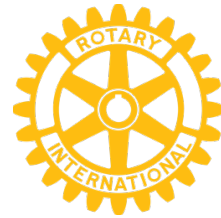




**Rotary**  
District 7670



*February 2024 Newsletter*  
***District Governor Sean Gibson***

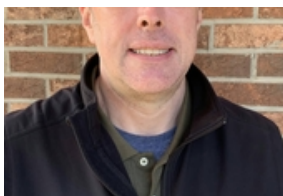
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## February is Peacebuilding & Conflict Prevention Month



## DG Sean's Stuff





## DG Sean's Stuff



We are more than halfway through the Rotary Year, hard to believe, and ALREADY prepping for next year!!

Just want to give a shout-out to DMC Patrick Longano and PI Chair Julie West for this past weekend's "Membership One on One" with club presidents and membership chairs. A lot of great information was shared, and we all know that membership is an ongoing issue. This is certainly something we can't fix by the end of the year, but if you have an energetic club, and you tell that energetic story to everyone out there, then folks are gonna want to be a part of it. Also, remember there are a lot of ways to bring in new members. I encourage club leadership to have a dialogue with Patrick as he can help you move forward. The district is here to help.

I want to take time to salute the great work so far that happens in "the Greatest Rotary District in the World." Black Mountain's John DeWitt is working feverishly to get a mental health related global grant that helps traumatized children from Kiev. PDG Bill Biddle from Asheville Breakfast recently attended a mental health conference and continues to work toward getting the word out that Rotary is here to help and steer those silently suffering in a direction to get help. This, too, is an ongoing world problem we can't solve in one year, but it will start with awareness. Salutes to you all for all your great work in doing good in the world.

Thoughts going out to a couple of clubs... Marion and Asheville. Marion President Chip Cross recently lost his dad and Asheville lost longtime member Frank Smith, who passed away.

On a brighter note, we want to party with you in April at the District Conference in Greenville, SC. Registration is \$199...rooms are very, very reasonable. A lot of great speakers are lined up and lots of fun planned!! Sea you there!!

Make February a great month and let's create Hope in the World!!

*Sean*

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## All-Star Weekend April 19-20: KEYNOTE SPEAKER ANNOUNCEMENT

By Tiffany Ervin

We are excited to announce a VERY SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER who will be joining us at the All-Star Weekend in Greenville, SC!!



Dave Sanderson is a nationally recognized leadership speaker, accomplished author and inspirational survivor of what is known as "The Miracle on the Hudson."

As the last passenger off US Airways Flight 1549 which had to ditch into the river, he took the lessons he learned from that profound experience in the frigid water and emerged from the wreckage with a mission to encourage others to do the right thing and share coping skills to address any adversity they may face.

Dave joins other keynote speakers Grace & Carrie Key ([www.candidlykind.com](http://www.candidlykind.com)), Dr. Antoine Louveau (CART grant recipient from Cleveland Clinic) and MORE - watch your email for more announcements!

Full Conference Registration Package \$199 - Price Includes Friday Tailgate Dinner



**Full Conference Registration Package \$199 - Price includes Friday Tailgate Dinner, Saturday Lunch & Dinner, as well as all conference programming and activities**

[To see more details and register, click here!](#)

**HOST HOTEL:** Hyatt Regency Greenville (220 N Main St) - Reduced Rate of \$169 per night for King or Double Queen. Reservations must be made separately from event registration. Last date to book is April 4th and rooms are filling up quickly!

[To reserve your room, click here!](#)

## Rotary Jerseys To Support The CART Fund

By Tiffany Ervin

The Four Seasons Rotary Club is pleased to provide these unique Rotary baseball jerseys as a fundraiser for [The CART Fund](#). Thanks to the generous sponsorship of [United Community Bank](#), all funds raised will be used to help fund seed grants to find a prevention, treatment or cure for Alzheimer's Disease.



The button-front jerseys are officially licensed/approved by Rotary International for one-time production, and available in sizes Medium-4XL while supplies last. One sleeve features the CART logo and one sleeve features the Rotary District 7670 logo so you can represent WNC no matter where you go!

*They do run small, so we recommend ordering one size up!*

All Rotarians in District 7670 are encouraged to wear their jersey on Friday, April 19, for the opening Tailgate Party at the All-Star Weekend (District Conference).

Jerseys are \$40 each with free shipping (within continental US) when necessary. To order your jersey, [complete this form](#) and an invoice will be sent to you via email.

## Rotary International Anniversary - Feb 23



Rotary started with the vision of one man – Paul Harris. The Chicago attorney formed the Rotary Club of Chicago on

23 February 1905, so professionals with diverse backgrounds could exchange ideas and form meaningful, lifelong friendships.

Over time, Rotary's reach and vision gradually extended to humanitarian service. Members have a long track record of addressing challenges in their communities and around the world.

*"Whatever Rotary may mean to us, to the world it will be known by the results it achieves."*

### Paul Harris

Rotary founder

What are your clubs doing to celebrate this momentous occasion?? Share your pictures with the District as we all celebrate!!

## Club Officers in DaCdb! Now is the time!



According to the Manual of Procedure, **NOW** is the time that your club elections should be wrapped up and posted to your club officers.

These officers flow to the District Committees and those officers are informed when there is a learning opportunity or even just an update.

Need help, just contact me - DCO Billi, DG201516@gmail.com

## Jeff Jones, Rotary Global Grant Scholar

By Rick Molland



This is the fourth in a series of Global Grant Scholar spotlights.

Jeffrey Jones is one of the five Global Grant Scholars being sponsored by District 7670 this year. He was awarded a Global Grant Scholarship to continue his studies in the Rotary Areas of Focus of both Disease Prevention and Treatment, and Maternal and Child Health.

Prior to being awarded a Rotary Global Grant Scholarship to undertake his PhD. research studies at Oxford University, Jeff attended the University of North Carolina Asheville for his undergraduate degree in Psychology, Minor Health and Wellness Promotion, graduating in 2020. He went on to study for a Master of Bioethics degree at the



Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health in Baltimore, where he graduated in 2021. Subsequently, Jeff served as a researcher with the Johns Hopkins Berman Institute of Bioethics, working with researchers at Oxford University and the Global Infectious Disease Ethics Collaborative. He was also a co-creator of The North Carolina Center for Health and Wellness Social Bridging Project, where he worked one-on-one with older adults in Western North Carolina, before being offered a PhD Research position at the Oxford University, Nuffield Department of Population Health. His research is titled "Healthcare inequalities and ethical resource allocation: reconfiguring priority setting decisions to tackle inequalities of access and outcome." Starting in Oxford in the Fall of 2023, Jeff expects to complete this work in 2026.

Jeff explains "My entire professional career has been and currently is focused on disease prevention by promoting health and well-being across the lifespan. I have focused on the treatment of disease and child health by addressing ethical issues within the broad categories of health systems and health policy." Upon completion of the PhD program and returning to the US, Jeff plans to remain within the academic research field as a professor or post-doctoral fellow and teach courses in public health and bioethics. He also intends to conduct original research on topics that relate to healthcare and public health ethics and to the ethical allocation of medical resources. Included in these plans are projects that examine how to better serve vulnerable groups, such as children with medical complexity and older adults.

John Davis, a member of the Rotary Club of Lenoir, is Jeffâ€™s International sponsor liaison and his Host sponsor club is The Rotary Club of Witney, Oxfordshire in District 1090.

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## **Wanted! 2024-25 Global Grant Scholar candidates from District 7670.**

By Rick Molland

Now is that time of year when university graduates (or soon-to-be graduates) think about their further education options. One of those options might be to study overseas for a Masterâ€™s Degree or a PhD in a field of study aligned with one of Rotaryâ€™s seven areas of focus. Rotary District 7670 has funds to support a small number of Global Grant Scholarship applications. Global Grant Scholarships provide scholars a minimum of \$30,000 in combined Club, District and Rotary World Fund allocations. If the District is to sponsor any Global Grant Scholarship students for the upcoming academic year, Clubs need to start the application cycle NOW.



If you have been following the stories in this and the past issues of the District Newsletters, you have seen the sort of talented university graduates District 7670 has sponsored to study for their masters or PhDs for the current academic year.

Know a potential applicant? Want your club to be an International Sponsor club for an outbound student? Please contact Rick Molland for more information.

Email: [Rmolland@frontier.com](mailto:Rmolland@frontier.com)

Ph: (828) 450 8040

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## Rotary Club of Morganton Pancake Breakfast Returns!

Friday, January 26, 2024



Itâ€™s BACK! The Rotary Club of Morgantonâ€™s Annual Pancake Breakfast is returning.

The Saturday morning breakfast feast that draws hundreds of people to the Community House started in 1959. Itâ€™s been a cornerstone in Morgantonâ€™s March activities since, except for the little hiatus caused by COVID-19.

Itâ€™s more than pancakes and bacon. Itâ€™s a community event loaded with friendship and fellowship, with proceeds supporting the Morganton Rotary Clubâ€™s local causes including scholarships, backpack and food support programs.

**WHEN:** Saturday March 2, 2024

**WHERE:** Morganton Community House

**TIME:** 8 a.m. - noon

**PRICE:** Tickets are \$8 per person. (If youâ€™re tight with a Rotarian, he or she may just give you a couple!) Tickets can be purchased online ([MorgantonRotary.org](http://MorgantonRotary.org)) and at The Paperâ€™s office at 110 S. Sterling St. in downtown Morganton.

To celebrate the return of the Annual (except for COVID) Pancake Breakfast, this yearâ€™s event will feature a Kid Zone, 50/50 Raffle, Raffle for Prizes, and ukulele music.

â€œThe pancake breakfast has been a tradition in Morganton's history,â€ said Morganton Mayor Ronnie Thompson. â€œTraditionally it was held right before the November election and gave the candidates and the people of Burke County a chance to mingle. This year it's being held right before the March primary and so that tradition may continue."

Ron George, past club president 2015-16, joined the club in 1996. He says the pancake breakfast was already a fixture of the club when he joined. â€œPancake breakfasts were always a place where old friendships were renewed. The same people came every year and really looked forward to it,â€ he said.

Marty Sohovich joined the club in 1999. Of pancake breakfasts in previous years, he said, "It was a great coming together of community leaders serving pancakes to everybody. People got served by the Superintendent of Schools, police chief, pastors."

For club member and Chief Go-Getter, Kim Van Sickler, who is also President-Elect of the Morganton Rotary organization, this is her first Pancake Breakfast. "It's a little ironic that I've never attended a Morganton Pancake Breakfast and yet somehow I'm running it this year â€ but in a way it's kind of awesome too."

â€œThe pancake breakfast paused because of this terrible thing called COVID and during that time I moved to town, the club changed a bit, the world changed a bit,â€ she said. â€œThis pancake breakfast pays homage to the past but it will have a new flavor too. Time marches on."

Randall Bracket, Sergeant at Arms for the club since the mid-1980's, has worked just about every position possible for the pancake breakfasts. "I ran it for a few years. I've cooked pancakes, bussed tables, greeted people and through it all it has been incredibly rewarding to see people coming together like this once a year. I love everything about these pancake breakfasts."

Karen Milner, club director, said, "It's not just pancakes! I didn't expect that. But I helped in the serving line and there was sausage and eggs

and fruit and everything you'd want for a full breakfast." Also, "I loved seeing the people come through and how excited the kids were."

*Article Published in The Paper on Saturday, January 20, 2024 written by Allen VanNoppen, Publisher (and Rotarian) with contributions from Kim Van Sickler, President-Elect, Rotary Club of Morganton*

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## The New Rotary Paper from the Asheville High Interact

By Jacob Kerber

Welcome to the first column in the Rotary paper about the Asheville High Interact Club! The past two years under our new leadership team have been incredibly successful with numbers growing almost every single meeting. As of December, we have over 120 members and hundreds of service opportunities. With the addition of our new 5th period, club time is incorporated into our school schedule, and we have been able to take our work to new heights with the help of this extra time. In 5th period, we have assembled art bags for Art For Life, made cards for Veteran Honor Flights, and are planning to pick up trash around campus when the weather is warmer.

This month, Interact members have attended many off-campus service projects at community organizations such as Brother Wolf, MANNA Foodbank, and the Haywood Street congregation. During our last trip to Brother Wolf, Interact members sorted donations of blankets and linens for animals facing a tough winter; meanwhile, on December 18th, a team of Interactors at MANNA Foodbank assembled 2,190 bags of food in under 3 hours—thus setting a new record!

The Haywood Street Congregation Sunday breakfast service, as many Rotarians know, has been one of the most rewarding service opportunities for our scholars. We have had such a great time helping out in the full-service restaurant feeding those in need. Scholars not only help unhoused individuals and make connections with people in our community, but they also learn basic restaurant skills which can be applied to real life.

We are grateful to Rotary for supporting the next generation of volunteers! You can keep up with us on Instagram, @ahsinteractclub.

[https://www.instagram.com/p/C1AHxEGuAbs/?img\\_index=1](https://www.instagram.com/p/C1AHxEGuAbs/?img_index=1)



## Get in the Zone!!



**Mid-Atlantic and Southeastern USA and Caribbean countries -  
from Pennsylvania to the coast of South America**

*"Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change -  
across the globe, in our communities and in ourselves"*

Did you know the Rotary District 7670 is part of Zone 33/34, which includes many other amazing Districts and Rotarians? Zone 33/34 has a webpage and lots of information for all different areas of Rotary.

Are you membership chair or any Rotarian who is passionate about membership?? Coming up on February 12th is Zone 33-34 Membership Action Plan Webinar. This happens every month, and you can (and should) join in. Hope on over to <https://www.rizones33-34.org/> and check it out.

Are you Public Image Chair?? You will love the Zone 33/34 webpage for PI. If you haven't visited this site, you are missing out on some amazing resources, education and just great stuff. Visit [elevaterotary.org](http://elevaterotary.org).

Any Rotarian can find topics and events of interest in the Zone, and I'm positive you'll meet many new Rotarians who are just as passionate as you.

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# Four Way Test

By Julie P. West on Saturday, July 1, 2023

## The Four Way Test Rotary



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?

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### Events

February 6th, 12:00-1:00 PM  
**Lunch A La CART with Dr. Kurt Brunden**

February 8th, 5:30-6:30 PM  
**CART Conversations - Monthly Info Meeting**

February 17th, 10:00-10:45 AM  
**DACdb U-Engagement**

February 6th, 3:00-3:30 PM  
**District Finance Committee Meeting (3rd quarter)**

February 10th, 8:30-12:00 PM  
**President Elect Orientation (PEO)**

February 19th, 5:00-6:00 PM  
**Zone 33 District Membership Chair/DG Line Call**

February 6th, 3:30-5:00 PM  
**District Council Meeting (3rd quarter)**

February 12th, 5:45-7:00 PM  
**Zones 33-34 Membership Action Plan Webinar**  
**>>>JOIN NOW**

February 6th, 5:00-6:00 PM  
**Zone 33 Innovative Club Advocate Meeting**  
February 13th, 2:30-3:30 PM  
**DACdb U-Engagement**

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### Club Anniversaries

Marion  
February 3rd  
[Madison County](#)  
February 6th  
[Waynesville](#)  
February 18th

[Waynesville-Sunrise](#)  
February 6th  
[Hickory](#)  
February 11th  
[Haywood County \(Canton\)](#)  
February 23rd

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### Account Leaders



[Sean Gibson](#)  
District Governor



[Connie M. Molland](#)  
DG-Elect





[Alex R. Portelli](#)  
DG-Nominee



[Patrick Anthony Longano](#)  
District Membership Chair



[Gary D. Dills](#)  
District Rotary Foundation Chair



[Julie P. West](#)  
District Public Image/PR Chair



[George Michael Vavrek](#)  
Strategic Planning Chair



[Michael Lanzilotta](#)  
Club Diversity Equity and Inclusion  
Chair



[Paige Carroll Scott](#)  
District Governor - Nom. Desig.



[Tiffany Ervin](#)  
District Conference Chair



[Paul Garner](#)  
District Secretary



[James A. Cruickshank](#)  
District Finance Chair



[Michael Stevenson](#)  
Youth Services Chair



[James O. Perry](#)  
District Treasurer



[John F. Baumrucker](#)  
International Services Chair



[Billi J. Black](#)  
DCO-District Comm. Officer