



Rotary



DISTRICT 7670



District Governor Newsletter Volume III

Billi Black, District Governor

September 2015



September is **Basic Education and Literacy Month**. I have seen and heard about your many projects addressing education and literacy. In Black Mountain I was blessed by a project teaching third graders about the pollinators. To hear more about this project and last year's butterfly adventure – come to the District Conference, June 10-12 in Kingsport, Tennessee!

October 24th is World Polio Day. I hope each club has set aside a little time that day to recognize the achievements of Rotary and raise awareness that we are "this close".

I am so proud of all the amazing projects both big and small across this beautiful District! Thank you.

Yours in Rotary Service,
Billi Black

The aim of education should be to teach us rather how to think, than what to think- rather to improve our minds, so as to enable us to think for ourselves, than to load the memory with thoughts of other men.

Bill Beattie

September — Education and Literacy Month

The Rotary Club of Madison County begins its 11th year of teaching all 8th graders in Madison County Junior Achievement's curriculum about the relationship between education and the likelihood of their own personal economic success. And the 10th year of teaching 5th graders what it takes to be ready for work in today's global economy. Between the two classes they have reached well over 3,000 students with information about work force readiness, personal financial literacy, and entrepreneurship. These are topics that are not specifically addressed by the standard teaching curricula. The school district administration, the principals and the teachers all value these classes and are anxious to schedule us each year.

The Rotary Club of Morganton has instituted a three-week intensive reading and comprehension project to serve at-risk elementary school students identified by the Public School System as having a high-risk of reading and comprehension deficiencies. This Project meets the humanitarian needs of the ESL (English as a Second Language) community in the Mountain Crest Elementary School district of Burke County.

With two district superintendents and several principals in membership, the **Rotary Club of Catawba Valley** has a long tradition of partnering with local school districts and other educational institutions to improve learning opportunities. This year, one of the club's district grants is to help purchase books for the library at The Catawba Rosenwald Education Center, home of the Rosenwald School and Project E.S.T.E.E.M. Because the school library is not directly funded by a school district, Rotary saw a need to help the students get the best literature available. The club is purchasing over 50 new library bound books. Toward the end of the Rotary year the club will conduct a regular meeting at the Rosenwald School library and present the books to the school principal, librarian and students.

In This Issue

- From the Governor
- Kenya Water Project becomes a reality
- CART News
- Club News
- Service Opportunities

Kenya Water Project Becomes a Reality!

Two weeks ago Bob Soderstrom and Bob Felt returned from an eight-day journey to Kenya to observe firsthand the progress of the Global Grant water project in the Rift Valley. It was a great trip. Much was done in the five days on the ground. The project is doing extremely well. It is at about 80% completed. If all goes as planned we should finish the construction of the system before the end of October.

This was Bob's second trip to Kenya in three years and he states "it was the best!" He was truly moved by the impact that Rotary is having on the rural communities in Kenya. It was so gratifying to see the joy on the faces of the Maasai people as their hopes and plans for clean water are finally coming to fruition.

On the day of their field walk through the construction sites with all the stakeholders, the Maasai community invited them to a community meeting hosted by the elders from the five effected villages, complete with speeches in Swahili and English and a celebration dinner of fresh goat... yum.

They even took a half day off for a game safari in the great Maasai Mara Game Reserve in the southwestern corner of the country.

For now, *thank you* is extended for the District leadership's support and the support of all the clubs in D7670 who contributed to this grant project.



Stakeholders gathered around the bore hole. (Included members from Rotary 7670, 5490 (PDG Craig Wilson), RC of Naivasha, NGO partner MERC, and Maasai community leaders.

View of the completed steel tower and the pump control house at the bore hole site. This month we will lay 5 miles of pipe and mount a 24 k liter holding tank on top of the tower structure that will serve as the main feed for the entire water system, in addition to connecting up all the down stream holding tanks, kiosks and animal water troughs and schools.



While I am not advocating that we stop our pursuit of excellent members to invite to Rotary, this email from Zone 34 Assistant Rotary Coordinator Jeremy Hurst is enlightening – I hope you will take time to absorb this. – Billi

From my perspective we need to de-prioritize counting members and refocus on strengthening our clubs, creating a quality product that our customers (both Rotarians and the Communities we serve) enjoy and appreciate and build our brand as the prime deliverer of high quality experience and service to these same customers. If we can do that the numbers will look after themselves. The only numbers that matter should be a three year-trend to strengthen clubs, reflected through Rotarian engagement, retention and Rotarian satisfaction with their club and personal Rotary experiences (as my fellow ARC George RB so aptly puts it). Harder to measure I know, but these are the KPI's that really matter in my opinion. It will necessitate DG Corps working increasingly closely together as team with 35 year membership and strategic plans, which may require a new mandate from the top down. It will necessitate continuity between club boards and longer-term planning at Club as well as District level. It will necessitate de-emphasizing the annual numbers game and reemphasizing why each of us joined and became passionate about our amazing organization in the first place and selling its tremendous benefits to a fast-changing world and increasingly demanding customer base.

Our youth programs are an amazing asset and we need to continue to encompass them and find ways for them to stay part of our families, whether they transition immediately to Rotary or not. More than anything we need to remain relevant to our members and our communities and reinvent as needed, but remain true to our core values. If we do, I am confident we will have a stronger more effective Rotary in three years and thirty years' time. Frankly I think we're almost at the point of achieving much of this and being part of Rotary's evolution is exciting for me. I see great strides in terms of continuity, planning and effectiveness with hopefully more to come. If, as leaders, we focus on strengthening every Rotary Club over which we have influence, we won't go far wrong in terms of quality, brand and experience and that will lead to the numbers we want.

Warm regards, Jeremy Hurst

Rotarian Mary Scott Christfield is a founding member of the Hunger Coalition of Transylvania Count. The group is a local non-profit organization whose mission is to "support food insecure families and individuals until they can become self-reliant". **Rotary Clubs of Pisgah Forest and Brevard** took the fight against hunger to a whole new level by joining with the Hunger Coalition of Transylvania County and provided a mobile food pantry for them.



Join us at RLI (Rotary Leadership Institute) November 14 at Lenoir Rhyne! Register at www.ril33.org. Click on the yellow [Register Now](#) word. On the next page click on the yellow: "[Click here to register or for event information.](#)" Follow instructions from that point..

Thanks to Bob Rinehart for securing the Lenoir Rhyne site for the RLI training!



DG Billi Black and AG Celeste Renaldo present PHF pins to several member of the Rotary Club of Lincolnnton.

The Rotary Club of Hendersonville is proud to announce 2015-2016 teacher grant awards. Sixty-eight teachers from eighteen area schools were awarded over \$30,000 for special projects that will enhance education in their class rooms. Each year the club accepts grant applications from area teachers. This past spring over 150 teachers submitted requests exceeding \$75,000. Rotary's Education Committee reviewed each grant request for impact and ingenuity.

The Rotary Club of Highlands-Mountaintop will help sponsor an All Male Beauty Pageant on October 12, at the Highlands Playhouse. Ticket price is \$100 and all donations are tax deductible. Contact John Baumrucker rucker@dnet.net



CART
Coins for Alzheimer's Research Trust
A branch of The Rotary Club of Southern US

Meet Your 2015 CART Research Grant Researchers

Researcher – Erik Musiek, PhD, Professor, Department of Neurology, Washington University School of Medicine, St Louis, MO



Award Grant - \$250,000. This research grant will focus on understanding links between brain aging and Alzheimer's disease (AD). The goal is to identify age-related processes in the brain that set the stage for AD, with the hope of developing therapies to prevent this process. One hallmark of aging is the decline of circadian rhythms, the 24-hour cycles which keep our body and cells coordinated with nature's light-dark cycle. In AD, these circadian rhythms are often severely disrupted, causing many patients to have problems regulating their sleep-wake cycle. Our lab has recently discovered that disturbing certain genes in mice that maintain the circadian clock causes inflammation and nerve cell damage in the brain, similar to that seen in AD. This research will examine how the circadian clock is malfunctioning in AD, and how this might contribute to the disease process. We will then employ a novel drug to directly target the circadian clock in the brain in mice, to see if this can prevent inflammation and nerve cell damage in the brain. Ultimately, we hope that similar interventions might slow or prevent the progression of AD in people.

We measure CART giving from 1 May to 30 April. This is why it is important that clubs submit CART funds quarterly to accurately measure giving by club. As of **14 September 2015**, here is where the clubs stand in CART giving for a total of **\$17,664.45**:

Total Giving:		
First	Lenoir	\$3,374.68
Second	Franklin	\$2,345.05
Third	Newton-Conover	\$1,239.28

Per Capita Giving:		
Place	Club	Amount
First	Lenoir	\$50.37
Second	Franklin	\$26.65
Third	Pisgah Forest	\$21.72

At a recent September meeting, members of the **Rotary Club of Spruce Pine** received a program by Ric "Killer" Hunter, Vietnam War fighter pilot and book author of **FIREHAMMER**, a novel based on a true story about the final battle of the Vietnam War. He is a retired U.S. Air Force colonel, a former fighter pilot who flew the F-4 Phantom and F-15C Eagle. He commanded an Eagle squadron and was a three-time Top Gun.



Rotarian Joe Montgomery presenting a locally handmade Rotary mug to Ric Hunter



Congratulations to the Rotary Club of Burke-Sunrise - *an all Paul Harris Fellow club!*

A 100% Paul Harris Fellow Club, is one which all dues-paying members are Paul Harris Fellows. This is a one-time recognition.



During the Mount Mitchell Craft Fair, the **Rotary Club of Burnsville** awarded Lynda Gayle Banner a Woody's Chair and a hand-made quilt by Marilyn Woodby

for her winning raffle ticket purchased at TD Bank. Pictured from the left is Dr. Mike Reif, Lynda Banner and Matt Willig, raffle chair. All proceeds from the raffle go to MHHS scholarships, local charities and international projects such as defeating polio.

Larry Hinton, **Rotary Club of Sylva, GM** of Andy Shaw Ford and representing the National Automobile Dealers of America,



presented to Franklin Boy Scout Troop 202 a portable CPR trainer. The scouts will use the Resuci-Anne for learning CPR. The portable trainer will be shared with both Franklin Troops. Scoutmaster Charlie Vargas, three troop members and Franklin Rotarian Sandy Frazier were in attendance to receive the portable CPR trainer.

The Rotary Club of Blowing Rock held its Third Annual Charity Auction on August 22nd and included



both a live auction and silent auction. Auction netted almost \$25,000. As in previous years, all the proceeds will be donated to non-profits in the community, most of whom work with children and families. To date, their charity auctions have netted well over \$75,000 and every dollar invested back into the community.

"Develop a passion for learning. If you do, you will never cease to grow."

Anthony J. D'Angelo

The Amazing World of Rotary!



Banner exchange with RC of Paula, Croatia.

Brad Shaffer, **Rotary Club of Asheville**, and his wife traveled to Pula, Croatia. They arrived at their hotel

weary from the journey and decided once they got the suitcases in the room they would go to the restaurant in the hotel for dinner. Brad knew the Rotary Club of Pula met on Mondays at 7:30 pm, but didn't know where. Well, as they were perusing the menu Suzanne remarked about the Rotary logo on the wall. Well, needless to say, the club was meeting in a room 25 feet from where they were sitting. Brad mentioned something about this to the waiter, and he offered to introduce him to the club president. And he did. going to the room and got a club banner. The president also invited them to attend a Rotary "convention" on a nearby island later this month.

Listening to a report from the **Rotary Club of Valdese-**

sponsored RYLA campers, Samantha Whisenant (c) and Cody McFall (r), Rotarians heard comments



like "In just a week we learned teamwork, to keep moving and see progress." and "at first I was scared but by the end of the week I learned that others matter and I can learn from them." Both students who are seniors at Hallyburton Academy. Campers also had a time to dress up and spend time talking with individual Rotarians. "It was all positive energy - back to back to back activities." Principal Rob Ford (l) is seen with Samantha and Cody.



Rotarians from the **Rotary Club of Haywood County** recently assembled bunk beds for the Pathways Center. Five bunk beds, 10 mattresses, sheets and pillows were purchased with proceeds from the Rotary Club's Benefit Drawing in May and a District 7670 matching grant.

Membership & Attendance for August 2015

Clubs in District 7670

Club	Members	Members	YTD-Chg	Per Capita
	6/30/2015	Current		
Arden	17	16	-1	\$0.00
Asheville	131	130	-1	\$25.15
Asheville Breakfast	46	49	3	\$71.28
Asheville-Biltmore	32	34	2	\$21.78
Asheville-Metro	12	12	0	\$175.00
Asheville-South	37	37	0	\$20.31
Asheville-West	19	20	1	\$62.60
Avery County	17	18	1	\$0.00
Black Mountain	48	50	2	\$62.50
Blowing Rock	58	58	0	\$2.33
Boone	17	18	1	\$0.00
Boone Sunrise	45	48	3	\$0.00
Brevard	36	35	-1	\$6.94
Bryson City	29	29	0	\$0.00
Burke-Sunrise	19	19	0	\$1.58
Burnsville	11	10	-1	\$0.00
Caldwell County	14	14	0	\$19.64
Cashiers Valley	45	45	0	\$3.41
Catawba Valley (Conover)	30	29	-1	\$52.76
Clay County	10	10	0	\$92.00
Denver/Lake Norman	63	63	0	\$28.57
Franklin	82	81	-1	\$25.03
Franklin Daybreak	37	36	-1	\$53.11
Granite Falls	15	15	0	\$0.00
Haywood County (Canton)	29	28	-1	\$0.00
Hendersonville	148	148	0	\$22.97
Hendersonville-Four Seasons	35	40	5	\$107.30
Hickory	138	138	0	\$0.00
Hickory Sunrise	23	23	0	\$0.00
Highlands	86	90	4	\$0.59
Highlands-Mountaintop	21	21	0	\$47.62
Lake Hickory (Hickory)	72	73	1	\$23.06
Lenoir	67	70	3	\$39.55
Lincolnton	84	84	0	\$21.35
Lincolnton - Sunrise	18	17	-1	\$11.47
Madison County	35	35	0	\$6.43
Marion	62	61	-1	\$7.87
McDowell County	16	16	0	\$37.50
Morganton	54	53	-1	\$37.04
Murphy	27	27	0	\$29.81
Newton-Conover	66	69	3	\$4.40
Pisgah Forest	43	44	1	\$28.41
Rutherford County	13	13	0	\$0.00
Sherrills Ford-Terrell	18	18	0	\$18.89
Spruce Pine	35	33	-2	\$42.14
Sylva	62	59	-3	\$39.42
Tryon	65	65	0	\$155.77
Valdese	36	37	1	\$0.00
Waynesville	91	93	2	\$22.25
Waynesville-Sunrise	14	13	-1	\$0.00
Totals, Net Gain, Per Capita	2228	2244	16	27.07



Perfect Rotary attendance for 51 years!

Not many Rotarians can make that claim but Walt Allen has that distinction. Walt, a spry and active 89 year old, drives a red Thunderbird convertible. He is a former President of the **Buckhead Rotary Club in Atlanta**. He and his wife live in Atlanta and have a summer home in western North Carolina. During the summer he attends the **Rotary Club of Highlands** weekly meetings. Walt is a graduate of Emory University and is retired from a successful career in financial management. Active, involved and a proud Rotarian, he is an inspiration to us all.

Walt is congratulated for his amazing Rotary career at a recent meeting of the Rotary Club of Highlands. He is shown with club president Christy Kelly and DG Billi Black.



At a recent meeting, Kate Esch, (r), coordinator of the West Lenoir Elementary School Weekend Food Partners Program.

discussed plans to bag food donated by Aldi to be given to qualified students to take home for the weekend. The **Rotary Club of Caldwell County** has assisted in this effort in recent years. Kimmie Rogers, (c) and president Ken Soears reviewed plans for the club's third annual **Lenoir Downtown Christmas Festival** to be held on **Saturday, November 21st**, from 10:00 to 4:00.

*"Education is not filling a pail but the lighting of a fire."
William Butler Yeats*

Service Opportunities...

RI Director for Zones 25-26, Brad Howard, invites you to participate in a trip to **Cote d'Ivoire, West Africa** in **November 2015** to participate in a **polio immunization exercise, attend the 10th Annual West Africa Project Fair**, and engage in a **hands-on work project**. There is a limited amount of space and expect this trip to be filled in the next week or two.

Trip Dates: November 10 – 19, 2015
Travel to: Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire, West Africa
Per Person Price: \$1,779, double occupancy
Program includes: Hotel accommodations, transfers, most meals, polio immunization exercise, hands-on community service field work, West Africa Project Fair registration, special Rotary and fellowship events, sightseeing, etc.

This trip can be a life changing experience. Have you ever heard a Rotarian speak about participating in a polio eradication exercise, a cleft lip/palate mission, or a humanitarian grant? The West Africa Project Fair is endorsed by Rotary's Reach Out to Africa Committee (ROTA), who is trying to generate greater connectivity between the African and North American Rotarians to generate greater support of the projects of Africa. *For additional information contact: Howard Tours* 516 Grand Ave. Oakland CA 94610, 800-475-2260.

PDG Nancy Barbee, District 7730, extends an invitation to travel to India to participate in the November 22, 2015 polio Sub-National Immunization Day (SNID). This is the same as a National Immunization Day but it simply means immunizations are done in certain troubled areas on a more regular basis. This Day will be in the Delhi area. Family and friends of Rotarians are welcome as well. This trip also includes travel to Agra to visit the Taj Mahal, one of the seven wonders of the world, and then on to Varanasi the Holy City of India. There we will visit holy temples and take a boat ride down the River Ganges. We'll be hosted by Rotarians and join them in a clean up project along the river.

Date of Departure: Wednesday, November 11, 2015

Date of Return: Tuesday, November 24, 2015

Per Person Cost, based on double occupancy: **\$2,150**. For single supplement add, \$845. This price does not include international, round trip airfare or Indian visa fees. However, it does include hotels, transfers, Rotary events, participation in the NID activities, most meals, sightseeing, and an English speaking guide. *For additional information contact: PDG Nancy Barbee*, cell: (252) 670-5229, email: nbarbee@gmail.com.

Upcoming **ROTARY DREAM TEAM – INDIA 2016** for February 2016.

Travelers down the ages have tried to discover the Essence of India. To many, it has remained an enigmatic kaleidoscope. To some it has revealed ancient, abiding, universal Truths. None could remain untouched by the epic proportions of its size, its artistic heritage, or the wealth and variety of its vibrant cultures. Since 2008, the Rotary Dream Teams has gone to India every year to work hands-on with humanitarian projects in the heart of India. Before or after the project, they also take a short holiday to enjoy a slice of India's many contrasting cultural flavors and landscapes.

In 2016, the project is located in the semi-desert area of Rajasthan. It presents a unique experience for those who like to Make a Difference, like the Outdoors, and cherish close interaction with distant cultures. The team participate in a Polio NID (National Immunization Day) in the Mewat district (Haryana), where the latest polio case had been reported as recently as January 2010. In the heart of rural India, the team will work hands-on as part of the labor force to build a large Dam funded by a Global Grant from The Rotary Foundation. Two tours are available; the cost is \$4,404 and \$4,587, depending of which you choose.

*For additional information, contact Team Leader - PDG Elias Thomas in Maine, www.eliasthomas.com
email: ethomas@metrocast.net, 207-636-2222 (ext. 102)*

CONGRATULATIONS!!
The BEST OF BURKE!!!!
Rotary Club of Morganton has been voted BEST Service Club
in Burke County!!