

# DISTRICT PULSE



**Rotary**  
District 7545



TECH FOR TROOPS



## E-WASTE RECYCLING GUIDE

**Millions and millions of pounds**—That's how much electronic waste people are tossing in landfills each year! We extend the life of electronics by refurbishing computers, a resource then made available at low cost to America's active-duty transitioning military, homeless and impoverished Veterans and their families.

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### NOTE FROM THE DISTRICT GOVERNOR

There are many things to like about May such as the sense of renewal it brings, various outdoor activities, longer days, Mother's Day, and Memorial Day. For District 7545 Rotarians, though, there are two additional and equally important reasons to highlight the month.

The first is that this is Youth Services month which recognizes the importance of empowering youth and young professionals through programs such as Interact, Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA), Rotary Youth Exchange and New Generations Youth Exchange. In fact, PDG Dennis Shreve will be conducting the District's annual RYLA conference at Jackson's Mill near Weston, WV from May 8-10, 2026. If you are not that familiar with these programs, why not use this month to learn more about them?

The second is our District Conference at Camp Dawson in Kingwood, WV from May 29-30, 2026. Hopefully, you have been following all conference updates. If you have not registered for our District's signature event, there is still time but the deadline of May 8, 2026, is fast approaching. Will you and your club be represented at our annual gathering which will feature our "Parade of Club Flags" during our opening ceremony Saturday, May 30, morning?

Who will bring your flag forward if you are not there? Of particular note this year is that we have combined our annual Foundation Recognition Ceremony with the District Conference. If you have not been to a District Conference, then this is the one you should start with.

*(Continues on Pg. 2)*

Why not bring an entire group from your club to enter a foursome at Friday morning's golf outing, learn, have fun, fellowship and be entertained at a most reasonably priced event. Use this link to register: [District Conference - Rotary District 7545](#)  
See you at the Conference!

Yours in Rotary Service,  
Rick

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## FROM THE DISTRICT CALENDAR

May 8: RYLA Conference; Jackson's Mill, Weston, WV  
May 29-30: District Conference (see Pg. 3 for Agenda)

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## SUPPORT OUR VETERANS & PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT: DISTRICT SERVICE PROJECT REMINDER!

By partnering with Tech for Troops, we are working to divert electronic waste from landfills while providing veterans with the essential training, education, and technology they need to thrive.

### How to Help

We are specifically collecting items listed in the first two sections of the project flyer: "Items We Are Looking For" and "Items Recycled for Free."

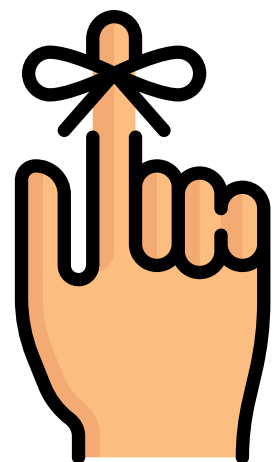
### Three Ways to Participate

Your club can choose one or more of the following methods to get involved:

- Method #1: In-Person Drop-off Bring your collected donations to the District Conference on May 29 or 30. We will accept all eligible items on-site.
- Method #2: Give Back Box Shipping Request a shipping label from Tech for Troops (\$20 per label, covers up to 25 lbs).
  - Bonus: The District will reimburse your club for these labels (up to 115 boxes total for the district)! [Access the program link here to get started].
- Method #3: Financial Donation Donate directly to Tech for Troops in any amount. Please indicate that your contribution is part of the District 7545 effort.

### Take the First Step

Start by collecting eligible electronics from your club members today! Let's work together to keep e-waste out of landfills while making a meaningful difference for those who served. Please contact Jane Stout about any club plans to participate or if you have any questions.



**UNITE  
FOR  
GOOD**



# AGENDA

MAY 29 - 30, 2026

**Rotary**  
District 7545



## FRIDAY | 05.29.26

ATTIRE FOR FRIDAY IS ROTARY CASUAL

- 8:00AM | GOLF SCRAMBLE REGISTRATION**  
PRESTON COUNTY COUNTRY CLUB
- 9:00AM | TEE OFF**
- 2:00PM | CONFERENCE REGISTRATION**  
CLOSES AT 4:00PM  
CAMP DAWSON EVENT CENTER HOTEL LOBBY
- 4:00PM | COLLEGE OF GOVERNORS**  
CONCLUDES AT 5:00PM  
LIBERTY CONFERENCE ROOM  
CASH BAR & LIGHT HORS D'OEUVRES  
DG, DG CHAIN, PDGS
- 5:30PM | DINNER**  
LIBERTY RESTAURANT PATIO  
BUFFET, CASH BAR, LIVE MUSIC  
GAMES! GAMES! GAMES!

## SATURDAY | 05.30.26

ATTIRE FOR SATURDAY, DAYTIME EVENTS,  
IS ROTARY CASUAL  
EVENING EVENTS IS BUSINESS ATTIRE

- 7:00AM | BREAKFAST**  
CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST SERVED DURING  
GENERAL SESSION
- 7:00AM | CONFERENCE REGISTRATION**  
CLOSES AT 8:00AM  
MULTIPURPOSE BUILDING
- 8:00AM | GENERAL SESSION BEGINS**  
MULTIPURPOSE BUILDING  
PRESENTATION OF COLORS BY THE  
MOUNTAINEER CHALLENGE ACADEMY  
NATIONAL ANTHEM PERFORMED BY  
HILLARY BARLOW  
PARADE OF FLAGS/INTRODUCTION OF  
DG CHAIN AND PDGS  
WELCOME - DG RICK MACAK
- 8:45AM | PATRICK EAKES**  
2024-2026 ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR  
FOR ZONES 53/54
- 9:15AM | BREAK**
- 9:30AM | LAURIE MENZEL**  
MAJOR GIFTS OFFICER FOR ROTARY  
FOUNDATION, ZONE 53
- 10:00AM | FOUNDATION PRESENTATIONS**  
JONATHAN GROSE

- 10:45AM | YOUTH SERVICES**  
DENNIS SHREVE
- 11:15AM | GREGOR BAUM**  
AUTHOR "THE ROTARY MINDSET"  
ROTARACT REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 7720
- 11:45 AM | IN MEMORIUM**  
GOVERNOR RICK MACAK
- 12:00PM | AGENDA REVIEW/  
DISMISS FOR LUNCH**  
KERRY GNIK
- 12:15PM | LUNCH**  
MULTIPURPOSE BUILDING

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### AFTER LUNCH

ON YOUR OWN ACTIVITIES

**IF YOU HAVEN'T MADE PLANS FOR YOUR  
AFTERNOON, PLEASE STOP BY THE  
INFORMATION TABLE IN THE FRONT LOBBY  
OF THE HOTEL TO RECEIVE ASSISTANCE.**

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- 4:30PM | DISTRICT BUSINESS MEETING**  
LIBERTY CONFERENCE ROOM  
CONCLUDES AT 5:00PM  
DG RICK MACAK AND CLUB PRESIDENTS
- 5:00PM | SOCIAL HOUR**  
MULTIPURPOSE BUILDING
- 5:30PM | FOUNDATION RECEPTION**  
LIBERTY CONFERENCE ROOM  
CONCLUDES AT 6:00PM
- 6:00PM | DINNER**  
MULTIPURPOSE BUILDING
- 7:30PM | RAMESH FERRIS**  
ROTARY CLUB OF WHITEHORSE RENDEZVOUS,  
CANADA, DISTRICT GOVERNOR, DISTRICT 5370
- 8:15PM | AWARD PRESENTATIONS**  
DG RICK MACAK
- 8:45PM | INSTALLATION OF 2026/2027  
DISTRICT GOVERNOR  
JULIE SAWYER**  
DGE JULIE SAWYER  
PATRICK EAKES
- 9:00PM | CLOSING REMARKS**  
DGE JULIE SAWYER

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**NOT READY TO CALL IT A NIGHT? THE LIBERTY  
RESTAURANT AND LOUNGE IS OPEN.**

# LEVEL UP YOUR PROJECTS

Rotary's new Service Project Essentials learning plan is designed to help your club deliver high-impact, sustainable projects that truly resonate with your community. Whether you are a seasoned project lead or a new volunteer, these 15-minute courses provide a roadmap for measurable success.

## What You'll Learn

The curriculum covers the full project lifecycle, including how to:

- Assess community needs effectively.
- Plan and budget with precision.
- Engage strategic partners.
- Evaluate results to ensure lasting impact.

## Why Enroll?

By completing this plan, you'll be better equipped to:

- Deliver measurable, sustainable change.
- Strengthen member engagement through meaningful action.
- Improve consistency across all club initiatives.
- Align your efforts with Rotary's Action Plan.

Ready to boost your impact? Log in to the [Rotary Learning Center](#) and search for Service Project Essentials to start your journey today!



Despite the nation's complex political climate, the Pakistani government has intensified its commitment to eradicating polio within its borders.

### **Rotary's Leadership in Action**

Global support continues to pour in as nations unite to finish the job. Rotary remains at the forefront of this mission, recently granting \$9.9 million to the World Health Organization (WHO) in Pakistan. This funding will support the vaccination of 27 million children in high-risk districts, reinforcing the government's initiative to protect over 45 million children annually through nationwide door-to-door campaigns.

How will your club respond? Whether through a dedicated fundraiser or a community awareness event, your contribution brings us one step closer to a polio-free world.

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## **MEMBERSHIP PUSH 2026**

With the Rotary year entering its final months, let's finish strongly with a final membership push. I have attended several recent membership attraction events and was encouraged by these results to increase our numbers:

- Rotary Club of Putnam County conducted their Discover Rotary with the local Chamber of Commerce in which thirteen visitors attended and five subsequently requested membership applications.
- All Area Five clubs (Morgantown, Morgantown North, Westover, and Cheat Lake) and the Rotary Club of Grafton attended a mixer with AscendWV representatives at the AscendWV Regional office in Morgantown. At least one AscendWV participant indicated their intent to join and there may be more.
- Rotary Club of Moundsville conducted a very innovative and successful Discover Rotary event around a charcuterie board demonstration for a group of ten visitors some of which completed membership applications.



In addition to these attraction efforts, we strongly recommend that your club reach out to your members who have not been participating in your regular club meetings. Sometimes an encouraging call, text or note makes a world of difference. We advocated for this club level action last December and were pleasantly surprised that our anticipated attrition numbers did not reach estimated levels. Likewise, similar communication with former members may prove fruitful.

Our District remains in positive growth territory for the year, but attrition is real and we cannot rest.

## MEMBERSHIP MINUTE

The district continues its upward membership movement with another month of positive growth, maintaining our momentum and commitment to strengthening Rotary across West Virginia.

As of April 1, the district recorded a net gain of 7 members. A month later, the district again exhibited steady growth adding 4 more members resulting in a net gain thus far this year of 11 members.

Several clubs led the way with notable

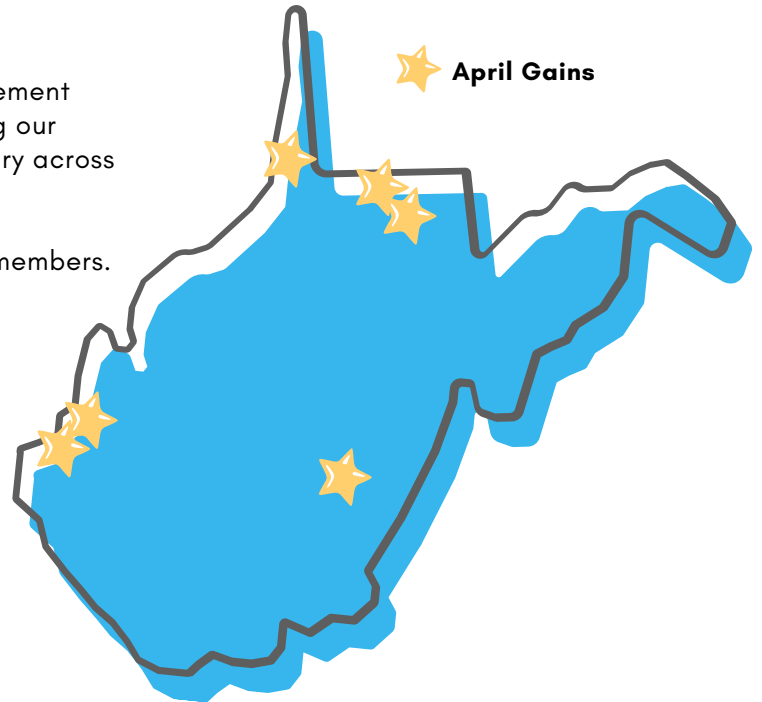
April gains:

- Kingwood: +4
- Huntington: +2
- Morgantown: +2
- Wheeling: +2
- Marlinton: +1
- Point Pleasant: +1

These clubs demonstrate that intentional engagement, consistent outreach, and strong club culture continue to drive results.

District 7545's progress is also reflected at the Zone level. Among the 17 districts in Zone 33, 11 are showing net gains yeartodate, and District 7545 currently ranks 8th—a clear sign that our clubs are contributing meaningfully to Rotary's broader regional growth.

With two consecutive months of positive movement and strong participation from clubs of all sizes, we are proving that membership growth is not only possible—it's happening. The trend is encouraging so let's continue to push and finish this Rotary year strongly!



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## MAY IS YOUTH SERVICE MONTH



Two West Virginia high school students are representing the best of youth service this year as the state's delegates to the U.S. Senate Youth Program. Joey Van Meter of Pocahontas County and Juliann Harlan of Randolph County were selected based on their leadership in student government and civic engagement — exactly the kind of next-generation servant leaders Rotary exists to cultivate. Harlan even

founded a social media campaign to engage youth in civic matters and helped place mental health care kits in every classroom at her school — a reminder that young people don't wait for permission to serve their communities. Congratulations to Joey and Juliann on this well-deserved honor! To read the full article head over to the West Virginia Department of Education website.

# CLUB EXCELLENCE AWARD

The [Club Excellence Award](#) celebrates the dedication your club shows throughout the year. To qualify, ensure your goals and achievements are reported in [Rotary Club Central](#) by 30 June.

Beyond the recognition, this award signals strong leadership and a healthy, vibrant club. One of the simplest ways to qualify is by recording community service. While the Club President sets the service goal, any club member can log project details in the [Service Project Center](#) (SPC) via My Rotary.

Currently, only 8 of our District 7545 clubs have logged their projects. Your club may be doing incredible work, but if it isn't in the SPC, it remains invisible to the wider Rotary world, including your district leadership. Social media is great for local visibility, but the SPC is vital for our collective success!

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## WHAT IS A CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP?

A corporate membership allows Rotary clubs to involve a corporation – or any business, nonprofit, or government entity – in Rotary by offering an alternative membership package to some of its employees. Having corporate members increases the club's membership while expanding its network and visibility in the community. Members gain access to the fellowship and service opportunities of Rotary with the possibility of a much smaller time commitment.

### WHY OFFER CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP?

Offering this membership type may provide advantages for both clubs and the local corporations or businesses involved. Here are some benefits of corporate membership:

### WHAT'S THE ADVANTAGE TO YOUR CLUB?

Attracts new members who might otherwise be unable or reluctant to join. Boosts your club's profile by attracting new corporate leaders Diversifies your club's skills and expertise, expanding its potential for doing good, and brings in new ideas to keep current members engaged Creates new partnerships in the community that can be used to address big challenges

### WHAT'S THE ADVANTAGE TO THE CORPORATION?

Reduces the time commitment of any one member by allowing employees to attend meetings or events on each other's behalf; Elevates the corporation's image in the community as a partner in service and a business committed to corporate social responsibility Offers workers the chance to develop and apply leadership and professional skills such as project management, training, and public speaking Gives corporate members access to Rotary's global network of 1.2 million volunteers and the opportunity to network while traveling Increases the resources and capacity for service, which raises awareness in the community Emphasizes a commitment to serving others as part of the corporate culture, something workers will appreciate

Let's Connect:



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