



NEWS CONNECTION

ROTARY DISTRICT 7620 NEWSLETTER

CENTRAL MARYLAND AND WASHINGTON DC, USA

Rotary District 7620 Newsletter March 2020

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NEW ROTARACT CLUB AT UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

MARCH IS ROTARY'S ROTARACT MONTH

By RI President Mark Daniel Maloney [from The Rotarian, March 2020]

March is the month we celebrate Rotaract — and this has been quite a year for our young partners in service.

Last spring, the Council on Legislation elevated Rotaract in our constitution: Rotary International is now the association of both Rotary clubs and Rotaract clubs. Then in October, the Rotary Board of Directors eliminated the artificial Rotaract age limit and took other steps to break down barriers that were preventing Rotaract from growing in some parts of the world.

These steps were long overdue, because Rotaract is a vision of what Rotary must become. Not only do we need to open our doors to our young colleagues, but we also have to open our ears and minds to the Rotary experience they find most engaging. That is one of the best ways we will meaningfully grow Rotary.

When I say grow Rotary, I mean it in many ways. We need to grow our service and to grow the impact of our projects. Most



[Above] DGE Jimmie Gorski, District Rotaract Chair Monique Toussant and University of Maryland Rotaract Club President Minahil at the new club chartering. The new Rotaract Club was sponsored by the College Park Rotary Club.

importantly, however, we need to grow our membership, so that we can achieve more. Rotaractors provide this opportunity, not only because they can transition to Rotary at the time that is right for them, but also because they understand what it will take to attract others like them.

Business as usual will not work for us anymore. Bringing in more members to replace the ones we lose is not the answer. It is like pouring more water into a bucket full of holes. We need to address the root causes of member loss in many parts of the world: member engagement that is not what it should be, and our member demographic that skews steadily older.

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[Below] Rotarians and Rotaractors at the chartering of the University of Maryland Rotaract Club sponsored by the College Park Rotary Club.



Rotaract

