

The Piedmont Rotarian

ROTARY DISTRICT 7690 • December 2003 • DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S NEWSLETTER

"Lend A Hand"

Robert Newton, District Governor, 1 Gwyn Lane, Greensboro, NC 27403

DEAR FELLOW ROTARIANS & FRIENDS,



Robert Newton

The time has come to write this message for December, and I in turn am thinking "What month is December in the Rotary Year?" In the past it has been Foundation, or Membership, or Youth. But December? No theme to help me focus; I'm on my own. That's always a bit dangerous. My staff will say they do not like to allow me much unsupervised think time. Too risky they say.

So I will try to keep in check any wild ideas that might pop into my head, and just stick to the happenings of this time of year.

Please note first that this will be the last Piedmont Rotarian to be issued in printed form. We have been publishing on the web site since July, which makes the Piedmont Rotarian much more widely available to our members, at less cost, and in a more timely fashion. Starting in January we want to brainstorm ideas about how to make Piedmont Rotarian even more useful, so any ideas you have should be shared this month with me. Next month an All Clubs e-mail will announce the posting of the new issue, and my hope is that the word will be passed along in club bulletins and/or e-mail forwarding.

Soon we will be half way through 2003-2004. Every day I learn of the activities of clubs all across our district in every avenue of service. What a joy each new piece of news brings. Next week we will work more on Rotaract and Interact. We also hope to start posting projects to the web-site very soon; we would have been underway with that by now except for the untimely death of Phil Morris's computer. Planning for District Conference continues, and across the district plans are in place for holiday celebrations.

Take a moment during the next few weeks to pause, maybe even just for an hour, and reflect on the meaning of the holiday season. Regardless of your faith tradition, the common threads mirror the ideals of Rotary - peace in the world, and understanding and acceptance of all peoples. Think also of the tradition of giving, so much in evidence during the holidays (sometimes to the point of distraction). But we Rotarians know that giving does not always mean the gift of things. The most rewarding gift, both to give and to receive, is often the gift of time. In that regard, we are all equal. We each have the same 24 hours each day to spend as we see fit. The gift of an hour as a lunch buddy or tutor in your local school is more precious to the child who receives it than anything you

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Meet Us In the Mountains
Rotary District 7690 Annual Conference
April 22-25, 2004 Asheville, NC

MEET US IN THE MOUNTAINS

Now is the time to mark your calendar for the fantastic 2004 District 7690 Conference being held on April 22-25 at the beautiful Renaissance Hotel in Asheville, North Carolina. Asheville in the spring...what could be better?

See all that Asheville has to offer and enjoy the fellowship of Rotarians from across District 7690. The natural beauty of the mountains, where altitude affects attitude, is an inviting place to learn about what Rotary is doing in our District and around the world. Asheville offers unique shopping, arts and crafts, and local attractions such as the Biltmore Estate, Chimney Rock Park, and outdoor adventure.

Bring the entire family and celebrate the Family of Rotary. There is something to do for the entire family. Meet us in the mountains!

This is the last printed edition of "The Piedmont Rotarian." Beginning in January, the newsletter can be found on the district web page, rotary7690.org



Happy Holidays!

(continued from pg. 1 Bob's Article...)
 might be able to buy and put under a tree. Maybe not now, but someday. And the gifts we give to the Rotary Foundation come back to us to use in scholarships, group study exchange, or matching grants. Only we can use those gifts to give opportunity to others; to give hope and help to those less fortunate than we. If that giving is yet to be done, now is the time to get started. If not now, when? If not us, who? Remember that Rotary Is What Rotary Does.

Donna joins me in sending our very best holiday wishes to each and every one in our Rotary Family.

Bob Newton



The Rotary Foundation Banquet that took place on November 6th is always a time for many recognitions of individual and club accomplishments.

(Area V Club Reports from page 3)

Greensboro: Wednesday, 12:30pm
Ray Covington, President
www.greensbororotary.org

This club has been very proactive this year in introducing new programs and activities. Members supported the Chrysler Classic of Greensboro through the starter's tents and the party tent, initiated the Piedmont Mentoring Program, and kicked off a partnership with the Old North State Council of the Boy Scouts of America in sponsoring a Learning for Life program for after school students in designated elementary schools.

East Greensboro: Wednesday, 7:30pm
Michael Brunson, President
www.egrotary.com

This club is in its 3rd year and has a lot of talented members. Club meetings are held on the campus of Bennett College where they are establishing a Rotaract Club. Andrena Coleman, immediate Past President, brought 2 prospective college students with her to the Foundation Dinner. Experienced Rotarians from other clubs have offered their time and expertise to mentor various committee chairs within the East Greensboro club. A handout has been prepared for new members explaining the expectations of a Rotarian.

Summit: Friday, 12:30pm
Arvi Kivi, Pres.

The family of Rotary was evident at their annual picnic in September as over 210 gathered at the Greensboro Children's Museum. They recently participated in the JDF walk in support of the daughter of one of their members who has juvenile diabetes. They are already organizing for their signature fundraiser (Gears and Spokes) which will be held on May 1st.

Best wishes for a Happy Holiday Season from the Greensboro Rotary Clubs! Cheers * Skal * A votre sant * Prosi t* Salute * Kampai * Salud * Na zdorovia * Kampai * L'Chaim * Slantel * Kippis * Proost

Rotary International Convention 2004

Anyone planning to attend the Osaka, Japan RI Convention, -May 23-26, 2004- will find the registration form in *The Rotarian Magazine* in the 2003 September and October issues. The October issue of the magazine is largely devoted to the Osaka Convention in 2004 and will answer many of your questions and guide you in your planning. You will find that attending an international Rotary Convention is an experience you will treasure all of your life. The people you meet and the in depth presentations of Rotary programs and projects will astound you. If I can assist you or your club in any way, please call me at 336-605-5771.

Bob Rankin, RI Convention, District Chairman

AREA V CLUB NEWS

AREA IV consists of eight clubs in Guilford County. Mitzi Ellis, past president from the Crescent Club, serves as area assistant governor.

A spirit of cooperation and friendship is truly evident in Area V this year as the eight Greensboro clubs have worked together on several worthwhile community projects. Under the leadership of Mike Conrad and the Gate City Rotary Club, we participated in the Big Sweep (sponsored by Greensboro Beautiful) on September 20th. Rotarians gathered together to collect bags of litter from and around creeks, lakes, and streams. In addition, the clubs donated almost \$2,500 to help underwrite the event. All of the clubs really enjoyed this event and it is becoming a signature community service project for Area V.

Kids voting has a similar connection to our clubs with many Rotarians volunteering to work a shift at a local polling place on November 4th. The East Greensboro Club assigned this project to their President's son who recruited volunteers for the various time slots. You know, it's hard to say no to a kid... Most clubs in Greensboro are now recruiting for the Salvation Army in "lending a hand" to ring the bell this holiday season. It is a very rewarding experience and a great way to introduce children and grandchildren to philanthropy at the grass roots level.

Upcoming initiatives include the Piedmont Mentoring Program initiated by Skip Moore and supported by Ray Covington, both members of the Greensboro Rotary Club. The goal is to set up mentoring relationships with established companies to help them move to the next level of growth in the Triad. This effort is being led by Fred Andersen, a member of the Greensboro Club and Charles Tuttle, Director of the Piedmont Entrepreneurial Network. We believe the success of this program is dependent upon the involvement of all three Triad cities. It is still in its infancy stage but this program has major potential for our business and economic development.

We are also looking forward to the Citizens Initiative program, coordinated by Mike Sigmon (Summit Club) which involves Russian lawyers visiting our area in late February for a 3-4 week stay. Many clubs will open up their homes and businesses for this group as we work to make their stay an enjoyable one.

Airport: Tuesday 7:00 am

Dick Coe, President

www.airportrotary.org

This club just received District approval for an international grant to sponsor a girl's school in Nigeria. A special thanks to Cookie Billings for her leadership in this effort. They also have a strong working relationship with Jefferson Elementary where one of their members, Tanya Feagins, is principal. They are participating in the District Dictionary program where they will be donating dictionaries to 3rd grade students at this school.

Guilford: Tuesday, 12:30pm

Jed Daniel, President

www.guilfordrotary.org

This club just took a bus tour of Eastside Homes with Habitat for Humanity. They had a work day for this worthwhile cause in memory of Dr. Gary Jacobs, a member of this club who passed away this summer. Guilford has a strong relationship with Western Guilford High School where they sponsor "students of the month." Upcoming projects include Shadow Day, centennial poster contest and the District essay contest. International efforts include projects in Mexico and Panama.

So. Guilford New Generation: Thursday, 6:00pm

Michael Jones, President

www.sgngrc.org

This brand new club is off to a fast start with activities and events. They just completed their first fundraiser (charity bowling event) where they had net proceeds of \$1,080. Proceeds from this event will support foster children as a follow-up to their foster children picnic earlier this year. Several members just returned from a visit with a Rotary Club in Arundel, England.

Crescent: Monday, 12:30pm

Greg Brown, President

www.crescentrotary.org

Crescent just held their annual fundraiser at George K's Restaurant in Greensboro. This club usually raises about \$70,000. As this club is already a 100% Paul Harris Club, they are now working on 100% Benefactors with 109 Benefactors signed up to date. This club will be celebrating their 40th anniversary this year.

Gate City: Thursday, 7:00am

James Edwards, President

www.gatecityrotary.org

Gate City Rotarians completed their "Computers for Ghana" international project, providing 25 computers and new software to US Computer Ltd., a computer training school in Accra, Ghana, West Africa. The owner is a Rotarian in Ghana and mother of Rotarian Brent Hall. Shadow Day was held in October with Southeast High School with 25 members offering shadow opportunities to the students. "Rotary Sunday" was held on October 12 at Shalom Community Christian Church where Rotarians and their families were invited to participate and be honored in the service. DG Bob Newton accepted a resolution from the church honoring Service Above Self. Dr. Eric Cole led the service.

Attendance for October, 2003

CLUBS	6/30/03	MBR /	MBRS. /	ATTEND/NET	GAIN/LOSS	/MTGS.	CLUBS	6/30/03	MBR. /	MBRS. /	ATTEND/NET	GAIN/LOSS	/MTGS.
Alamance	50	50	66%	0	4		Mocksville	66	64	72%	+1	5	
Alamance Bkft	27	26	90%	0	4		Mount Airy	106	107	76%	+1	4	
Archdale/Trinity	25	31	80%	0	4		Oak Hollow	20	21	55%	0	2	
Asheboro	117	117	75%	0	5		Pinehurst	24	30	77%	0	4	
Burlington	37	36	58%	0	4		Randolph	73	72	73%	0	5	
Carthage	22	22	64%	0	5		Reidsville	87	85	73%	0	4	
Clemmons	121	130	78%	0	5		Reynolda	124	120	66%	0	4	
Crescent	129	129	67%	0	4		Sandhills	46	46	73%	0	5	
East Greensboro	15	13	64%	-2	5		Sanford	83	80	61%	0	4	
Eden	57	58	69%	0	4		San-Lee	28	29	94%	+2	4	
Elkin-Jonesville	45	47	82%	0	5		Siler City	70	72	75%	0	4	
Furnitureland	58	59	65%	0	3		S.G. New Gen.	25	26	70%	0	5	
Gate City	52	52	91%	0	5		Southern Pines	77	79	83%	-1	5	
Graham	43	41	82%	0	5		Stoneville	17	17	82%	0	5	
Greensboro	337	338	61%	+2	5		Stratford	144	141	69%	0	5	
Gboro Arpt	35	38	82%	+1	4		Summit	131	129	71%	-1	5	
Guilford	56	56	89%	-1	4		Surry Sunrise	53	49	74%	0	5	
High Point	194	189	75%	-2	5		Thomasville	84	87	68%	0	4	
Jamestown	33	34	73%	0	4		Triad	48	46	68%	+1	3	
Jonesboro	63	66	73%	+2	5		Troy	29	33	79%	+1	5	
Kernersville	52	53	74%	0	4		Walnut Cove	16	30	92%	+1	4	
King	25	23	83%	-1	5		Willow Creek	21	20	88%	0	5	
Lexington	55	50	59%	0	4		Winston-Salem	256	256	51%	0	4	
Liberty	21	21	70%	0	5		Yadkinville	21	20	62%	+2	4	
Madison/Mayodan	44	43	80%	0	4		Yanceyville	19	22	81%	0	4	
DISTRICT	3375	3403	74%	+8									

Special Upcoming Events...

Any Rotarian interested in attending the 2005 RI Convention in Chicago, contact Margaret Padgett at 336-885-7690.

If interest is strong, a charter trip from RD 7690 may be possible.

NC Zoo Family Outing, Asheboro, NC

April 3, 2004

District Conference, Asheville, NC

April 22-25, 2004

RI Convention, Osaka, Japan

May 23-26, 2004

Artwork by Shelley Graphics 2003

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www.Rotary7690.org
www.Rotary.org