



## Rotary Fellowships Month

### In this edition:

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- **Jon Spillman, Departing DMC after 3 year term**
- **Brent Holmes, Youth Services Chair**
- **Global Grant Recipient Holly Miranda**
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- **District Membership Summit**
- **RLI training announcement**
- **Call for articles**



James Gouty  
District Rotary Foundation Chair  
2022-2025



### **Final Thoughts**

As June 30<sup>th</sup> and the end of this Rotary Year approaches, my term as District Foundation Chair will come to an end.

## **A GREAT BIG THANK YOU!!!!!!**

I want to thank all the Rotarians of District 7690 for the support you have shown me over the last 3 years. I want to thank district leadership for having the confidence in me to do this role and for the support they have shown me over the last 3 years.

To the volunteers that assisted in putting together 3 years of training and 3 Foundation Banquets.

To the clubs that invited me to their meetings to share the good things happening in our Foundation and how we can keep it growing.

To the members of our district who attended the trainings that were held over my term.

To our district, in responses to our message over the last 3 years, giving from a district standpoint has grown each of the last 3 years. I encourage all Rotarians in our district to continue to support our Rotary Foundation.

To the members of our district who attended our Foundation Banquets over the last 3 years. We heard amazing and inspirational speakers such as Ina Pinkney, Bernie Reidel, and lastly RI President Stephanie Urchick. In addition, we raised over \$60,000 for the Rotary Foundation. Thanks to all of you who volunteered, attended, contributed money and gave the Banquet team the support they needed.

### **NEXT STEPS**

Do not think I will be fading off into the sunset, I have agreed to be District Treasurer beginning July 1. I also will be assuming Chairman of the District's "Million Dollar Dinner", so stay tuned as you will be hearing from me again.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

June 26<sup>th</sup>—District Office Installation—Red Barn Tanglewood Park, Clemmons NC



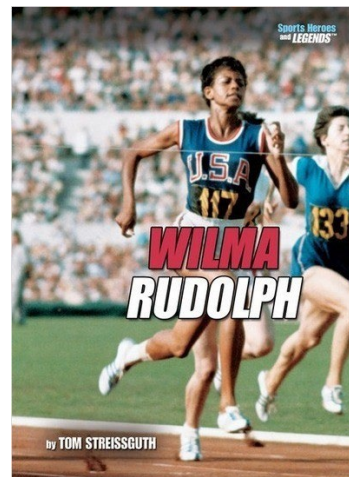
**Membership Focus**  
*By PDG Jon Spillman*  
*District Membership Chair*  
*2022-2025*



**Wilma Rudolph, Polio and Rotary's Mission**

A little over 65 years ago, Wilma Rudolph, who spent years overcoming the effects of Polio, became the first American woman to win three gold medals in a single Olympic game. Two distinct life lessons come from Wilma Rudolph's journey:

- 1) Obstacles Are Meant to Be Overcome - After contracting polio and scarlet fever as a child, Wilma was told she might never walk again. Thanks to her determination, she not only walked but became the fastest woman alive. As Wilma noted, "The triumph can't be had without the struggle."
- 2) Strong Support System – Wilma's mother refused to accept the doctors' grim prognosis and regularly took her to a hospital 50 miles away for treatment. At home, her family administered therapy multiple times a day.



Wilma's example and life story are reminders of two important things when it comes to Rotary membership.

- 1) Remember the Mission – First, whether it is polio or membership efforts, we can't let temporary setbacks define us. Second, membership isn't a numbers game. It is a people mission. It's about changing lives and making our communities better. As stated in Rotary's vision statement:

TOGETHER we see a world  
Where PEOPLE unite and take action  
To CREATE lasting  
CHANGE across the globe in our communities and in ourselves

- 2) Support System for Clubs - As our 2020-2021 Rotary International President Holger Knack noted: "Every great Rotary Initiative begins in a club." Rotary is bottom up not a top-down organization. Rotary International and District efforts and resources are intentionally designed to help clubs have a greater impact on their members and their respective communities.

Lastly, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to all you for allowing me to serve as District Membership Chair the last 3 years. It has been truly amazing to have a front row seat to all of the good our clubs do, and I know the best is yet to come!

To paraphrase Greensboro native, Edward R. Murrow's signature closing phrase..... Good luck, good night, and may Rotary's light guide your way.

## Rotary District 7690 New Membership Listing

New Members From: **May-17-2025** To: **Jun-22-2025**

12 Members Listed

Member Name	Start Date	Club	Sponsor
Pierre, Jimmy (JIMMY)	06/01/25	Burlington	
Robinson, Joey (JOEY)	06/04/25	Western Forsyth	Anant Venkataraman
Harmon, James K (JAMES)	05/22/25	Crescent (Greensboro)	John Nicolson Francis (Ed) E Widman
Wissinger, Bruce (BRUCE)	06/17/25	Reynolda	Deborah C. Cesta
Merical, Kasie (KASIE)	06/17/25	Reynolda	Jonathan Halsey
Hicks, Jason F (JASON)	06/01/25	Lexington	
Doby, Paul Russell (RUSSELL)	05/25/25	Carthage	Karen Taylor
Bowling, Eddie (EDDIE)	05/28/25	Thomasville	
Bailey, Austin (AUSTIN)	06/02/25	Winston-Salem	Lisa Parrish
Bocan, Matt (MATT)	06/08/25	Winston-Salem	
Lobo, Luis (LUIS)	06/03/25	Pinehurst	
Doby, Debbie Branson (DEBBIE)	06/20/25	Carthage	Jane Yvonne Bullard

Note: For members to appear on this list, their start date must be entered.



## DISTRICT 7690 YOUTH SERVICES

Brent Holmes – District 7690 Youth Services Chair

**District 7690 RYLA** –District 7690 Rotary Youth Leadership Awards was completed **June 12-15, 2025**, at Oak Ridge Military Academy in Oak Ridge, NC. There were 60 students participating in this event. Clubs are encouraged to invite the student(s) that they sponsored to share their experience at a future Club meeting.



**Interact** - Submit nomination for ***Club Excellence Award for Interact Clubs*** by August 15, 2025.

Interact Training for Club Youth Services Chairperson and Interact Contacts will be conducted during our July/August 2025 Youth Services Monthly Meeting.

Update your Interact Club Advisor by June 30, 2025.





## DISTRICT 7690 YOUTH SERVICES

Brent Holmes – District 7690 Youth Services Chair

Check out **Youth Services - Rotary District 7690** for all District 7690 Youth Services information – ***Interact, Jim Armstrong Four Way Speech Contest, RYLA, Youth Exchange, Youth Peace Action, Youth Protection Policy, and Monthly Youth Services Meeting Presentation and Recordings.***

**Use your District Youth Services Committee Resources to support your Club!**

- Youth Services and Interact Chairperson – Brent Holmes
- Jim Armstrong Four-Way Test Chairperson – Kathy Homiller
- Youth Exchange Chairperson – Ed ‘Woody’ Woodall
- Child Protection Chairperson – Steven Taylor
- Youth Peace Initiative Chairperson – Scott Wagoner
- RYLA Chairperson – Connolly Smith

## Meet Global Grant Scholar Holly Miranda



Rotary's Global Grant Scholarship program supports exceptional students committed to a career trajectory in focused areas of great humanitarian need and pursuing the goal of achievable and sustainable change. As ambassadors of goodwill, Rotary Global Scholars strive to find the best in themselves and use their knowledge, skills, abilities, to make life better for others. Holly Miranda, Rotary District 7690's newest Global Scholar is a shining exemplar. Her scholarship will take her to the National Taiwan University (NTU) in Taipei for graduate studies in the field of Disease Prevention and Treatment. Already accepted into the two-year Master of Science in Global Health academic program, she begins this quest in the fall of 2025 and graduates in the summer of 2027.

Holly is from the coastal community of Hampton, New Hampshire, USA. In 2020, she graduated with honors from Elon University with a Bachelor of Arts with dual majors in Public Health and International/Global Studies. As part of her curriculum, Holly studied abroad in Iringa, Tanzania, where she learned that targeted, community level interventions can improve long-term health outcomes. Specifically, recognizing that financial barriers prevented villagers from seeking medical care, her team worked with a local vocational school to implement a chicken husbandry course, thus empowering women to generate independent income for access to healthcare. While in Tanzania her multicultural experiences included field trip to a healer's clinic, a safari in Ruaha National Park, and a homestay opportunity in a village two hours from the nearest paved road to assist her host family with farming.

## Meet Global Grant Scholar Holly Miranda

The adage “if you love what you do, then it’s not really work”, is actually a truism for Holly following graduation. Holly participated in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) competitive Public Health Associates Program where she served as a COVID-19 Epidemiologist at the Kentucky Department for Public Health. This sparked her professional passion to be the best version of herself as an Epidemiologist. Conducting data analysis on COVID-19 mortalities, her work led to ensuring vaccination sites were placed in communities disproportionately affected by the pandemic. For her, the experience reinforced the importance of data-driven decision-making in disease prevention. Her next assignment took her to Vermont as an Emergency Preparedness Planner to focus on strengthening health systems to ensure they are equipped to respond to public health crises. This has led to increasing leadership responsibilities, most recently serving as Planning Section Chief during Vermont’s 2024 measles outbreak.

Holly Miranda’s plan upon graduating from National Taiwan University is to return to the CDC as a Global Health Epidemiologist, working with partner countries to bolster their health infrastructures and improve outbreak preparedness. Rather than pursuing another field assignment, she endeavors to relocate to CDC headquarters in Atlanta to work as a Global Health Epidemiologist in the Center for Global Health's Division of Global Health Protection. If previous success is a predictor of future outcomes, then Holly will most certainly achieve her long-term career goal to become an Epidemiologist with Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF, aka Doctors Without Borders) leading disease outbreak response efforts around the globe and delivering emergency assistance to communities affected by disasters and epidemics.

Holly recognizes being a Rotary Global Scholar provides the professional opportunity of working closely with early-career epidemiologists and public health professionals and fosters a culture of knowledge sharing and collaboration. With humble gratitude, she thanks the Rotary Clubs and members of District 7690 for their monetary support to The Rotary Foundation which enables The Rotary Foundation to return a portion of the funding back to the District as District Designated Funds (DDF) to support the Global Grant Scholarship program. She is extremely appreciative of the Rotary Club of Taipei (D3481) and the Rotary Club of The Sandhills (D7690) who Unite For Good in active partnership as sponsoring clubs during her graduate studies period. Beyond the academic rigors and practicum experience in NTU’s MS in Global Health program, Holly desires to engage with Rotary clubs in Taipei to participate in service projects related to public health. Best wishes to Holly Miranda in her Global Scholar Rotary journey!





## Doris Henderson

### Newcomers School



On Thursday, June 5<sup>th</sup>, several members of Crescent Rotary chaperoned 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> graders from the Newcomers School when they visited the Hight Point Children's museum. The Crescent Rotary club pays the admission for the students.

The Doris Henderson Newcomers School is a specialized public school in Greensboro, North Carolina, operated by Guilford County Schools. It is designed specifically for recently arrived immigrant and refugee students in grades 3 through 11 who are novice English speakers<sup>356</sup>.

#### Mission and Purpose

- The school's mission is to empower students and families through challenging academics and language learning, helping them become independent, lifelong learners.

JIDO & MARIANA QUBEIN  
**CHILDREN'S MUSEUM**

@QubeinChildrensMuseum







**HAVE YOU REGISTERED YET ??**

You definitely don't want to miss the . . .

## **2025 Mid Atlantic RLI Summer Meeting !!**

- *Regional Coordinator, District Chair, and Committee brainstorming sessions*
- *Faculty Update featuring new techniques & evaluation expectations*
- *RLI Parts I-III, Graduate & New Faculty courses available*
- *Breakouts exploring "What's Next for MARLI ?"*
- *Inaugural RLI Alumni Social*
- *And our special guest presenter . . .*

*Zones 33/34 RI Director*  
**PATRICK EAKES !!**

**July 10-12, 2025**  
**Rowan-Cabarrus Community College**  
**Kannapolis NC**

VISIT THE DACDB CALENDAR TODAY FOR  
REGISTRATION & LODGING LINK





*Prepare To Hit It  
Out of the Park*

# **DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP SUMMIT 2025**

Starmount Country Club

August 21 | 9AM - 2PM

DAY OF CHECK IN BEGINS AT 8:30AM

Register on DACdb

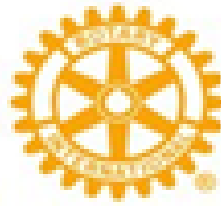
STARMOUNT FOREST COUNTRY CLUB  
1 SAM SNEAD DR.  
GREENSBORO, NC 27407



# The **Piedmont** Rotarian



**Rotary**  
District 7690



There are many wonderful activities that happen each month in our district. We would like to hear about them and publish them in the TPR. A picture or two and some text describing the event is all that is needed.

**UNITE  
FOR  
GOOD**

