

Rotary



District 7305

The Connector - December 2022



IMAGINE ROTARY

Give the Gift of Rotary!

Greetings, Rotarians and Happy December!

This year 2022 is winding down, and we have reached the midpoint of our Rotary year. Time flies when you are having fun, right? This is the time to reflect on your Club and discuss where you have gone and what you have done in the first half of the Rotary year. Did you take on a new project? Have you retained or grown your membership? It is also the perfect time to look ahead and plan and implement what you think needs to be done to make the second half of the year amazing!

In my Club visits I ask the question, "What can the District do to assist your Club?" The Number one answer is: "Get us members!"

While the district cannot get you members per se, we CAN help you create, strengthen, and implement a membership plan and give you the tools necessary to grow your club by transitioning potential members from interest to engagement. How? - you may ask.

Our membership team is planning a Membership Summit on Saturday, February 11 at The Loft in Canonsburg from 9 AM to 4 PM. Every Rotarian in our district is invited, and we are hoping that every club will be represented. The cost is \$25.00 per person and lunch will be provided. We hope to see you there!

This is also the time of year for exchanging gifts and showing our appreciation and love to friends and family. Have you ever thought of



District Governor Marie Fallon, Past District Governor Tom Fallon, and Santa himself, are hoping that you will give the gift of Rotary this holiday season.

giving the Gift of Rotary?

We are **People of Action!** Don't you get the "feels" when you help at your club? From bell ringing to food preparation. From dictionary projects to community clean-ups... Doesn't helping others feel good? Why not pass that feeling on to others?

I urge you to invite your friends, colleagues and family to help your club with a project. By sharing

your Rotary story and experience By inviting others in on the work, and fun; you are giving the gift of Rotary... And who know where that may lead?!? Maybe a new member! Maybe a new sponsor! Maybe a new project idea!

As we count down 2022 and welcome 2023, let's do a little year-end club housekeeping. Take a look at your club membership. Are all of your Club positions filled in? President-Elect; Public Image Chair; Membership Chair, etc.? Do you need to add your new members to the roster? Are there any former members that need to be removed? Are your members' phone numbers, emails, and mailing addresses correct? Please take the time and review so that we can start off 2023 ready to go!

Thank you for all that you do to make your community and the world a better place!

Tom and I wish you and your family Health, Happiness and Love this Holiday Season!

District Governor Marie Fallon



Quote of the Month:

"To appreciate the beauty of a snowflake it is necessary to stand out in the cold."

Aristotle

Sneakers Project Update

Thank you for embracing the GotSneakers project. Going through your shoe closet, or asking friends and family to do so, has made a great impact.

A very special BIG ROUND OF APPLAUSE goes out to our Interactors who collected 64 bags of sneakers at the Interact District Conference!

If you have bags that are filled, (each bag can fit roughly 15 to 17 pairs of sneakers only), please drop them off at any FEDEX or KINKO's location. If you need any additional bags, or if you have taken too many bags and would like to return them, please let Marie Fallon know and she will make arrangements (mariefallon.rotary@gmail.com). Many thanks for supporting Rotary District 7305's Youth Programming as well as our Environment!



District 7305

IMPACT REPORT

(as of 11/15/2022)

Carbon Dioxide (CO₂):
31,860 Pounds Displaced

Water (H₂O):
2,396,884 Gallons Saved

If you were a swimming-pool builder and a customer asked you to build a pool that would hold a million-gallons, then they had better have a big yard! You would need to build a pool about 267 feet long (almost as long as a football field), 50 feet wide, and 10 feet deep x 2!

Landfill:
1,062 pairs Displaced from Landfills
84 bags



One of the great things with Rotary is the fact that, as a Rotarian, you are welcome to visit a Rotary club anywhere in the world. Recently, while on vacation in the Bahamas, District Governor Nominee Dan Daugherty took advantage of this possibility and attended a meeting of the Rotary Club of Nassau, the first Rotary Club chartered in the Bahamas.

Rotary YE Weekend Trip

In Early November D7305's Youth Exchange Students Ily from Thailand (sponsored by the Pittsburgh East Rotary Club), Gaon from South Korea (sponsored by the Fox Chapel Rotary Club), and Gio from Italy (sponsored by District 7280), hopped on a MegaBus New York City bound with their chaperones Tom and Marie Fallon!

What followed were a jam-packed two days (one of which rained non-stop) of touring the Big Apple and learning about its history and exploring its culture as the Nation's melting pot.

From Battery Park to the Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island, Chinatown, Little Italy, The Empire State Building, Rockefeller Center and Top of the Rock, the Highline, Grand Central Station, Times Square, and Broadway. With every mode of transportation being taken from MegaBus, of course, to hop on-hop off bus, boats, and the subway.

The group logged in over 12 miles walking and capped it off with ice skating at Bryant Park.

Back to the Beginning

While Rotary International President Nominee Stephanie Urchick is currently a member of the Rotary Club of McMurray, she actually started her Rotary career as a member of the Rotary Club of California. That's right; the same club that produced the 1987-88 Rotary International President Chuck Keller.

While it is not unheard of that a club has produced two Rotary International Presidents, this is the first time it has happened since 1972-73. That's when Roy Hickman became the second Rotary International President from the Rotary Club of Birmingham, AL.

In all, seven different clubs (all in the USA and two of those in PA) have had two members become the Rotary International President. Only one club, the Rotary Club of Chicago, has had three members become the Rotary International President. One of those members was, of course, Paul Harris who, by the way, is the only individual having served as the Rotary International President twice (1910-11 & 1911-12).



District Governor Marie Fallon and PDG Tom Fallon recently escorted three youth exchange students on a trip to New York. It may have rained for a full day of the two day trip, but the group wouldn't let that affect their spirits. Text & pictures by DG Marie Fallon



At a recent visit to her Rotary Alma Mater, the Rotary Club of California, RIPN Stephanie Urchick joined Past Club President Kim Vanderlaan and Vito Denito as they were preparing the dictionaries that the club will be distributing to third-grade students in their area.

Serving our Veterans

On Saturday, October 8, seven members of two South Hills Rotary clubs, the Rotary Club of Bethel St Clair (dinner) and the Rotary Club of Upper St Clair-Bethel Park (breakfast), volunteered to help Dennis who is a McKeesport veteran.

Dennis lives independently and has significant mobility issues. The mission was to make his home more accessible, to winterize it, and to make it a more efficient and safer environment for him.

Within his interior space, volunteers installed new grab-bars throughout, and removed tripping hazards with new carpet transition strips. They also installed new smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, new fire extinguishers, a new dryer duct, washed walls and floors, and replaced outlet face plates and night lights. All of these improvements will contribute to a healthier home space for Dennis!

On the outside, volunteers scraped, prepared and painted his covered porch, reframed his front entrance to install a new energy efficient storm door, installed new and more visible house numbers and did general yard trimming and cleanup.

Dennis served honorably and selflessly in both the US Army and US Navy. While our debt to him and other veterans will never be truly paid, these Rotarians were able to acknowledge his service and honor him in a way that meant much to him.

Rotary worked with Rebuilding Together Pittsburgh (RTP), who facilitated and coordinated this volunteer event. RTP has a very active branch that focuses on repairing homes in east Pittsburgh.



In early October, members of the Rotary Clubs of Upper St. Clair-Bethel Park (breakfast) and Bethel St. Clair (dinner) got together to service the home of a local Veteran. The work crew consisted of Stephanie Hartstirn and Cindy Albert (from the breakfast club) and Tom Rohrich, Billy Smith, Herm Dieckmann, Rick Byrne, and Ray Detig (from the dinner club). Pictures and text by Ray Detig

Waynsburg RC Activity Report

The club just inducted two new members, which totals six for the year. Jennifer Nix, Work Force Coordinator at the Greene County Career and Technology Center, and Bridget Vilenica, owner of HillTop Packs Coffee.

They hung over 80 flags in honor of Veterans Day called "Flags for Heroes" at the Greene County Fairgrounds and coordinated a blood screening at the Washington County Health Systems.

They will be ringing bells for the Salvation Army in December and will participate in the Angel Tree project. They are also packing food bags for children in need.

The club donated and distributed over 1,500 dictionaries to third graders in five school districts and are assisting with the Greene County Chamber of Commerce annual Christmas parade.

Members are also assisting the DG with collecting used tennis shoes for the Rotary shoe drive.

In December, the club is hosting its WINTER WONDERLAND GALA. There will be hor d'oeuvres by Dan Wagner, Canonsburg Cupcake, 5 Kidz Candy, Dickey Barbecue Pit, Bradey's Roadhouse, Fruition, Willow Tree Farms, Kiln to Table, and Aladdin Food Service.

There will also be several music acts and a silent auction to benefit several community charities.



Do You Have Miles to Spare?

RIPE Stephanie Urchick would like to bring to our attention the possibility to use excess airline miles to help those in need. The following is an email from Miles4Migrants:

In this Holiday season, we at Miles4Migrants and the more than 14,000 families who comprise over 38,500 people are thinking of you. The movement we have created together has flown refugees and asylees out of persecution, war zones and climate disaster, and opened people's hearts to the need for human rights.

Your generous donations make you one of our organization's #MovementMakers whose impact was felt by thousands of individuals. Read more about your impact by visiting our latest Annual Report.

As we head into this holiday season, we are still thinking of the nearly 84 million people worldwide who, as of 2021, were forcibly displaced as a result of persecution, conflict, violence, or human rights violations. Your impact and engagement is still very much needed.

We are thankful to count on you, a #MovementMaker, to continue to raise awareness of the plight of forced migrants and support organizations like ours to ensure their safety and human rights.

With thanks,
Miles4Migrants

A Night at the Races

Thank you to everyone that supported the Rotary Club of Latrobe's *Night at the Races* in early November! A fun time was had by all and Latrobe Rotarians are very

thankful for the funds raised. These funds will allow the club to continue offering scholarships to students and provide grants for special projects within their community.

And, be sure to save the date for next year - Friday, October 13, 2023!



Lou Incardona, Tonya Rockwell, and John Graziano were manning the betting windows at the RC of Latrobe's *Night at the Races*. Happy attendees included Sue Glick-Kessler, PDG Pam Moore, Bill Blaney, and PDGs George and Colleen Wood. Text & pictures by the RC of Latrobe



The Burrell-New Kensington Rotary Club erected a Flag Display to commemorate Veterans' Day at Valley High School in New Kensington. About 35,000 vehicles pass by each day and several honked horns as they were putting them up. In addition to club members, Interact students from Valley and students from Northmoreland Career and Technology Center assisted. The Veteran Salute will be up for 10 days and the club will do it again for Memorial Day. The club appreciates the grant they received at the District Conference which enabled them to expand the Display. Text & picture courtesy of Bob Arbuckle



Recycling Old Tennis Shoes

The Rotary Clubs of McMurray, Washington, Canonsburg-Houston-Southpointe and Waynesburg welcomed Rotary District 7305 District Governor, Marie Fallon, to Lone Pine Golf Club for her official visit. Her message of Imagining all that we as Rotarians can do was very inspiring.

Her district project of collecting old tennis shoes to be recycled is a fantastic project that has really gotten some traction through D7305.



Members of the Rotary Club of Johnstown gathered on an unusually warm and sunny Sunday in early November to assemble some 700 dictionaries to be distributed to all Greater Johnstown area 3rd graders. With some great help from Austin Powers, Mary & Ivar Berge, Wyatt McGraw, and Pat & Michelle Petrell put a personalized name plate in each dictionary.



Carnegie-Collier Purse Bingo

Many thanks to everyone who attended the Carnegie-Collier Rotary Club's Purse Bingo 2022! Fun was had by all and because of their generosity the club made money to help with community projects!



Somerset Foundation Dinner

Past District Governor Al DeLucia had the pleasure to attend The Rotary Club of Somerset's Rotary Foundation Dinner on Friday, November 5th. The event was a huge success. Rotary International President Nominee Stephanie Urchick was the Keynote speaker.

The club inducted one new member and awarded 25 Paul Harris Fellow awards. Many of them were first level but there were several members moving up a level. District Governor Marie Fallon was there to help with the celebration.

It was a great night for a great club. Congratulations to Rita Halverson and her committee for organizing such a successful evening.



PDG Al DeLucia with DG Marie Fallon, Somerset Rotarian (and event coordinator) Rita Halverson, and RIPN Stephanie Urchick at the Rotary Club of Somerset's Foundation Dinner on November 5.

Plastic Recycling

On November 11, White Oak Rotarians collected over 1,200 pounds of plastic to recycle into a special project that will benefit the local community.

The Mckeesport Riverfront Restoration Project is an effort to rejuvenate downtown Mckeesport while also improving collaboration between community organizations.

White Oak Rotary has been working closely with the city of Mckeesport, Boy Scout Troop 284, and other organizations to plan and execute upgrades in the Gergley Riverfront Park and Great Allegheny Passage trail. They are planning these improvements with a focus on sustainability and promoting community engagement.

Some of the upgrades they are doing are installing benches, custom bike racks, planting new trees, removing invasive plants, installing a 400-foot path of crushed limestone from the park to the Marina, and restoring stonework on the existing path and retaining walls.

A key component of the project is utilizing the NexTrex Community Recycling program. NexTrex is a program that allows organizations to challenge themselves to recycle 500 pounds of plastic. Achieving this goal in a six-month period awards the organization with a composite bench made from recycled materials.

An individual organization is only permitted one bench every six months, but the Rotary club is sourcing 300-400 pounds of plastic a week so they are partnering with groups like the Steel Valley Trail Council and the Mckeesport Lions Club to acquire benches, each dedicated to a different organization that helps improve this community.

In the spring the Rotary club plans to bring together volunteers from all of the participating organizations to install the benches and carry out the upgrades to the park and cap the project with a block party. Because, at the end of the day, it's all about being together and improving our community.



Members of the Rotary Club of White Oak is collecting plastic for a recycling project that benefits their community. Pictured above is some 1,200 lbs of plastic that will be used to produce two plastic park benches.

Picture & text by PE David Stephens



Need Rotary Gift Ideas?

One of the long time providers of everything Rotary is the Russell Hampton Company. If you're looking for something unique for that special Rotarian, look no further than their website at: bestclubsupplies.com



The Rotary Clubs of Johnstown and Johnstown Sunset joined forces to man a table at the downtown Light up Night and Christmas stroll on Friday, November 18. Pictured are (left to right): Michelle Petrell and Donna Christopher (Johnstown) and Cynthia Cummings (Johnstown Sunset).

District Grant Reporting

District grants give Rotarians freedom in determining how to best spend funds donated to The Rotary Foundation Annual Fund. Each Rotary year, districts may apply for one district grant, which can be used to support one or more projects, based on that district's interests and needs.

The Rotary Foundation funds district grants with District Designated Funds (DDF). Each year, your district may request up to half of your available DDF, which in turn represents half of your district's Annual Fund donations from three years earlier. This system, known as SHARE, enables Rotarians to benefit from the short-term investment of their donation dollars.

For the Rotary year 2021-2022 our District applied for \$114,003 as our annual district block grant.

Below is the actual spending report of this block grant as required by The Rotary Foundation to be reported to the members of District 7305:

District 7305: \$17,155 to award students through the Bob Williams Scholarship for higher education or vocation school

District 7305: \$3,600 to serve needy residents in the City of Pittsburgh Thanksgiving meals with the support of the Pittsburgh Police Officers delivering the meals to the residents who requested assistance and to the homeless where the police know where they are staying. Bethel-St Clair is the lead club.

Braddock: \$3,075 to provide body and security cameras for the Boroughs of North Braddock and Rankin

Bridgeville-South Fayette: \$2,700 for a Story Book walk in Chartiers Park

Carnegie-Collier: \$3,600 to provide delivered lunches to occupants of

retirement housing projects

Charleroi: \$4,500 for emergency meal boxes delivered to the elderly in early December as a backup plan for possible inclement winter weather, power outages, delivery vehicles breakdown. Each emergency meal box will contain five shelf-stable ready to eat meals

Conemaugh Township: \$3,230 funding emergency search drones to be used by Somerset Search and Rescue Team to search for lost and missing people

Connellsville: \$3,192 to purchase Autism School Playground equipment

Crafton-Ingram: \$3,487 to purchase 25 Chromebooks as well as licensing so that underprivileged students will have access to the tools for remote learning

Delmont-Salem: \$3,185 to provide playground equipment for children under the age of 6 in Seanor Park

Elizabeth: \$672 to purchase dictionaries for Third and Fourth Grade Students and conduct a Spelling Bee and awards small gifts to top three students

Greater McKees Rocks: \$1,575 to provide a welcome package to be distributed to new community members. The goals of the project are to promote a sense of peace and community among new residents as well as stimulate the local economy through promotion of local

businesses and resources

Green Tree: \$900 to purchase goods for baskets to be delivered to the elderly around Easter

Hampton Township: \$3,600 to supplement the North Hills Community Outreach weekly food distribution of dry durable canned and boxed food twice per month with the club purchasing fresh eggs, butter, and milk

Latrobe: \$3,600 to provide food for the weekend to children in kindergarten through sixth grade at all three elementary schools

Mount Pleasant: \$2,515 to provide Norvelt Elementary School with a shaded area by installing a shade canopy and renovating the 1/8-mile track with limestone and installing a bench seating with a back

Murrysville-Export: \$865 to provide gas meters to the Sardis Volunteer Fire Company as they are the first responder to residents and businesses in Murrysville. The fire department will be able to detect gas leaks to ensure occupant safety and when fighting fires to detect the presence of gas

New Brighton: \$2,250 to provide to two speed reminders to the Borough of New Brighton

North Boroughs: \$3,352 to update furniture in the transitional housing apartments so the mothers and their children will feel more at home as they transition on their path to self-

The Rotary Foundation



The Rotary Foundation



Doing Good In The World



Basic Education & Literacy



Maternal & Child Health



Peace & Conflict Prevention/Resolution



Disease Prevention & Treatment



Water, Sanitation & Hygiene



Community & Economic Development



Support the Environment



**I'M
A
PROUD
DONOR**

www.rotary.org/give

sufficiency

Northern Allegheny: \$288 to provide books consisting of the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and Articles of Confederation with a short history of the passage of each document. The books will be distributed to the ninth-grade students

Norwin: \$2,858 to fund the hospital kits with new clothing to emergency room departments in hospitals to supply patients with new clothing upon discharge to provide dignity and safety. The kit includes gender neutral garments for children and adults

Oakland: \$3,600 to provide low-cost cervical cancer screening and training in the metropolitan regions of El Salvador to 1,000 women

Oakmont-Verona: \$3,600 to provide three welcome signs for the Borough of Verona

Pittsburgh: \$2,766 to provide an outdoor shelter to offer after school activities for the children of the mothers who need consistent supports in their rehabilitation process. This will allow the children to be able to go outside in a safe location to play and to learn also the mothers when able to go outside to relax

Pittsburgh East: \$453 to provide

food once a month at the Community Food Services to provide food assistance and meals to those who are experiencing food insecurity

Pleasant Hills: \$3,164 to provide info packets for children car seats so when a child is involved in a car accident and the parents are seriously injured the labels on the car seats will direct the first responders to call the person on the label instead of the child going to Children Services. The child is already suffering a traumatic experience and being sent to a strange place does not help

Quaker Valley: \$1,738 to replace fans in a park pavilion and rest rooms and erecting a roof over the barbeque grills in the Plum Street Community Park

Shaler Area: \$1,800 to provide students with food over the weekend with easily prepared food items

Sharpsburg-Aspinwall: \$1,318 to provide support for five women who experience obstetric fistula a debilitating abnormal connection between a women's rectum and vagina

Swissvale: \$1,350 to provide food to the school children for the weekend

Turtle Creek: \$3,533 to install a putting green at the Southwestern Veterans Center for the disabled veterans to be able to try to have a normal life. The putting green will be wheelchair accessible

Upper St Clair-Bethel Park Breakfast: \$3,600 to create outdoor play environments and experiences that address the physical and social inclusion for all students at Pathfinder School for special education students ages 5 to 21

Washington: \$1,861 to add a storage shed and gravel walkway for the storage of tools and equipment used by the volunteers at the Firefly

EVERY ROTARIAN EVERY YEAR

Rotary
DISTRICT 7305

Gardens

White Oak: \$2,710 to provide improvements for the LaRosa Youth Club by replacing the outside wall of the baseball field, rehabbing the concession and repairing in various sections of the fence surrounding the ball field and purchasing programs and educational materials for the after-school programming

District 7305 Interact: \$3,935 to support the expense of holding a Interact Conference

District 7305: \$5,212 to support Disaster Response Grant 633 for Ukraine with unused DDF

District 7305: \$2,739 to support the expense of the Youth Exchange Group to the overnight trip to Niagara Falls.

District 7305: \$425 to cover some administrative expenses

In all, 37 Different Projects with a total funding of \$114,003

As you can see, our district funded 35 different projects within our communities and two international projects. Contact the different club presidents to find out the process in their projects and maybe a project could be served in your local community.

As a reminder, the funding for these projects came from the contributions to the Annual Fund from three years ago. It is not too late to make your Annual Fund contribution so your club could apply for a district grant for the next Rotary Year.

Rick Martin, PDG & Annual Giving Subcommittee Chair

The
Rotary  **Foundation**

Doing Good In The World



Rotary District 7305
 P.O. Box 44305, Pittsburgh PA 15205
 District Secretary: Sandra Rebholz
 District Office: 412-429-7305
 district.secretary@rotarydistrict7305.org
 Visit us on Facebook
 www.rotarydistrict7305.org

POLIO IN NUMBERS
Wild virus confirmed cases in 2022
Global Total: 30 (2)
Wild virus detected from other sources in 2022
Global Total: 47 (66)
As of November 22, 2022. Numbers in brackets represent data as of the same date 2021.

Rotary's Four Way Test
 Of the things we think, say or do:

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?

SAVE THE DATE



SAVE THE DATE – TBD
MID-YEAR REVIEW



D7305

SAVE THE DATE – FEBRUARY 11
MEMBERSHIP SUMMIT
LOFT CONFERENCE CENTER, GREENSBURG



SAVE THE DATE – JUNE 23-25
DISTRICT 7305 CONFERENCE



STATION SQUARE

SAVE THE DATE – MARCH 3-5
PETS: PRESIDENT ELECT TRAINING SEMINAR
PENN STATER, STATE COLLEGE



SAVE THE DATE – MARCH 26
THE ROTARY FOUNDATION LUNCHEON



SAVE THE DATE – APRIL 29
DISTRICT ASSEMBLY FOR DGE JOHN HARTMAN
DETAILS FORTHCOMING



SAVE THE DATE – AUGUST 7
DISTRICT GOLF OUTING
INTRODUCING DG JOHN HARTMAN
WESTMORELAND COUNTRY CLUB

