

Rotary



District 7670



BE THE INSPIRATION

Newsletter No. VII

District Governor Isaac Owolabi

January 2019

Fellow Rotarians,



February is the month when we focus on peace and conflict prevention/resolution. There are six centers located in the following countries: USA, Japan, England, Australia, Sweden, and Thailand. Rotary is leading the way. In just over a decade, the Rotary Peace Centers have trained more than 1,000 fellows for careers in peacebuilding. Many of them are serving as leaders at international organizations or have started their own foundations. These fellows or alumni are working in over 100 countries of the world. With 36% in Nongovernmental organizations, 15% government agencies, 8% each in teaching, advanced degree, research/academics, and 6% work with United Nations agencies, 9% in law, journalism, and world bank, and another 10% in a variety of fields.

Through academic training, practice, and global networking opportunities, the Rotary Peace Centers program develops leaders who become catalysts for peace and conflict prevention and resolution. These fellowships cover tuition and fees, room and board, round-trip transportation, and all internship and field-study expenses. If anyone in your club is interested, you may contact our Foundation Chair Carol King or Scholarship chair Bob Felt for more information.

DG Isaac



RI president elect announces his presidential theme for 2019-20

Mark Daniel Maloney, a member of the Rotary Club of Decatur, Alabama, unveiled the 2019-20 presidential theme, *Rotary Connects the World*, to incoming district governors at the International Assembly, in San Diego, CA.

“The first emphasis is to grow Rotary — to grow our service, to grow the impact of our projects, but most importantly, to grow our membership so that we can achieve more,” Maloney said. “Rotary allows us to connect with each other, in deep and meaningful ways, across our differences. It connects us to people we would never otherwise have met, who are more like us than we ever could have known. It connects us to our communities, to professional opportunities, and to the people who need our help.”



GIVING AND CHANGES ARE EASIER NOW...

To make recurring giving faster, easier to manage, and even more secure, The Rotary Foundation developed a new online option. Beginning in February, you'll be able to edit or cancel your recurring giving at any time by signing in to [My Rotary](#) and going to [Donor Self-Service](#).

If you have questions or need assistance using Donor Self-Service, call the Rotary Support Center at +1-866-9Rotary (+1-866-976-8279) or email us at rotarydirect@rotary.org.

Your ongoing support is critically important to providing Rotary clubs with the resources they need to accomplish high-quality, sustainable projects in your community and around the world. Thanks to your generosity, The Rotary Foundation can have an even larger impact.



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 aged students from Rotary District 7670 (western NC) to embrace adventure, learning, and leadership.

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 will attend a Youth Protection Session on 2 February 2019.

The young leader and sponsor applications are available on the District website www.rotary7670.org under the youth programs. RYLA section.



Barbara Bowers, Eva-Michelle Spicer and Michael Greene, RC of Asheville found this cool sign that says this is where the first Rotary Club of Panama was founded and met from 1919-1982!



9th Annual
Rotary Chili Cook-Off
Monday, February 25, 2019 (11am to 1:30pm)
@ 1841 Café in Downtown Lenoir
Tickets are \$7 at the door
All Proceeds will benefit Caldwell Rotary and the
Rotary Dictionary Project for Caldwell County 3rd
graders.



YOUTH EXCHANGE GATHERING

Thanks to the generosity of the Rotary Club of Blowing Rock, the Rotary Youth Exchange program was able to bring 26 high school exchange students hosted by four different Rotary Districts, and from 16 different countries to Appalachian Ski Mountain for a weekend of skiing and bonding. Some of them had never seen snow before. The kids had a great time, and now think of themselves as "family".

For more information about Rotary Youth Exchange, contact Fred Reidinger at fred_aia@comporium.net.



Rotary Club of Brevard is already preparing for its three 5k and fun runs in 2019.
 White Squirrel 5K and Fun Run - 5/25/2019 8:00 am
 Firecracker 5K and Fun Run - 7/4/2019 8:00 am
 Flight of the Vampire 5K and Fun Run - 10/26/2019 9:00 am

Contact Mike Dexter-Smith on mds@xtremesoft.com if you want to add a team; donate; support and or just help on the day.

Congratulations to the Rotary Club of Newton-Conover — celebrating its 70th anniversary as a Rotary Club.

DG Isaac presented a congratulatory letter from Rotary International to club president, Sherry Butler.



Reading is Fundamental (RIF)...

Is a national program committed to supporting literacy by inspiring a passion for reading in all children. Members of the Rotary Club of Tryon visited Polk Central Elementary School recently to participate in the school's first RIF book distribution for 2019.

Rotary Member Carolyn Jones organizes the RIF program for the Club and works with the school to schedule the four visits each year. During each visit, the Rotary members read excerpts from a few books to help build the students interest in reading. After the stories are read, the students get to pick a book to take home from the very large selection of books provided by the Club. Students that attend Polk Central Elementary School from preschool through fifth grade, will build a library of almost 25 books in their home.

Through the RIF program, Rotary Club of Tryon members help students understand the importance of reading and the adventure that can be found between the pages of a book. By helping families build libraries at home, the Rotary Club is hoping to make an impact on the literacy of future generations of families in Polk County.



Art Brown reading to students.



A Report from Kathryn Blount, Asheville Engineers Without Borders Chapter Secretary

Seven clubs in the District banded together to implement repairs to the Siaya County Hospital waste incinerator in Kenya, Africa, a \$6,000 project partially funded as well with a grant from District 7670. A great need was met by hard work and collaboration.

The hospital administrators and staff were amazing to work with, as were the engineers who made the repairs. We were able to confirm that the incinerator has been brought

to full working order, as well as the operating staff trained and prepared to sustain the project safely and properly. The hospital administration has included maintenance and future repairs in its budget, and a seed has been planted for future waste management expansion across Siaya County.

The week concluded with a commissioning ceremony that included the Minister of Health for Siaya County. Her remarks brought hope for a future that will see bigger and better opportunities for handling waste, an important mission for an area that so desperately needs ways to decrease the spread of disease and increase general sanitation.



TEACHABLE MOMENTS

The Rotary Club of Madison County began a partnership with Junior Achievement in 2005 by teaching the economics of staying in school curriculum to all 8th grade students. That effort has grown each year and now includes teaching almost 400 students in the Madison County Schools in not only the 8th grade, but also in the 3rd, 4th and 5th grades. The curriculum for the lower grades is focused on teaching the basics of business and workforce readiness. Club members and community members have been in the classrooms teaching these essential lessons to the Middle School 8th grade students during the Fall and were back again in January to reach the lower grades at the Elementary Schools. This partnership has been spearheaded by Mike Stevenson who was recognized as Junior Achievement's Partner of the Year in 2011.



Rotarian Mike Foster teaching 4th graders



The City of Marion's celebration was named the 4th Best Small Town New Year's Eve event in the entire United States by CountryLiving.com. It was ranked alongside expensive resort towns in Napa Valley and Colorado. This latest New Year's Eve celebration brought a profit of \$3,700, to the RC of Marion will be used to invest back into the local community. The Rotary Club of Marion, the city of Marion and the Marion Business Association all worked together to hold the Annual New Year's Eve Celebration.

In Memoriam

Robert Vernon "Bob" Hecht
RC of Denver/Lake Norman

Rich Peoples
And
Jim Wilson
Rotary Club of Franklin



RC of Avery County President, Jillian Rosato, presents John Boyd, President of Mayland Community College, the Rotary gift for guest speakers. Dr. Boyd has been instrumental in developing the nationally acclaimed Earth to Sky Park in Burnsville, NC.

Friday, January 11 was a great day! A \$3,000 grant from the RC of Black Mountain plus a \$3,000 grant from the Black Mountain-Swannanoa Kiwanis Club, were presented to Charles D. Owen Middle School to ensure that approximately 20 students will be able to travel with their fellow students to Washington, D.C. The school trip will send three busloads of 8th graders to Washington, DC, April 9-12, for a very full schedule of visits to the monuments and memorials, a guided tour of the Capital, exploring several Smithsonian museums plus the Newseum, and so much more! It will be a time full of history and experiences that the students will long remember!



Dr. John DeWitt; Black Mountain-Swannanoa Kiwanis President, Dave Wilks; Krista Langlois, 8th grade ELA Teacher receiving our Rotary Check for Owen Middle School; Principal of Owen Middle Jim Lewis; and trip organizer and English teacher Bill Feste.



Rotary Club of Pisgah Forest will host the 20th annual Assault on the Carolinas bike ride on Saturday, April 6. This is the sole fundraiser for the club and it has grown from under 50 riders to over 1,000 riders. The club recently hosted a reception to thank sponsors for their support of the event.

STUDENTS HELP TO ERADICATE POLIO

The Rotary Club of Hickory recently expressed its appreciation to the students and faculties of several Hickory City Public Schools for their participation in raising funds to support the worldwide eradication of polio. October 24, was World Polio Day, and during that week students and faculty raised funds with "Pennies to End Polio" projects at Southwest Elementary, Viewmont Elementary, Longview Elementary, Oakwood Elementary and Hickory High School. \$1300 was raised, which with a match by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation will become \$3900. The Rotary Club of Hickory promoted the project with the help of the HHS Interact Club. The Interact Club raised over \$800 of the total funds.



Scott Compton, President of the Rotary Club of Burke-Sunrise, presents a check to Charlie Watts, Chief of the Valdese Fire Department. The check for \$500 is a donation for the Randy McKinney Foundation which was established to support firefighters who have cancer.



WOW! HOW ABOUT THAT!

Larry Smith (*l*) owner of Mountain Top Fraser Fir, told members of the RC of Caldwell County about his recent trip to Washington to deliver the White House Christmas tree. Smith first won a competition at the State level in 2015 that qualified him to compete for the national honor. Some 26 family members and friends took part in the tree delivery on November 19th. A smaller group returned one week later for the national tree lighting ceremony. About 300 invited guests enjoyed a banquet at the White House

that evening.

COMMUNITY HELPERS

Rotary Club of Sylva held its first ever "Bury the President" with blankets event. A total of 50 new blankets were collected to go to families in need. The club also partnered with the Department on Aging to help cut, split, and deliver 44 loads of wood to seniors in need on January 5th.





ALL CLUBS 7670 DISTRICT CONFERENCE UPDATE

Be Prepared to be Inspired & Have Fun

- Wine Tasting
- Comedy
- Honor Flight Veterans
- Leadership
- Prizes
- CART Research
- Fundraising Ideas
- House of Friendship
- RYLA
- Music
- Why Rotary?
- Awards
- Peace Scholar
- Networking
- Silent Auction
- Rotary Projects

WHEN

April 26—28, 2019

Friday 2:00 pm—Sunday 11:30 am

WHERE

GREENVILLE MARRIOTT

ONE PARKWAY EAST, GREENVILLE, SC, 29615

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

AGENDA OUTLINE

Friday, April 26

- 10:00 am— 7:00 pm Registration
- 2:00 pm—5:15 pm General Session
- 6:15 pm—Happy Hour & wine tasting
- 7:15 pm Buffet dinner and entertainment (fun costume—dress to represent the country of your origin)

Saturday, April 27

- 7:30—8:30 am—Group Breakfast
- 8:30 am –2:00 pm—General Session
- 2:00 pm—5:00 pm—Time on your own to explore the Greenville area
- 6:00 pm—7:00 pm—Reception
- 7:00 pm—10:00 pm—Dinner and Entertainment

Sunday, April 28

- 8:00 am—9:00 am—Group Breakfast
- 9:00 am—10:00 am—In Memoria and Interfaith Service
- 10:00 am—11:30 am—Final Session

HOTEL ROOM RATE

- [\\$132 Single/double occupancy + tax](#)
- Call: 864-297-0300 and ask for the RDA rate or click on the link (above)

REGISTRATION FEES

- \$199 Before February 28th
- \$165 (One day) Saturday
- Registration Link: [DACdb—CalendarEvents](#)

<u>Club Growth for District #7670</u>	01-Jul	17 Dec 2018		
Club Name (#)	2018-2019	#	NET	%
Arden (5995)	6	7	1	16.7%
Asheville (5996)	145	142	-3	-2.1%
Asheville-Biltmore (58266)	51	54	3	5.9%
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	25	5	25.0%
Black Mountain (5998)	54	56	2	3.7%
Blowing Rock (5999)	53	51	-2	-3.8%
Boone (6001)	12	13	1	8.3%
Boone Sunrise (23608)	51	59	8	15.7%
Brevard (6002)	25	26	1	4.0%
Bryson City (6003)	20	20	0	0.0%
Burke-Sunrise (55539)	21	21	0	0.0%
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	64	2	3.2%
Franklin (6013)	87	91	4	4.6%
Franklin Daybreak (50795)	37	38	1	2.7%
Granite Falls (6016)	17	14	-3	-17.6%
Haywood County (Canton) (6018)	27	24	-3	-11.1%
Hendersonville (6019)	141	141	0	0.0%
Hendersonville-Four Seasons (6020)	26	30	4	15.4%
Hickory (6021)	105	110	5	4.8%
Hickory Sunrise (54544)	24	26	2	8.3%
Highlands (6023)	94	99	5	5.3%
Highlands-Mountaintop (57907)	18	18	0	0.0%
Lake Hickory, (Hickory) (6022)	70	76	6	8.6%
Lenoir (6026)	84	77	-7	-8.3%
Lincolnton (6027)	74	75	1	1.4%
Lincolnton-Sunrise (55175)	20	20	0	0.0%
Madison County (64474)	37	45	8	21.6%
Marion (6028)	72	76	4	5.6%
Morganton (6035)	56	58	2	3.6%
Murphy (6037)	21	26	5	23.8%
Newton-Conover (6038)	62	60	-2	-3.2%
Pisgah Forest (50468)	59	59	0	0.0%
Sherrills Ford-Terrell (76222)	14	16	2	14.3%
Spruce Pine (6042)	36	37	1	2.8%
Sylva (6044)	59	59	0	0.0%
Tryon (6046)	57	54	-3	-5.3%
Valdese (6047)	37	39	2	5.4%
Waynesville (6048)	79	79	0	0.0%
Waynesville-Sunrise (24319)	17	18	1	5.9%
Total Member Count For District #7670	2181	2237	56	2.6%

MEMBERSHIP TIDBITS December 2018

Rotary membership worldwide is 1,225,192 as of November 30, 2018. This represents a growth of 30,082 since July 1, 2018. As of December 19, 2018, the district membership stands at 2,237, which represents a growth of 56 since July 1, 2018. **Twenty-seven** of our clubs have a positive growth this year. You are encouraged to check the chart to see your club's progress.

The Rotary year is half over and now is the time to make the final membership push. Membership is our number one responsibility. The more Rotarians the more we can do! Governor Isaac has set a 7% increase goal in membership. We can meet that challenge with your help, so now is the time to make a club plan. Each Rotarian can and should sponsor a new member.

Remember, you were invited to join Rotary, ask someone to visit your club and encourage them to become a Rotarian. Thanks to those who have sponsored a new member this year!

*John Yermack
District Membership Chair*

