



### June 2024 Newsletter District Governor Sean Gibson

## **June is Rotary Fellowship Month**

June is Rotary Fellowship Month. Rotary Fellowships are international groups that share a common passion. Being part of a fellowship is a fun way to make friends around the world, explore a hobby or profession, and enhance your Rotary experience. Membership in a fellowship is open to any interested individual, so let's get involved. There are many fellowships already established, but new ones can also be created. Visit Rotary.org for Fellowships to explore the long list of specific topics.

# **DG Sean's Stuff**





#### DG Sean's Stuff

As we get into the month of June, I want to take this time to thank everyone for their amazing work this year! We walked into the year last July with an ongoing worldwide problem that needed to be addressed and that is mental health. We were able to get one global grant going geared toward helping traumatized children in Kiev, and we are continuing to work on putting together another in the Philippines. Our mission now is to continue to get the word out that Rotary is here to help.

Last week's International Convention in Singapore was truly amazing as Deb and I had the opportunity to attend and connect with old friends and new friends. It was great to see everyone from around the world speaking one language - Rotary! As we wind out this last month, please, if you haven't done so, make that contribution to the Rotary Foundation and Polio Plus. Our fight is almost complete with Polio and the Foundation allos us to do the great work of Rotary. I'm very excited about what's happening with District 7670 going forward with DGE Connie and her team leading the way.

Thank you again for an amazing year! None of this has happened without our awesome membership and clubs Creating Hope in the World.

#### Sean

#### **Rotary Celebrates in The Far East**



15 Rotarians from District 7670 had an opportunity to attend the recent International Conference held in



Singapore May 25-29. In addition to some great knowledge from many of our facilitators from around the world including our own Patrick Longano from Foothills talking about companion clubs, Rotarians were also entertained by President First Lady Heather McInally as she sang several opera numbers. Rotarians also got to enjoy the sounds of the Red Hot Chili Pipers closing out an amazing conference. While they were there, many of the 14,000 that attended from around the world got an opportunity to enjoy what Singapore had to offer including the world famous Gardens

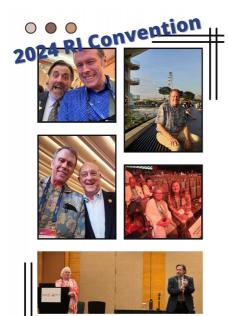
By the Bay. The nearly 30 hours of travel for our district was well worth it as we celebrated Creating Hope in the World.

# 7670 in Singapore!!









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### **Council on Legislation**



It's my honor to represent Rotary District 7670 on the Council on Resolutions (COR) and Council on Legislation (COL) for 2023-26, and I wanted to let you know we have received word that this is our opportunity to submit any resolutions for this year should our district want to do that.

Any proposal would have to be voted on and approved by our clubs and members, and then submitted to Rotary International no later than June 30, 2024. There is a process in place to submit proposals, so I encourage anyone with ideas or



suggestions to send them to both DG Sean and myself as soon as possible.

What are Rotary resolutions you ask? Great question... A resolution is **a request to the RI Board or The Rotary Foundation Trustees to take an action that is outside the scope of the constitutional documents**. Ideally, a resolution should affect the broad Rotary world rather than address local or administrative issues.

The COR meets online annually to review these resolutions, then the COL meets in person once every three years to review and vote on proposed legislative changes. We will have an opportunity to submit legislative changes at a later date, and I'll keep you informed as I hear of upcoming deadlines.

The 2023 COR referred a number of items to the RI Board for further action. The Board met in January 2024 and reviewed items referred from the COR. Their decisions regarding these items have been summarized <u>here</u>. You are encouraged to review these to be more informed of items being discussed at the international level.

Thank you for the opportunity to represent WNC on this important committee.

PDG Tiffany Ervin

## **Global Grant Update**





Global grants facilitate substantial international endeavors with enduring, quantifiable impacts within Rotary's designated focus areas. Through collaborative efforts aimed at addressing genuine community needs, both clubs and districts enhance their global alliances. These grants offer financial support for:

- 1. Humanitarian initiatives
- 2. Scholarships for postgraduate academic pursuits
- 3. Vocational training teams comprising professionals who journey abroad to either impart knowledge to local counterparts in their field or to further their own expertise.

Global grants necessitate a minimum budget of \$30,000 and offer a maximum World Fund award of \$400,000. Sponsors of grants can utilize a blend of District Designated Funds (DDF), cash, and/or directed gifts and endowment earnings to support a global grant. The Foundation extends an 80 percent World Fund match for all DDF contributions, with no requirement for a minimum World Fund match.

Both the district or club in the country where the activity is carried out and the international partner district or club must first become qualified before applying for a global grant. Your club and district Rotary Foundation chairs can help you plan how to use your District Designated Funds and learn how to qualify your club.

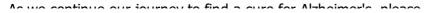
Rotarian John Baumrucker, who has diligently served as our International Project Chair in District 7670, has been re-elected for another term. Currently, two Global Grant projects are underway: the telemedicine project in Lobos, Argentina, is progressing successfully, and the X-ray project in Placido Tumba, Bolivia, has recently been approved. Funds for the X-ray machine will soon be dispatched to the manufacturer in the United States, while the Bolivian District Designated Funds (DDF) will cover the expenses for training.

If your club is interested in participating in a Global Grant or requires assistance with a District or Global grant, please reach out to John. You can contact John via email at rucker@dnet.net or by phone at 828-200-0902.

### Heartfelt Gratitude for Your Support of Coins for Alzheimer's Research Trust

Your Rotary club's ongoing commitment to Coins for Alzheimer's Research Trust has been truly remarkable, and I am immensely grateful for the impact you have made in the fight against Alzheimer's disease. Your contributions have played a vital role in funding critical research initiatives, supporting caregivers, and raising awareness about this devastating condition.

Thanks to your unwavering dedication and generosity, we have been able to make significant strides in advancing Alzheimer's research and improving the lives of those affected by this disease. Your support has brought hope to countless individuals and families, offering comfort and reassurance in their time of need.





As we continue our journey to find a cure for Alzheimer S, please

know that your Rotary club's partnership and support are

invaluable to our mission. Together, we are making a meaningful difference in the lives of so many, and we are deeply grateful for the opportunity to work alongside you in this important endeavor.

Once again, thank you for your kindness, generosity, and unwavering commitment to The CART Fund. We look forward to continuing our partnership and making even greater strides forward in the fight against Alzheimer's disease.

Thank you for granting me the privilege of serving your clubs. It has been an honor to engage with each of you and share insights about The CART Fund. I deeply value the opportunity to contribute to your understanding and support of this important cause.

You may use the attached QR code to enter any donations to The CART Fund.

I have full confidence that you will embrace our new District CART Chair Andie Taylor with the same warmth and enthusiasm that you extended to me. Your continued support and kindness are invaluable, and I have no doubt that Andie will feel just as welcomed and appreciated within your clubs.

With heartfelt gratitude,

Tammy Mosteller District CART Chair

### **End Plastic Soup Action Day**



The Rotary Club of Marion recently joined the End Plastic Soup Action Day, a global initiative aimed at tackling plastic pollution. As a result of their involvement, they've applied to become an ambassador club for District 7670. Teaming up with the Rotary Club of Roatan Utila Guanaja - RUG in Honduras, they participated in the Worldwide End Plastic Soup Action Day on June 1, sponsored by Rotary, Rotaract, and Interact Clubs worldwide. During the event, six Rotarians volunteered their time to collect eight large bags of plastic and trash along Yancey Street in Marion, in collaboration with The City of Marion, NC, and Keep McDowell Beautiful through the Adopt-a-Street program.

But what exactly is End Plastic Soup? It's a global initiative supported by thousands of Rotarians and

hundreds of Rotary, Rotaract, & Interact clubs worldwide. The initiative aims to eradicate plastic pollution from our oceans, seas, lakes, rivers, forests, parks, and streets by 2050. Plastic pollution poses a significant threat to marine life and ecosystems, with about 1 million plastic bottles produced every minute globally, and half of all plastic designed for single-use only. The accumulation of plastic waste not only harms marine organisms but also affects the broader food chain, including humans.

Supporting Rotary End Plastic Soup means taking action to address the plastic pollution crisis, safeguarding the environment, and protecting future generations. By becoming a supporter or ambassador club in District 7670, you can contribute to global efforts and stay informed about ongoing activities and partnerships. For more information, visit endplasticsoup.org.



### **2024 Charity Chase Distributes Funds to Local Non-Profits**

By H. Swofford on Thursday, May 23, 2024



At the 5/16/24 meeting of the Catawba Valley Rotary Club, organizing sponsor of Hickory's 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Charity Chase Half Marathon & 5K, Charity Chase distributed the funds donated by local sponsors of the event. The races ran on April 13th in chilly but beautiful conditions and provided approximately \$20,000 to be handed out to the volunteer organizations that helped stage the event. Recipients were (in alphabetical order): Ashure Ministry (formerly ECCCM), Carolina Caring (Hospice), Council on Adolescents of Catawba County, Grandview Middle Athletic Boosters, Hart Square Foundation, Hickory High School Band Boosters, Hickory Junior Women's Club, Hickory

Landmarks Society, Hickory Police Department (Cops for Tots), Hickory Soup Kitchen, Montessori @Sandy Ford, Patrick Beaver Learning Resource Center, Pink Heals, Rising Hope Farms, Special Olympics of Catawba County, The Corner Table, Western Carolina Youth Sports, and Womenâ€<sup>™</sup>s Resource Center.

The organizations receive checks based on the number of volunteer hours each contributes to the event. Volunteers play an important role in the success of Hickoryâ€<sup>™</sup>s Charity Chase Half Marathon, considered a premier event in the region, by manning water stops and cooling stations along the route and cheering the runners on. Runners comment that they keep coming back because of the support and encouragement that they receive from the volunteers and vote on the two best volunteer groups. This year those two groups were Special Olympics of Catawba County and the Patrick Beaver Learning Resource Center, and each group received a bonus check.

Charity Chase helps fund a range of services from providing meals to the homeless to enrichment activities for children and youths. Approximately \$400,000 has been raised over the years for the benefit of the Catawba County community. The success of Charity Chase has been due to the generosity of local businesses and individuals. Those who would like to be sponsors of this major local event can make inquiries through the Charity Chase website, <u>www.charitychase.com</u>, or through the Catawba Valley Rotary Club website, <u>www.catawbavalleyrotary.org</u>.

Representing their organizations at the Charity Chase awards ceremony are (left to right)

1<sup>st</sup> row: Tara Bland (Carolina Caring), Teresa Bazzle & Lori Anne Whitman (Special Olympics), Chad Bolick (Race Director for Charity Chase), Mary Helen Cline (Montessori @ Sandy Ford), Lesley Cannady (Hickory Soup Kitchen), Breanna Hucks (Council on Adolescents), Abby Selig (Women's Resource Center), Lorraine Swagger (The Corner Table), and Lorissa Vines (Hart Square Foundation).

2<sup>™</sup> row: Erick Morin (Rising Hope Farms), Hank Eimer (Grandview Middle Boosters), Angela Lawrence (Patrick Beaver Learning Resource Center), Courtney Pruitt (Hickory Junior Womenâ€<sup>™</sup>s Club), Hamp Shuford (Hickory Landmarks Society), and Josh Farmer (Ashure Ministry). (Photo by Julie Peltzer)



Charity Chase Volunteer Coordinator, Michelle Roseman presents bonus check to Teresa Bazzle and Lori Anne Whitman of The Special Olympics. (Photo by Julie Peltzer)





Charity Chase Volunteer Coordinator, Michelle Roseman presenting bonus check to Angela Lawrence of The Patrick Beaver Learning Resource Center. (Photo by Julie Peltzer)

#### **Four Way Test**

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





- 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**

August 14th, 5:45 **Zones 33-34 Membership** Action Plan Webinars 2023- III - Bluffton, SC 24 June 11th, 3:00-3:30 PM **District Finance Committee District Council Meeting** Meeting (4th quarter) June 15th, 10:00-11:00 AM DACdb U-Goodbye 2023-24 Monthly ZOOMformation Hello 2024-25-Closing Out

June 22nd, 10:00-12:00 PM **District Leadership Team Installation & Brunch** 

July 2nd, 5:00-6:00 PM Zone 33 Innovative Club **Advocate Meeting** 

June 8th, 8:30-3:45 PM District 7770 - Part I, II and Zones 33-34 Membership

June 11th, 3:30-5:00 PM (4th quarter) June 17th, 12:45-2:00 PM Call with RID Jeremy, Click Membership Chair/DG Line Meeting Here for June 26th, 12:00-1:00 PM Lunch A La CART with Dr. **Keith Vossel** 

June 10th, 5:45-6:45 PM **Action Plan Webinar** 

>>>JOIN NOW June 11th, 5:00-6:00 PM **CART PI Committee** Meeting June 17th, 5:00-6:00 PM Zone 33 District Call June 28th, 4:00 **Parent Registration-**Multidistric

June 11th, 2:30-3:30 PM DACdb U-Goodbye 2023-24 Hello 2024-25-Closing Out 2023-24!

June 13th, 5:30-6:30 PM **CART Conversations -Monthly Info Meeting** June 18th, 5:30-6:30 PM **CART Executive Committee** 

June 28th, 4:00 **YEP Outbound Orientation** Otterbein Orientation-O-E Otterbein O-E Multidistrict

#### **Club Anniversaries**

**Pisgah Forest** June 3rd **Caldwell County** June 24th

#### **Account Leaders**



Alex R Portelli **DG-Nominee** 











Gary D. Dills

Sean Gibson

District Governor

George Michael Vavrek Strategic Planning Chair

District Rotary Foundation Chair





**Clay County** 

June 9th









Connie M. Molland DG-Elect

Patrick Anthony Longano **District Membership Chair** 

Julie P. West District Public Image/PR Chair

Michael Lanzilotta Club Diversity Equity and Inclusion Chair

Tiffany Ervin **District Conference Chair** 

Paul Garner



District Secretary

Michael Stevenson

Youth Services Chair





James O. Perry District Treasurer



John F. Baumrucker International Services Chair



Billi J. Black DCO-District Comm. Officer

#### District Finance Chair