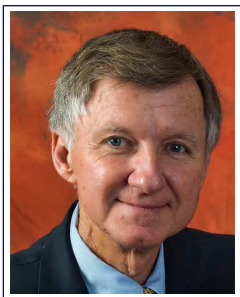


The Piedmont Rotarian

ROTARY DISTRICT 7690 • FEBRUARY 2013 • DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S NEWSLETTER

"Peace Through Service" Rick Snider, 3033 W. Center St., Ext., Lexington, NC 27295



Rick Snider

"Peace Through Service" Leads to World Understanding

February is "World Understanding" month on the Rotary calendar and it is most appropriate at this time that we revisit an article in the January 1946 Rotarian Magazine written by Rotary Founder Paul Harris. You can find the entire article at <http://www.whatpaulharriswrote.org/rotarian/1946fear.htm>. Although Paul Harris wrote this article in the shadow of World War II and some of his comments may be dated in the light of the 21st century, the central truths of his comments about peace are timeless. Following is a short excerpt from that article.

"When a certain distinguished scientist was asked what coming invention would mean most to mankind, he answered, 'I don't think that any invention will mean so much to mankind as the discovery of a better way to get along together.' But how can we find a better way to get along together?"

There is the Golden Rule, but every nation believes its way is the Golden Rule way. Sir Norman Angell has wisely observed that no nation, however aggressive and inhuman its course may be, is conscious of guilt; its people are taught that they are superior to all others and that destiny calls them to lead. Most nations are overeducated in their virtues and undereducated in their vices. Open-mindedness and tolerance are earmarks of the Rotary approach to the problem. Clubs exist in some 60 nations and opportunities for discord abound. But though membership includes representatives of all religious and political parties, discord is rare in Rotary.

The Rotary way works! But Rotary has no patent on it, for it is but the Golden Rule in action. Any person, any nation, can apply it by displacing negative hatred and fear with goodwill based upon understanding. Peace among nations is not impossible of attainment; they can find peace if they will."

World understanding and peace have been Rotary themes from its founding and continue today as Rotary continues to lead the way in peace initiatives. Rotary International has established 6 Peace Centers for International Studies in peace and conflict resolution, and Peace Center graduates promote national and international cooperation, peace, and the successful resolution of conflict throughout their lives, in their careers, and through service activities. The 2012/2013 Rotary Theme is Peace Through Service, and RI President Tanaka remarked *"Peace, in all of the ways that we can understand it, is a real goal and a realistic goal for Rotary... It is something that we can find and that we can achieve, every day and in many simple ways."*

Rotary International is holding three Rotary Global Peace Forums in 2012-13. Each forum is a two- or three-day program to engage and inspire Rotarians and community leaders to champion President Sakuji Tanaka's RI theme, Peace Through Service. And Zone 33 is holding its 1st Peace Symposium to be held on Friday, April 5 at the Sheraton Chapel Hill. This event will take place on the day before the Rotary Peace Fellows at Duke/UNC will be holding their 10th Annual Spring Conference.

Peace will also be a theme of our District Conference this April 19-21 at The Homestead. Our keynote speakers will be Rotary Peace Fellow Alumni David LaMotte and Mercy Ships Founder and President Don Stephens. David LaMotte is a songwriter and musician who suspended his 18 year music career to accept a Rotary World Peace Fellowship to study International Relations.

Don Stephens founded Mercy Ships in 1978, and Don and his wife Deyon continue to inspire and lead a work force of over 1,000 professional volunteers from 50 nations. Mercy Ships follows the 2,000 year old model of Jesus by providing specialized medical and community development services to the marginalized poor, free of charge.

Sixty five years ago Paul Harris said *"The Rotary way works!"* It worked 65 years ago and it continues to work today as we follow the Golden Rule and "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you".

CLUB NEWS

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!!!!

I am very excited to announce that registration is officially open for the 2013 Rotary District 7690 Conference at the beautiful Homestead Resort! Thank you to PDG Phil Morris for his hard work in creating the online registration, in addition to the registration packet that you will all soon receive in the mail!

As a little extra incentive to register early this year we are giving away a weekend at the Homestead. Everyone who registers before March 16th, 2013 will be entered in to a drawing for a 2 night stay AND 2 rounds of golf at the Homestead, which can be used anytime (except for the weekend of the conference)!

I am also very pleased to announce that we have a Presenting Sponsor! A huge thank you to Darlene Leonard and Smith Leonard PLLC for their gracious support of our conference! Additionally I would like to thank Karl Milliran and Thomasville Veterinary Hospital for their Event Sponsorship (Golf) and Business Card Listing. There are still more sponsorship opportunities available so please visit www.Rotary7690.org to find out more.

In less than 3 months we will gather once again for Fun, Fellowship and Fulfillment! So register now!

Yours in Rotary Service!

Michael Sorenson

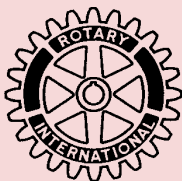
District Conference Chairperson

**The Rotary Club of Willow Creek
now meets at 7:30 am**

Rotary District 7690 Office

114 Willoughby Park Dr.,
High Point, NC 27265
www.Rotary7690.org
www.Rotary.org

Art: Shelley Graphics 2013



Teens Honored with Rotary Student Improvement Award

Greensboro, NC-Summit Rotary congratulates the monthly winners of the Student Improvement Awards. The award winners were Lahai Khellah from Northern High School, DeJuan Smith from Early/Middle College at GTCC and Blanca Arias from Academy at Central. They were nominated by Wade Billeisen, Betty Saunders and Academy at Central respectively.

The award recognizes middle and high school students in Guilford County who have shown substantial growth and achievement in attitude, attendance and academics. Select students are chosen monthly throughout the school year as candidates for the Student Improvement of the Year Award.

The program is sponsored and administered by Youth First (a program of Greensboro Parks and Recreation), Summit Rotary Club, and Rotary District 7690 and also sponsored by Awards of Excellence, the Guilford Education Alliance, Guilford County Schools, Southern Guilford New Generations Rotary Club and Greensboro Merchants Association.



Picture: Top Left:
Lahai Khellah

Top Right:
DeJuan Smith

Bottom:
Blanca Arias



CONGRATULATIONS

Larry Lassiter has been confirmed as the 2015-2016 District Governor for Rotary District 7690. Larry is a member of the Rotary Club of Troy.

ROTARY AGAINST DRUGS

This is a reminder that our District 7690 Rotary Against Drugs speech contest will take place on February 23. It's time for you to be making your final selection of participants from your club. Please have the names of your entrants to me by **February 13**.

Contact Karen Morris if you have questions.

Email: kmorris@triad.rr.com Phone: 336-887-7435

The Foundation Corner

February 2013



Rotary Peace Centers

A Brief History of the Rotary Peace Centers Program -

Rotarians have long dreamed of creating a Rotary sponsored academy to promote understanding and peace. Over the past 25 years, a variety of initiatives have been proposed to make this dream a reality. In 1996 under the leadership of Rotary Foundation Trustee Chair Rajendra Saboo, a committee was formed to consider the concept of an educational center, institute, or university dedicated to Paul Harris as a way of commemorating the 50th anniversary of his death in 1947. Composed of four Rotarians with professional backgrounds and experience in higher education, this committee explored a variety of academic models and ultimately recommended the creation of Paul Harris Centers for International Studies at several universities worldwide. At these centers, fellows would obtain a graduate degree focusing on issues related to international relations, conflict resolution, and peace studies. The Foundation Trustees adopted this proposal in principle and appointed a committee of Rotarians to fully develop the plan.

Over the next two years this committee created a conceptual plan for the centers, reviewed university proposals, and conducted site visits at universities interested in hosting a center. In 1999, the Trustees approved the plan to partner with universities to establish the Rotary Centers for International Studies in peace Program Guide for Rotarians and conflict resolution. The centers were so named to increase public awareness of Rotary's commitment to peace.

The Rotary Peace Centers Committee considered more than 100 universities and based their final recommendations to the Trustees on such criteria as geographic diversity, the university's willingness to work with The Rotary Foundation, superior faculty, and an established degree program with a core curriculum in international relations, peace, and conflict resolution. Rotary Peace Fellows began traveling abroad to pursue a master's degree at the Rotary Peace Centers in 2002.

In 2006, a pilot of a short-term peace studies program was launched at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok, Thailand. This alternative to the master's degree program enhanced Rotary's existing work to support international peace studies and attracted mid to upper-level professionals who could arrange to be away from their employment for just a few months. It also provided a lower-cost option to The Rotary Foundation and more immediate returns on Rotary's investment in world understanding and peace. In 2008, the Trustees approved the short-term option as a permanent offering within the Rotary Peace Centers program.

Rotary Peace Centers: Rotary Centers for International Studies in peace and conflict resolution have been established in six locations around the world:

[Chulalongkorn University , Bangkok, Thailand \(professional development center\)](#)

[Duke University and University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill , USA](#)

[International Christian University , Tokyo, Japan](#)

[University of Bradford , West Yorkshire, England](#)

[University of Queensland , Brisbane, Australia](#)

[Uppsala University , Uppsala, Sweden](#)

Rotary D7690 is a Peace Centers Peacebuilder District: Our district has supported the Rotary Centers for International Studies program from its inception by becoming a Rotary Centers Peacebuilder District that allocates \$25,000 per year of our District Designated Funds to support a Rotary Peace Fellow. These funds are contributed from DDF and are intended to support fellows selected on a world-competitive basis. The DDF allocated by our district is not connected to a fellow from that district.

District 7690 has sponsored applicants almost annually. We have had many of these applicants selected to participate in this program such as:



Wendie Pilar



Sallie Lacy



Justin Peele

District 7690 Rotarians have an opportunity to see the incredible value of this program by attending the 10th Annual Duke-UNC Peace Center Peace Conference on Saturday, April 6 – 8:30AM to 3:30PM in the Fedex Global Education Center on the campus of UNC Chapel Hill. This program is free. A companion program, the Rotary Zone 33 Peace Symposium will be held at the Sheraton Chapel Hill on Friday, April 5 from 8:30am – 3:00pm. For details on both programs, visit <http://Rotary7690.org>, click on "District Calendar" and scroll to April 5th and 6th. If you have questions please contact PDG Phil Morris at

PhilMorris@Rotary7690.org.

Attendance for DEC 2012

*100% Paul Harris Fellow Club
**Triple Crown Club

CLUBS	MEMBERS AS OF 6/30/12	CURRENT MEMBERS	MONTHLY MEETINGS	MONTHLY % ATTEND NO.	CLUB ID
*Alamance	52	54	3	65	6090
*Alamance Bkft	15	15	3	92	23238
*Archdale/Trinity	15	15	3	55	29135
*Asheboro	81	81	2	61	6052
*Burlington	18	18	3	81	6092
*Carthage	18	20	3	78	6053
*Clemmons	93	99	4	73	29530
**Crescent	90	79	3	76	6056
*East Greensboro	16	16	2	60	55569
*Eden	38	37	3	63	6058
*Furnitureland	47	45	3	69	6059
**Gate City	69	65	2	94	27995
*Graham	31	35	2	54	6107
**Greensboro	278	275	2	69	6060
**Gboro Arpt	39	41	3	73	31667
*Guilford	48	49	2	43	22059
*High Point	134	129	3	75	6062
**Hillsdale Sunrise	18	18	3	76	99012511
*Jamestown	24	23	4	63	6063
**Jonesboro	37	37	3	62	22882
**Kernersville	84	80	3	87	25027
*King	18	18	4	79	51294
*Lexington	21	20	3	72	6065
*Liberty	22	22	1	59	6066
*Madison/Mayodan	31	30	3	78	6067
Midstate(Asheboro)	30	29	3	74	81879
**Mocksville	38	39	3	63	6069
*Mount Airy	90	93	3	65	6070
*Pinehurst	39	40	3	85	6072
*Randolph	70	75	2	72	6074
*Reidsville	60	63	3	55	6075
*Reynolda	99	97	3	47	21534
**San Lee Sunrise	17	16	0	77	30735
**Sandhills	42	42	2	80	25530
**Sanford	29	37	3	80	6078
*Siler City	35	35	3	54	6079
**Southern Guilford	15	14	3	52	61795
*Southern Pines	89	91	3	72	6080
*Stoneville	17	17	2	79	6081
*Stratford	94	95	3	46	6082
*Summit	78	84	2	91	6083
*Surry Sunrise	28	29	3	87	57326
**Thomasville	63	72	3	71	6084
*Triad	32	33	2	80	6071
*Troy	25	25	3	63	6085
*Walnut Cove	10	11	4	59	6087
*Western Forsyth	23	25	3	53	79812
**Willow Creek	12	12	2	75	60367
*Winston-Salem	260	246	3	47	6088
*Yadkin Valley	33	34	3	85	30000
*Yadkinville	23	23	3	75	51333
*Yanceyville	9	8	2	81	6134
DISTRICT	2697	2706		70%	

DISTRICT 7690 INTERNET RESOURCES:

Visit www.Rotary7690.org
For the District Calendar visit
www.rotary7690.org/7690Calendar.SHTM

For District and Club Database visit
www.directory-online.com/rotary
Questions? Visit PhilMorris@Rotary7690.org