Greetings Fellow Rotarians!!

Rotary year 2017 – 2018 is off to a great start. While District 7670 has changed leadership, our mission remains the same: “Service Above Self.” The essence of our existence is Service. We are here to serve humanity and our focus is to collectively do what we can to improve the quality of life in our community and around the world. Daily, we strive to have a positive impact on those in need. I’ve heard it said, “you can’t change the world.” Perhaps. However, we can “change our world.” When we become Rotarians, we agree to embrace the charge to become Citizens of the World. We embrace the mandate to regard others as equals and to make every effort to make the world a better place.

President Riseley’s theme for this Rotary year is “Rotary. Making A Difference.” Our current class of presidents is known as “The Difference Makers”. It is our mission to make our communities a better place so that our citizens can enjoy a high quality of life. That is the purpose of our “Outreach.” However, that’s only half of our focus. We also have a purpose of “In-reach”. We need to be aware of our Rotary brothers’ and sisters’ needs as well. We never know when a fellow Rotarian might be experiencing difficulties, which may be related to financial hardships, marital issues, problems with a son or daughter, loss of a job, or a medical diagnosis. Life has a way of sneaking up on us, and when we see one of our own going through difficulties, it is our duty to extend a helping hand. Sharing a kind word may be the very act of kindness needed at a certain point in time. There are many aspects to service.

Perhaps it can be summed up with the following statement: “The best definition of the Rotary field of service, is the piece of real estate between the tip of your toes and the one you’re facing.” Joanne and I look forward to sharing this new Rotary year with you.

DG Bill and First Lady Joanne

INTERNATIONAL VISITORS COME TO WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA

The Rotary Club of Asheville hosted the preview Folkmoot Festival performance at its meeting last Thursday. The club is working for working in partnership with Folkmoot, North Carolina’s International Folk Festival. Club member Ed Broadwell (and wife Donna) served on the founding Board of Folkmoot, along with other Rotarians in the Waynesville area. Over the years Folkmoot has grown from a staff of 6 to 40 employees and has revitalized the former Hazelwood Elementary School campus to house the administrative office and performers during the festival as well as other community programs. Programming has expanded to include cultural conversations and diversity education. A new auditorium was recently dedicated in honor of Sam Love Queen known as the father of folk dance in western North Carolina.

Club members will escort Folkmoot groups to various busking locations for a downtown serenade on Friday, July 28, at 4:00 pm in advance of the evening performance of all groups at Diana Wortham Theatre at 7:00 pm. This year the folk dance groups performing at various venues in western North Carolina during the festival are from Argentina, Canada, India, Israel, Netherlands, Russia, Slovenia, and Taiwan as well as Cherokee and Appalachian groups.

Cultural ambassadors from India, the Utkarsh Dance Academy, a group of 22 dancers accompanied by a drummer were introduced to the club. The group, colorfully dressed in gold and red native costumes, entertained the Club with two dance styles including lots of singing and challenging movements.
DG Bill Biddle has made the CART Program one of his centerpieces for service during the 2017-2018 Rotary year. He believes that “this devastating disease can, and will, strike close to home for virtually every Rotarian in the district.” The district had a record year in CART support during the 2016-2017 year and DG Bill feels that with a little extra effort the $100,000 goal can be attained. CART Chair Dennis Sanders proposes that “every club look at their 16-17 giving and set a new goal that is 10% larger than last year. All clubs can participate in making the new $100,000 district goal a reality. One of the successes last year was that so many clubs simply increased their support from the previous year. Our 2016-2017 giving was $91,000. A 10% increase will certainly put us over the top and enable the district to meet Governor Bill’s challenge.”

CART Angels are available throughout the district to support clubs in the CART effort and can provide CART programs and updates at the club meetings. Please contact PDG Dennis Sanders if you need the name of your club’s assigned CART Angel. His email address is dsanders146@frontier.com.

ROTARY DISTRICT 7670

The CART Fund is dedicated to raising funds to provide “seed” money for cutting edge, high impact research in hopes of finding a cure/prevention for Alzheimer’s disease. The goal of the Fund is to encourage exploratory and developmental AD research projects within the U.S.

HELP US REACH OUR GOAL OF $100,000.00!

All contributions are tax deductible. CART is a 501(c) (3) organization
Tax ID # is 31-1466051

RI President Ian H.S. Riseley...

There are as many reasons to come to Rotary as there are Rotarians – maybe even a few more. But each of us has stayed in Rotary because it adds something to our own lives. Through Rotary, we are Making a Difference in the world; and the more involved we become, the more of a difference Rotary makes to each of us. Rotary challenges us to become better people: to become ambitious in the ways that matter, to strive for higher goals, and to incorporate Service Above Self into our daily lives.

For 112 years, Rotary has made a difference to more lives, in more ways, than we can ever count or will ever know. Today, each of us bears a torch, its flame lit by Paul Harris, that has been passed forward from generation to generation, in Rotary: Making a Difference.
July—time for the new leadership...

New Club President Mark Teague (r) accepts congratulations from outgoing President John Rambo (l) at the June 29 meeting of the Rotary Club of Asheville-West.

The Rotary Club of Asheville-West installed new officers for year 2017-18 on June 19th. Co-Presidents James Voso and Marvin Baldwin; Co-Presidents elect Roger Morgan and Vickie Morgan; Treasurer Nancy Dalzell; Secretary Marvin Baldwin; Director Joanna Gollberg.

President Phil Trick presents IPP Dr. Michael Wimberly with a commutative clock in recognition of his year of service as President.

DG Bill Biddle officially installed the 2017-2018 Board of Directors, RC of Black Mountain. Incoming President Sam Hobson is next to Bill. IPP Darrell Johnson lounges happily on the far right! In his free time Darrell will coordinate the club’s presence at the Black Mountain Sourwood Festival this year, August 12-13.

Rotary Club of Pisgah Forest celebrated 20 years of member service and positive action in the community and beyond on June 27. The charter date for the club is June 2, 1997. President Jim Cruickshank combined the anniversary celebration with the annual Installation dinner at Key Falls Inn in Pisgah Forest.

RC of Spruce Pine IPP, Alex Glover and the new and current President George Nero.
Recently retired Army Colonels, Karolyn and Scott Hooper, presented an update on today’s United States Army at the Rotary Club of Tryon. Both Karolyn and Scott served in combat zones during their careers. Scott is also a member of the Tryon club.

At the June 29 meeting of the Rotary Club of Hickory, Tony Reed received the Heart of Rotary award for exemplifying Rotary spirit by stepping in as Sergeant at Arms, when the member who served in that role for many years had to take a

Mable Carlisle received the Life Time Achievement Award from The Rotary Club of Asheville-West. Mable was the first person nominated for Service Above Self Award along with seven more nominees that year.

### 2017 Highlands Twilight 5K
Race is on August 19th starting at 6 PM at the Kelsey Hutchinson Park (Founders Park). Registration and check-in start at 4 PM. Also featured is a Rock n Roll concert by Tea Four Three, Highlands own rock n roll band during and after the race 6-10 PM. Concert is free for the public, bring chairs, coolers, refreshments, blankets to join us for the evening music, starting around 7:30 PM. Kids under 5 run for free. Day of race registration is $40.00. Please register at the website at [www.highlandstwilight5k.com](http://www.highlandstwilight5k.com). Early Packet pickup at Highlands Recreation Park Friday August 18th 4-7 PM.

Call or email Derek at 828-200-9226, hdcderek@gmail.com.

### 2017 Hickory Charity Chase Sets New High
The 2017 Hickory Charity Chase Half Marathon, sponsored and organized by the Rotary Club of Catawba Valley, run on June 4th, set a new high for money raised for local charities with over $30,000 being distributed. Under a unique formula money raised by Charity Chase are distributed based on volunteer hours contributed to staging Charity Chase by volunteers recruited by the charity. Exodus Homes received a bonus check by being voted by runners as the best volunteer group on the route.

Kevin Spiva (Co-Chair, Charity Chase), Catie Brown and Brad Camack, representing Exodus Homes.

Nearly 300 cyclists from as far away as Washington state gathered for the 12th annual Hot Doggett Ride through the beautiful mountains of Madison County, NC. Organized by the Rotary Club of Madison County, this challenging event draws riders from across the country as well as local surrounding area. Cyclists have a choice of riding one of three courses; The 100-mile Doggett Mountain challenge, the 100-kilometer Devils Fork Metric, or the 60-kilometer Big Laurel Grind. Cyclists enjoyed nearly perfect weather, well-stocked rest stops, plenty of on-course support from the SAG (Support and Gear) drivers, and a delicious post-ride meal, all provided by more than 100 volunteers.

This event features 4 Nashville songwriters who share their songs and the stories behind them, in the spirit of Nashville and the famous Bluebird Café. Nashville Songwriters in the Round was started by Phillip Lammonds, a songwriter and musician from Pawley’s Island, SC. Phillip was asked to help find a creative way to help a local charity host a fundraiser. As an accomplished professional songwriter, he was very familiar with the popular process of the “Guitar pull” or “Round”, very common in Nashville, and this led to the first event.

**2017 Nashville Songwriters in the Round**
 Benefiting the Rotary Club of Asheville Tennant Scholarship Fund

Thursday, August 24th, Highland Brewery
Membership is the most important part of Rotary. The more members we have the more we can do in Rotary! **Some Ideas that have worked.**

**Membership Teams**
Divide your club into three to four teams of ten to 15 members. Come up with fun and exciting team names such as: sports teams; college mascots; animals; local or regional nicknames; or create your own team names. Make it fun and competitive.

**Award points based on the following:**
- 1 POINT-ANY GUESTS OVER AGE 40
- 2 POINTS-ANY FEMALE GUESTS
- 2 POINTS-ANY GUESTS UNDER 40
- 5 POINTS-NEW MALE MEMBERS
- 10 POINTS-NEW FEMALE MEMBERS
- 10 POINTS-NEW MEMBERS UNDER 40

The team with the most points win! Set an ending date for the team competition, perhaps quarterly. Give an award to the winning team in addition to bragging rights.

**Membership Brick**
A member is given the “Rotary Brick” until he/she brings a guest. It is best to start with your president or president-elect. Once the member brings a guest, he/she gives the brick to another member to carry until they bring a guest, and then it is passed to another member, etcetera. Please remember to keep track of your guests so the membership chair can follow-up with them. Let me know if you would like a plaque for your club’s brick.

**Make a hit list! Follow-up! Follow-up!**

Please share your membership ideas so that we can pass them on to other clubs. Thank you!

John Yermack
**District Membership Chair**

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**NEW PAUL HARRIS FELLOWS**
The Rotary of Hickory-Sunrise recognizes five new Paul Harris Fellows. *(l-r:)* Dan Green, Jim Starkey, Ken Luterbach, Bob Steiger, and Robert Mcellen)

*Second row: *Ron Leitch, Foundation Chair; Phil Trick, President; and, Ric Vandett, Administrative Secretary

“**The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.”**

— Mahatma Gandhi