



## Rotary Foundation Month

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Our Rotary  
Foundation  
By James Gouty  
District Rotary  
Foundation  
Chair  
2022-2025



## FOUNDATION NEWS

James Gouty DRFC  
November 2024

### **2024 District 7690 Foundation Banquet**

On the evening of November 7<sup>th</sup>, approximately 475 Rotarians from District 7690 gathered to celebrate The Rotary Foundation. Our district was fortunate to have Rotary International President Stephanie Urchick be the keynote speaker, and she did not disappoint.

In addition, the Plank Off was a huge success with our PDGs holding a plank for a cumulative 24 minutes and raising almost \$11,000 for the Rotary Foundation. The online auction and live auction raised another \$12,000, so overall a great night for our Foundation.

The district also kicked off the “Million Dollar Dinner” to make the Rotarians in our district aware of what the Foundation does and how to participate. Stay tuned for more news and information around this very important initiative.

Overall, it was a great night for our district. As DRFC, I am very appreciative of the support received from the district and the committee that assisted in putting this on. A **“BIG THANK YOU”**, to all who made this possible.

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## **SUPPORTING THE ROTARY FOUNDATION**

We as Rotarians continue to make a difference in the world and in the communities, we live in and serve. We focus on the 7 Areas of Service and do provide life-changing solutions to myriad of issues facing our communities and the world.

I would ask you to remember the work our Foundation does, from large multi club global grants to smaller single club district grants, disaster relief grants, global scholarships, Peace Centers, and the eradication of Polio.

The bottom line is, our Foundation touches the lives of millions of people around the world and in our district and I hope you will join me in supporting this life changing organization.

## **FOUNDATION PROGRAMS**

With a new Rotary Year comes time to begin scheduling Foundation presentations in the clubs.

I am available to come and speak to your club on all things foundation.

Just contact me at [jggouty@gmail.com](mailto:jggouty@gmail.com) to set up a time and date.

I currently have the following clubs on my calendar;

- Nov 20<sup>th</sup>—Randolph
- Nov 21<sup>st</sup>--King
- Dec 10<sup>th</sup>--Asheboro

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

January 25, 2025--Grants Management Training, Randolph Community College in Asheboro NC



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



## Lessons: Task Rabbit Founder, Leah Busque Solivan



One evening in 2008, Leah Busque Solivan ran out of food for her dog, Kobe. Leah thought, “There’s got to be a way to use my phone to pinpoint someone at the grocery store and connect with them and have them grab food for me, and I’m willing to pay them to do it.” From that thought she formed *RunMyErrand*, long before DoorDash, Instacart, and Uber were on the scene. The name was later changed to *Task Rabbit* and grew to operate in nine countries in 75 cities before she sold it to IKEA for over \$50 million in 2017. Today, Leah is a venture capitalist and offers three tips to start a new business which are also relevant to starting new Rotary clubs.

Connect with Customers – Be fanatical about understanding the needs of your customers. If necessary, pivot your business to meet the evolving desires of your customers.

Focus - Don’t try to be all things to all people. Prioritize the things that really matter to fulfill your customer needs.

Transparency – Be transparent with your team. Share financials, strategy and progress with your team as much as possible. It is important to keep everyone aligned with the vision and direction of the company.

In District 7690, we have a great opportunity to start up new clubs and help meet the needs of over 1 million potential members across our communities. Here are three common ways to meet people where they are by connecting, focusing, and sharing the vision.

1. Alternative Meeting Time Clubs – Not every potential member can attend normal club meetings and consequently, clubs have had success growing their membership by creating additional options in their communities. Specifically, evening and zoom meeting clubs.
2. Cause or Interest Base Clubs – Tapping into people’s interest in their hobbies or causes is a popular way to create new clubs. Examples of Interest clubs are golf, Hispanic, government workers, and veterans’ clubs that are creating fun, fellowship, and service opportunities for their members.
3. IMPACT/Service – The fastest growing area of Rotary membership in North America is service only clubs or IMPACT clubs. With over 200 clubs worldwide, with two in District 7690, these clubs focus strictly on service opportunities that are generated by club members and are run through an online application.

*“Innovation is the ability to see change as an opportunity, not a threat.” Steve Jobs*



## DISTRICT 7690 YOUTH SERVICES

Brent Holmes – District 7690 Youth Services Chair

**District 7690 Peace Conference for Interact Clubs** – this Conference is scheduled for **Monday, January 20, 2024** (MLK Holiday). District 7690 Interact Clubs are encouraged to learn more about ‘Peace’ and complete a Service Project.

**District 7690 Jim Armstrong Four Way Speech Contest** – the annual District 7690 Jim Armstrong Four Way Speech Contest is scheduled for **Saturday, February 22, 2025** at Randolph Community College.

**District 7690 RYLA** – Club Sponsorship Pledge Form is due November 30<sup>th</sup>. This is the club’s financial commitment to sponsoring a student(s) this year (\$650 per student). Clubs can always add more students later. Link to the Club Sponsorship Pledge Form: <https://form.jotform.com/220216726592152>. District 7690 Rotary Youth Leadership Awards is scheduled for **June 12-15, 2025**, at Oak Ridge Military Academy in Oak Ridge, NC.

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.***



# RYLA

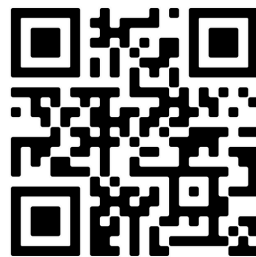
## 2025

***RYLA Is Growing and  
We Need Rotarian Support!  
Consider a Leadership Role  
or Committee Position!***

- RYLA Board
- RYLA Management Team
- RYLA Conference Committees



**Submit Online  
Interest Form**



# LIVE FROM CHEROKEE

*District Conference 2025*

**231  
REGISTERED BY  
12/31**

**REGISTER NOW**

**162  
ALREADY  
REGISTERED!**

**MAY 1 - MAY 4, 2025  
CHEROKEE, NC**



**Register on DacDB**