



District 7545 Newsletter

Vol 6, December 2022

**This month's Rotary theme:
Disease Prevention and Treatment**



**IMAGINE
ROTARY**

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DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S CORNER

You know the old saying: "Time flies when you're having fun." Well it certainly is flying for Carol and me. It's hard to believe we are closing in on the halfway point of our Rotary year. Now is a good time to assess your Rotary goals for the year, both personal and as a club. Two big areas to assess, membership and foundation giving.



IMAGINE
ROTARY

If you have not seen growth in your Rotary club in the first six months of the year, have a discussion with your club about how to turn that trend around. The monthly Membership Action Plan sessions available at <https://www.rizones33-34.org/membership-action-plan/> are a great place to start. They provide great ideas on how to grow your club (i.e., increase your impact through membership).



Carol and DG Dan McCarthy

December is also a great month to evaluate your progress on Foundation giving while there's still time to benefit from the year-end tax advantage. Consider becoming a sustaining member of the Rotary Foundation by contributing \$100 a year or, if you are already a sustaining member, consider joining those of us that are Paul Harris Society members. Every contribution helps, regardless of size, so give what fits your circumstances. It's easy to do, just click here: <https://my.rotary.org/en/donate>

This month's Rotary theme is *Disease Prevention and Treatment*. As Rotarians, we believe good health care is everyone's right. Yet 400 million people in the world can't afford or don't have access to basic health care. Treating and preventing disease is important to us, and because of that Rotary leads efforts both large and small such as setting up temporary clinics, running blood donation centers, and supporting training facilities in underserved communities struggling with outbreaks and health care access.

When was the last time your club evaluated its work in the area of disease prevention and treatment in your community? When was the last time you contributed to Rotary's global efforts to eradicate polio? Something to think about as we approach the mid-point of this Rotary year.



Allow me to close this month's message in recognition of the holiday season. Regardless of your religious beliefs, this time of year is an opportunity to pause and give thanks for the many blessings we receive.

Those of you that have participated in one of my visits to your clubs know that I often talk about the fact I have had the opportunity to travel globally and that, as a result of those travels I've concluded we are enormously blessed to live in this country of ours. We are doubly blessed to live in this great state of West Virginia and to be members of this organization I often refer to as "a global force for good."

As Rotarians, you are making a difference in your communities. You are making an impact and contributing to the blessing received by so many. Thank you for all you do!

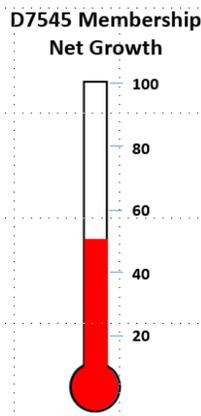
Carol and I wish you a safe and joyous holiday season surrounded by family and friends. We look forward to seeing you in the New Year!

Yours in Rotary Service,

Dan

MEMBERSHIP MINUTE

Our district continues to grow, but we still have a ways to go to reach our goal. Doing so will likely require some new ideas and strategies for our clubs.



With that in mind, on Tuesday, December 13th I released the first notice of our upcoming Membership Summit to be held February 25th, 2023 at the Embassy Suites in Charleston. It will be our second district membership Summit and another fantastic opportunity to get together to regroup, recommit, reboot and rebuild.

We'll be sharing new ideas specifically designed to make our clubs even stronger, healthier, and simply better than they already are!!

There is no question that Rotary is highly regarded world-wide as the best service organization. Service is certainly what we do . . . and we're quite good at it. But, without its members, and the efforts taken by them to ensure consistent growth in its ranks, who will perform the service?

Come join us on February 25th to learn more about growing your club from those that are doing just that. All Rotarians interested in strengthening their clubs and expanding their impact on the community are invited. I hope you consider yourself in that category.

Registration is open now through the links in Tuesday's email or through the district DACdb calendar. I look forward to seeing many of you there!

Sean



DMC/PDG Sean Sawyer



COMMUNITY SERVICE SPOTLIGHT

Let's talk about enhancing Impact Through Partnerships.

One of the ways to expand your Community Service impact is through partnerships in the community. Small clubs can certainly enhance their impact through partnerships, but even large clubs can increase their club's ability to make a lasting impact. Several clubs have found that partnering with the Salvation Army has provided an opportunity to serve in ways that they could not manage on their own while increasing their public image at the same time.



Salvation Army office located near you, they are often willing to expand their reach farther into their assigned counties if they have help.

Go to www.salvationarmyusa.org and do a location search to find out what possibilities await you.

Jane

PUBLIC IMAGE TIPS

From this month's Zone 33 Public Image Newsletter:

Vocational Service is the essence of Rotary and serves as the foundation from which we serve our communities. This concept is rooted in the Second Object of "The Object of Rotary", which calls on Rotarians to "encourage and foster":

- High ethical standards in all that we do
- Recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations
- Dignifying each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve

As Rotarian's, we can put these ideals into action by:

- Encourage our members to talk about their vocation and learn about fellow members' vocations
- Practice your vocation with integrity, and inspire others to behave ethically through your own words and actions
- Help young people to achieve their career aspirations



Community Service Chair
Jane Stout

We often think of the Salvation Army at Christmas time, as many clubs assist them serving as bell ringers, or by holding food or toy drives; but the Salvation Army can provide service opportunities at other times of the year as well.

Hunger is a year round problem. In addition to a special food drive to gather food, club members can serve by packing food boxes or by helping with distribution during special events. Even if there is no



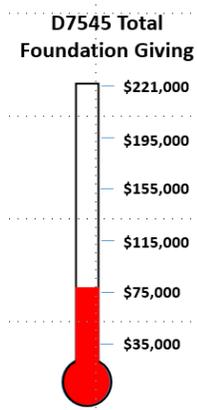
DPIC Amanda Ream

- Guide and encourage others in their vocational development

Did you know that, prior to July 1, 2015, January was "Rotary Awareness" month? As we work on our Public Image campaigns, we need to raise Rotary Awareness that we are not exclusive, but rather inclusive, and invite individuals of all vocations to join us in our efforts to serve.

Amanda

FOUNDATION FEATURE



You may have heard already that we have kicked off our first ever Legacy Campaign and earlier this month we had an informational Zoom meeting hosted by Major Gifts Officer Laurie Menzel with an overview of what the Campaign includes and how you can participate.

If you'd like to watch, here's the link, and it will be made available on our newly renovated District 7545 website <https://rotarydistrict7545.org/>
https://rotary-org.zoom.us/rec/share/yQNef4NQrtM7-mA92MeUR84zRqH7ZnohmmkR9gy6iPWLLCdkXGxobvSutu-bScQ5.nK58Cl2cPTBz_Q5X Passcode: !Pz3WHHY



DRFC/PDG Terry Mathias

If you'd like to learn more about the Legacy Campaign there will be three more opportunities in the new year as you see listed below.

DISTRICT 7545

IMAGINE YOUR
ROTARY LEGACY

For more information:

DRFC Terry Mathias
tsmathias@earthlink.net
304.741.0045



Legacy Learning
With Laurie Menzel, Major Gifts Officer

Join us and learn how you can easily reach your philanthropic goals using creative giving strategies through The Rotary Foundation.

5:00PM on Zoom

Meeting Info

- ❖ January 9th What Can I Give To? Learning about Designations
- ❖ February 13th Creating Your Rotary Legacy, What is a Bequest?
- ❖ March 13th Creating Your Rotary Legacy with a Named Fund



FUN FACTS OF THE MONTH

One of the colorful traditions of many Rotary clubs is the exchange of small banners, flags or pennants.

Rotarians traveling to distant locations often take banners to exchange at "make up" meetings as a token of friendship. Many clubs use the decorative banners they have received for attractive displays at club meetings and district events.

The Rotary International board recognized the growing popularity of the banner exchange back in 1959 and suggested that those clubs which participate in such exchanges give careful thought to the design of their banners in order that they be distinctive and expressive of the community and country of which the club is a part.

Mindful of the financial burden such exchanges may impose upon some clubs, especially in popular areas where many visitors make up and request an exchange, the board cautioned clubs to exercise discretion and moderation in the exchange of banners in order that the financial obligations do not interfere with the basic service activities of the club.

Exchanging club banners is a very pleasant custom, especially when a creative and artistic banner tells an interesting story of community pride. The exchange of banners is a significant tradition of Rotary and serves as tangible symbol of our international fellowship.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE DISTRICT

DISTRICT GOVERNOR NOMINATIONS DUE

Last month's Newsletter explained the process for nominating qualified Rotarians to serve as a future District Governor of our district. Nominations are due by the end of this month to be considered as our next District Governor Nominee-designate (DGND) who will serve as District Governor of Rotary International District 7545 for Rotary year 2025-26).

If you have a candidate you feel should be considered for nomination as our next District Governor Nominee-designate, please notify your club President. The District Nominating Committee will meet in January to conduct interviews of nominated candidates and select our next DGND. The name of the individual selected will be published in February.



DGE Jordan Feathers
Nominating Committee Chair

GRAFTON ROTARY CLUB SUPPORTS WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

As with several of our clubs, the Elkins Club is supporting the Wreaths Across America campaign. The Grafton Club's work is supporting the National Cemetery in Pruntytown where wreaths will be placed on veterans graves on Saturday, December 17th.

Wreaths are delivered to the West Virginia National Cemetery, then the cardboard boxes used to deliver the wreaths are transferred to the recycling center. Rotarians were busy unloading wreaths, loading boxes for recycling and placing wreaths at the National Cemetery.

. Well done Grafton Rotary! 🍷🍷



SOUTH FAIRMONT ROTARY CELEBRATION OF LIGHTS UNDERWAY

Cars are lining up at Morris Park in Marion County to drive through the annual Celebration of Lights displays hosted by the South Fairmont Rotary Club in support of the Tygart Valley United Way.

Now in its 15th year, the Celebration of Lights includes more than 540 holiday light displays stationed around the park's 1.3-mile loop.



This year's display is the largest ever and is anticipated to raise more than the \$75,000 raised in 2021. The event is open from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Thursdays through Sundays every week until Dec. 30 (it will be closed on Christmas and Christmas Eve).

CHARLESTON ROTARY KEY TO CELEBRATION STATION UPGRADE

The Charleston Rotary Club was the catalyst for the revitalization of Celebration Station in Charleston. A beloved playground in need of new equipment, Celebration Station includes two main areas, one for Piedmont Elementary School students and the other a community playground open to all.



Private, corporate and philanthropic contributions were raised to support the project, spearheaded in large part by the Charleston Rotary Club. Community listening sessions were held with kids over the summer to ensure the revitalized station addressed their desires as well. The new playground includes new swings, climbing equipment, standalone play sets, sensory-sensitive equipment, accessible equipment, seating areas and more.

CHEAT LAKE JOINS MORGANTOWN VETERANS PARADE

The Rotary Club of Cheat Lake participated in the Morgantown Veterans Day Parade on Thursday, November 10. Twenty Cheat Lake Rotarians marched down High Street with American flags from their Flags for Heroes project to the cheers of onlookers. Club President Michael Miller was accused of being overly enthusiastic with his candy tossing. Also participating were immediate Past District Governor David "Coop" Cooper of Tucker County (the one in the tall hat -- s if you didn't know already), DGE Jordan Feathers and Assistant Governor and President of the Weston Club, Tina Cunningham.





CLARKSBURG ROTARY SUPPORTS WINTERFEST

Clarksburg WinterFest is a community event in downtown Clarksburg during the first weekend of December complete with a Christmas parade, Winter Market of Artisans, food vendors, holiday concert, and local school and artist performances.

Clarksburg Rotary Club set up a tent and table during this event to enhance community awareness of their club and have real conversations with folks about what Rotary does locally and globally.

Yet another good new member attraction initiative!



MOUNDVILLE ROTARIANS BECOME CHRISTMAS ELVES

The Moundville Rotary elves were busy this month! 110 stockings were assembled and will go to residents of Cameron Nursing & Rehab Center, Shadyside Care Center, Rolling Hills Care Center, Peterson Rehab, and Good Shepherd Nursing Home who have no friends or family to bring them gifts.

Moundsville Rotarians were joined by Caroline Brannon from the [Marshall County Family Resource Network](#) who provided items for the stockings. Thank you to all who participated in any way!



FAIRMONT ROTARIANS SUPPORT SALVATION ARMY KETTLE DRIVE

Fairmont Rotarians were out in force to support this year's Salvation Army kettle drive to raise funds for the needy in their community.

Undoubtedly one of the most shared service projects in our district, you are likely to run into Rotarians ringing the bell for the Salvation Army in most of our communities around the state, a great example of making an impact through partnerships with other service organizations.



DISTRICT CONFERENCE NEWS



Kerry Gnik
District Conference Chair

In an effort to keep the cost of our District Conference as low as possible for our Rotarians, we are seeking sponsorships from our members and West Virginia companies interested in supporting our ongoing efforts to support our communities within our district.

Contributions at any level are welcomed. Sponsorships that will receive recognition at the conference begin as low as \$250.

If you or your business are interested in becoming a sponsor for our 2023 District Conference, please reach out to our District Conference Sponsorship Chair PDG Dave Raese at draese@dominionpost.com.

Look for more details on our upcoming conference right after the holidays!

Kerry

NEWS FROM OUTSIDE OUR DISTRICT

WATCH FOR A BILLBOARD NEAR YOU



We're excited to share that as part of our nationwide public service announcement (PSA) campaign, we've added billboards – and some will be appearing in your area! Since PSA placement relies on available space, we don't know the exact locations, so be on the lookout. If you see one, take a photo and send it to pr@rotary.org! We hope this extension of the campaign will help build awareness of and interest in Rotary in your area.

HURRICANR IAN RECOVERY EFFORTS CONTINUE

District 6960 continues their post-Ian recovery efforts. While progress has been made and the help received to date deeply appreciated, much has yet to be done.

If you'd like to donate, send a check payable to the Rotary Club of Lakewood Ranch. RCLR was chartered as a 501(c)(3) as is graciously accepting all funds on the district's behalf. Checks should be mailed to:

Rotary Club of Lakewood Ranch
8374 Market Street, #449
Lakewood Ranch, Florida 34202

The RCLR wire instructions are: Chase bank identification code (CHASUS33), Routing number 267084131 and account number is 897697089

All funds received are being used for disaster restoration/rebuilding. D6960 has created many partnerships and are purchasing materials including, building materials, drywall, mattresses/frames, furniture and appliances.

From D6960 District Governor Neil Snyder, *“Thank you all for your support!”*



YOU'VE BEEN SERVED REVISITED

You've Been Served is an initiative of Rotary Zones 33 and 34 to encourage Interactors, Rotaractors and Rotarians to demonstrate and showcase Rotary's motto of Service Above Self by performing acts of kindness and good deeds in their local communities. Clubs work in conjunction with the Zones' Public Image team to advertise their locally sponsored events during a one month period.

The initial You've Been Served program occurred in 2022 and involved over 80 clubs, 2,550 volunteers and delivered 26,718 hours of service. *“What a treat to be able to combine socializing, new member recruitment and business engagement with giving back to the community...”* was a common thread in the feedback from those clubs that participated.

A 2023 You've Been Served period is scheduled for **Thursday, February 23 – Sunday, April 23, 2023**. Details will be provided at www.Rotaryserves.org early in the new year. Watch for it and plan now for your club to participate!

FOSTER CARE CHILDREN RECOGNIZED

The Rotary Club of Conway-Morning, Arkansas, is aiming to deliver birthday messages to every child and young adult in the state's foster care system. Between January and September, more than 2,100 cards had been mailed, with an anticipated 3,700 individuals to be reached annually.

“These children already face great uncertainty and disappointments in their lives, and I strongly believe that to consistently remember them on their special day would give them hope to go on, and to show that others around them genuinely care for them,” says Mike Altland, a club member who started the campaign.

Rotarian volunteers coordinate writing and forwarding cards to foster homes with the Arkansas Division of Children and Family Services and The Call, a statewide nonprofit that works with churches to match children with families. American Greetings, which operates a production facility in the area, donated a supply of cards and envelopes expected to last nearly two years.



UPCOMING DISTRICT EVENTS

President-elect Training Seminar , Kanawha County Public Library, Charleston	Feb 24, 2023
Membership Summit , Embassy Suites, Charleston	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
Peter R. Kyle
TRF Trustees Chair
John F. Germ
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 | 304-745-0051
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
District Conference
Kerry Gnik | 304-791-4480

UPCOMING DISTRICT GOVERNOR VISITS

Club	Date/Time	Location
Parkersburg	12/12/2022 12:00 pm	Blennerhassett Hotel, Parkersburg
Bridgeport	12/14/2022 12:00 pm	Bridgeport Country Club
Clarksburg	12/14/2022 12:00 pm	Bridgeport Country Club
Harrison County	12/14/2022 12:00 pm	Bridgeport Country Club
Marlinton	1/23/2023 12:00 pm	Pocahontas County Parks & Recreation
Ripley	2/1/2023 12:00 pm	Jackson General Hospital
Meadow River	2/9/2023 6:00 pm	TBD
South Charleston	2/20/2023 12:00 pm	Fairfield Inn & Suites, 123 Capitol St.
Charleston	3/27/2023 11:30 am	Kanawha County Library

Club Presidents: Contact District Secretary Carol McCarthy at designsbycarol@gmail.com for information or to make adjustments

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 January Newsletter is December 31st

Send items to Newsletter editor Donna M. Tennant, DT2078@aol.com

Articles received after this deadline will be used the following month