

Rotarians, Water and Sanitation

While very few people die of thirst, millions die from preventable waterborne diseases. This month the Rotary focus is on water and sanitation. In our developing and underdeveloped countries, many people die because of bad water and sanitation. Rotarians provide toilets and latrines and other clean water initiatives in most of these countries. According to a Rotary publication, at least 3,000 children die each day from diarrheal diseases caused by unsafe water, a grim reminder for Rotary members who make providing clean water and sanitation an organizational priority.

Our commitment to clean water is stronger than ever. With over 1.2 million members in more than 35,000 clubs in nearly every corner of the world, we can work together with like-minded organizations like WHO and UNICEF in tackling water and sanitation problems around



the world. In our district 7670 several projects in the past years have focused on sanitation and clean water. Rotarians can't give up until every child in our world can drink safe and clean water.

Many diseases are caused by poor sanitation and unsafe water consumption. Clean water, sanitation, and hygiene education are basic necessities for a healthy environment and a productive life. When people have access to clean water and sanitation, waterborne diseases decrease, children stay healthier and attend school more regularly, and mothers can spend less time carrying water and more time helping their families.

DG Isaac

ROTARY WHERE FRIENDS MEET AND NEW FRIENDS ARE COME TOGETHER



Come to the District Conference to meet the Nigerian Friendship Exchange Team and hear from our team that has just returned from Lagos.

Have you ever stepped out of your comfort zone and into a culture much different from your own? Have you done it in a foreign country? I am not talking about a Tourist in a resort in Mexico! Recently eight of our Rotarians, actually seven Rotarians and a spouse traveled to Lagos, Nigeria, but eight Rotarians returned! However, that is another story! I will give you a hint, a Nigerian King and Rotary Past District Governor persuaded the non-Rotarian spouse to become a Rotarian while we were there!

Our Friendship Exchange Team has just returned from Africa having spent more than a week living with, eating with, and socializing with hundreds of Rotarians and Clubs in District 9110. The team was composed of George & Karen Milner, Debbie Francis, Katherine Morosani, Joanna Gollberg, Jim & Judi Efland, and our District Governor Isaac.

Of course the visit was not as dramatic a change for DG Isaac who was born in Nigeria and enjoyed showing us the country and culture!

The team from Nigeria will be here in April and you will have an opportunity to meet them. Besides being in our District for ten days, they will be at our District Conference.





Rotary Youth Leadership Academy District 7670
YMCA Blue Ridge Assembly — Black Mountain, NC.
 Thursday, March 28- Sunday, March 31, 2019

Rotary Youth Leadership Academy (RYLA) provides an opportunity for high-school students from Rotary District 7670 (western NC) to spend a long weekend learning leadership and teamwork skills with like-minded high school students from across our District.

We are using a RYLA format used by several districts but new to us. RYLA will begin at approximately 3:00 pm on Thursday, 28 March 2019 and conclude at approximately 2:00 pm on 31 March 2019. RYLA is being held at the YMCA Blue Ridge Assembly in Black Mountain. All activities are on site. The cost per student is **\$300 all inclusive**.

We also need Rotarian mentors to stay during RYLA. Our plan is to have a minimum of one Rotarian mentor per 10 students. The mentor will stay in the dormitory on the hall with their assigned group. Obviously, we need female and male mentors. The task is to be an active part of the assigned group during activities and meals. Cost per mentor is \$100 which includes lodging, meals and background checks (to protect youth and volunteers). **All mentors and RYLA team members must complete the youth protection modules on the RI website: www.rotary.org, MyRotary.**

Deadline for registering is 13 March 2019. The young leader and sponsor applications are available on the District website www.rotary7670.org under the youth programs. RYLA section. Direct questions to Mike Stevenson (msteven1@ccvn.com) or Gary Dills (gddills@gmail.com)



CART CRUISE VISITS BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS

The 2019 CART Cruise sailed south to the Virgin Islands to visit with local Rotarians interested in learning about CART and sharing their efforts to eradicate Alzheimer's Disease. Rotarians, their families and friends from Districts 7670 and 6960 were hosted by club and district leaders from Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands. Club leaders from all three Road Town clubs attended along with a representative from the local Rotaract Club. PDG Vance Lewis and DGE Delma Maduro also participated in the "meet and greet" session. Rotarian and Virgin Islands Alzheimer's Association president, Edna Williams organized the very successful meeting where ideas from both groups were shared and discussed. The meeting ended with a superb luncheon of local foods that was enjoyed by everyone attending.

PDG Dennis Sanders shared the following: "This wonderful event enabled both groups of Rotarians to make new friends and at the same time share ideas on how to deal with all aspects of Alzheimer's Disease. The Tortola group focuses on awareness and community initiatives to address the disease. Our CART program focuses on research. It was our common goal to continue with our discussions and, hopefully, make improvements in helping the current and future victims of Alzheimer's Disease."

Historic Moments: PolioPlus turns 30

This year marks 30 years since Rotary launched PolioPlus, its campaign to rid the world of polio. Beginning on Rotary's anniversary, 23 February, Rotary members worldwide will be holding events to celebrate three decades of polio eradication progress.

Since 1985 Rotary and its partners have helped reduce the number of cases of polio and they remain committed until the disease is eradicated. Rotary has contributed more than \$1.3 billion and countless volunteer hours to protect more than 2 billion children worldwide. In addition, Rotary's advocacy efforts have played a role in decisions by donor governments to contribute over \$10 billion to the effort.

Before the global scope of PolioPlus, individual clubs with Rotary funding were attacking the disease closer to home. In 1979 Rotary members and delegates of the Philippine Ministry of Health looked on as volunteers administered drops of the oral polio vaccine to children in the Manila barrio of Guadalupe Viejo. When James L. Bomar Jr., then Rotary president, put the first drops of vaccine into a child's mouth, he ceremonially launched the Philippine poliomyelitis immunization effort. Bomar joined Enrique M. Garcia, the country's minister of health, in signing the contract committing Rotary International and the government of the Philippines to a joint five-year effort to immunize around 6 million children against polio at a cost of about \$760,000. In a 1993 interview, Bomar recalled how the brother of one of the children he'd immunized tugged on his pant leg to get his attention and said, "Thank you, thank you, Rotary."

The success of this project set the stage for Rotary's top priority to rid the world of polio. Since Rotary introduced its PolioPlus campaign, the number of polio cases worldwide has dropped 99 percent, and the virus remains endemic in just three countries -- Afghanistan, Nigeria, and Pakistan.



By Susan Hanf and Arnold R. Grahl

WANT TO BUILD A SCHOOL IN GUATEMALA?

Rotary Club of Asheville has formed a partnership between Rotary clubs in the District, the Rotary E-Club of Lake Atitlan in Panajachel, Guatemala, and PEG Partners, a non-profit based in Black Mountain, NC and founded by David LaMotte, former Rotary Peace Scholar. David formed PEG 15 years ago.

In 2005, David & PEG Partners began helping a small school in Tzanchaj, Guatemala, started by a local Mayan man to serve the children who could not afford the cost of education in public schools. The school serves approximately 60 children each year, starting at age 3 through 2nd grade, with 4 teachers and a Director. In 2018, the school lost their lease. PEG Partners raised the money to purchase two adjacent pieces of land to be the site of a new school for these kids. The big picture goal now is to raise close to \$100k to build a school for these kids.



RECOGNIZE THE GENTLEMAN ON THE RIGHT?

Morganton Mayor Ronnie Thompson and Rotary Club of Burke-Sunrise President Scott Compton "pose" after Mayor

Thompson made his State of the City Address to Rotary members. Mayor Thompson is a long time Rotarian including holding the position of District Governor of Rotary International. He has, also, served on the Morganton City Council, and the Burke County Board of Realtors. He has an Economics Degree from UNC-Chapel Hill.



GIVING



Toe River Valley Watch recently received a grant from the National Park Service for the Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail Master Plan from Spruce Pine to Lake James. This funding was matched by a generous donation from the Rotary Club of Spruce Pine.

Starli McDowell accepted the donation on behalf of Toe River Valley Watch from the president of Rotary Club of Spruce Pine, Floyd Styles.

PACKING BACKPACKS



Several members of the RC of Caldwell County filled backpacks full of food to assist students at West Lenoir Elementary school. Working in partnership with Aldi and the school, the Rotarians periodically assist with this effort. R-I, front row, Charles Beck, Chris Cole, Courtney Wright. Second row, Bill Sproul, Kay Crouch, Kevin Miller, Kent Spears. In the back, Dr. Jeff Church.

CONGRATULATIONS...

On Thursday, February 7th, the **Rotary Club of Marion celebrated its 80th anniversary.** This milestone was marked with a delicious prime rib lunch by Countryside Barbecue and a very special cake from Carolina Baking Co. Lots of guests and former members join the celebration. The club

honored Abbie Rader and Dixon Cline as Students of the Week. The club also bestowed Rotarian Emeritus upon Bobbie Young, who was one of the very first women to join the club.



FILL THE BAG

The RC of Franklin at a recent meeting contributed to a local service project: *Fill*

the Bag. Members stapled flyers to the paper bags that went out in the local newspapers. Community members are urged to Fill the Bag with groceries for the hungry in the community as part of the First United Methodist Church's 30 Hour Famine.



Club members from the Rotary Club of Sylva met early on a recent Saturday to pick up trash at the Rotary Island. *True act of Service Above Self.*

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY, ROTARY –CELEBRATED WITH SERVICE IN DISTRICT 7670...



Mayor Joe Gibbons proclaimed, Saturday, February 23, as “Rotary Day 2019” throughout the City of Lenoir and Caldwell County. Gibbons, center, presented proclamations to Paul Brandenburg, President, RC of Lenoir, and Courtney Wright, President of RC Caldwell County Rotary Club.



Rotarians at work providing treats at a Special Olympics Basketball game and assisting collecting children’s books at the conclusion of a Smart Start book sale. Both activities took place in Hendersonville, NC. The cake was on display at Bold Rock Hard Cider, Mills River, NC in commemoration of Rotary’s 114th birthday.



The RC of Asheville-Biltmore participated in Saturday Sanctuary, a project of First Presbyterian Church in downtown Asheville to provide warmth, food and hospitality to the homeless, hungry and needy. Perrin Radley, Brenda Tremoulet, Isaac Owolabi, Judy Dormer, Dick Johannes

Service Day project benefited the Greater Hickory Cooperative Christian Ministry with club members from all three Hickory clubs volunteering at the GHCCM Whole Life Center.



Members of The Rotary Club of Franklin and its Satellite Club spent the morning of Rotary International Day conducting a Poverty Simulation for the youth of Macon County. They gathered at Franklin First Methodist Church to go hungry for 30 hours, learn about hunger and poverty and raise funds for our local food pantry and World Vision. Rotarians from all three clubs in Franklin donated canned food for the day.



On behalf of both the Rotary clubs of Hendersonville and Hendersonville-Four Seasons Hendersonville Mayor Barbara Volk issued a proclamation in honor of events scheduled for that day.



RC of Brevard on work day on February 23, 2019, prepared and delivered “birthday” bags to each of the residents at the SAFE house in town.



Rotary Club of Madison County celebrated not only Rotary International’s birthday on the 23rd but the club’s birthday on February 6. County Board of Commissioners a passed a motion which proclaimed February 23 as Rotary Day in the county.

RC of Asheville-South working at Calvary Episcopal Food Pantry.





Heritage Middle School Interact Club packed blessing bags for the local homeless and church ministries. Rotary Club of Valdese.



The new Rotarians of Rotary Club of Pisgah Forest participated in the "Fifth Wheel In Meeting Service Project" on the 5th Wednesday in January. The team created necessity/blessings bags for homeless folks in Transylvania County. They also collected canned goods in support of Bread of Life and asked club members to bring in the goods and the fifth wheel team would get the cans to the right spot. Teamwork for a need – thank you!



COOPERATION GETS THE WORK DONE

The Rotary Clubs of Valdese and the Burke Sunrise Rotary Club were joined recently by several area churches to help pack more than 30,000 meals at a food packing event. The groups raised nearly \$7,500 to purchase the food. The meals are distributed to local groups to help local families in need. Every group that came left with a delivery for a local food pantry, backpack ministry, or school in need of meals to distribute.



Pictured with students is Rotary of Lincolnton President Tony Worley and Lincoln County School Superintendent and Rotarian Lori Morrow

STUDENTS CARING ABOUT THE EARTH

Rotary Club of Lincolnton members were honored to have the top three winners of the annual Soil & Water Conservation essay contest at a weekly meeting. All Lincoln County middle school students participated, the top three winners read their essays and received their awards.

First Place winner Daniel Overbay from East Lincoln Middle School, essay will now move on to area competition and potentially to state competition.



ROTARY IN ICE

The Blowing Rock Rotary Club sponsored the Chili Cookoff Contest which was part of Blowing Rock's Annual Winterfest. The ice sculpture was displayed outside the school cafeteria

where the cook-off took place. The club raised \$3,500 for C.A.R.T. and was presented a check for that amount at the meeting on February 11th.



Not bitter cold, rain, or blazing heat will keep the RC of Asheville-Breakfast Club from flying the America flags on federal holidays in downtown Weaverville, NC. It is great community connection!



CART CELEBRATION – Rotary Club Of Franklin



The RC of Hickory Sunrise Rotary partnered with Christ Lutheran Church, students from University Christian High School and Thrivent Financial for the annual "Winter Warmth" event.

On this day, community residents were served a variety of soups along with sandwiches, snacks, drinks and desserts. In addition to the fellowship and food, socks, hats, gloves and bagged groceries were available for attendees.

**All Clubs 7670
District
Conference**

Greenville Marriott, SC, April 26-28

FRIDAY kicks off with **inspirational** presentations from:

Brad Howard (RI Director, Zones 25-26 in 2015-2017)

Jeff Miller, Blue Ridge Honor Flights

Fund Raising ideas from seasoned Club members

Nigerian Friend Exchange Cultural Show

The **fun** starts on Friday evening with an entertaining
comedy routine by Randy Robins - *Comedy With a
Cause*

Enjoy excellent **food** during the Friday
evening dinner buffet

Make new friends and promote
the Rotary **fellowship**

Come dressed in a costume that
reflects the country of your origin

Stay tuned for further updates!

FUN, FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT LINDA NELSON: LNELSON@TOPLANAHEAD.COM

<u>Club Growth for District #7670</u>	01-Jul	18 Feb 2019		
Club Name (#)	2018-2019	#	NET	%
Arden (5995)	6	7	1	16.7%
Asheville (5996)	145	143	-2	-1.4%
Asheville-Biltmore (58266)	51	57	6	11.8%
Asheville Breakfast (23683)	52	52	0	0.0%
Asheville-Metro (84751)	13	13	0	0.0%
Asheville-South (81703)	29	34	5	17.2%
Asheville-West (6049)	17	16	-1	-5.9%
Avery County (29042)	20	26	6	30.0%
Black Mountain (5998)	54	56	2	3.7%
Blowing Rock (5999)	53	51	-2	-3.8%
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	20	0	0.0%
Burke-Sunrise (55539)	21	20	-1	-4.8%
Burnsville (58596)	13	13	0	0.0%
Caldwell County (6004)	15	17	2	13.3%
Cashiers Valley (29349)	42	38	-4	-9.5%
Catawba Valley (Conover) (6005)	38	38	0	0.0%
Clay County (83934)	12	13	1	8.3%
Denver/Lake Norman (31056)	62	62	0	0.0%
Franklin (6013)	87	91	4	4.6%
Franklin Daybreak (50795)	37	41	4	10.8%
Granite Falls (6016)	17	14	-3	-17.6%
Haywood County (Canton) (6018)	27	23	-4	-14.8%
Hendersonville (6019)	141	140	-1	-0.7%
Hendersonville-Four Seasons (6020)	26	36	10	38.5%
Hickory (6021)	105	110	5	4.8%
Hickory Sunrise (54544)	24	25	1	4.2%
Highlands (6023)	94	98	4	4.3%
Highlands-Mountaintop (57907)	18	22	4	22.2%
Lake Hickory, (Hickory) (6022)	70	76	6	8.6%
Lenoir (6026)	84	81	-3	-3.6%
Lincolnton (6027)	74	75	1	1.4%
Lincolnton-Sunrise (55175)	20	27	7	35.0%
Madison County (64474)	37	46	9	24.3%
Marion (6028)	72	76	4	5.6%
Morganton (6035)	56	61	5	8.9%
Murphy (6037)	21	26	5	23.8%
Newton-Conover (6038)	62	59	-3	-4.8%
Pisgah Forest (50468)	59	58	-1	-1.7%
Sherrills Ford-Terrell (76222)	14	16	2	14.3%
Spruce Pine (6042)	36	37	1	2.8%
Sylva (6044)	59	60	1	1.7%
Tryon (6046)	57	54	-3	-5.3%
Valdese (6047)	37	37	0	0.0%
Waynesville (6048)	79	80	1	1.3%
Waynesville-Sunrise (24319)	17	16	-1	-5.9%
Total Member Count For District #7670	2181	2254	73	3.3%

MEMBERSHIP TIDBITS February 2019

How often do you wear your Rotary pin? Do you have a thirty second elevator speech about Rotary? Let me tell you why that is important. A couple of months ago while at the gym a young professional lady asked me if I was a Rotarian. Probably, because I was wearing a Rotary t-shirt. She asked me what is Rotary? While catching my breath from exercising on the treadmill, I shared with her my Rotary elevator speech. I told her about our service projects both local and international. She told me that she was interested in giving back to her community, so I invited her to our next meeting. I am proud to say that she joined the Rotary Club of Franklin, and has already participated in one of the Club's service projects. As it turned out, she had heard of Rotary and was interested in joining, but did not know how to go about it. All that was needed was to ask her if she was interested in learning more about Rotary! I am sure all of you remember who asked you to join Rotary. Share your experience in Rotary by asking someone to join Rotary. You never know where you will meet the next new Rotarian. Always, wear your Rotary pin proudly.

CONGRATULATIONS are in order again for all the clubs in District 7670! Our District remains the top District in the Zone with the largest number of new members and the highest percent membership gain. Rotary membership worldwide is 1,212,416 as of January 31, 2019. This represents a growth of 17,309, since July 1, 2018. As of February 18, 2019, the District membership stands at 2,254, which represents a growth of 73, since July 1, 2018. Sixteen clubs have exceeded Governors Isaac's goal of 7% increase in membership. Additionally, a total of 26 clubs have a growth in membership this year. **Two clubs have a 30% or higher increase in membership. Way to GO!** Check the district membership chart to see where your club stands on membership growth.

*John Yermack
District Membership Chair*



WELL, HOW ABOUT THAT!!!!

The Rotary Club of Waynesville was voted the Best Civic Club in Haywood County for 2019 by the readership of the Mountaineer newspaper!!!



ROTARY IN ADDITION TO SERVICE...



The Rotary Club of Sylva has a proposal and engagement in the club. Congrats to Lyn and Mike on their recent engagement!