



# ***The Inspirer***

## ***District 7530***

### ***2018-2019***



**August 2018**



Greetings, District 7530 Rotarians!

I want you to “Be the Inspiration”! But, in order to inspire others, you have to be inspired yourself. Your Rotary clubs have planned various events and projects for 2018-2019. All good, and all providing service to others. Do you have those projects and other goals documented in Club Central? Here’s how Club Central helps your club’s leadership:

- It provides a one-stop shop for bringing together your club’s plans, projects and progress.
- It eliminates paper forms, and saves the world’s resources just in eliminating the old Club Planning Guide.
- It fosters leadership continuity, and makes the yearly leadership turnover a piece of cake.
- It enables every club member to track their club’s progress.
- It creates transparency in what your club is doing, and what it takes to lead and run it.
- It showcases the important work that Rotary clubs do worldwide.

This month’s newsletter highlights the rest of the District Governor chain. Specifically we’re including the background info of our District Governor-Elect David “Coop” Cooper (Tucker County), and District Governor-Nominee Sean Sawyer (Fairmont). These two gentlemen have a year to prepare for moving up to their next District position. We are fortunate to have future Governors’ Coop and Sean in our District to lead us through challenging times. We’re also fortunate that Governor-Nominee Sean has stepped up to repeat as Assistant Governor for Region Six, which contains the Rotary clubs of Bridgeport, Clarksburg, Fairmont, Harrison County and South Fairmont. Assistant Governors serve as liaisons between the Governor and the Rotary clubs in their respective Regions. Thanks so much, Sean.

Our biggest challenge today is our District’s Rotary member status. Rotary International (RI) has placed a minimum number of 1,100 Rotarians on us, to keep our status as a District. Over the past 10 years, we’ve had difficulty maintaining that number, especially at the end of each Rotary year when clubs “clear the books” of former or deceased Rotarians. Our membership graphic looks much like a roller coaster track – up and down. Coop, Sean and I have agreed to work together in setting up a plan to improve our total membership and get back on track. RI will review our membership levels at the

close of the 2019-2020 Rotary year. If we're not at sufficient numbers at that time, RI will likely merge our District with one that's in another state. I've always known that West Virginians get up early and they work hard. Now's our chance to show that.

This will be one of the last times I mention District membership levels. What I will focus on is each club's membership status, and how our District staff will work with your club on this. If each of our 29 clubs focuses on their own membership and sets a goal the club believes is achievable, we'll be back on track sooner than later and the District membership number will take care of itself. Increasing each club's membership by five percent, or a net gain of three members, will be a GREAT start to the plan. Our new District Membership Chair, Becky Hunn (Morgantown North), has started this ball rolling and is offering sure-fire ideas to help. She has also started a membership consortium of District Rotarians willing to help plan and consider new ideas. If you're interested in joining the TEAM, please contact Becky using the information in this newsletter.

We have some terrific District events planned for this Rotary year. Here's a few:

- **Aug 11, 2018:** Our southern neighbor, District 7550, will hold a grant seminar Saturday, August 11, in Charleston WV. Remember, one member of each club must attend this seminar before their club will receive any grant funding. One member is mandatory but two are better.
- **August 11, 2018:** We're sponsoring the Operation Welcome Home night at the West Virginia Black Bears home stadium at 7:05 p.m. in Granville WV. Granville is across the Monongahela River from downtown Morgantown and WVU, less than 10 minutes. Come out and see your District Governor throw out the opening pitch. If you saw the movie Bull Durham and remember up-and-coming pitcher 'Nuke' LaLoosh hitting the mascot bull several times, you'll be surprised at my own lack of control. And, it will be FUN!
- **October 2018 TBD:** Our Membership Chair Becky Hunn is planning a District Membership Summit at a date TBD, but probably on a Saturday in October. If you want to know terrific strategies on increasing your club's membership, you need to attend this.
- **Feb 22-23, 2019:** Attending the President Elect Training Seminar (P.E.T.S.) is mandatory for all club presidents-elect before they become presidents and must be completed within 12 months of taking the position. This year's seminar will be held at the Bridgeport Conference Center in Bridgeport WV. Come one, come all!
- **Last weekend in March 2019:** It's the best of news! Rotary International President Barry Rassin and Esther will visit our District to take part in celebrating anniversaries of several District Rotary clubs. This is a very rare honor, as there are 540 Rotary Districts but only 365 days in President Barry's year. There's more to follow but mark your calendars now!
- **May 3-5, 2019:** Our District Conference (aka Club Celebration) will be held at Oglebay Park, Wheeling. We're going to make it more family-friendly, so please mark your calendars. District Conferences aren't just for District and club leaders, so we'll have something for EVERYONE.

My special thanks go out to District Trainer, PDG and club president Mary Dean for coordinating a very successful District Assembly in Clarksburg on July 14. Thanks also to District Treasurer, Youth Services Chair and PDG Dennis Shreve for arranging for the building and food. A lot of good information was passed along to the attendees and everything worked as planned. The next time you see Mary and Dennis, please thank them let them know how much you enjoyed it.

My official club visits get into full swing in August, so I look forward to meeting you over the next two months. In the meantime, **Be the Inspiration!** And wear your Rotary Pin while you're doing it. ☺

Your 2018-2019 Governor, Mike Da

## Kingwood Club

Preston County celebrated its 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on June 16<sup>th</sup>. Rotary Club of Kingwood organized the parade for the commemoration, and we had about 30 participating units...we even had the Lions International Float. Our Rotary Float was the grand finale focusing our support for "Food for Preston". Our final meeting of the year was our picnic on June 19<sup>th</sup> at which we recognized our two \$1000 scholarship winners. President Mel Snyder was presented with a plaque in appreciation for his service to our club.

My first meeting at which I will outline my goals for the year was on July 3<sup>rd</sup>. Our club voted to begin meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday evenings at 6:15 p.m. On months that have 5 Tuesdays, we will include spouses. I welcome your joining us anytime you can.

Be the Inspiration!  
Bob Meissner

## Ripley Rotary Club

The Ripley Rotary Club in its 13th year of Service to Nepal's Children and Schools. We have created a Go Fund Me effort and would like for the newsletter to include this in the next issue. We need to make sure that the link is active in the newsletter. When the link is opened then the text description of our service is available. Thank you.

[Click here to support Nepal Schools and Children organized by Chuck Ray Conner](https://www.gofundme.com/NepalSchoolsandChildren)

<https://www.gofundme.com/NepalSchoolsandChildren>

Chuck Conner, PP  
Ripley Rotary  
International Service Chair

### **District Governor's Visit Schedule**

August 6	Newburg @ 6:15p	Newburg UMC pot-luck (meet BoD after)
August 7	Bridgeport @ noon	Eat'n Park Restaurant (meet BoD prior)
August 7	Kingwood @ 6:15p	The Preston Inn (meet BoD prior)
August 8	Morgantown N. @ 7:00a	WVU Alumni Center (meet BoD after)
August 8	Clarksburg @ noon	Minard's Spaghetti Inn (meet BoD after)
August 9	Brooke Cty @ noon	Station Grille (meet BoD after)
August 13	Westover @ 5:30p	Green Turtle Restaurant
August 14	Cheat Lake @ 7:30a	Lakeview Resort (meet BoD after)
August 15	New Martinsville @ noon	Quinet's Court Restaurant (meet BoD before)
August 20	Parkersburg @ noon	Blennerhassett Hotel (meet BoD after)
August 21	Weirton Hgts @ 7:30a	Eat'n Park Restaurant (meet BoD after)
August 23	Wood County @ 7:30a	Parkersburg Country Club (meet BoD after)
August 23	Fairmont @ noon	Clarion Inn (meet BoD after)
September 4	Wheeling @ noon	WesBanco Arena (meet BoD after)
September 5	S. Fairmont @ 7:30a	Noteworthy Sweets (meet BoD after)
September 5	Weston @ noon	Giovanni's, (meet BoD 11:30a)
September 10	Elkins @ noon	YMCA (meet BoD after)
September 11	Buckhannon @ noon	Chapel Hill UMC (meet BoD after)
September 12	Braxton County @ noon	Red Rooster Café (meet BoD after)
September 13	Morgantown @ noon	Crosley's Banquet Hall (meet BoD after)
September 19	Tucker County @ 12:15p	Sawmill Restaurant (meet BoD prior)
September 26	Ripley @ noon	Ripley Library (meet BoD after)
TBD	Point Pleasant @ noon	Pleasant Valley Hospital



### **Weston Rotary Club**

First row left to right-

Sarah Post, Andrea Posey, Katelyn Carpenter, Alli Clark, Katelyn James, and Leo White

Second row left to right -

Elizabeth Gricewich, Benjamin Harmon, Kim Harrison, Linda Locke, and Barbara Chabanik

At the recent annual picnic for the Rotary club of Weston, several high school students were awarded scholarships. Four students were awarded scholarships and the amount of \$1000 each and two students received honorable mention scholarships in the amount of \$500 each. Scholarship selections are based off of applications and interviews where the interview committee looks for students that exemplify Service above Self.

### **Morgantown North – Rebecca Hunn**

As the new District membership chair, I would like to introduce myself and give you some idea of our plan of action, even though it's in its initial stages. My name is Rebecca Hunn, a member of Morgantown North and 2017-2018 Assistant District Governor, focusing on membership. During my term as ADG, I used Morgantown North as a test kitchen for ideas, and I'm grateful to the club for letting me do that. Some valuable lessons were learned including some outcomes we expected, and some we didn't. But what I've learned in the last year is the basis for what I want to do going forward.

District Governor Mike Davidson ended one of his recent emails with "Let's have some fun!" I'm going to start with that. If you're not having fun in your club, something needs to change! When we're having

fun, retention isn't such a big issue. When non-Rotarians see us having fun, they want to get in on it. I'm talking about upbeat meetings, energetic discussions, engaging projects, and some purely social outings as well. More on that as we go along.

And let's talk about change, something we all tend to resist. Rotary International has given us the flexibility to break out of the old Rotary mold, to be inventive with our membership plans and our meeting schedules. We're putting a lot of ideas on paper and will soon make them available. However, the best idea may be the one your club invents to accommodate your needs and your culture. And, here's one thing I've learned over the past year.....CHANGE ENERGIZES!

If we want to maintain District 7530 in its current form, we have to tackle the membership problem with ideas, with enthusiasm and with energy. And we have to make it sustainable. That's not a one-person job. I know the leadership is fully onboard, but now I want you. We're putting together a Membership Coalition. If you're interested in being a part of it, please email me at [hunnrebecca@hotmail.com](mailto:hunnrebecca@hotmail.com), or call 304-278-5204. Or, if you have any ideas you think are relevant to membership, please let me know.

And in the meantime, check out [rotary.org](http://rotary.org) for some great ideas and thought starters. Let's have fun, let's innovate, and let's beat this membership issue back once and for all!

## **Rotary Club of Morgantown – Recap of International Conference by Sarah Robinson**

### **Rotary International Convention 2018**

"Inspiration Around Every Corner" was the theme for the 109<sup>th</sup> annual Rotary International Convention 2018, held in Toronto, Canada during the last week of June. Participants in the opening ceremonies were greeted to the Metro Toronto Convention Centre with an Olympic welcome, replete with over 175 colorful flags from every participating nation.

RI president, Ian H.S. Riseley and his wife Juliette who hail from Queensland, Australia, gave highlights of their past years' accomplishments. Her Royal Highness, Princess Anne, made a special appearance during the opening ceremony. The Princess Royal is president of Save the Children UK, an international organization that partners with Rotary, focusing on health, education, protection, and disaster relief for children.

Following a number of feature presentations including entertainment by the Chief of the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation of Ontario, convention speakers encouraged Rotarians to connect, inspire and transform their communities.

Over the next four days, attendees participated in breakout sessions, browsed hundreds of booths in the House of Friendship, attended leadership luncheons, and heard from former first lady of the United States Laura Bush, an advocate for literacy, health care, and human rights.

Morgantown Rotary was represented by both outgoing president Indira Majumder and husband Ranjit, incoming president Jim Robinson and wife, Sarah, and Dave Raese and Adam Raese.

Next year's convention will take place in Hamburg, Germany.

## **The Rotary Club of Cheat Lake**

The Rotary Club of Cheat Lake has started off the new Rotary year with a sizable project in partnership with the Mon County Health Department. The Mon County Health Department is outfitting an RV with 2 dental chairs and equipment to be a mobile unit to “provide excellent dental care where we live and learn.” The Smile Express is a 38 foot Winnebago that has been converted into a 2-unit mobile dental facility that will be used at various locations in Monongalia County including all the middle and high schools in school year 2018-19.

WV ranks at or near the bottom in almost every dental statistic available. By utilizing a mobile unit, we are attempting to remove “transportation” as a reason for missing an appointment. By examining the children “early”, we will identify and fix problems when they are small AND we will be able to prevent future problems from occurring.

The Rotary Club of Cheat Lake has approved \$13,971.56 toward outfitting the bus with the proper equipment to be up and running by the beginning of the school year.

The second annual Cheat Lake Regatta is scheduled for August 11<sup>th</sup>. Last year’s Regatta was a big hit and raised almost \$15,000 for local Cheat Lake area projects and charities. This year’s event has added boat tours, a poker run and Fireworks to Light Up the Lake. That is all on top of canoe, kayak, paddleboard, and “Whatever Floats” races, and the ever popular OK Race with live bands, food and drinks. You can register online for races, tours and the OK at [www.cheatlakeregatta.com](http://www.cheatlakeregatta.com).

## **BUCKHANNON ROTARY CLUB**

All too often we break bread together once a week, but do we really know the more senior members or the newer members? That is why the Buckhannon Rotary Club dedicated the month of July to “Getting To Know You”. A list was provided to a select few of the long time standing members and to a few of the more recent members. Each were provided a list of suggestions to discuss and assigned a particular week to be the program. This proved to be so enjoyable and we learned things about those members we may never have known otherwise! Any month that has five Tuesdays, we dedicate to an evening meeting to include families and guests. Tuesday, July 31, was a family picnic. But the heavens opened up and that caused an unexpected closeness as all huddled under the park pavilion – but hey, that is another form of fellowship!









## **Morgantown Rotary Honors GEORGE W. LILLEY, JR., Ed.D., with the Brad Laidley Award for his outstanding service**

George was introduced to Rotary by Carolyn Bailey Lewis in 1996. A Paul Harris Fellow, he has been serving the Morgantown Club as Treasurer and an Officer on the Board.

George retired after 12 years as the Chief Executive Officer of Valley HealthCare System, a comprehensive behavioral health center in North Central West Virginia, serving people with mental illness, mental retardation/developmental disabilities or substance abuse.

Dr. Lilley had broad experience in community mental health in West Virginia. In September 1985, the Director of Health invited Dr. Lilley to the Department of Health to be responsible for the State's services to people with mental illness, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse problems. He was responsible for three state-operated facilities for people with mental retardation, two psychiatric hospitals, and approximately 50 community contracts for mental health, developmental disabilities, substance abuse, and advocacy services. During his tenure with the Department, he was the Director of the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources' Office of Behavioral Health Services, the Acting Commissioner of the Bureau of Public Health, the Deputy Director of Health, Assistant to the Secretary, and the Department's Affirmative Action Officer.

Dr. Lilley also worked on the Basic Services Task Force of West Virginia's Health Care Planning Commission that developed the behavioral health portion of the Commission's Plan while advising the Secretary on health care reform matters.

He was the Executive Director of the Potomac Highlands Mental Health Guild in Petersburg, West Virginia from 1979 to 1985. Upon coming to West Virginia in 1972, he worked in the administration at Concord College and then as Program Administrator at Southern Highlands Mental Health Center in Princeton from 1974 to 1979. While in the community behavioral Healthcare system, he was twice President of the Provider Association and First Choice Health Systems. Before retirement, he was Chair of the Friends of WNPB and served on WV Public Broadcasting's Foundation.

In retirement he has been active in community work serving on Morgantown's Pedestrian Safety Board and was Chair of the Coordinating Council on Homelessness and the Community Living Initiatives Corporation. Presbyterian Church work has been extensive in the local church, Presbytery and Synod. He and his wife are Friends of the West Virginia University Art Museum and worked to establish Empty Bowl Monongalia. Together, they funded a foundation at Your Community Foundation to better the community. During the fall of most years, they host a mid-level professional from another country as part of the CIP program in Morgantown.

George loves sailing, travel, family get-togethers, swimming, teaching, reading, hiking (Grand Canyon), and occasional preaching.

He received his Doctor of Education degree in 1973 from Indiana University, a Master of Arts in 1966 from The Ohio State University, and a Bachelor's Degree from Ursinus College in Collegeville, Pennsylvania.

He is married to Mavis Grant and has one daughter, Laura, an Elementary School Librarian in Chester Springs, PA. Laura and her husband Mike have two daughters, Paige and Lily.



Pictured above is Past President Indira Majumder and the Decker's Creek Director, Indira was instrumental in creating this project.

Morgantown Rotary installs a Bench and two Dogwood Trees in the Park at Decker's Creek which is behind the Kroger's in Sabraton.



### **Morgantown Rotary Honors Dr. Richard Eller for his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday and nearly 50 years of service to Rotary**

Dick was born in Brooklyn and raised on Long Island where he sailed in the Great South Bay. He graduated from Haverford College in the Philadelphia area, went on to serve in the Air Force, resuming studies in Philadelphia at Temple Medical School. His first practice of anesthesiology was in Fall River, MA where he joined his first Rotary Club! Once again, he enjoyed sailing in his spare time, performed in Little Theater there, and began a Scout Explorer Club. His second Rotary association was as part of a founding member of the Swansea Rotary Club! After 13 years in Massachusetts, he returned to teach at Temple Medical School for 5 years. In 1979, he moved to Morgantown where his practice and teaching was primarily in the OR at WVU's Ruby Hospital. His most gratifying volunteer experience has been joining David Fogarty on more than 20 Interplast trips. Interplast WV sends groups of surgeons, nurses, and professionals to perform life changing plastic surgeries for children who would not otherwise have repairs to cleft lips and burn scars. Rotary is a natural for Dick's life patterns, and we thank all the members most sincerely for their continued concerns.

**Thank you Rotarians for your articles for this month's "Inspirer", please have all articles submitted by September 1<sup>st</sup> for our next Newsletter. Submit to Donna M, Tennant, at [DT2078@aol.com](mailto:DT2078@aol.com)**