



## Message from District Governor Nomie Hamid



Do you have plans for the weekend? I know I do, and I'd love for you to be a part of them! We still have a few spots open for the exciting Joint District Conference happening right here in Washington D.C., and it's not too late to join us.

Here's a sneak peek at what we've lined up:

- **Friday Night:** Kick things off with live performances, complemented by complimentary food and drinks all night long!

- **Saturday Highlights:**

- Hear from **Ambassador John Richmond** and **Mayor Muriel Bowser of D.C.**

- Insights from the **CTO of Time**, bringing perspectives from a leading global publication on AI

- A special reception for our major donors

- Explore D.C. with our 'Dine Around' experience

- **Sunday Morning:** Wrap up with a crucial panel on Mental Health, a topic close to all of our hearts.

*Special Guest Ed Futa Past Rotary International Executive Secretary!*

To see our full agenda and secure your spot, click on the link below.

Parking won't be a hassle either, with valet service available at \$38. Additionally, you'll find several self-parking options around the hotel.

Don't miss out on a weekend that promises to be informative, inspiring, and just plain fun. Hope to see you there!

[DISCON 2425 | Rotary District 7620 \(rotary7620.org\)](https://rotary7620.org)

Best regards,  
Nomie Hamid  
District Governor 7620

## October is Rotary's Community Economic Development Month



**OCTOBER IS**

**ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MONTH**

"To the world you may be one person; but to one person you may be the world."

Dr. Seuss

Rotary 

[www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)

## DG Visit to Rotary Club of Glen Burnie!

We had a wonderful visit on Thursday, September 19th, from our District Governor, Nomie Hamid and Lieutenant Governor, Marilyn Nevy Cruz of District #7620 plus from our community partners in the Anne Arundel County Public Schools!! Great evening!!!



## Hurricane Helene: DAUSA deployment to Eastern Tennessee October 7 through 12

Dear DAUSA DARTS/Volunteers and Rotarians,

Most of you are aware that Hurricane Helene caused havoc in North Carolina and Tennessee by dumping over 20 inches of rain. Over 100 lives have been lost and many houses have been flooded or washed away. The damage is of epic proportion.



Disaster Aid USA had several strategy sessions to address the suffering of the people. We have decided to deploy to Greenville, TN, where flooding is extensive. Most of the work will involve mucking and gutting and clean up. If you would like to volunteer, here is the plan:

1. A team from MD/DC area plans to leave on Sunday AM (Oct 6) with the DAUSA trailer. Another team from WV will join them at Greenville, TN bringing a second DUSA trailer.
2. Local DAUSA team lead familiar with Greenville disaster, Jamie Baisden, has assembled a dozen Rotarians and non-Rotarian volunteers to work with the DAUSA teams from MD/DC/WV. At the direction of the Green County Volunteer Coordinator, the DAUSA teams and local volunteers will start cleaning houses and do mucking and gutting effective Monday AM, Oct 7.
3. Deployment is expected to continue from Monday, Oct 7 through Saturday, Oct 12. DAUSA team and volunteers will be housed in a church basement; and local Rotarians (from Green County Club Rotary) will provide food services.
4. Each volunteer is encouraged bring a sleeping bag, his/her own gloves, safety glasses and ear protection gear. Extra safety equipment will be available on the DAUSA trailer.
5. Points of contact:  
Pre-deployment phase- Paul Mahata, 301-275-9730, [Pmahata@verizon.net](mailto:Pmahata@verizon.net)  
Deployment phase – Dr. Bill DuBoyce, 443-995-0136, [billydubes@hotmail.com](mailto:billydubes@hotmail.com)

Sincerely,

Paul Mahata, Ph.D.

Mount Airy, MD

Co-Chair, District 7620 Disaster Relief Committee

Vice Director, Zone 33 DAUSA Board

Tel: 301-275-9730

[Pmahata@verizon.net](mailto:Pmahata@verizon.net)

## Prost to another successful Frederick's Oktoberfest!



We were thrilled to see so many Frederick neighbors join us for this beloved tradition. At the [Rotary Club of Southern Frederick](#), we believe in fostering inclusion in everything we do. That's why we proudly led the non-alcoholic beverage stand again this year! From non-alcoholic beers to sodas, we made sure everyone could raise a glass and celebrate together—no matter their drink of choice. A huge thank you to the [Rotary Club of Carroll Creek](#) for allowing us to partner with you, and to [Wegmans](#) for donating countless water bottles to help keep attendees hydrated, and to everyone

who braved the weather to make this event so much fun! We can't wait to serve you again next year.



[Read More](#)

## Rotary Red Line Happy Hour

A fun time was had by all! The first [Rotary District 7620](#) Red Line Happy Hour of the new Rotary year was a complete success! Thank you [DC Rotary Club](#) for hosting and DC Rotary Club PP [Jennifer Lyn Hara](#) for coordinating!



## RLI Graduate Course: A Historic First for District 7620!

### Rotary Leadership Institute Graduate Course: A Historic First!



On Saturday, September 7th, District 7620 made history by hosting its first-ever Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) graduate course! This milestone event also marked the return of a graduate-level course offered by the Mid-Atlantic RLI, which hadn't occurred since January 2020. Alongside this historic graduate course, RLI Levels 1 and 3 were also offered, all expertly organized by the District's RLI Coordinator, Pam Kreis.

The course, "**Exploring the Rich History of Rotary,**" was developed by RLI Facilitator Chris Zabriskie. Drawing from a template provided by RLI Northeast America (RLI-NEA), Chris expanded the course to include segments on Rotary's history and traditions, the art of storytelling, and how to best share your club's unique history. The result? A dynamic and enriching experience for the 11 participants who attended.

These participants represented four districts and included RLI Level 3 graduates, RLI facilitators, and one special guest, Jack Huskin. Jack, who had planned to attend Level 2, found himself auditing the graduate class when Level 2 was canceled due to low enrollment.

As with all RLI courses, this was far from a lecture-style class. Instead, it was a highly engaging, participatory experience. Attendees were given reading selections and encouraged to present their reflections to the group. To enhance their storytelling skills, participants shared their out-briefs in a compelling, narrative format. A highlight of the day was the segment on Rotary personalities, where attendees tested their acting chops by role-playing historical figures in first-person narratives—a fun and creative twist that brought history to life!

[Read More](#)

## World Polio Day!

This [#WorldPolioDay](#), we hope you'll join Rotary members in our fight to [End Polio Now](#). Together, we can show the world that we can and will [#EndPolio](#) for good. Let's make this global health legacy a reality.

- \* World Polio Day 2024
- \* 24 October
- \* [on.rotary.org/3LeTqDk](https://on.rotary.org/3LeTqDk)



## Annual Hike in Observance of World Polio Day!



Join the DC Rotaract and DC Rotary Clubs for their Annual Hike in Observance of World Polio Day!

**When:** Saturday, October 12, 2024

**Time:** 10am - 12:00pm

**Where:** Rock Creek Park (Beach Drive, Washington, DC 20011)

**Sign-up here:**

<https://registrations.dacdb.com/Register/index.cfm?EventID=77787382&NoCaptcha>

We will meet at and park at picnic area #6. From there, we will follow an easy path around the river.

Suggested donation of \$10 to Rotary International. Send payment to DC Rotaract Venmo at [@RCWDC](#).

Please contact Suzan Al Shammari at [suzanalshammari@gmail.com](mailto:suzanalshammari@gmail.com) or Marilyn Nevy Cruz at [mncruz10@gmail.com](mailto:mncruz10@gmail.com) with any questions.

## September 2024 Membership Achievement Awards!

Congratulations to [Rotary District 7620's Hood College #Rotaract](#) and the [Rotaract Club of Washington, DC](#) for growing their membership base. Way to go! [#themagicofrotary](#)

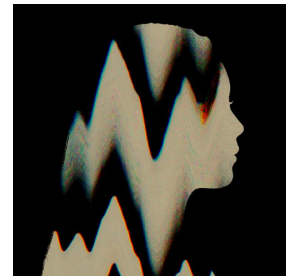


## PDG Dr. Geetha Jayaram - September Rotary Magazine!

“I have treated both princes and paupers. Their sense of shame about mental illness is identical.”

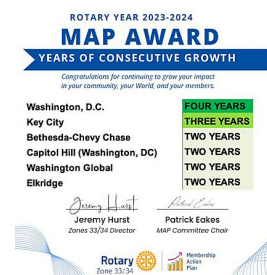
**Dr. Geetha Jayaram** has devoted her career to addressing mental health challenges for those facing severe illness compounded by poverty and barriers to care. In 2002, she launched Project Maanasi in Karnataka, India. “Maanasi,” meaning “of sound mind,” symbolizes her mission to improve mental health everywhere.

With support from the Rotary Club of Bangalore and a Rotary Foundation grant, the project opened its first clinic, marking a significant step forward in community-based mental health care.



<https://on.rotary.org/3BaXEto>

## Six Rotary District 7620 clubs received the Platinum Club Award



Platinum Clubs are the epitome of 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.”

The [Rotary Zones 33/34](#) Membership Action Plan (MAP) team gives this award to clubs that grow two or more years in a row.

Six [Rotary District 7620](#) clubs received the 2023-24 PLATINUM CLUB AWARD.

[BCC Rotary](#)

[Rotary Club of Capitol Hill - Washington, DC](#)

[DC Rotary Club](#)

[Elkridge Rotary Club](#)

[Key City Rotary Club](#)

[Rotary Club of Washington Global](#)

[Read More](#)

## Disaster Update – Deployment to Northeast Ohio

By Bob Grill, President, Disaster Aid USA; Paul Mahata, Co-Chair, District Disaster Relief Committee



District 7620 Disaster Relief Committee continues to coordinate with Disaster Aid USA to respond to recent disaster in Northeast Ohio. We are helping the disaster victims there. Dave Roasa, a DAUSA team lead worked with DAUSA team and other local Rotarians and volunteers to clear trees and to do clean up work in small towns of Ohio. Thanks to all these volunteers and the entire DAUSA team. To support such relief work, we request that you and your club consider donating money to DAUSA. We thank you for your past donations. Please see below a detailed description of DAUSA deployment to Northeast Ohio.

**Northeast Ohio deployment:** DAUSA team and volunteers were able to help 9 homeowners, and the team logged over 190 hours of service. Dave Roasa and other volunteers (all of Grove City Rotary Club) spent three days to clean up debris and remove downed trees from the recent storms. Many thanks to Dale Smith who is DG of Rotary District 6630; Dale not only worked with the team for a couple of days, but also put the word out to the Rotarians in his district. The DAUSA team also got day-volunteer assistance from Rotary Clubs of Chagrin Valley, Chagrin Highlands, Burton Middlefield, Akron, Geauga West, and Chardon.

[Read More](#)



## Rotary Club of Rockville International Peace Day 2024 Commemoration



To commemorate the International Day of Peace on September 21, 2024 the Peace Committee of Rotary Club of Rockville thanked and celebrated the Rotary Club of Rockville, the Rotary Club of Rockville Foundation, members of the Rotary Club of Rockville, our supporters, and members of the Rotary Club of Rockville Peace Committee for supporting the Peace Committee's activities.

We continue to celebrate **Rotary Club of Rockville** for becoming a **Rotary Action Group for Peace (RAGFP) Peacebuilder Club**. At

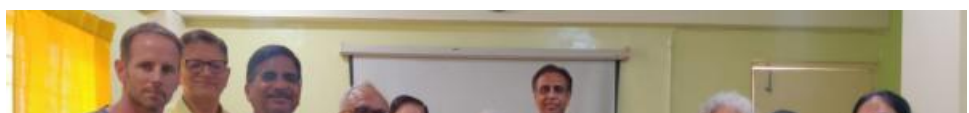
the moment, Rotary Club of Rockville is the only Rotary Action Group for Peace Peacebuilder Club in Rotary District 7620.

"A central part of the mission of Rotary is to empower Rotarians to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace. Rotarian Peacebuilder clubs commit to engage in dialogues and projects that promote positive peace in their communities and across the globe. Building peace may seem like a daunting task, but the Rotarian Action Group for Peace has identified the Simplify, Unify, and Engage approach, which paves a more do-able, effective and successful path to peace and nonviolence." [Read More](#)

## Empowering Futures!

**Empowering Futures!**

**Rotary International  
Supports**





**Supports  
Comprehensive  
Sexuality Education for  
Adolescent Girls in  
Madanpur Khader.**

On August 20, 2024, Agrabami India marked a significant milestone with the inauguration of its latest initiative in the low-income settlement of Madanpur Khader, New Delhi. The "Comprehensive Sexuality Education Program for Girls"; generously funded by the

Rotary Club of Washington, DC, aims to empower 1,200 adolescent girls by May 2025, equipping them with essential knowledge and skills for navigating the complex journey into adulthood. The event was graced by the presence of distinguished guests. Mr. Sunjay Thukral, President of Rotary Club Delhi One, was the Chief Guest. His support was echoed by Mrs. Thukral, who also honored the occasion with her presence. Other esteemed Rotarians who participated from the Delhi One club, included Vice President Mr. Rajesh Marg, past Vice-President Mr. Rajesh Puri, and past Secretary Mr. Sunil Nanda, all of whom have been staunch supporters of community development initiatives.





[Read More](#)

## Washington Global Club President Dr. Rose Cardarelli



We are delighted to share that our Washington Global Rotary Club President, Dr. Rose Cardarelli authored a book, *Children and the Climate Migration Crisis*, that was recently published and now displayed at the UN bookshop.

Rose is the Rotary International Representative to UNICEF and is at the UN General Assembly (UNGA) meetings this month. We wish her all the best during UNGA!

## Rotary Flag Exchanges Between the Rotary Clubs of Varanasi and Delhi

On August 9, 2024, Rotarian Cynthia Schultz, on behalf of our President Bob Schott and Rotary Members of the DC Club, participated in a Rotary Flag and Cultural Exchange evening that included a classical Indian music performance and dinner between the Rotary Club of Washington, D.C. and the Rotary Club of Varanasi North and Rotary Club of Varanasi Vrinda of RI District 3120 with over 40 Rotarians and spouses in attendance. The evening captured the essence of the spirit of the attending Rotarians, fostered mutual international understanding, and the magic of Rotary in every way. We shared discussions and exchanged ideas related to our service projects, clubs and members.



[Read More](#)

## September 15 to October 15 is National Hispanic American Heritage Month



### September 15 to October 15 is National Hispanic American Heritage Month

National Hispanic Heritage Month traditionally honors the cultures and contributions of Hispanic and Latino Americans as we celebrate heritage rooted in all Latin American countries. During this month and throughout the year, the Rotary District 7620 members, and our community partners, share history, heritage, and accomplishments of Hispanic and Latino Americans of past and present.

### Del 15 de septiembre al 15 de octubre es el Mes Nacional de la Herencia Hispana

El Mes Nacional de la Herencia Hispana tradicionalmente honra las culturas y contribuciones de hispano y latinoamericanos, ya que celebramos la herencia

arraigada en todos los países latinoamericanos. Durante este mes y durante todo el año, los miembros del Distrito Rotario 7620 y nuestros miembros comunitarios comparten la historia, el legado y los logros de los hispanos y latinos estadounidenses del pasado y del presente.



## Upper Chesapeake Bay Pride Festival

For the third year in a row, our Area 1 will have a table at this incredible event, and we need enthusiastic volunteers to help staff it! Your support makes a big difference, and it's always a fun, rewarding experience. Let me know if you can join us and help make this year's presence our best yet! Let's spread the meaning of Rotary!



## Remembering a hero of polio eradication: Dr. John Sever, Potomac Rotary Club



By *Mark Daniel Maloney, The Rotary Foundation Trustee Chair [from the October 2024 Rotary Magazine]*

World Polio Day, on Oct 24, is a time to celebrate progress and rededicate ourselves to finishing the job of eradicating the disease. Let's also honor the countless Rotarians and Rotaractors who have championed the cause. One such hero was John Sever.

Sever, who died in April at age 92, was a member of the Rotary Club of Potomac, Maryland. An infectious disease specialist

at the US National Institutes of Health, Sever recommended in 1979 that Rotary make polio eradication a global goal, expanding what began as a national vaccine campaign in the Philippines.

It is hard to imagine where we would stand today without Sever's decades of leadership, expertise and advocacy. In August, I was honoured to present his family with the International Service Award for a Polio-Free World and a crystal recognition piece in Sever's name.



What he helped initiate, PolioPlus, became an example of implementing an action plan in Rotary. Thanks to him and the volunteerism and generosity of countless others polio cases have decreased by more than 99 per cent since 1988.

[Read More](#)

## Rotaract Club of Washington, D.C.

Look what just arrived in our Community Service Chair's inbox - the official volunteer photo with @flotus! Our members had a great time serving at the White House for the 4th of July and for Easter in April.



We're rockin' out at [@adamsorganday](#)



[Read More](#)

## Rotaract Club of Howard University

Last week's service events were nothing but short of wholesome and impactful! Our first service, Paws for Cause gave our student body a chance to decompress and reflect on why they matter. As we move out of Suicide Awareness Prevention month, we encourage you to not only take care of you, but to be your brother's keeper. Go out in the world and be kind! And remember...Kezia loves you!



## Inspiration for young changemakers

Rotary's™ young leaders drive meaningful change in their own communities and around the world! The 2024 Ashoka Changemaker Summit, hosted by one of Rotary's™ service partners, included two panels designed to acknowledge that young people make a difference and to prepare them to do even more: [Preparing Young People to Succeed as Changemakers at Scale](#) and [Young and Engaged: The Changemaker of Today](#).

## The 2024 Interact Awards are here!



### The 2024 Interact Awards are here!

Each year, over 15,000 Interact clubs across the world are driving positive impacts within their communities. To celebrate their hard work, Rotary International hosts an annual campaign: the Interact Awards. Interact clubs are invited to submit a video, photo(s), and/or essay that showcases their club experience and service initiatives. By participating, Interact clubs have the

opportunity for their submission to be named "Best Video," "Best Photo," or "Best Essay," alongside receiving funds to support their next service project.

This year, Interact clubs are invited to **show us your favorite service project!** Submit a video, photo(s), or essay that shows your service project from **start to finish**. Include your **planning stage**, your **service in action**, and demonstrate how your project **makes a difference** in your community.

Submissions due by 2 December 2024

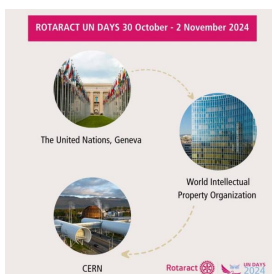
[SUBMIT YOUR NOMINATION](#)

## Celebrate Reconnect Week

Rotary and Rotaract clubs and Rotary districts around the world are encouraged to create opportunities for program alumni to rediscover Rotary during Reconnect Week, 7-13 October. Rotary alumni are leaders and innovators who are eager to give back to their communities. Plan special alumni events, invite alumni to participate in service projects, or ask them to attend club meetings or other Rotary events. If you have questions, write to [alumni@rotary.org](mailto:alumni@rotary.org).



## Rotaract UN Day in Geneva, Switzerland!



Join Us for Rotaract UN Days in Geneva, Switzerland

From 30 October to 2 November, Rotaract members will gather for an exclusive event to explore global issues and connect with leaders.

### Highlights

- Visits to UNOG, WIPO, and CERN
- Panels on refugees, migration, human rights, economic development, health, and science for peace

- Special speakers, such as Rotary International President Stephanie Urchick
- Peace Project Booths showcasing innovative projects from around the world

Register now: <https://www.rotaractundays.com/>

## RI Alumni Survey

Attention Rotary  
International program  
alumni

Share about your alumni  
experience by participating  
in the Alumni Reconnection  
Survey:



[https://rotary.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_dmNDOgGCPIrYYHs](https://rotary.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_dmNDOgGCPIrYYHs)

## Register for the 2025 Rotary Presidential Peace Conference in Istanbul



Join peacebuilders from around the world for the 2025 Rotary Presidential Peace Conference, 20-22 February, in Istanbul, Türkiye, to explore ways to create environments that foster peace and understanding.

With the theme of Healing in a Divided World, the conference offers a unique opportunity to connect with Rotary members, partners, and thought leaders committed to addressing important peacebuilding issues of our time.

Through dialogue, interactive workshops, and insightful presentations, weâ€™ll cover topics such as:

- Peace in a polarized world
- Technology, media, and peacebuilding
- Environmental issues in peacebuilding
- Making peace last

Led by 2024-25 Rotary International President Stephanie A. Urchick and held at the Hilton Istanbul Bomonti Hotel & Conference Center, the conference will also recognize Rotaryâ€™s contributions to advancing peace through our peace and conflict resolution area of focus and our Rotary Peace Centers and mark the launch of our newest peace center in partnership with Bahçeşehir University in Istanbul.

Learn more about the conference and presentations at [rotary.org/Istanbul25](https://rotary.org/Istanbul25) and register today!

**[REGISTER](#)**



## Rotary International Courses and Resources

To support the goal of clubs and districts to increase participants' knowledge and skills, some courses now have discussion guides. For an in-person discussion of a topic, facilitators can ask members to take a specific course on their own time and then meet to discuss what they learned and how to apply that knowledge. Facilitators can use our new discussion guides to help them lead the conversation.



You can find these discussion guides in courses marked with a conversation bubble in the downloadable [full course catalog](#).

## In Memoriam: Frederick Rotary's Past President Dr. George E. Lewis, Jr.



Our club was saddened to hear of the passing of member and Past President Dr. George E. Lewis, Jr., DVM, PHD, DACVM, COL (RET.) USA, 81, at [Frederick Health Hospice's The Kline House](#) on September 22, 2024, after a long and tenaciously fought battle with prostate cancer.

Among his fellow Rotarians around the world, George will be well remembered as a loyal friend, dedicated Rotarian, challenging mentor, first-rate communicator, innovative thinker and logistical genius. During his tenure as our club's President during Rotary Year 2002-2003, President George was renowned as a leader who knew how to make the trains run on time. George was a highly decorated Rotarian, having earned some of Rotary International's and the Rotary Club of Frederick's most

distinguished honors given for service and philanthropy.

Some will remember George as a local historian who was integral to the rebuilding of the Catoctin Aqueduct, while others will recall George's groundbreaking work at the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases (USAMRIID) at Fort Detrick, Maryland where he developed medical vaccines, drugs and diagnostics to protect American military personnel from biological warfare agents and endemic infectious diseases. Our sincere condolences to Pam, George's wife of fifty-nine years; his son George III and daughter-in-law, Michele; his daughter, Alisa; granddaughter Alexandria and husband Anthony; his great grandchildren, Savannah, Natalie, and Finley, sisters Janice Pendleton, Judy Lewis Harrell and brother-in-law William Harrell, and his niece and nephews.

We are grateful to have known George E. Lewis and to have called him friend.

Photo: Past President George Lewis with then-President Stacey Korrell Moler outside the Rotary Club of Frederick's longtime meeting place, [Dutch's Daughter Restaurant](#)  
<https://www.keeneybasford.com/obituary/dr-george-lewis-jr>

### Four-Way Test

Is it the truth?  
Is it fair to all concerned?  
Will it build goodwill and better friendships?  
Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

### District 7620 Newsletter Team:

Bob Nelson, PDG, Chair  
Sean McAlister, PDG, District Public Image Chair

## 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