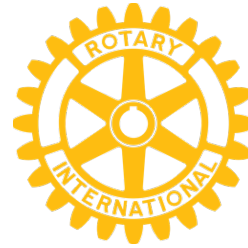




**CREATE HOPE
in the WORLD**

Rotary
District 7670



May 2024 Newsletter
District Governor Sean Gibson

May is Youth Service Month



May is celebrated as Youth Service Month in Rotary, a time dedicated to recognizing and promoting the invaluable contributions of young people to their communities. Throughout the month, Rotary clubs worldwide focus on empowering youth through various service projects, leadership development initiatives, and mentorship programs. From supporting educational endeavors to fostering a spirit of volunteerism and civic engagement, Rotary endeavors to inspire and mobilize the next generation of leaders to create positive change. By investing in youth service, Rotary aims to build a brighter future where young people are empowered to make a meaningful difference in the world.

DG Sean's Stuff



DG Sean's Stuff



They say April showers bring May flowers, and we are seeing some great flowering accomplishments by many of our clubs this year!! In fact, six of them to date have qualified for the Rotary Citation!

April was an AMAZING month that featured a conference that KNOCKED IT OUT OF THE PARK! Special thanks to PDG Tiffany and her crew for an awesome show and Deb and I want to say thank you everybody for your great work this year!

We have less than 60 days remaining in the Rotary year and still have a little work to do. If you haven't made your foundation contributions, please do so. I attended a recent club meeting that featured great work from a Rotary Peace Scholar. Some traumatized children will also be getting some help through a mental health global grant and many other projects accomplished locally and worldwide because of your support.

We also don't want to forget the fight against Polio. Please consider contributing there too!! We are also making great strides in diminishing Alzheimer's. Let's make a big generous push as we wind out the year.

Thank you for being great Rotarians in the greatest district in the world.

See you soon!!

Sean

What an All-Star Weekend for District 7670



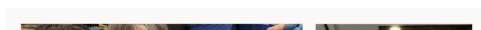
The "Rotary All Star Weekend" at the 2024 District 7670 Conference was a resounding success, filled with energy and inspiration. Friday night kicked off with a lively pep rally featuring the talented Mauldin High School Cheerleaders, setting the tone for an exciting weekend ahead. The lineup of speakers was impressive, with engaging presentations by Dr. Antoine Louveau, a distinguished CART researcher from the Cleveland Clinic, and Grace Key from Candidly Kind, offering valuable insights and perspectives. The culmination of Friday's pep rally was marked by the dynamic tunes of The V8s, igniting the crowd with their electrifying music and prompting fun and lively dancing by amazing Rotarians.

Saturday morning commenced with a poignant memorial service, honoring the cherished Rotarians who have passed from District 7670, a moment of reflection and remembrance for their enduring contributions. Following this solemn tribute, the parade of clubs brought together the vibrant spirit of Rotary, showcasing the diverse and dedicated members of our community. A special guest appearance by Dave Sanderson, the remarkable last passenger rescued from the Miracle on the Hudson, captivated attendees with his remarkable story of resilience and survival. In a touching

gesture and with a quick fundraiser, attendees painted their pinkies purple as a symbolic commitment to Rotary's fight against polio, embodying our unwavering dedication to eradicating this debilitating disease. Amidst the festivities, a food truck lunch provided a delicious array of culinary delights, fueling the day's activities. The presence of Rotary Director Jeremy Hurst added further gravitas to the event, offering insights and inspiration for the future of Rotary. And to add a touch of fun and excitement, the Furman University dance team graced the stage, enchanting the audience with their captivating performance.

Following an afternoon where Rotarians had the opportunity to explore downtown Greenville, the festivities resumed with a delectable dinner. The evening's program featured a captivating speech by leadership speaker Matt Doherty, renowned former UNC Tarheel coach, followed by an exhilarating awards ceremony and the symbolic cutting down of the basketball net.

A heartfelt "Thank You" goes out to Conference Chair Tiffany Ervin and everyone who contributed to making this year's District 7670 conference an unparalleled success!







Up On The Roof

Before the "Rotary All-Star Weekend" commenced, DG Sean Gibson hosted a delightful evening on Thursday, dedicated to honoring and acknowledging the members of his leadership team for the 2023-2024 Rotary District 7670 term. Set in the charming Downtown Greenville, SC, it provided a perfect backdrop for reflecting on the year's achievements. Among delicious food and friendly companionship, DG Sean's team savored picturesque views of the city. Gratitude was expressed for a truly fantastic Rotary year in 7670.



"Leaders Make Sacrifices"



More than 75 Club officers and committee chairs convened at Mars Hill University on Saturday, May 4th, to gear up for the approaching year. Following a delightful breakfast and warm camaraderie, DGE Connie extended a heartfelt welcome to the participants, expressing gratitude for their unwavering dedication and devotion to both their Club and Rotary.

DGE Connie reiterated the phrase "leaders make sacrifices" multiple times as she acknowledged each individual who attended the training session. She also provided context on the forthcoming changes regarding the annual Rotary theme, hinting at a potential shift towards a theme lasting three to

five years instead of changing annually. For the upcoming year, the theme is "The Magic of Rotary." She recounted the moment when RIPE Stephanie Urchick conceived the theme, inspired by the magical impact of installing a water filter. DGE Connie emphasized the importance of recognizing that when we work magic in our communities to effect change, it reciprocates by transforming our own lives.

Nancy Barbee, our incoming Co-Chair for End Polio Now in Zone 33, along with Cindy Ireland, the incoming Chair for PolioPlus in our district, provided insights into Rotary's foremost mission: eradicating polio. Cindy conducted an interview with Nancy, posing a series of questions aimed at acquainting attendees with Nancy's background and highlighting the significance of maintaining our steadfast commitment to making polio the second disease eradicated, as promised to the world's children.

Concluding the plenary session, DGE Connie relayed RIPE Stephanie Urchick's priorities for the upcoming year: fostering healing in a divided world, increasing membership by 100, and chartering four new Clubs

of any variety. While the latter two objectives seemed straightforward, addressing the first priority posed a challenge. However, after conducting research and consulting with peers, DGE Connie stumbled upon the idea of planting Peace Poles across Western North Carolina. Similar to iPDG Tammy's Red Sand Project, the installation and dedication of Peace Poles present an excellent opportunity for education and awareness-raising. Additionally, the initiative aims to establish a lasting impact with a goal of planting 50 poles that will serve as enduring symbols for years to come. A comprehensive Peace Pole "toolkit" will be developed and shared with President-Elects to guide interested Clubs in participating effectively.

However, the Peace Pole initiative represents just one facet of our plans for the upcoming year. We aspire for every Club to convene meetings dedicated to discussing peace. While peace stands as one of the seven areas of focus, it resonates with each of the other areas. DGE Connie announced a significant milestone: our District now boasts a Peace Ambassador for the first time. Meg Lebeck, a Rotary Peace Scholar and member of the Rotary Club of Brevard, has graciously accepted the role of incoming District 7670 Peace Ambassador. Together, Meg and DGE Connie will develop and disseminate another toolkit designed to assist Clubs in fostering discussions about peace, comprehending the distinction between negative and positive peace, and grasping the impact of our projects in fostering reconciliation in a divided world.

We extend our gratitude to the following individuals, recognized as "subject-matter experts," for their diligent preparation and leadership in facilitating the breakout sessions:

- Secretary/DACdb - PDG Billi Black
- Foundation - PDG Ken Shull
- Membership - iPDG Tammy Mosteller
- Finance/Treasurer - Jim Cruickshank
- Youth Services - Mike Stevenson
- DEI - Jonathan McCoy
- Public Image - Julie West

Connie Molland
District Governor Elect
Rotary District 7670



Why send students to RYLA 2025??

By Michael Stevenson



And that's a wrap!!

Another successful RYLA is now behind us, and we are starting to plan for RYLA 2025. This year we ended up with exactly 100 young people who had an experience that they will remember for the rest of their lives. Those 100 students were sponsored by just 27 of our 45 clubs. I believe that we can do better than that.

WHY SEND KIDS TO RYLA? LISTEN TO THESE MOTHERS!

Each year we typically get a couple of notes from the parents of students who have just returned from RYLA. Here are a couple of them from our last two RYLA events.

Hello Mike, Thank you so much! Wow! RYLA was a wonderful experience for my son. He said he loved it. I would say it was transformational for him. He really felt moved. He shared a lot of positive feedback with us. I believe he finally sees himself as a leader. He was so proud he voluntarily spoke in front of over 100 people. He had fun, learned, and was challenged. He said he connected on a deeper level with people. He also said he would go out of his way to talk with people in his school that he has not met yet. Rachel (mother of the student)

And this one from last year:

My daughter had an AMAZING time and I truly believe it was life changing for her. Said it was unlike anything she's ever done and that it felt like a family. RYLA was "life changing" for her--because she felt so connected to the other attendees, without the judgment or hierarchies of HS. This means a lot to me as her mama.

Thanks so much for including her.

***Thanks,
Mary (this is the mother of the student)***

NOT CONVINCED YET? LISTEN TO THESE STUDENTS

At this year's RYLA, a few students volunteered to tell the group how they felt about RYLA and what they got out of it. This link will take you to those video testimonials on the RYLA website.

<https://www.ryla7670.org/past-events>.

So budget some money now for next year's RYLA and find some great students near you.

Remember, you can use a District Designated Grant to help fund RYLA scholarships. Your contact for RYLA will be Vicki Lawrence from Franklin Daybreak.

Club Officers in DaCdb! Now is the time!



Is your club equipped with all the officers listed in DACdb for the upcoming year?

These officers automatically sync with the District Committees, ensuring they stay informed about any learning opportunities or updates.

If you require assistance, feel free to reach out to me, DCO Billi, at DG201516@gmail.com, or contact DPIC Julie at Jpwestrn1@gmail.com.

Let's complete this task and prepare for an outstanding year ahead!

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?

Events

May 6th, 1:00
**CART Fund 2024
Annual Meeting**

May 7th, 5:00-6:00 PM
**Zone 33 Innovative
Club Advocate
Meeting**

May 13th, 5:45-6:45 PM
**Zones 33-34
Membership Action
Plan Webinar
>>>JOIN NOW**

May 14th, 2:30-3:30 PM
**DACdb U-No DACdb U
- District Grant Setup**

May 16th, 12:00-1:30 PM	May 18th, 10:00-11:00 AM	May 20th, 5:00-6:00 PM	May 27th, 7:00-9:00 AM
DCO Winter meeting	DACdb U-No DACdb U	Zone 33 District	Southland Breakfast
Postponed till Spring	- District Grant Setup	Membership Chair/DG	at RI Convention,
		Line Call	Singapore

Club Anniversaries

[Asheville-Biltmore](#)

May 2nd

[Asheville Breakfast](#)

May 9th

[Burnsville](#)

May 21st

[Highlands](#)

May 2nd

[Burke-Sunrise](#)

May 14th

[Sherrills Ford-Dry Pond](#)

May 29th

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



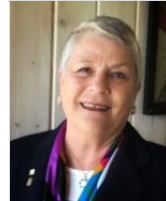
[Michael Stevenson](#)
Youth Services Chair



[James O. Perry](#)
District Treasurer



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



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