

Rotary
District 7670



2023 Newsletter

Special Edition Newsletter

District Governor Connie Molland

Rotary7670.org

Thankful for Support: Rotary District 7670 Reflects on the Hurricane Helene Relief Effort

By Julie P. West



Nearly two months have passed since Hurricane Helene wreaked havoc across the region, leaving countless families and communities struggling in its wake. The storm brought with it devastating damage, but in the face of hardship, there has been an outpouring of generosity from individuals, organizations, and charities who have stepped up to help.

As we move into the month of November—a time dedicated to thankfulness—Rotary District 7670 takes a moment to reflect on

the incredible support we've received from so many who have come together to help those affected by the storm. The response has been nothing short of inspiring, and we are deeply grateful for the kindness, resources, and efforts that have made a difference in the lives of those impacted.

A Heartfelt Thank You to Our Supporters

Over the past two months, Rotary District 7670 has witnessed a tremendous outpouring of support in various forms—manual labor, supply donations, food donations, monetary contributions, and, perhaps most importantly, prayers. We recognize that recovery from such a catastrophic event is a long journey, and each contribution, big or small, has made a significant impact.

We are thankful to all who have donated to District 7670 and Western North Carolina (WNC). Your generosity is helping to provide critical assistance in rebuilding homes, providing necessary supplies, and offering emotional and financial support to affected families.

To name just a few of those who have contributed:

- Rotary Club of Downtown Wilmington Foundation
- Mid Island Rotary Foundation
- Rotary Club of Charles River Wellesley-Natick-Fram
- Rotary Club of Leland Area
- Rotary club of Wheeling, II Grant Fund
- Cherry Hill Rotary Foundation
- Durham Sunrise Rotary Club
- Rotary Club of Franklin Humanitarian Acct.
- Rotary Club of Shepherd
- Rotary Club of Denver/Lake Norman
- Rotary District 6580 Charities
- Westwood Village Rotary Club Foundation
- Zone 33/34
- Rotary International
- Rotary District 7670 Matching Grant
- Southport-Oak Island Chamber of Commerce
- LARC (Leland Area Rotary Club) Foundation
- U.S. Open King Mackerel Tournament

Thank You for Your Continued Support

To those who have already contributed, we thank you for your compassion and commitment. To those who are considering ways to help, we encourage you to reach out and find out how you can make a difference.

Together, we will continue to rebuild and recover—one step at a time. And as we move through this season of thankfulness, Rotary District 7670 is reminded of the

power of community, service, and the enduring spirit of generosity that can help us overcome even the greatest challenges.

For more information on how you can help, or if you are aware of additional needs in the community, please contact Rotary District 7670 or reach out to local Rotary clubs.

Thank you again to all who have supported the recovery efforts. We are grateful for your kindness, your time, and your unwavering dedication to helping those in need.

Denver/Lake Norman Rotary Club donates \$30,000 to District 7670 Matching Grant for Disaster Relief

By Andie R Taylor on Tuesday, November 19, 2024



After the devastation of much of our beloved District 7670 in the wake of Hurricane Helene, many Rotarians asked what can we do to help alleviate the hurt of the devastation sustained? The members of the Denver/Lake Norman Rotary club felt compelled to take action. We couldn't just sit by while our brothers and sisters to our west were living through such a major catastrophe - a living hell as it were. The Denver/Lake Norman Rotary just happens to be the eastern most club in our

District. Although some in our area lost power and internet, we did not sustain damage remotely close to folks just 20 miles west of our area, let alone Asheville, Lake Lure, Burnsville etc... In recent weeks, an email came across about the District's matching grant, and it was discussed that this would be a great way for our club to help out as soon as possible and in meaningful ways.

Denver/Lake Norman Rotary has three entities that raise money under our banner, each with its own board. There is the Rotary Club, the Club's Local Foundation, and a 501(c)(3) called Denver Days which produces our Music in the Park summer concert series. All three of these boards met, and unanimously decided that each entity wanted to donate \$10,000 towards the matching grant from District 7670. Our Rotarians were waiting eagerly for the right opportunity to put the money to work in the worst affected areas, and thought NOW must be the right time. If not now, then when? In light of the suffering of so many right here in our home state, there was no better time to act. It was our Rotarians' pleasure to donate \$30,000 to the Rotary District 7670 Disaster Relief Fund, and we know if we were in a similar position our friends across the western side of the state would do the same for us.

There is and will continue to be needs in the recovery efforts post-Helene. We hope to see more articles around our District in the future where funds are donated by others and volunteer projects are displayed. Every contribution helps! Rotarians are People of Action! Together we can show the world how this incredible organization wants nothing in return for embodying our motto of "Service Above Self".

Bless all of you who were deeply affected by Helene. Our hearts are and will continue to be with you!

The Denver/Lake Norman Rotary Club

Rotary Clubs Unite to Build Storage Shed for Marshall Fire Department

By Connie M. Molland

Being familiar with the aftermath of a hurricane, the Rotary Club of Hilton Head / District 7770 jumped in to help our District with several deliveries of supplies, generators, heaters, power washers, shop vacs, etc. But then they set their sights much higher when they realized



that the Marshall Fire Department had lost their facility in the floods. HH Club Member Ron Farsetti (aka Vito) worked with the Marshall Fire Chief, Regina Rice to identify their biggest need, which was a way to store their supplies. Ron had experience constructing large storage sheds and ordered up the materials. On Monday, November 4th, Ron arrived at the temporary Fire Department location and Rotary Club of Madison County members joined the volunteer fire department personnel to unload the truck -

some 8,000 pounds of materials! Over the next several days, Rotarians constructed a 24'x12' storage shed for the Marshall Fire Department. Fire Chief Regina - who is operating their fire department out of a tent - had been worried about all the items that had been stored under tarps. As soon as the shed was built, her team began moving items into the shed to keep them out of the weather. The storage shed was built such that it will be able to be moved once the Marshall Fire Department is back in their facility in Downtown Marshall.



A Successful Workday at Pine Hall/Chestnut Hall in Hot Springs

By Guy Gooder

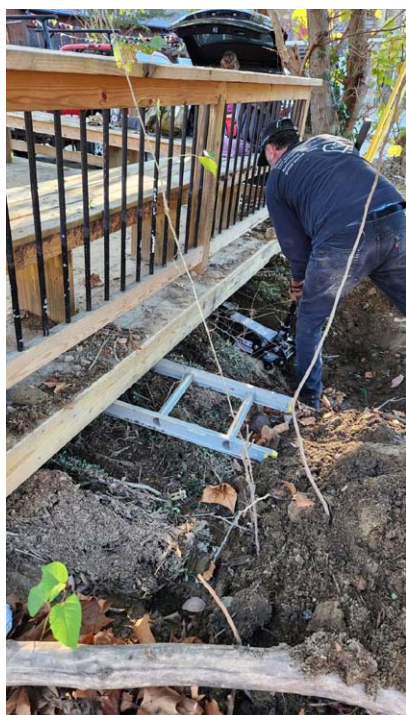


A huge thank you to the Brevard High School Interact Club, Mars Hill College Rotaract, and the dedicated volunteers from Southern Dharma Retreat for their incredible hard work at the Pine Hall/Chestnut Hall Hot Springs workday! Thanks to your service, the flooring has been successfully reinstalled, and the riverwalk area

now looks amazing. Your efforts have made a real difference, bringing the Hot Springs community one step closer to full recovery. Your commitment to "service above self" is truly inspiring, and we are grateful for your support in this important project!

Join us for the next Rotary Workday at the Hot Springs Welcome Center and Pine Hall on **Saturday, November 23rd**, from **10 AM to 4 PM**. Volunteers will be helping to install new insulation and drywall at the Welcome Center, a key step in its restoration. Additional tasks include finishing the move of the deck at Pine Hall and rebuilding a ramp for improved access. At Chestnut Hall, volunteers will be working on the lower level, removing screws and preparing for the installation of wall materials.

For more information or to volunteer, please contact **Guy Gooder** at gooderfranklin@gmail.com or **828-421-4845**. We hope to see you there!





Rotary Club of Asheville Responds to Hurricane Helene Crisis with Heater Donations (story corrected)

By David Mans

District 7670 was awarded a \$25,000 Disaster Relief Grant to support those affected by Hurricane Helene. With these funds, the District purchased 212 electric heaters and 100 propane tanks to help keep victims warm as temperatures drop. The items were shipped to Beloved Asheville on October 29, 2024, where Rotarians assisted with unloading. By the time of this publication, most, if not all, of the 212 heaters had been distributed to families in need.

Rotarians delivered the heaters and tanks to key locations including the Yancey County Sheriff's Office, Asheville City Schools, La Milpa in the Emma Community, and the McDowell County Emergency Operations Center.

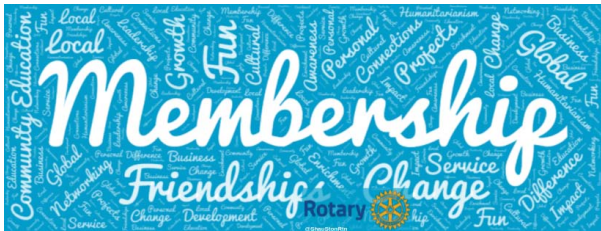
As the demand for heaters remains high, District 7670 is in the process of applying for another \$25,000 grant to purchase additional heaters. If you are aware of any specific needs for heaters or other supplies, please contact Alex (Alpo) Portelli at colalpo@gmail.com or Dave Mans at davidmans@mans-law.com.





The Importance and Blessing of Rotary Membership During Times of Crisis

By Julie P. West

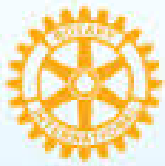


In times of crisis, Rotary membership becomes not just a title, but a powerful tool for service and support. The Rotary motto, "Service Above Self," takes on new meaning when communities are facing hardship. Whether it's responding to natural disasters, providing aid in the aftermath of a tragedy, or supporting those in need, Rotary members step up with unwavering dedication to make a difference.

The blessing of being part of Rotary is the ability to mobilize quickly, draw from a global network of like-minded individuals, and offer both physical and emotional support to those who need it most. From providing supplies to volunteering time and expertise, Rotary members have an immediate and tangible impact on recovery efforts. In these moments, the bonds of membership create a sense of purpose and connection, reminding us that we are never alone in facing the challenges ahead.

Rotary's commitment to "Service Above Self" is a blessing, not just for those receiving help, but for the members who find fulfillment in serving others, especially when their communities need them most.

Rotary Four Way Test



The 4-Way Test

of things we do and say:

1. Is it the **TRUTH**?
2. Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
3. Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
4. Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

Account Leaders



Margaret Fenton Lebeck
District Peace Ambassador



Sarah J McGuire
District RLI Chair



Connie M. Molland
District Governor



Richard Molland
Chief of Staff



Sean Gibson
iPDG



Alex R Portelli
DG-Elect



Paige Carroll Scott
DG-Nominee



Tammy Mosteller
District Membership Chair



Kenneth A. Shull
District Rotary Foundation Chair



Julie P. West
District Public Image/PR Chair



Jennifer L. Wilcox
District Empowering Girls Advocate



Michael Lanzilotta
District DEI Chair



Andie R Taylor
District CART Chair



Cynthia K. Ireland
District Polio Plus Chair



Karolyn W. Killian
District Conference Chair



Kathy P Scott
Rotaract Chair



James A. Cruickshank
District Finance Chair



Michael Stevenson
Youth Services Chair



Laura J Phipps
Youth Protection Officer



James O. Perry
District Treasurer



John F. Baumrucker
International Services Chair

Frankie L Adkins

Billi J. Black



Youth Exchange
Chair



DCO-District
Comm. Officer