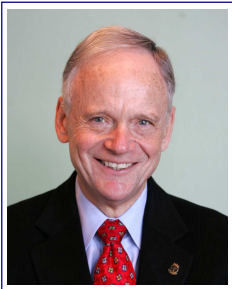


The Piedmont Rotarian

ROTARY DISTRICT 7690 • MARCH 2010 • DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S NEWSLETTER

"The future of Rotary is in your hands."

Mike Conrad, Governor, 212 Staunton Drive, Greensboro, NC 27410



Mike Conrad

The Pace Quickens...

March is certainly coming in like a lion and I doubt it will go out like a lamb! In your clubs and at the district level, there are so many events, projects, etc. that will actually occur in March. Plans are also being made for future events. Before I draw your attention to some of those activities, I want to remind you, March is Literacy Month!

Can you imagine what life would be like if you could not read or write? Past President Glen Kinross has said, "Poverty is the root cause of so many diseases in the world, poverty is the root cause of so much hunger in the world, and poverty is the root cause of so much pollution in the world." We know that poverty also creates political unrest, breeds crime, and potentially leads to terrorism. If we, as Rotarians, can help people in our communities and around the world to read and write, we can lift these folks from poverty and working toward world peace.

I want to THANK all of the clubs who have projects that encourage the love of reading. These projects take many forms whether it is working with local schools by listening to students practice their reading or by giving books and/or dictionaries to students, schools or libraries. For all of us who have been lucky enough to learn to read and write and have benefited from an education making it possible for us to avoid poverty, we can all be literacy champions.

Besides all the wonderful things you have going on in your clubs, I would like to note special events many of you in our district will be involved in.

Future Vision Pilot Training Seminar, March 3 at the AVS Banquet Center in Asheboro from 1:30pm to 5 pm. As a pilot district, it is extremely important that each club send representatives to this training session to learn how future Rotary Foundation changes will impact your club. For the clubs who missed the February seminar, it is not too late to send representatives to this session.

(...continued on page 2)

The Pink Lady Has Registered for District Conference.... Have You?



Many famous people have vacationed at the Grove Park Inn- F. Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald, President of the United States Franklin D. Roosevelt, and Charles Frazier. However, one guest, the Pink Lady, keeps returning, even though she is quite dead.

In the late 1800's Edwin Grove, the founder of Grove's Pharmacy and Paris Pharmacy in St. Louis, Missouri, had a grand idea. Edwin had visited Asheville in the summer for several years in order to help cure his bronchitis. He decided that other people needed a restful and health oriented lodge. He was inspired by the rustic mountain style of the Old Faithful Inn in Yellowstone National Park. His [dreams](#) of a great inn hit a bump when he could find no contractor or architect who pleased him. He turned to his brother-in-law, Fred Seely, to build his inn. Seely, who was not licensed but apparently a quick learner, had the inn complete in one year from the first day of construction. William Jennings Bryan delivered the opening day address.

The inn has many larger than life features. The Great Room is 120 feet long by 80 feet wide. Its two fireplaces are so large that they can burn several 12 foot logs simultaneously. On the fifth floor is the luxurious Palm Court and that is where the Pink Lady's story begins. According to history, there are many ghosts that inhabit the inn but none so well known or easily recognized as the Pink Lady. In the 1920's an unidentified young lady was relaxing in the Palm Court. Either by accident or through maliciousness she fell over the low security wall around the court. Her body, clad in a pink nightgown, tumbled and crashed to the tiles of the Great Hall below. And ever since her death, the Pink Lady has returned to socialize with Grove Park Inn guests.

It is not difficult to find employees of the inn who have seen her; it might be easier to find employees who have not seen the lovely lady. She has been the subject of ghost hunters and paranormal infrared photographers. Sometimes she is a foggy blur and other times, her features and pink night gown are quite distinct. As rumor has it, April is her favorite time to appear and especially in the later part of the month when the pink roses first start to bloom.

Registrations are still being taken for District Conference. Don't be left out of this great event.

HAITI RELIEF

**Rotary District 7690
has responded with
over \$85,000 being
raised to purchase
Shelter Boxes.**

**If you still would like
to send a check,
please do so.**

**Make the check
payable to**

**Rotary District 7690
and mark it for**

“Haiti Relief.”

Mail it to:

**114 Willoughby Park,
High Point, NC 27265.**



Rotary District 7690 Office
114 Willoughby Park Dr.,
High Point, NC 27265
www.Rotary7690.org
www.Rotary.org
Artwork: Shelley Graphics 2010



(continued from page 1...Governor's article)

2010 Carolinas' PETS (Presidents-Elect Training Seminar) is scheduled for March 18 – 20 at the Sheraton Four Seasons Hotel in Greensboro. This important training is for 2010 – 11 and 2011 – 12 club presidents.

District 7690's Group Study Exchange (GSE) Team departs for Australia soon. Our team members are Chris Arrington, Matthew Johnson, Megan McClure, Farren Paton, and Josephus Thompson. Our Rotary team leader is Leslie Cox. This group will begin their journey to District 9640 in Australia on March 17 for what will be an incredible experience.

Australian District 9640's Group Study Exchange Team arrives here on March 25. We will welcome from Australia, team members Chris Ahern, Melanie Fuller, Steve Hoffman, Jo-Ann McConnell, and Helen Smith. We will also welcome Australian Rotary Team Leader, Tony Heading to our midst for some real Southern hospitality!

District Conference – If you have not already registered, I hope you will do so ASAP. This will be the celebration of “your” club's outstanding accomplishments this year at the Grove Park Inn in Asheville on April 23 – 25. Kelly Harrill and Marlee Foster are planning a program that will inspire and uplift you. The goal is for each club in our district to have at least one representative at the conference. Please don't miss this event. Register TODAY!

How exciting it is to be a Rotary member of District 7690!

The Final Stretch!

It is that time in the Rotary year! We are down to the last 4 weeks before the Gold Club deadline, and our last chance to drive official membership numbers for the Fiscal year 2009-2010. How is your club doing? If you are short of your goals, there is still time to do something about it. Here are some ideas other clubs have used that have grown membership in just a few short weeks:

1. Have a membership day! Ask all members to invite someone for a meeting. Double your club size for the day, bring in a compelling speaker, and have applications on hand for quality members.
2. Give awards for members who bring in the most qualified visitors over the next month. Give a different recognition for any members who convert their visitors into members.
3. Do a service project in the next month in support of a non-profit. Participate in a blood drive as a club, make and serve breakfast at Urban Ministry, participate in Habitat for Humanity's latest build. When there, talk about Rotary and invite fellow volunteers to visit your club the next week or two.
4. Make up pins that say, 'Ask me about Rotary' and wear them for the next 4 weeks. Invite quality members who ask, to visit your club.

There is still time! Let's come together for the next four weeks, use our 30 second commercial to share the power of Rotary, and give people something uplifting to look forward to. Times are tough! It's icy cold outside, the unemployment rate is over 10% in our district, and people in Haiti are struggling every day to find safe shelter and food. Let's remember how fortunate we are, and invite people to join with us to make a difference. Volunteering is one of the best things you can do when times are tough. We all feel better after 'Service above Self'. Invite someone to feel better today!

Abby Donnelly

District Membership Chair, Rotary District 7690

TRIAD FLIGHT OF HONOR

The Triad Flight of Honor is getting ready for the spring flying season! After our very successful flights in the fall, we have chartered three (3) flights with US Airways in the spring of 2010 – Saturday April 17th, Tuesday May 11th, and Saturday May 22nd. We have essentially closed out our spring flights but plan to charter 2 or 3 additional flights in the fall. As a service project of District 7690, our Rotary clubs have played a key role in the success of this program and have provided grassroots support for identifying and sponsoring veterans in our communities.

After flying 200 veterans to see their Memorial in the fall, we currently have an additional 600 local WWII veterans that have submitted their application to participate in the Triad Flight of Honor. On our upcoming spring flight (April 17), 30 of the 100 veterans are over 90 years old and one veteran is 101 years old. In addition, we have received over 250 applications from volunteers that want to serve as one of the 33 guardians per flight. The veteran and guardian interest is clearly evident and we have been fortunate to receive broad base and significant contributions to fund these flights.

Our media partners will once again be WXII, WKZL, and Rock 92 and they will begin promoting our spring flights in mid March. Bank of America is our banking partner and is now accepting donations at any of their area branch offices. Contribution forms can also be printed from our website at www.triadflightofhonor.com and mailed to PO Box 4613 Greensboro, NC 27404.

Many of our clubs have indicated support for veterans on our spring flights, which we greatly appreciate. Our goal is that WWII veterans that want to go will go to see their Memorial in Washington, DC. The cost per flight is \$50,000 but to see tears of joy on the face of an honored WWII veteran is priceless. To witness this historic occasion, we encourage you to attend the Welcome Home event at Piedmont Triad Airport at 7:30pm the day of our flights to see these veterans as they return from Washington. Help give them the homecoming they never received and pay tribute to their courage, valor, and sacrifice. If your club is interested, a Rotarian on the Triad Flight of Honor steering committee would be eager to speak about this meaningful and heartwarming project.

Jeff Sims
Flight Director
President, Greensboro Airport Rotary



**Rotary District 7690
thanks the following for
their sponsorship of the
Rotary District Conference:**



Presenting Sponsor



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Greensboro**
AT FOUR SEASONS

Platinum Sponsor



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Audiovisual Technologies and Systems

Platinum Sponsor



Northwestern Mutual
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Tim Albertson

Attendance for January 2010

CLUBS	MEMBERS AS OF 6/30/09	CURRENT MEMBERS	MONTHLY MEETINGS	MONTHLY % ATTEND NO.	CLUB ID
*Alamance	50	53	4	68	6090
*Alamance Bkft	25	23	3	86	23238
*Archdale/Trinity	26	21	4	69	29135
*Asheboro	96	91	4	75	6052
*Burlington	19	21	4	81	6092
*Carthage	20	18	4	73	6053
*Clemmons	105	115	4	70	29530
**Crescent	99	104	2	78	6056
*East Greensboro	17	18	4	49	55569
*Eden	27	27	4	64	6058
*Furnitureland	54	56	4	69	6059
**Gate City	64	67	4	91	27995
*Graham	35	37	4	79	6107
*Greensboro	306	300	4	68	6060
*Gboro Arpt	37	37	3	79	31667
*Guilford	55	55	4	68	22059
*High Point	149	142	4	69	6062
Hillside Sunrise	(missing)	(missing)	0	0	
*Jamestown	24	26	4	80	6063
**Jonesboro	39	40	4	77	22882
**Kernersville	76	82	4	88	25027
*King	21	22	4	73	51294
*Lexington	25	22	4	65	6065
*Liberty	22	22	4	72	6066
*Madison/Mayodan	30	32	4	69	6067
Midstate(Asheboro)	24	26	4	81	81879
*Mocksville	49	55	4	73	6069
*Mount Airy	95	98	4	78	6070
*Pinehurst	38	37	4	79	6072
*Randolph	76	79	4	95	6074
*Reidsville	61	62	3	79	6075
*Reynolda	106	94	4	60	21534
**San Lee Sunrise	30	25	4	92	30735
**Sandhills	40	40	4	78	25530
**Sanford	34	33	4	83	6078
*Siler City	53	49	3	69	6079
*Southern Guilford	8	11	4	85	61795
*Southern Pines	88	86	4	84	6080
*Stoneville	17	18	4	82	6081
*Stratford	102	102	4	49	6082
*Summit	105	104	4	72	6083
*Surry Sunrise	30	27	4	78	57326
*Thomasville	69	71	4	91	6084
*Triad	34	33	4	77	6071
*Troy	29	30	4	66	6085
*Walnut Cove	17	18	4	60	6087
*Western Forsyth	23	24	4	75	79812
**Willow Creek	18	18	3	77	60367
*Winston-Salem	255	260	4	45	6088
*Yadkin Valley	33	38	4	74	30000
*Yadkinville	20	21	4	74	51333
*Yanceyville	10	10	4	65	6134
DISTRICT	2885	2900		74%	

The District 7690 Calendar is available at www.Rotary7690.org/calendar.htm

