstown, McMurray, Murrysville-Export, New Brighton, Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh East,

Washington and White Oak.

The clubs that qualified for the Governor's Crystal Citation also submitted an essay detailing how they went above and beyond in each of the 4 categories and what they achieved to make them deserving to be named Club of the Year. Every club submitted a great essay and the decision making was very difficult. After everything was considered the winners of the Club of the Year were

Small Club – under 20 members: Rotary Club of Delmont-Salem; Medium Club – from 21 to 50 members was a tie: Rotary Club of Carnegie-Collier and Rotary Club of Crafton-Ingram; Large Club – over 50 members: Rotary Club of Washington

The final award of the night was Rotarian of the Year. This was won by a very deserving Dan Dougherty from the Rotary Club of White Oak

Congratulations to everyone that was recognized and all the winners of awards this year. A job well done by all.

Sunday morning concluded our District Conference with a Memorial Service for all the Rotarians that have passed away this Rotary year. Michelle Petrell coordinated a very moving ceremony to end the conference.

I want to once again thank the District Conference Chairs – PDG Sue Kelly, PDG Pam Moore and PDG Bob Rupp and everyone on their committee that help to make this a fantastic event. I hope you were there to share at least



The Rotary Club of the Year award for a large club went to the Rotary Club of Washington, Club President David Bradley Montgomery (above). The Rotary Club of Delmont-Salem, Club President Harold Hicks (below left), was named Small Rotary Club of the Year.



part of this with us. If not, I hope to see you at next year's District Conference.

By District Governor Al DeLucia

What a Year it Has Been!

My Fellow Rotarians, it seems like just yesterday that I sat down to write an article for the beginning of my year as District Governor. It's hard to believe that this is the last article I will write as District Governor – where did this year go?

I want to thank everyone for all your support and encouragement this year. So many people helped in so many ways to make this year a great success.

This year had its challenges, but there were far more successes than setbacks, many more achievements than disappointments, and much more coming together in service than being isolated by our conditions.

We were able to keep our clubs together and our members engaged during some very trying times. Our membership numbers look very promising heading into the end of this Rotary year.

Our support of The Rotary Foundation, both in Polio Plus and the Annual Fund, is above our numbers from last year. This is an outstanding achievement considering the economic conditions of our clubs and our members.

The level of service to our local communities during COVID-19 has been incredible. So many clubs



District Governor Al DeLucia reflects on the Rotary year that was. He notes that, even with the special challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, our District has done very well in keeping up the good work of Rotary. Below: In the Rotary year of 2010-2011, Al DeLucia was named Rotary Club of McMurray Rotarian of the Year.

helping so many in need.

During this year, so many people helped make this an unforgettable year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank some of them:

Membership Co-Chairs PDG Cherie Sears and PDG Linda Fisher Bruce and the entire membership committee did a great job of

building a great team and focusing on the importance of building our membership.

Our IT team of Dan Dougherty, Dennis Piper and Sandra Rebholz did a great job of getting all our clubs integrated into our new operating system, DACdb, in less than one year. District Secretary Sandra Rebholz worked hard to keep all my official club visits on schedule and making sure everything was ready for my club visits.

Our AG support team of Walt Sickles, Aaron Tuscan and Dan Dougherty did a great job of keeping the AGs engaged and making sure the AGs had all the latest information from the District and RI. A special thank you to all the AGs this year. Your job was made far more difficult with all the restrictions we had to face. You were able to keep the lines of communication open and keep your clubs on track during the worst of times.

I want to thank RID Stephanie Urchick for her guidance and faith in me. She saw something in me that told her I had the qualities needed to be a District Governor.

I want to thank our District Newsletter editor and Bulletin Board Organizer, Ivar Berge for doing such a great job putting



together our monthly newsletter and communicating the upcoming events throughout our District.

Thank you to our District Treasurer, Dan Kravetz, and the Finance Committee. Dan stepped in to take over as District Treasurer when the year had already started. Thanks to past District Treasurer, Heather Deickmann, for all your work as Treasurer in the past and for making Dan's transition into this position as smooth as possible.

Thanks to our Rotary Foundation Chair, Jeff Klink, for doing a great job of guiding the committee during some very demanding times. The requests for help from around the world and in our local communities were able to be met because of the committee's commitment to doing good in the world.

Thanks to our Public Image team of Felicia Mycyk and Joe Piszczor for all the work they did to help clubs to improve their communications and their branding using the latest Rotary materials.

Thank you to our District Conference Committee Chairs – PDG Sue Kelly, PDG Pam Moore, PDG Bob Rupp and their committee for putting on a fantastic District Conference just over a week ago. Great weather, great food, and great entertainment made it a conference to remember.

A very large thank you to my DG chain – DGE Vince Costa, DGN Marie Fallon, and DGDN John Hartman. They have helped me in so many ways this year that I could not list them all. From being part of every committee to providing me with much



needed advice and guidance, they have helped me to do the best job I possibly could as District Governor.

Lastly, I want to say thank you to my wife, Lisa. Without her love and support, this year as District Governor would not have been possible. Even though I spent many hours on Zoom calls and in training sessions, she was always encouraged me to do the best I could as District Governor. She understood that the amount of time I spent being District Governor was time spent trying to help others.

I want to wish DGE Vince, DGN Marie and DGND John all the success in the world during next year and the following years. I am looking forward to watching their teams make their way through their respective Rotary years and seeing all that they will achieve together.

Thank you for giving me the honor and privilege to serve as your District Governor this Rotary year.

"Rotary Opens Opportunities"

Al DeLucia, DG 2020-2021

Rotary Club of McMurray



Interactors Inducted

I had the honor of attending the induction ceremony for the Bethel Park Interact Club. What an impressive group of high school and middle school students.

Thanks to Pam Tiano from the Rotary Club of Bethel-St.Clair for being the organizer of this event and for being the driving force to get this Interact Club started again.

Thanks also to faculty advisor John Lorenzo for helping to pull the students together into a very well organized and energetic club. Thanks to Mayor Jack Allen for being part of the evening.

I can't wait to see what this group of Interactors is going to achieve this coming year.

By DG Al DeLucia



Good Works Carry The Day!

Your District 7305 Membership Committee continues to provide a series of articles addressing membership successes by clubs in our Rotary District. We do this to celebrate those successes and to further peer into the “secrets” behind these successes for the benefit of all. Again, it is our thought that, by sharing these club successes, the examples set will enhance all of our efforts and understanding in maintaining and growing membership. This month’s contribution will look into the success enjoyed by the Rotary Club of White Oak.

During the past Rotary Year, the Rotary Club of White Oak has added seven new members to their rolls. They now have a total of 36 members; a 19% increase! This is an astounding accomplishment that we want to share for the benefit of all.

What we discovered was an alignment of the stars, their growth success related to a combination of efforts and factors. Two new members reached out to them after learning about Rotary from a family member in another club. Another is the son of an existing member who, after some time of having been involved, decided that Rotary was something he wanted to become a part of. Another individual, being an experienced Interactor, RYLA participant, and Rotaractor, returned to the area and decided to join. Finally, we found that four members joined simply as a result of the ongoing good works of the club.

The club received publicity for the following good works:

1. A District Grant project with White Oak Animal Safe Haven. They removed a defunct structure and replaced it with new a cat enclosure allowing cats to have the feeling of being outside. The need was identified, and the club provided the heartfelt solution.
2. Since their local High School Scholarship Program was started in 2010, the club has presented 173(!) \$1,000 scholarships to local students to assist in their journey of pursuing higher education. This past year, they held their Annual Awards Dinner and provided

Time for FAMILY.
Time for WORK.
Time for COMMUNITY.



Time to make
A DIFFERENCE.

Time  FOR Rotary

The Rotary Club of White Oak Facebook page banner encourages you to make time for the things in life that are important. By communicating their mission and successful projects with their community, they added seven new members during this Rotary year.

scholarships to students at three high schools and one college. In all, they presented 25 students with a \$1,000 scholarship for a total of \$25,000. Recipients at the high school level included students from the McKeesport High School, Sarah Catholic High School, and South Allegheny High School. At the college level, scholarships were awarded to students at Penn State Greater Allegheny Campus. Now, more than ever, there is a need of financial aid for students, something that the Rotary Club of White Oak cares about and supports.

3. The club is involved in a number of public initiatives including assisting with bell ringing with the Salvation Army, participation in local food banks and direct donations to other outreach programs.

To add momentum to each of these very public efforts, the club made every effort to attract local media coverage. Additionally, they employed social media platforms, including Facebook and their website, to celebrate their efforts and projects. This social media blitz effort was led by one of the new members mentioned above.

So what is the Rotary Club of White Oak’s process in reeling in these prospective members? Persons interested in their club are invited to a club meeting. At the meeting as many as

two or three members are assigned to make themselves available to the prospective member, to explain Rotary and answer any questions the person may have. They also follow up with the potential member after the initial meeting to answer any additional questions they may have. Staying in touch with, and forging an ongoing relationship with prospective and new members was cited as the method that works best for the club.

Finally, dovetailing on their success as a traditional dinner club, they have recently began the process of sponsoring a Satellite Club. This club will primarily be a business networking group, reaching out to business persons to help them grow professionally, while also giving them the opportunity to join in the club’s community efforts. Members in the traditional club, including some of those who recently joined, plan on becoming active members in the satellite club.

With all that, the Rotary Club of White Oak’s philosophy on success is a simple one; do good works, make sure the public at large is aware, adapt where required, and - to borrow a phrase - “they will come.”

By John Dale Hartman, DGND



Meet Them Where They Are

“Meeting people where they are is about giving others what they need, when they need it.”

Tom Epperson

You are reading this newsletter because you care about Rotary’s growth. You know our membership number has hovered around 1.2 million people for decades. You know we need more Rotarians to increase our impact.

But it isn’t about the numbers.

As another Rotary year comes to an end, it is the time to fall into step and march out our traditional district membership growth plans. We promote a District-wide challenge to increase numbers and instruct membership chairs to “Grow Rotary.” Essentially, we create sales quotas for Clubs.

But it isn’t about the numbers.

The higher leaders rise in any organization, the more often we risk losing sight of what is happening on the front lines. We forget that our membership roster is broken down by clubs, then further into individual names. Do we know these people who are serving our mission on the front lines? What are their goals? What do they want from Rotary? What do they hope to achieve?

It isn’t about the numbers; and it shouldn’t be. Because ***it is about them.***

I’d bet there are very few Rotarians who care if Rotary membership increases from 1.2 million to 1.3



million. I’d also bet that many club leaders would prefer to have a smaller group of more dedicated Rotarians than just a deeper roster with more casual members.

We know how Innovative Clubs can help them grow, but if they aren’t ready, or if it isn’t their goal, it may not have the effect we are hoping for and we may encounter even more resistance to change.

Innovative ideas draw a mixed bag. A few clubs may be ready to dive right in. Others may need to dip a toe and test the water. Still others won’t even look at the water.

The leadership intent should be to

facilitate simple movement from one step to the next.

So how do we do that?

We need to meet the clubs where they are. This means communicating with the clubs individually, understanding their goals and challenges, and then bolster them to choose their own way.

Proposed changes should always be about the needs of the individual Club. Change doesn’t have to come at the cost of what dedicated Rotarians have come to know and love about their club.

For some clubs it may be creating multiple satellite clubs. For others it may be as simple as offering a new membership type without meals cost.

Getting that club to offer a new membership type needs to be recognized and celebrated because they have taken a step outside of their comfort zone, which took a lot of hard work. Give them credit for success because they have done something brand new.

As membership advocates, we all want to see Rotary grow in members and impact with new satellite clubs or cause-based clubs. However, our priorities are not everyone else’s. It is up to the clubs to determine what is best for them.

To truly help Rotary grow, we must meet Clubs where they are.

By Chris Jones & Patrick Eakes, Rotary Zone 33 Innovative Club Advocates



District Conference in Pictures

As you will see on the next four pages, the District Conference at Seven Springs was a great success.

After more than a year of not having been able to meet in person, Rotarians from all over our district were elated to once again celebrate Rotary with old and new friends.



Clockwise from top: Our youngest conference attendee, Theodore Stephens from White Oaks; Miguel Savirof with items for the Veterans Project; PDG Denny Crawford and friends; The table with items for the Veterans Project; Lots of books organized by Carol & Johnny Mock from the Rotary Club of Turtle Creek; Candy from Monessen and Bill & Susan Price ran the Cork Pull wine fundraiser; Dr. Jeff Mallory from St. Vincent College was our keynote speaker at Friday lunch.



Friday Night at District Conference: Bahama Breeze / Island Wear Themed Pig Roast



Clockwise from top: Gathering for the pig roast; DGN Marie Fallon & PDG Tom Fallon; DG Al DeLucia with friends; The Ambridge High School steel drum band; DGN John Hartman & DGE Vince Costa; RC of Johnstown Club President Michelle Petrell and Past President Pat Petrell; PDG Mark Kessler and Sue Kessler





Above: Found at District Conference Saturday Evening Dinner. If this is your pin, please contact District Secretary Sandra Rebholz: district.secretary@rotarydistrict7305.org
 Clockwise from top right: Jim Emmerling, Robin R. Zoufalik, PDG Ron Aldom, and James Drony about to tee off; PDG Mary Berge keeping track of voting at the business meeting; Happy Rotarians enjoying cigars and suitable libations; A table full of cigars and accessories; Friday night fireworks.



Fashion Show Was a Hit!



Clockwise from above: Candice Rebovich and PDG Tom Fallon showing off some barefoot fashion; Lisa DeLucia escorted by DG Al; Event MC Carol Mock; Mary Ellen Buzzelli escorted by PDG Tom Fallon, PDG Mary Berge and DGN Marie Fallon goofing off; Looking for that special piece; Marlene Hahn escorted by PDG Steve Arnowitz, Sue Kelly sporting an outfit with matching shoes. Pictures by Mary Berge



2021 Virtual RI Convention

Registration for the 2021 Virtual RI Convention is open. Don't miss this opportunity to be inspired by stories of what we have accomplished, and a look forward to what we will do in the future. The Convention Program includes:

Saturday, 12 June

First General Session: Opportunities to Reflect

Join us as we reflect on this past year, highlight our members' work, and acknowledge the many changes we have experienced. Be inspired by engaging speakers – including Rotary leadership, leaders in various fields, Rotarians, Rotaractors, and others – and connect with their stories.

Celebrate Rotary around the world and the people who make our conventions memorable, and witness how we have found new ways to come together.

Experience high-energy performances to kick off our convention and get excited for the rest of the week!

Sunday, 13 June

Second General Session: Opportunities to Grow

We grow by learning a new skill, hearing different perspectives, and challenging ourselves to step outside of our comfort zone.

Witness a conversation about women's historic role in Rotary and celebrate the nomination of Rotary's first female president. Recognize service projects from around the world and learn about the impact on communities. Hear about Rotary's newest area of focus, the environment, and get informed on tangible ways to support sustainability efforts.

Listen to keynote speakers share ways that we can all continue to make a difference – across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves.

Wednesday, 16 June

Third General Session: Opportunities to Serve

Focus on how service projects change lives. Watch presentations from keynote speakers as they share how we can challenge assumptions to deepen our impact. Hear from Rotary leadership as they discuss



Registration is open for the 2021 Virtual Rotary International Convention. In addition to general and breakout sessions, there will be a House of Friendship with opportunities to meet other Rotarians, learn about Rotary projects, and - of course - purchase Rotary themed merchandise.

innovation, change, and ways to get involved.

Honor our accomplishments from this past year and look ahead to opportunities in our future!

Visit the House of Friendship

The virtual House of Friendship is the ultimate destination for Rotarians to gather the tools and resources needed to make an impact around the world. While there you can:

- Connect with a global network of humanitarians and people of action
- Share best practices, ideas, and successes for projects and club efforts from around the world
- Shop a marketplace of wares from Rotary Licensed vendors, local artisans, and Rotary partners
- Engage with Rotary International staff that will provide updates, support, and guidance on programs and services
- Register for the 2022 Rotary International Convention in Houston, Texas, USA

The House of Friendship will be open June 10-16.

Global Network

The perfect place to connect with old friends and new, the House of Friendship offers the opportunity for Rotarians to strengthen and grow your global network. Learn from best practices, get inspired, and motivate each other to create lasting changes in our communities.

Projects, Rotarian Action Groups, and Fellowships

Stay informed on the latest updates and successes of Rotary projects and Rotarian Action Groups and find ideas you can implement in your own area. Learn and share the stories of Rotarians efforts worldwide and connect with others that share your interests.

Marketplace

Explore the Rotary Marketplace and discover new tools from Rotary partners that make a difference, wares from vendors for gifts and memories, and Rotary Licensed merchandise to show your support.

Rotary International Hub

Rotary International booths: Resource Center, Ribbons, PolioPlus, Virtual Reality, Social Media, Rotaract, YEO, and more, will all have staff on-hand to answer questions, provide updates, and assist you with everything you need to know about Rotary.

2022 RI Convention Promotion

Visit the Convention promotion booth to register for the convention in Houston, and to book accommodations and purchase tickets to Host Organizing Committee events. Learn what Houston has to offer visitors and chat with the Host Rotarians or staff for more information. Register today at:

<https://convention.rotary.org/en>



The Veterans Project

The Rotary clubs of Ebensburg, Portage, and Northern Cambria participated in the packing of bags for veterans at the District Conference. On May 26 they had the privilege to deliver some of the bags packed at the conference to the Hollidaysburg Veterans Home.

Rotary District 7305 Assistant Governor Janet Smithbower (right) presented the bags to Veterans Home Volunteer Coordinator Emily McDowell.

Picture by Callum Illig, Altoona Mirror



RC of Latrobe Club President Amy Peer receives a recognition of the club's 100 years of service from DG Al DeLucia at the club's centennial celebration on April 27.



Conemaugh Township Rotary member Andi Palmar is the owner of Memorial Highway Chevrolet. When the dealership organized a family safety day the Rotary club participated and donated bicycle helmets to all kids in attendance. Picture courtesy of Andi Palmar



The Rotary Club of Upper St. Clair-Bethel Park's clothing drive for the City Mission (above and left) was a huge success. With assistance from the wonderful people in their communities, they filled a 53 foot trailer with lots of goodies!

Rotary District 7305

P.O. Box 44305, Pittsburgh PA 15205

District Secretary: Sandra Rebholz

District Office: 412-429-7305

district.secretary@rotarydistrict7305.org

Visit us on Facebook

www.rotarydistrict7305.org

A Day in the Life of a Vaccination Volunteer

By Jill Johnson, Rotary International

My cheeks hurt from smiling, which was weird because I wore a mask all day. It's not as if anyone saw my smile, but I couldn't help it. It was a great day.

I volunteered at the COVID-19 vaccination clinic in my town on 15 April. I worked the registration desk, checking people in for their appointments. It's a fun assignment because you interact with so many people. There was the young man who told me he just woke up - it was 1:00 p.m! There were the teenagers born the year I graduated high school who didn't laugh at my lame attempts at jokes. And there was the young man with autism who, as his mom filled out the paperwork, sang me a song and showed me how he could dance.

I've always wanted to volunteer but struggled with finding the "right thing." When Rotary members were encouraged to work with their local health organizations to support vaccination clinics in their communities, I thought, "I could do that." I may not be a Rotarian or a Rotaractor, but I am a part of the Rotary community. And this felt like the "right thing."

While the registration desk is fun (and busy), I also liked being a vaccination assistant on previous volunteer shifts a week earlier. There's more time to chat than at the registration desk, so you get to interact with people in a different way. I've listened to residents talk about how excited (and nervous) they are. I've seen their faces light up when the vaccination is over and they didn't feel a thing. I've



I've

EVERY ROTARIAN EVERY YEAR

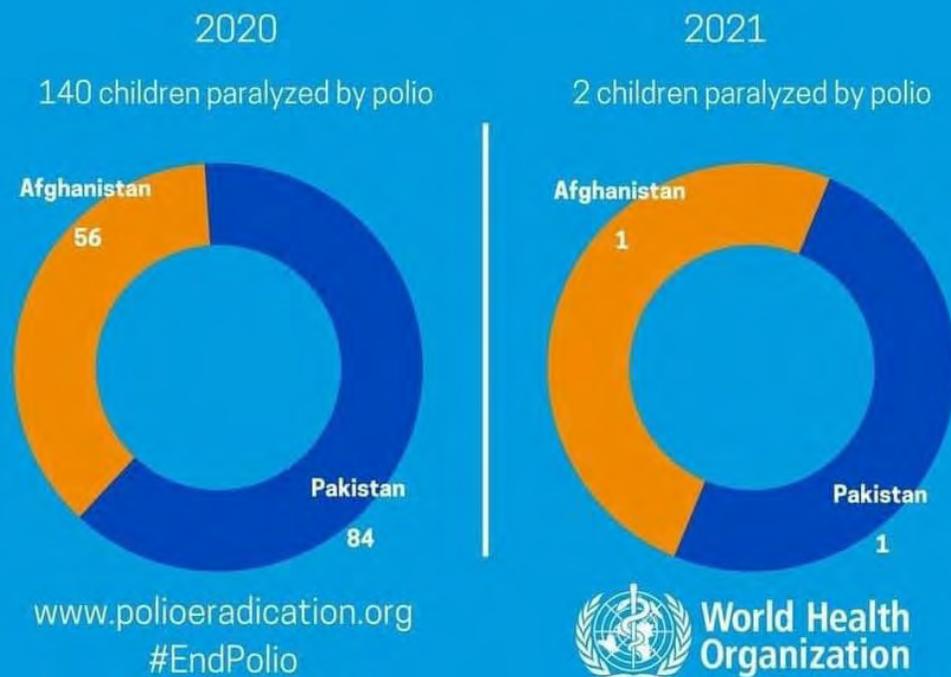
Rotary's Four Way Test

Of the things we think, say or do:

1. Is it the **truth**?
2. Is it **fair** to all concerned?
3. Will it build **goodwill** and **better friendships**?
4. Will it be **beneficial** to all concerned?

Wild Poliovirus Weekly Update

26 May 2021



In 2020, a total of 140 cases of polio were recorded in Afghanistan and Pakistan. So far, in 2021, there have only been two confirmed cases of polio in these two countries. We truly are "this close" to eradicating polio!

heard more people say "thank you" than I can count.

While it's mostly a joyful and positive experience, there have been some challenges.

There was the patient who was there with her caregiver. She had a disability and was deaf, and was also very afraid - she really wanted her mom.

Another man arrived in a wheelchair with his parents and started to get angry when he realized he was getting a vaccination. As a non-medical professional who works behind a desk all day, it was an eye

opening experience.

When my shift was done, I was exhausted, but in a good way. I still had work to do and two kids to take care of, but I felt accomplished and happy. I had no idea volunteering would have this effect on me. I'm already looking for more clinic shifts to volunteer for.

POLIO IN NUMBERS

Wild poliovirus in 2021 (2020)*
Global Total: 2 (59)

Circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus in 2021 (2020)*
Global Total: 56 (173)

*As of 27 May 2021. Numbers in brackets represent data as of May 2020.