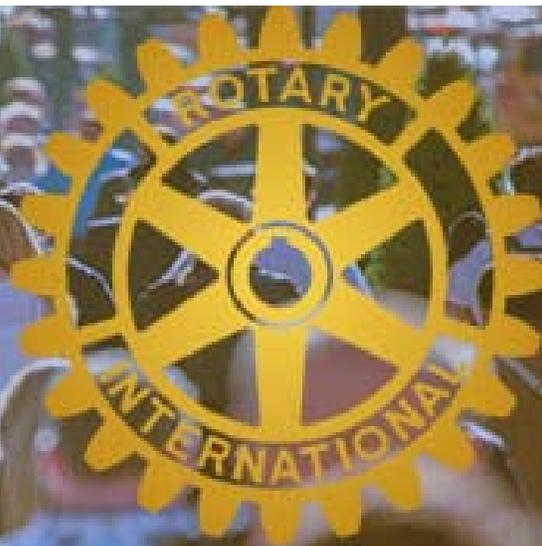




Rotary District 7600



Spirit of 7600



MAY 2022

In This Issue

[District News](#)

[Club News](#)

[May 2022 Foundation News](#)

District Leaders

Deborah Altizer Wall
District Governor

Kenneth Wayne Janes
DG-Elect

Rudy L. Garcia
District Governor Nominee

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

District News

Kingsmill Golf Tournament

Submitted by Gary Chenault and Neva Lynde

Another successful Fun and Fellowship District Golf outing was held on April 19 at the Kingsmill Resort in Williamsburg. This is the 6th consecutive District Golf Outing hosted by the James City County Club / Satellite Club and coordinated by Gary Chenault, Jack Clark and Neva Lynde. Our event was a sellout, and we had golfers on a waiting list.



The 2022 Rotary Champions are the Smithfield Happy Hour Club with Tracy Lego, Kelley Healey, James Hassell, and Tim Minor (*pictured with Jack Clark*).



This year's event was special because we introduced a 50/50 Raffle to support the Rotary Ukraine Disaster Response. The winner of the raffle was Carl Duffey of the James River Rotary Club. Carl donated his \$780 winnings back to the Disaster Response (*pictured with Neva Lynde and Gary Chenault*).

The total raffle proceeds (\$1,560) will be forwarded to THE Rotary Club of Richmond which will match the donation \$ for \$. At the end of the day, our Rotary District will provide \$3120.00 to the Ukraine relief efforts, as a result of the fundraising at the District Golf Outing. Fun, Fellowship, and Doing Good in the World.

The Rotary Club of Oyster Point won the District Governor's Award for having the most Rotarians participating in the District Golf Outing at Kingsmill April 19. Their prize was a \$100 to contribute to The Rotary End Polio Now Fund, on behalf of

Michael E. Jallo
Lieutenant Governor

Joy L. Kline
DG-Nominee Designate

JoAnn Meaker
District Newsletter Editor
jomeaker51@gmail.com

William M. Mulvihill II
District Treasurer

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

Tracey Thomas
District Executive Assistant

Tom Wilkinson
Lieutenant Governor



their club. Shown Picture of 4) representing several Oyster Point Rotarians are Jack Anderson, David Loop, Jimmy Fay, and Andrew Dunn.

From Bill Pollard:

A fun day of golf, fellowship, and networking with my F3 brothers at the Rotary District 7600 annual golf outing held at the Kingsmill River Course in Williamsburg. Billboard and Moneyball are also fellow Rotarians.

The mission of Rotary International is to provide service to others, promote integrity, and advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through our fellowship of business, professional, and community leaders.

The mission of F3 is to plant, grow and serve small workout groups for men for the invigoration of male community leadership. I'm blessed to be associated with both organizations.

DTTS: A link to photos taken by Bill Billings of the District Team Training Seminar is [HERE](#).



Council on Legislation Reports:

Every three years representatives from Rotary districts worldwide meet in Chicago to review and vote on proposed legislation. This Council on Legislation met mid-April and the chart of preliminary voting results are detailed [HERE](#). The full text of each of the proposed amendments that have been adopted is [HERE](#).

Report From the Council on Legislation

Submitted by PDG Chuck Arnason:

Representatives to the 2022 Council on Legislation voted overwhelmingly on their first day of sessions to add "equity and inclusion" to Rotary International bylaws, affirming the organization's continued effort to be inclusive of all cultures, experiences, and identities, and to reflect the communities it serves.

The four-day conference, held in Chicago, Illinois, USA on 10-14 April, marked Rotary's first successful attempt to host a hybrid international event since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic. About 520 representatives represented Rotary districts around the world; about 60% attended in-person, and the rest participated via Zoom.

This year's Council reviewed and voted on more than 90 enactments that would change RI's constitutional documents. Among the highlights is the legislation that promotes diversity and builds a well-balanced Rotary membership.

Proposed by the Rotary Club of Annanagar Aadithya, India, (District 3232) the enactment passed by a vote of 420 to 56. Amended Rotary bylaws now state that "each club or Rotaract club shall endeavor to build a well-balanced membership that celebrates diversity, equity, and inclusion." Rotary prohibits clubs from denying an individual membership due to gender, race, color, creed, national origin, or sexual orientation.

"We have now made growing and diversifying our membership a top internal organizational priority," said Valarie Wafer, who chairs RI's Global Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion task force. "Feeling welcome and comfortable with fellow club members is the single greatest driver of member satisfaction, and retention," Wafer maintained. "By adding equity, we are thoughtfully considering how to provide differing levels of support, opportunities, and resources so everyone can have a welcoming and valuable experience. Adding inclusion ensures that we focus on creating experiences in which all people are welcomed, respected, and valued."

Club Administration Pilot

Duane Benton, a member of the Rotary Club of Kansas City and a federal judge, who co-chaired this year's Council, characterized multiple items at this Council as part of Rotary's continued commitment to improving club and organizational flexibility.

An enactment that generated vigorous discussion before passing by a vote of 324 to 150 would allow the RI Board to pilot a new regional governance structure for clubs and Rotarians.

The pilot will be limited to Rotary Great Britain and Ireland (RIBI) as well as clubs and districts in Australia, New Zealand, and the South Pacific for a duration of six years. Cosponsors of the legislation - the RI Board and the Rotary Club of Merimbula (District 9705) in Australia, stated that the current regional governance structure, put in place over 70 years ago, has grown into a "significant hierarchy" with too many layers and roles.

"It is appropriate to modernize and consider new models that can enhance our efficiency, increase the ability of members to access support, and look at new ways to make volunteer positions more manageable and doable," said Wafer, who spoke on behalf of the RI board. Representatives who opposed the enactment argued that the plan for the pilot lacks specifics and could reduce the number of districts and put a district governor's role at risk. One representative from District 3490 (Taiwan) expressed concern that the plan could alter the autonomous structure of Rotary clubs, leading to centralized governance and decreasing localized management.

Wafer, reassured Rotarians that the districts and the role of district governors will not be eliminated while the pilot is being implemented. Following a six-year experiment, she said if the findings indicate that the existing model needs to be reverted, the role of district governors will still exist.

"This is not to force fit a new governance structure," Wafer added. "Rather, we try to work in partnership with districts to see what works and what doesn't for a more sustainable future."

Dues Increase

Representatives approved a dues increase for each of the next three years. Dues that clubs pay to RI per member are set at \$35.50 per half year in 2022-23. Dues will increase to \$37.50 per half year in 2023-24, \$39.25 per half year in 2024-25, and US\$41.00 per half year in 2025-26.

"The proposed dues adjustment is based on the most current forecasting information," said RI Director Elizabeth Usovicz. She attributed the dues increase to lower membership, lower earnings, and fluctuating inflation. "The approval will now enable Rotary to respond quickly and compassionately to humanitarian needs."

The Rotary Magazine Network

Rotary currently has 33 magazines across worldwide. Representatives rejected a proposal that would have required members to receive a digital copy of any of the magazines unless they request a printed copy.

Currently, every Rotary magazine is required to offer a digital alternative for the readers, said RI Director Ananthanarayanan S. "Venky" Venkatesh. But subscriber data show that only 8% have opted for a digital copy. The majority prefer the print version. Moreover, nearly 70% of members have reported in recent surveys that they still read books and magazines on paper.

At the same time, Rotary magazines are exploring ways to make their output more environmentally friendly while balancing the cost of publication.

On a related vote, delegates have also affirmed Rotary's bylaws that mandates magazine subscription for each member.

A 2020 Rotary survey shows that 84 percent said the magazine strengthens their connection with Rotary, allowing them to better understand the organization. Making the subscription optional will decrease the level of consistent Rotary knowledge and engagement among its members, said Sylvia Whitlock, a trailblazer who was the first female club president in the history of Rotary.

"The magazine is a primer for Rotary members keeping us informed on the who, what, when, where, why and how of the world," said Whitlock. "Without the magazine everything is just happenstance. Any good primer is beside you all the time."

Standing ovation for Ukraine

During a legislative session on April 12, RI President Shekhar Mehta recognized Hennadii Kroychik, a delegate from the Ukrainian city of Lviv, who left his war-torn country and took a circuitous journey to Chicago for the Council. "Hennadii made the trip here even with the

tragedy that is unfolding in Ukraine,” said Mehta. “We want you to know that we stand with you and your country.”

Kroychik received a standing ovation from attendees in the room for what Mehta called “fulfilling his duties under extreme circumstances and demonstrating such commitment to Rotary.”

Electronic Policymaking

“What we have done for the 2022 Council on Legislation is unprecedented,” says Benton. “About 200 delegates from every continent participated in the deliberations via Zoom. Despite the time differences, participants debated and voted on proposals as if they had been there in person. This is the full flowering of electronic policymaking.”

Benton added, “What we accomplished in this session shows that we can do both in-person and hybrid Councils.”

Portions provided by *Wen Huang/The Rotary magazine*

Club News

Western Henrico Club:

The fifth annual Western Henrico Rotary Club Service Above Self Awards ceremony was held April 12 at the Westwood Club, honoring Henrico firefighter Josh Windom and Henrico police officer Craig Jones.

The WHRC made donations in Windom’s name to Tara’s Children and in Jones’ name to Mothers Against Drunk/Drugged Driving. Among the firefighters, police officers, club and community members who gathered for the occasion were, (L-R): Lt. Col. Mike Palkovics (HPD), Carter Hill (MADD), Craig Jones (HPD/recipient), Josh Windom (HFD/recipient), Clay Meredith (HFD/Tara’s Children), Bernie Curlee (WHRC president), Dr. Poovillam Subramaniam (WHRC Service Above Self committee chair), and Tom Labelle (HFD deputy fire chief).



James City County Satellite Club:

Submitted by Neva Lynde

JCC Rotary Honors Charter Member Allan Geddes



The Rotary Club of James City County remembered Allan Geddes who (until his recent death) was one of only four remaining charter members and the Club’s first president. Allan was instrumental in establishing James City County Club in 1987 and was very active in club activities as long as his health permitted. Charlie Glazener, (center) another Charter Member and continuously active Rotarian, presented Allan’s membership badge to Allan’s children, Nancy Geddes and John Geddes. Each was also presented a Rotary pin with an invitation to join Rotary, making them fourth generation Geddes in Rotary. The other remaining active JCC Charter Rotarians are Jim Harward and Bob

Ware.

New Kent Club:

New Kent County — A local group is putting their hands to work making items for Ukrainian refugees overseas and is inviting the community to help.

“Anything we can do to give back we do,” said Bethann Ford, leader of the Heritage Public Library’s *From the Heart* knitting group.



Vessels of Mercy International recently sent out a request to all active chapters of *From the Heart* and asked that they send hats and small warm items to refugees flooding out of Ukraine.

There are about 15 active members in *From the Heart* chapters in New Kent and Charles City counties, Ford said. The New Kent branch alone has made over 70 hats to send to Ukrainian refugees in both Poland and Ukraine.

Since its inception three years ago, the Heritage Public Library knitting group has made thousands of items for cancer and dialysis patients, the homeless and premature babies, as well as artificial nests for wildlife and face masks.

"We made 600-700 face masks that were handed out at Charles City High School during COVID and we partnered with the Rotary Club to make and send 275 masks to a school in Africa," Ford said.

The group is able to provide these services through \$4,000 in grants from the New Kent Rotary Club and the Rotary District 7600.

The money has been used in the past to purchase sustainable equipment including yarn, sewing machines, shears, two storage cabinets, rotary cutters, pins and needles, and books. The Heritage Public Library's *From the Heart* knitting group New Kent branch (7791 Invicta Lane, New Kent) meets on the second Tuesday and the Charles City branch (10900 Courthouse Road, Charles City) meets in the third Monday of every month at 2 p.m. The meetings are available by Zoom through the library website heritagepubliclibrary.org.

South Hill Club:

A huge shout-out to 313 Franklin-Cocktails & Kitchen for their help with the club's Rotary Reverse Raffle. Thanks to Gloria and her son for their kitchen help as they step up for events. Thanks to bartenders Cassidy and Kayla, and volunteers Jean and Lane Spigener, Nicole Stanley, Sandi Kidd, Lois Finch, and all the Rotarians and spouses who spent hours working on this event for the first time in 2.5 years. And of course, thanks to all the wonderful sponsors and those who donated door prizes.

Rotary raffle \$5000 winner Jimmy Vaughan and Club President Lynn Ellis.



AND...

The South Hill Rotary Club will be selling flags to honor heroes as part of their *Fill the Field with Flags* fundraising project. The ten-foot flag poles with a 3 x 5 flags will be proudly displayed on the corner of Highway 58 and Peebles Road in front of Discount Furniture Store between Memorial Day and July 4, 2022.

You can sponsor a flag to honor or in memory of military or emergency first responders or anyone that is a hero in your life. The flags will be having personalized memorial flag medallions with the South Hill Rotary Clubs name and the name of the person being honored. You can sponsor a flag for \$50 the first year and can take the flag or medallion at the end of the display time frame or you can have the club store it for you and if you choose to use it again the next year the cost is \$35 for first year renewal placement and \$25 for each additional renewal to help keep the project fundraising ongoing for the club. Proceeds support the local Rotary projects. Please have checks and forms in by May 20, 2022.

Flags for Heroes 2022

The South Hill Rotary Club says thanks:

Sponsor _____

Cash _____ Check # _____

Sold by (Rotarian) _____ Date ____/____/____

Sponsor a Flag for \$50.

Honor a military, EMS, Doctor, Nurse, Teacher or other hero (past or present), by sponsoring

a flag. Flags will be proudly displayed on the corner of Highway 58 and Peebles Rd between Memorial Day and the 4th of July 2018. Proceeds support the local Rotary projects. To help assure accuracy, please list only one Hero per form

Name of Hero _____
 Sponsor Name _____
 Address _____ State ____ Zip _____
 Phone _____ - _____ Email Address _____
 Sold by (Rotarian) _____ Cash ___ Check # _____

Make your \$50** check payable to: South Hill Rotary Club (this makes your contribution tax-deductible). Please write Flags for Heroes on the memo line. Give to a Rotarian or mail to: Rotary Club of South Hill, PO Box 982, South Hill, VA 23970.

**One check may be written for multiple flag sponsorship forms at \$50 each.

Chesterfield Club:



Congratulations to the finalists in the Chesterfield Secondary Schools Public Speaking Competition 2022, held at the Olde House, Newbold, on Friday 1 April 2022, and organized by Chesterfield Rotary for the 55th year. A big thanks to all participating schools, and to Ingrid Stopher (Vice-Chair Chesterfield Rotary Satellite Group) for organizing. *In the pic from left to right: Joint runner-up Rayna Tippler-Smith (Netherthorpe), Ivona Bradley (Chair Chesterfield Rotary Satellite Group), Winner Rose Scott (Brookfield), and Joint runner-up*

Neave Ormsby (St Marys).

AND...

Chesterfield Rotarians took a timeout from supporting community projects by enjoying a fun night of ten-pin-bowling. Check out Satellite Rotary Club of Chesterfield if you fancy joining us.



James River Club:

Recently the clean-up crew at Camp Baker got a lot of work done in a short amount of time including lattice work, staining and re-doing plant beds. The Camp is getting ready for campers that will arrive soon for day camp and overnight campers, too.



Churchland Club:

Submitted by Charles Owens, story by Sandy Stewart

I just have to say WOW, WOW, WOW! We had 17 volunteers including eleven Rotarians and family to participate in the Roc Solid ready bag packing party recently.

When we arrived, there was fresh fruit, donuts, cookies, coffee, water and a variety of snacks available to us. We had a short orientation and went around the room to tell our WHY. Then we had the opportunity to participate in some trivia about Roc Solid followed by a testimony by



momma and papa bear. They shared their story with us.

Their 4-year-old son, Nolan, was rushed to the hospital and after many tests was diagnosed with an aggressive form of abdominal cancer. They immediately started aggressive chemo treatments lasting for 24-hour periods for over a month. Papa bear said he was a fireman, and that preparedness was his motto. But this was nothing that they could have ever been prepared for or understand. They mentioned how receiving the ready bag was such a relief for them having the essentials and not having to leave Nolan's side. Nolan continued to receive the treatments necessary to cure him. He is now in remission and goes every month for checkups. The first five years after initial treatment are most critical.

They are so very grateful for Roc Solid and said it made a great impact on them. Roc Solid also selected their family to build a playset. You see Nolan has three older brothers and one sister at home. He was the epicenter of the household, so this playset helped them resume some of the normalcy that was interrupted during his treatment. They thanked us for being a part of this program and for giving up our time and resources.

We learned how Roc Solid started and some history of their progress. It's amazing how Eric Newman, the founder found HOPE that would translate into this countrywide humanitarian effort!

Each Ready Bag includes a blanket, cup, tablet and cover, toiletries, games, playing cards, stress ball, pen, sleeping mask and chargers. We wrote encouraging words on the flaps of these boxes and placed a handwritten scripted note inside each bag and attached a Roc Solid Tag with our first name printed. All in all, we put together 45 ready bags that will go out in the near future to some family in hopes that it will bring some hope!



I am so proud that our Rotary Club was financially and physically able to participate in this event. This was one of President Debra's choice projects for her Rotary Year. We were glad that we had the opportunity to see first handed the difference this will make to families facing the most dreaded day of their lives.



Submitted by Michael Little, Rotary Club of Richmond

The Rotaract Club of VCU Club (sponsored by The Rotary Club of Richmond) recently donated \$500 to *Safe Harbor* and *Ram Pantry*. They are very grateful to have the opportunity to recognize and support service organizations in the Richmond community.

Safe Harbor is an organization in our community that provides support to survivors of sexual and domestic violence and human trafficking, allowing them to overcome their crisis and transform their lives. *Ram Pantry* (sponsored by *FoodBank*) provides food staples to over 200 VCU students who visited the office in the VCU Commons approximately 700 times in the past academic year. The donation provides for a meal value of \$3.50 for students who may not

always have the means.

Photos include: 1) Rotaract of VCU officer Vice President-Manitha Mulpuru, giving check to Katherine Moore, Safe Harbor Administrative Manager. 2) Rotaract of VCU President Yash Desai is pictured giving a check to Ram Pantry staff recipients Ajah Riddick (left) and Claire Williams (right) along with Richmond Rotary Club advisers E.M. Miller and Mike Little. 3) Rotaract of VCU officers and club advisers being recognized at a club luncheon meeting by President Chuck Duvall for service projects during the year with both clubs.

Virginia Peninsula Club:

From Diane Hagemann:



Last Friday I attended a lovely reception at the James River Country Club (Newport News, VA) that honored donors and supporters of An Achievable Dream School in Newport News. My Rotary Club – The Rotary Club of the Virginia Peninsula - has supported this organization financially and with volunteers for 30 years.

An Achievable Dream is a nationally recognized K–12 program in Newport News dedicated to the belief that all children can learn and succeed regardless of their socioeconomic background.

Pictured here with me are left to right: Dr. Lee Vreeland, CEO and President of AAD, Rotary Club President Adam Duncan and Rotary Club Board members Steve Adams and Dr. John Frantz.

Newport News:

Past Club President and our Club President-Elect Tim Ryan was presented with his Paul Harris Fellow +6 pin at today's meeting. This pin is presented in recognition Tim's financial support of the Rotary's Foundation.

Prince George County Club:

The members of the Prince George County Club is holding its annual Rotary Scholarship Picnic in mid-May. They thank their current sponsors who make possible the scholarships, dictionaries for third-graders, and other service projects. Thanks to Clark's Auto Care Center, Inc., Mike's Hardscape Supply Center, John Randolph Foundation, Sligh Plumbing and Heating, Parr & Abernathy Realty, Inc., Wonder City Small Engine Repair, and West End Service Center. They are still seeking more sponsors. Contact a club member for details.



Portsmouth Club:

Submitted by Steve Milner

District Grant assists Portsmouth Rotary Club's environmental project

The Portsmouth Rotary Club, in conjunction with a Rotary Foundation grant, recently gave a \$3,000 check to the Hoffer Creek Wildlife Preserve for its goat-scaping project that's helping to protect the local environment. Based on this program's success, the Virginia Forestry Department plans to implement similar projects in the future, including one that Dominion Energy says it plans to do in July.

The Portsmouth Rotary Club added \$500 to the Foundation's \$2,500 grant. In accepting this check, Ashley Morgan, Hoffer Creek's executive director, said goats and sheep could help to control invasive wisteria at her wildlife preserve. "Goats are good climbers that eliminate unwanted vines and sheep are very effective in getting English Ivy on the ground. Doing nothing is not an option because invasive wisteria will continue to spread and take down native trees," she said.

Ms. Morgan and Hoffer Creek board of directors president Sarah Cunningham, received this check at Roger Brown's restaurant in downtown Portsmouth. Hoffer Creek Wildlife Preserve was established in 1997 on a 142-acre urban site.



Photo caption: Portsmouth Rotary Club president William "Billy" Hargroves presents a \$3,000 check to Ashley Morgan, center, Hoffer Creek Wildlife Preserve executive director, and Sarah Cunningham, president of the preserve's board of directors. Photo by Maureen Mizelle.

May 2022 Foundation News

The
Rotary
Foundation

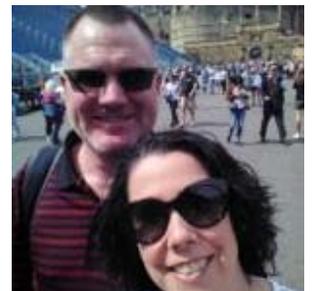


A Message from DRFC Stephen Beer: Giving Tuesday – How One Club Succeeded

District 7600's annual Rotary Foundation Giving Tuesday took place this year on April 5th. We were successful in raising \$62,214 for The Rotary Foundation's Annual Fund. THANK YOU to the club leaders and Rotarians that made this happen! THANKS for your generosity that will help Rotarians make the world a much better place!

Rotary Foundation recognition points are being awarded to those who contributed between \$100 and \$500 (except for those who are already at Paul Harris Fellow Plus 8). An additional incentive was made to club foundation chairs that successfully promoted and increased the number of members who enroll in Rotary Direct by at least five members. Rotary Direct is when someone establishes regular, automatic giving to The Rotary Foundation on the My.Rotary website. It is easy to set up and pay with a credit card for monthly, quarterly, or annual automatic contributions that take place on the 2nd day of the month.

David Whiteside (pictured with his wife Michele) is the current president of the 27-member Rotary Club of Mechanicsville. Through David's efforts, his club now has eight members signed up for Rotary Direct, an increase of six members.



David and Past District Governor Karlis Graubics collaborated to make an exciting promotion for Giving Tuesday on Giving Tuesday. The club holds its regular weekly meetings on Tuesday mornings. Karlis was presented with his Major Donor, Level 4 recognition for his outstanding contributions to The Rotary Foundation. After the presentation Karlis announced that he would match his members' contributions to the Annual Fund that day. David also announced the club would give

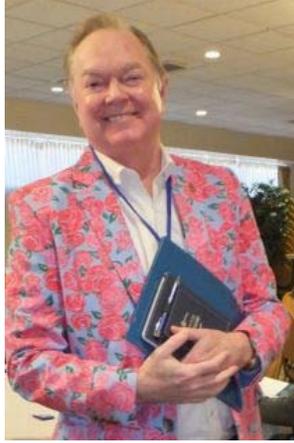
additional Foundation Recognition Points from the club to those who signed up for Rotary Direct.

Karlis matched sixteen members' contributions that totaled \$6257. That's \$12,514 for one day's fundraising. Not bad!

Congrats to President David on his success and kudos to all the members of Mechanicsville Rotary on your generous achievement!

On becoming a Rotarian

By PDG John Padgett



Every Rotarian receives a pin when they accept membership in a Rotary Club. The pin identifies an individual's connection to Rotary. Yet, in your Rotary journey, there is often a moment that transforms you from a member to a true Rotarian. It is those moments that redefine our commitment to service and doing good in the world. Rotary International President Shekhar Mehta's theme is "Serve to Change Lives." He is urging members to become more involved with service projects. Caring for and serving others is the best way to live, changing not only the lives of others, but also our own. The Rotary International Foundation is the vehicle to take Rotary ideals to other areas of our lives, making our businesses, families, and communities better. The world needs us to serve those far away and those close to us.

District 7600 has a strong culture of Foundation giving. I reflected on the impact that the Foundation has not only in District 7600 but throughout the world. The Foundation leadership team gathered at the District Team Training Seminar on April 16, 2022. The team talked about the vision for the upcoming year and to imagine what the Foundation can accomplish in the coming year. I was struck by the power Rotary has in transforming lives. The Foundation team shared their stories of how they became Rotarians. The inoculation of children in India, the building of bridges in undeveloped countries, establishing schools to improve educational opportunities, and the digging of wells to eliminate disease were all part of the stories. The District Foundation leadership team is committed to Rotary because they have seen the impact it can make.

I am excited to be working with such a dynamic group of Foundation leaders. We are now tasked with Imagining Rotary and what its impact can be under the leadership of Rotary International President-Elect Jennifer Jones and District Governor Elect Kenny Janes. The team is excited to be part of the process of impactful change. I look forward to sharing the news and stories of the Foundation in the coming Rotary year. I am certain it will help you transform your commitment from being merely a member of Rotary to becoming a Rotarian.

As we prepare for 2022-23, I would remind you of the upcoming deadlines:

- The deadline for applying for a District Grant is May 15, 2022.
- Save August 6, 2022, for the "Be a Vibrant Club" district training for all Rotarian.

Photo of John Padgett by Bill Billings

Special visit to the Rotary Club of New Kent

By Janice L. Rowley (Rotary Club of Prince George County)

In early April, I had the pleasure of visiting the Rotary Club of New Kent for a special meeting. Colleen Bonadonna, the End Polio Now Chair for District 7600, was hosting Dr. Nischal Pandey, a pediatric cardiologist from India, who is deeply engaged in performing life-saving surgeries for children in India, the Philippines, Mongolia, and African nations. He grew up as an Interactor, Rotaractor, Rotarian, and is the founding President of the Rotary E-Club of District 3170.

Other visitors that day included the Past District Governor of 7610 (Fredericksburg and points North), Janet Brown, accompanied by her husband, and Stephen Beer, the Rotary 7600 District Foundation Chair. Like me they were there to see



Nischal whom we had met on National Immunization Day (NID) trips to India.

Colleen Bonadonna, with Nancy Barbee, the Assistant Area Rotary Foundation Coordinator (ARRFC) for Rotary Zone 33, have led at least ten NID trips, making it possible for American Rotarians to participate in these immunization efforts in India and other countries. The mission of an NID is to inoculate as many children as possible in a 3-day event. Interrupted by COVID, Colleen and Nancy plan to resume the trips this January. If you are interested, you can contact Colleen at [Colleen's email](#).

It was great to visit with Nischal and an honor to see him present a Special Certificate of Appreciation to Stephen Beer for the support of District 7600 for the "Gift of Life" program to produce oxygen for people with COVID when oxygen was in short supply and certainly out of the reach of many people in India with Covid. Now the oxygen being produced is also provided to non-Covid related low income and indigent patients.

Fifty-one Rotary Clubs and four Rotaract Clubs Certify in 2022 Grant Management Seminars



Though it seems like such a long time ago, the District Rotary Foundation Committee (DRFC) hosted two virtual Grant Management Seminars (GMS) on February 19 and on March 24. Both sessions were well attended. As a result, 51 Rotary Clubs and 4 Rotaract clubs are now certified to apply for and/or partner in Rotary grants during the coming year due to their live attendance in a GMS.

The GMS team included incoming Chair of the DRFC, Past District Governor John Padgett, Grants Chair Shel Douglas, District Grants Chair Raghavan Sadagopan, and Foundation Scholarships Chair Michael Little. All did their share of the presentations and slides, and Raghavan did the heavy lifting hosting the Zoom sessions. On February 19th, Raghavan was also supporting tech support to the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards. That is what we call multi-tasking.

Now the clubs are working on their grant proposals well versed in the requirements and deadlines of the grant application process. The grants team members are available to assist when there are unique questions and the grant module on dacdb can be accessed so that prior successful grants can be reviewed to provide guidance on the application process itself.

P.S. The Rotaract Clubs qualified to apply for or partner in a Rotary Grant are Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU Rotaract), RotaractRVA, Old Dominion University (ODU Rotaract), and John Tyler Community College (JTCC Rotaract).

April 27, 2022 - District Grants Status:

District grant applications must be submitted through the District Grants module on dacdb.com by May 15. Prior to that date the only clubs which will be eligible to apply or partner in an application are those clubs which had a representative participate in one of the Grant Management Seminars, submitted their Foundation Giving goals in Rotary Club Central by May 1, and had closed out any 2021-2022 open grant via the grants module by May 1.

2021-2022 District Grants Status as of April 27th:

- 21 district grants were approved for the 2021-2022 Rotary year
- 10 of those grants have had their final reports approved
- 3 of those grants have submitted their final reports for district approval
- 8 clubs have not submitted their final grant reports for district approval

Hopefully by the time this article is read in the Spirit of 7600, all of the grant projects have been successfully closed out.

Remember that the final report can be filed with appropriate documentation as soon as the District Designated Funds have been expended for the project.

District Grants Outlook for the 2022-2023 Rotary year as of April 27.

There are currently 6 district grant projects being drafted via the District Grants Module with



a total of 9 clubs involved in the 6 projects. One grant in the drafting process will have as one of its partners RotaractRVA. There is very little information available at this point, but May 15 is very near. There is only \$122,000 district grant funds available this year. Beware of pass-through funds grants. There is no substitute for the sweat equity expended by Rotarians.

LUV your MOU: District Grants Cycle 2022-2023 is underway



As this article is being written on April 27th, there are 6 district grants being drafted per the 2022-2023 org year in the DACdb grant module. There are 9 Rotary clubs involved in the 6 grants and one grant being drafted will have a partner in the RotaractRVA club.

Now, all of this nascent grant application drafting could change and will change as we near the **May 15** submission deadline via the grant module. For one thing, only 10 grants from the 2021-2022 cycle have been closed out while 3 other grant projects have submitted their final reports for district approval. That means there are 8 grant projects yet to file their final reports from last year's projects.

The district designated funds available for districts grants this coming Rotary year is only \$122,000. Fifty-one Rotary Clubs (provided they have closed out any prior grants and loaded their Foundation goals into myrotary.org timely) are eligible to apply for or partner in a district grant as are 4 Rotaract clubs.

So, may we suggest a few ideas:

Whatever you do, don't forget to load the Memorandum of Understanding with the appropriate signatures for each club participating in the grant. Fall in love with your MOU, it is an adorable document required by The Rotary Foundation for your clubs to get some funding for your fabulous grant project. Remember LUV your MOU.

Consider doing a multi-club grant if the opportunity exists. The availability of more funding can result in a more impactful, memorable project. Some clubs are physically distant from other Rotary clubs, so don't forget to seek out community partners who might be able to provide some funding, expertise, or in-kind contributions.

Start your efforts by determining a quantifiable need in your community. Query similar nonprofit organizations, local government entities, or your own members to identify needs that your project, in a scalable way, can help meet that need.

Think long-term. Is the project sustainable? Will your completed project still be contributing to your community in 2027 or 2032?

Please don't forget to identify/quantify the sweat equity your Rotarians will be contributing to the project. The "Big Check" concept is a thing of the past. Pass-through funding will not engage your members in doing good in your community like helping paint learning aids on a school playground, building a Rotary park in a historic neighborhood, or building a canoe/kayak launch in an underserved area.

And maybe lastly. Brag, brag, brag. Do little short videos of the project in progress and post on social media and in the grant module. Pictures are great, too, just not too many "butt" shots. You know what we are talking about. Do press releases. Make a presentation about your project at your local Board of Supervisors or City Council meeting. Capturing a project in progress is just as important, if not more so, that even a stunning picture of a completed project.