



# ***District 7545 Newsletter***

***Vol 3, September 2022***

**This month's Rotary theme: Basic  
Education and Literacy**



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**McPuff**

## DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S CORNER

September is here and this month's Rotary theme is "Basic Education and Literacy."

If you've read this month's Rotary Magazine, you probably noticed an article by Trustee Chair Ian Risely entitled "For those who cannot read these words." It was shocking to me to read that there are an estimated 773 million illiterate adults – most of them women – who can't read or write their own name.



The Rotary Foundation is doing its part to address this issue on a global scale. As Ian points out, last year alone, The Rotary Foundation approved 104 global grants totaling \$6.3 million for basic education and literacy projects.

On August 9<sup>th</sup>, Carol and I had the opportunity to represent our district in sponsoring a special program on The Dolly Parton Imagination Library which supplies free books to children from birth to age five right here in West Virginia.

I know many of our clubs are actively working to address this issue locally, whether through dictionary projects, participation in the Little Free Library program, or through reading programs in our schools. If yours is not among those that do, this month is a good time to identify an area of need in your community and create a project to help address this ongoing challenge.



As you do so, don't take your eye off Rotary's number 1 internal priority, membership growth. While our membership has remained stable so far this Rotary year, we know that it's inevitable we will lose some Rotarians during the year due to work relocations and other factors we can't control. We must have a growth strategy to both to offset those loses as well as create a net growth in our clubs that expands our ability to make a difference in our communities. Our District Membership Team stands ready to help if you need some new ideas to help grow your membership. DMC Sean's Membership Minute below tells you more.

Finally, thanks to all those that participated in last month's Friends and Family Gathering at The Summit Bechtel Reserve. We had fantastic weather, great food and music and a lot of fun. Congrats to the Grafton Club for returning as golf champions, Chris Knowlton representing the Beckley Club for taking first in the shotgun tournament and the Beckley Club for dominating the field game competition.

Yours in Rotary Service,

Dan



## MEMBERSHIP MINUTE

As the past two months in this new Rotary year have given each of us an opportunity to get acclimated with our new roles, now is the perfect time to revisit the importance of each Club continuing with its plans to explore, create, and most importantly, *maintain*, consistent moderate growth. So for this edition of our newsletter, let's remember just three things:

1. If you get Membership right, pretty much everything else takes care of itself. Said differently, if you don't get membership right, everything else is a struggle for the whole year. Make sure your Club has designated and entered into DACdb its Membership Chair, assembled a membership committee, and is 100% committed to membership growth. Remember . . . *a successful committee cannot be one member!*
2. Keep in mind that growth doesn't have to be dramatic, rather a steady, sustained effort. Just think . . . only 4% annual membership growth will double the size of a club in 18 years!! And remember, membership decline is not something that gets fixed overnight. However, what you **do** want to do now is develop a **membership growth culture** -- the fundamental belief that the Club grows a little every year and avoids huge declines along the way, and not think of it as a series of "membership drives."
3. If you're still not sure where or how to begin, try going to the district website at [rotarydistrict7545.org](http://rotarydistrict7545.org), hover on "Membership", and click on "Member Care Manual." There you will find a variety of tools that ANY Club can use to get over its specific hurdle and begin seeing membership trend in the upward direction. You can also ALWAYS contact me or any member of the Committee so that we can explore how best to have the right conversations, and even schedule visits by our Club Support Team.

In sum, if your club has embraced a culture of decline, it's only a matter of time until someone has to decide on who's staying last to turn out the lights. Effecting change in an organization is not accidental. Let's get intentional, together, and watch how easily our Clubs can grow and flourish."



DMC/PDG Sean Sawyer

# COMMUNITY SERVICE SPOTLIGHT

## LOOKING FOR A CLUB SERVICE PROJECT?

Rose Hart of the Moundsville Impact Club has an idea you should consider.

Inventories of flood buckets to support response to flooding events in West Virginia are low and need replenishment. Two types of flood buckets are needed: cleaning buckets and hygiene buckets.

Clubs can select which bucket type they will prepare. Materials must be acquired by the club and the buckets assembled. Assembled buckets would then be transferred to emergency management sites in the State such as the Tyler County Office of Emergency Management (OEM) warehouse in Middlebourne and the WV Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD) facility in Williamson.

A listing of flood bucket contents can be found at the following link:

<https://www.kyumc.org/newsdetail/contents-list-for-flood-buckets-and-or-hygiene-kits-16588774>

Additional information can be obtained from the West Virginia Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD) at [www.wvvoad.org](http://www.wvvoad.org) or [info@wvvoad.org](mailto:info@wvvoad.org).



**Community Service Chair  
Jane Stout**

## PUBLIC IMAGE TIPS

Now is the time to check out the new and improved Rotary Brand Center! The Brand Center is the central hub for everything you need to help tell your Rotary Club story in your community.

Rotary has focused on making the Brand Center more user friendly, with a streamlined layout, new & faster platform, and an improved search function. What can you do on Brand Center?

Lots and you do not need to be a marketing expert to use it! Brand Center has simple tools you can use to create your club logo, Rotary-themed power points, virtual meeting backgrounds, personalized People of Action campaigns, prospective member materials, polio materials, customized social media posts, club brochures, business cards, banners, and much more!

There are also Interact and Rotaract materials available too. You also do not have to log into My Rotary anymore to access the Brand Center, but can reach it directly by visiting:

<https://brandcenter.rotary.org/en-us/>.



**DPIC Amanda Ream**

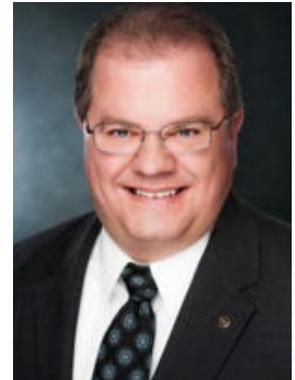
If you have any questions about the Brand Center (or other public image tools), please do not hesitate to reach out to District Public Image Chair Amanda Ream, [executivedirector@SouthCharlestonChamber.org](mailto:executivedirector@SouthCharlestonChamber.org).

## FOUNDATION FEATURE

Thanks for your support of the Rotary Foundation.

I wanted to make you aware of the following:

1. The deadline for District Grant applications has been moved to September 30, 2022. Please go to the district website at [www.rotarydistrict7545.org](http://www.rotarydistrict7545.org) to complete the application.
2. World Polio Day is October 24. Now is the time for your club to begin planning a fundraiser to raise funds and awareness for polio. If you haven't heard, there was a vaccine derived case of polio in New York State. The fight against polio is not over yet.
3. Our second annual Foundation Celebration will be held on Friday, November 4, 2022 at Edgewood Country Club in Charleston. We will recognize individuals and clubs that led our district in giving during the last Rotary year. Please save the date. More details will be available soon.



**DRFC/PDG Terry Mathias**

Thanks for all you are doing to make a difference in your communities!

*If you're not already a contributor, please consider doing so. Your Club Foundation Chair can help advise you on how to do so.*

## POLIO UPDATE

### Don't relax about the seriousness of Polio!

As Terry mentioned, there was a vaccine derived polio case affecting an unvaccinated man in New York. Investigation indicates it came from water contaminated with sewage in a country where vaccinations are carried out with the oral Sabin vaccine (a vaccine no longer used in the U.S.).

As of August 31, the number of wild polio cases in 2022 was 21 compared with only 6 in all of 2021. Pakistan is the real hot spot with 15 so far this year compared with only 1 last year (COVID's impact on our ability to operate inside the country undoubtedly contributed to the lower numbers last year – 202 saw 84 cases). Mozambique has 5 cases this year after having none in the last two years. Malawi had one case in 2021, but none so far this year.



**District Polio Plus Chair,  
Greg Cartwright**

What's the point? The battle is not over AND any remaining endemic country can be the source of reintroducing the virus into ours.

I am writing to encourage each club to do two things this year in celebration of World Polio Day:

1. Hold a special fund raiser on or near that day to raise not only monies for polio eradication but also to raise community awareness of the continued need to address this disease.
2. Join or find someone to join our District Polio Plus Society. I feel each club should be able to have 10% of their members join. For example, this challenge would mean that a club with 20 members would have at least two new Society members this October, while a club with 60 members would have 6 new members.

Membership in the Polio Plus Society requires a donation to the Polio Plus fund of \$100 now and a pledge of \$100 per year until Polio is eradicated. This designated gift will count toward your Paul Harris Fellow status in addition to substantially helping in our International goal of Polio Eradication. The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has pledged to match 2:1 funds raised by Rotary, so their contribution turns your \$100 into \$300. Last year they gave \$10,000,000 in matching funds.

Let's not lose perspective though, 19 million people globally are walking now because of Rotary's commitment to polio eradication. Collectively, we have reduced the number of polio cases by 99.9%. The point is we need to keep up the good work to defeat this disease and keep our promise to the children of the world.

Will you be part keeping that promise? If you have any questions or would like me or another member of the Polio Plus team to visit your club and talk about polio, please feel free to contact me.

Greg Cartwright, District 7545 Polio Plus Chair

[gregcartwrightrotary@gmail.com](mailto:gregcartwrightrotary@gmail.com)

304-266-5207 (cell)

1303 Beverly Pike

Grafton, WV 26354

## **FUN FACTS OF THE MONTH**

- It is said that there is a Rotary meeting being held someplace in the world every hour of every day.
- If you attended one meeting per day, it would take nearly 80 years to visit all of the more than 34,500 Rotary clubs in the world, and by that time, no doubt, there would be thousands more new clubs to attend

# NEWS FROM AROUND THE DISTRICT

## MORGANTOWN ROTARY CLUB FUNDRAISER

The Morgantown Rotary Club held a wine and cheese fundraiser at the Forks of Cheat Winery

President V.K. Raju hosted the event. it was a beautiful day with entertainment provided by Guitarist Jim Truman, and lots of wonderful wine tasting. Dr. Raju and other Rotarians provided items from their personal collection for the live and silent auction. The event raised well over \$13,000.



## SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

The Rotary Club of Barboursville presented two college scholarships! Rylee Hightower (left) and Brooklyn Johnson (right) were each presented \$1,000 scholarships by Club President John Lee.

Both are recent graduates from Cabell Midland High School. Rylee plans to major in nursing while Brooklyn's plans include pre-med. Congratulations Rylee and Brooklyn!!

Members of the Weirton Rotary were happy to present college scholarships to the winning candidates of each of the area high schools for the upcoming Fall semester.

Students from Weir High, Weirton Madonna, Brooke and Oak Glen are given the opportunity to apply for assistance for their upcoming college tuition for a \$1,500 scholarship by writing essays describing their passions and intents for furthering their education and goals for their careers. Approximately 50 applications were received between all four high schools. The Weirton Area Chamber of Commerce Education Committee review all submissions and select a student from each high school to receive one of the scholarships.



Opportunity was given for each winning candidate to speak to the Rotarians indicating their major and goals from furthering their studies!

Pictured are Mason Drobish, Weir High School; Tommy Charnie, Brooke High School, Doug Finton, Rotarian in charge of scholarship program; Nina Daugherty, Madonna High School; Steve Kladakis, Rotarian, and Vanessa Beaver, Weirton Rotary President (Oak Glen recipient not present)



## TEACHER APPRECIATION

The Weirton Heights Rotary Club had the chance to show their appreciation to some of their community's greatest assets, their teachers, this summer!

They made Appreciation Bags for the faculty and staff at Weirton Elementary School and donated some supplies to help get the 2022-2023 school year started for the students.



## A SAD DAY FOR DISTRICT 7545 ROTARIANS

We lost two of our past district governors since our last newsletter edition: PDG Ronald W. Hill, Jr. of the Clarksburg Rotary Club who served as the District Governor of District 7530 during the 1995-96 Rotary Year and PDG Art Tribbie, formerly of the Cheat Lake Rotary Club who served as District Governor of District 7530 during the 2001-02 Rotary Year.

Ron started his career at McWhorter Advertising as a painter. He held multiple positions before moving to Bridgeport and working in management. He then purchased and operated the company as Standard Advertising for several years. He taught as a Dale Carnegie Instructor. Ron was a pastor at Horizons Church in Lost Creek, where he was also a member. He was working as a Corporate Counselor for McDonalds and for John Ebert at the time of his passing.



Ron passed away on September 1, 2022 and is survived by his wife of 30 years, Cynthia Louise Abraham Hill; three daughters, Rachelle Hill of Round Hill, VA, Meredith and Marina Hill both of Bridgeport.

Donations in Ron's memory can be made to Heritage Christian School, 225 Newton Ave, Bridgeport, WV 26330.



Art Tribbie, Jr. CDR, SC, USN (ret), started his career at a U. S. Navy Supply Corps officer where he completed 20 years of service to our nation. Following his military service he joined Jonathan Corporation in Norfolk, VA where he visited Morgantown from time to time to maintain his association with the sports programs of his alma mater, WVU. He eventually moved back to Morgantown and became a member of the Cheat Lake Rotary Club.

Art became a business partner of Pleasant Day Schools in 1991. He served on the Chamber of Commerce Special Projects Board and County Commissioner Property Revenue committee. Moving to Florida in 2002 he was active with the Rotary Club of Cape Coral and actively participated as a member of the Military Officer Association of America.

Art passed away on August 20, 2022 and is survived by his wife Shirley B. Ely Tribbie and his children, Arthur Scott Tribbie and wife Kathryn of Centreville, VA, Allison Sue Johnson and her husband, Daniel Johnson of Williamsburg, VA, first wife, Laura Ellen Tribbie and his sister, Rebecca Ann Rayboun.

Contributions in Art's memory can be made to Stepping Stones in support of the Miracle Field. 400 Mylan Park Lane Morgantown, WV 26501, a project for which Art was instrumental in raising funds while District Governor.



## NEWS FROM ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

### SRI LANKA ROTARACT

The Rotaract Club of Colombo celebrated its 52nd anniversary by completing 52 projects during the 2021-22 Rotary year. In March, to finish 10 of them, the Rotaractors boarded a bus for a 30-hour drive.

The Charity Bus, as the decade-old project is known, delivered books to a school library, heaters to a wildlife rehabilitation center, an electric oven to a skills development center, a rice cooker to a children's residence, and rations and other products to homes that serve children and older adults. The group installed plastic recycling bins along a beach and planted trees to help prevent erosion and nurture turtle hatchlings. The initiatives are funded by current and past club members, families, and businesses. "We have developed a culture of



building a network of generous well-wishers as opposed to holding fundraisers,” says Chedliya Ishak, immediate past president.

## SILICON VALLEY ROTARY

While Silicon Valley is among the world’s most affluent locales, hunger and income disparities strain food distribution programs in the area. For the past two years, the Rotary Club of Saratoga, California, has been a continuing presence at Martha’s Kitchen, a soup kitchen in San Jose, where members prepare food once a month.



The club coordinated the \$95,000 purchase of a refrigerated box truck so the facility could collect perishables and goods donated by organizations such as the Second Harvest of Silicon Valley, a food bank that covered half the truck’s cost. “The soup kitchen itself does not have extensive storage facilities. The truck helps so food doesn’t spoil,” says Sangita Seshadri, immediate past president of the club.

With \$3,000 contributed by the Rotary Club of Bangalore West, India, the project shows the power of international friendships. “Typically, people look at the developed countries giving to the developing countries,” Seshadri says. “There is need all over, and when we talk about partnerships, it is both ways.”

With \$3,000 contributed by the Rotary Club of Bangalore West, India, the project shows the

## SUPPORT FOR FLOOD VICTIMS IN PAKISTAN NEEDED

ShelterBox is deploying an emergency response team to Pakistan where more than 30 million people have been affected by severe floods. Pakistan has been overwhelmed by severe monsoon rains and flooding; the full scale of the devastation is still unknown.

The need is massive, and our response is critical. Homes have sunk in flood water or been swept away, livelihoods have been ruined, tens of millions are displaced, and more than 1,000 people have lost their lives.



The Pakistani government response has been overwhelmed - all in-country stock has already been distributed. An additional 1.5 million tents are being requested.

ShelterBox is focusing its attention on the most affected areas of Sindh, Punjab, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), and Baluchistan.

ShelterBox’s emergency coordinator, Kitty Sadler shares, “...the scale of what’s unfolding is catastrophic with swathes of the country underwater and unrecognizable. After weeks of flooding the heavy rains are not letting up – homes are being washed away, people are losing their livelihoods, and in too many cases their lives. ShelterBox specializes in emergency shelter aid and we’re already hearing how thousands of mud homes have sunk as swollen rivers burst their banks. With our experience supporting flood-affected communities in Pakistan in 2010, and flood-hit areas across the world, we’re looking to get an assessment team out there as soon as we can to see what we can do to help.”

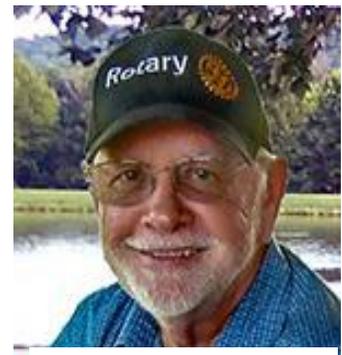


Source: LANCE Near Real Time (NTR)

Donations can be made at the ShelterBox website [www.shelterboxusa.org](http://www.shelterboxusa.org) or by mail to P.O. Box 5055 Santa Barbara Ca. 93150.

## ROTARY LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

Our District is offering three RLI sessions this fall. You should have received an email regarding RLI with directions on how to register. RLI is offered in three parts. You must complete each part in that order. The cost of attending RLI is \$95 which covers the cost of materials and lunch (many clubs choose to cover this cost for those attending, so check with your club President or Treasurer to see if your costs will be covered).



PDG Harry Faulk  
RLI Chair

The sessions begin at 8:15 am and last until 4:00 pm. Topics include:

Part I  
The Roots of Rotary  
My Club & Beyond

Part II  
Rotary & Ethics  
Strategic Planning

Part III  
Effective Leadership  
Strategies

Engaging Members  
Our Foundation  
Creating Service Projects

Targeted Service  
Attracting Members  
Team Building

Vocational Service &  
Expectations  
Club Communications  
International Service  
Public Image & PR

RLI is for every Rotarian, not just for the club's leadership. If you want to learn more about the meaning of Rotary and what Rotary is doing in the World, you should attend RLI.

September 17	Beaver Campus of New River C&T College, Beckley - Part I
October 17	Pierpont C&T College, Fairmont - Part I
October 22	WV State University, South Charleston - Part I and Part II

Become an RLI graduate and plan to complete all three Parts. If you can't attend an in-person RLI event you can register for a virtual RLI. To see a list of in-person and virtual RLI events, go to [RLI33.com](http://RLI33.com).

If you need more information about RLI or need assistance in registering for an event, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Harry Faulk, PDG  
RLI District Chair  
[hfaulk1@yahoo.com](mailto:hfaulk1@yahoo.com)  
304 894-4838

## UPCOMING DISTRICT EVENTS

District Foundation Banquet, Edgewood County Club, Charleston	Nov 4, 2022
President-elect Training Seminar, TBD	Feb 24, 2023
Membership Summit, TBD	Feb 25, 2023
District Conference, Stonewall Resort	Apr 28-30, 2023
Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA), Jackson's Mill	May 12-14, 2023
District Leadership Installation, Flatwoods	Jun 23, 2023
District Training Assembly, Flatwoods	Jun 24, 2023



# Mark your calendars!

### 2022-23 LEADERSHIP

#### INTERNATIONAL OFFICERS

RI President  
[Jennifer E. Jones](#)  
RI Board Chair  
[Elizabeth Usovicz](#)  
TRF Trustees Chair  
[Ian Riseley](#)  
RI Zone 33/34 Director  
[Jeremy Hurst](#)  
General Secretary/CEO  
[John Hewko](#)

#### DISTRICT OFFICERS

District Governor  
[J. Dan McCarthy](#) | 304-719-5206  
District Governor-elect  
[Jordan Feathers](#) | 304-319-2694  
District Governor-nominee  
[Jeff Disibbio](#) | 304-325-2815  
Immediate Past District Governor  
["Coop" Cooper](#) | 304-478-4446  
District Treasurer  
[Ed Westfall](#) | 304-203-4007  
District Secretary  
[Carol McCarthy](#) | 703-587-4453

District Membership  
[PDG Sean Sawyer](#) | 304-366-2900  
District Foundation  
[PDG Terry Mathias](#) | 304-741-0045  
District Public Image  
[Amanda Ream](#) | 304-744-0051  
District Communications  
[Deb Halsey-Hunter](#) | 304-920-2131  
District Community Service  
[PP Jane Stout](#) | 804-356-5432  
District Youth Services  
[PDG Dennis Shreve](#) | 304-669-9666

## UPCOMING DISTRICT GOVERNOR VISITS

Club	Date/Time	Location
Weirton	9/15/2022 12:00 pm	Kosciuszko Hall, Weirton
Weirton Heights	9/15/2022 12:00 pm	Kosciuszko Hall, Weirton
Brooke County	9/15/2022 12:00 pm	Kosciuszko Hall, Weirton
Elkins	9/19/2022 12:00 pm	YMCA, Elkins
Putnam County	9/20/2022 8:00 am	Area 34, Hurricane
Madison	9/22/2022 12:15 pm	The Park Avenue Restaurant, Danville
Huntington	9/26/2022 12:00 pm	DoubleTree by Hilton, Huntington
Matewan	10/4/2022 12:00 pm	TBD
Williamson	10/4/2022 12:00 pm	TBD
Logan	10/5/2022 12:00 pm	317 The Steak House, Logan
St Albans	10/6/2022 12:00 pm	City National Bank, St Albans
Princeton	10/7/2022 12:00 pm	Princeton City Hall, Princeton
Cheat Lake	10/11/2022 7:30 am	Cranberry Hotel, Morgantown
Morgantown North	10/12/2022 7:00 am	Erickson Alumni Center, Morgantown
Morgantown	10/13/2022 12:00 pm	Hotel Morgan, Morgantown
South Charleston	10/17/2022 12:00 pm	Fairfield Inn & Suites, Charleston
Barboursville	10/19/2022 12:00 pm	Delta Hotel, Barboursville
Canyon Rim	11/3/2022 6:15 pm	Gaines Estate, Fayetteville
Charleston Vandalia	11/9/2022 7:30 am	Edgewood Country Club, Charleston
Lewisburg	11/14/2022 11:15 am	Dutch Haus Restaurant, Lewisburg
Bluefield	11/15/2022 12:00 pm	Clover Club, Bluefield
Kimball	11/15/2022 5:00 pm	Ya'sou Restaurant, Kimball
Peterstown	12/1/2022 6:30 pm	Peterstown Fire Hall, Peterstown
Braxton County	12/7/2022 12:00 pm	Shoney's, Sutton

Bridgeport	12/14/2022 12:00 pm	Bridgeport Country Club, Bridgeport
Clarksburg	12/14/2022 12:00 pm	Bridgeport Country Club, Bridgeport

*Club Presidents: Contact District Secretary Carol McCarthy at [designsbycarol@gmail.com](mailto:designsbycarol@gmail.com) if your club is not yet scheduled for a visit*

## HELPFUL LINKS

District 7545 Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/RotaryDistrict7545/>

Zone 33/34 Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/rotaryinternationalzones33.34/>

District 7545 website: <https://www.rotarydistrict7545.org/>

Zone 33/34 website: <https://www.rizones33-34.org/>

**Deadline for October Newsletter is September 30th**

Send items to Newsletter editor Donna M. Tennant, [DT2078@aol.com](mailto:DT2078@aol.com)

Articles received after this deadline will be used the following month