



The History of  
**District 7280**  
of  
Rotary International<sup>a</sup>

January 2007

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<sup>a</sup> Rotary is a worldwide organization of business and professional leaders that provides humanitarian service, encourages high ethical standards in all vocations, and helps build goodwill and peace in the world. Approximately 1.2 million Rotarians belong to more than 32,000 clubs in more than 200 countries and geographical areas. The clubs are organized into about 580 districts.

Dear Reader:

To mark the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of Rotary International's founder, Paul Harris, then DG Robert J. Lawton (1996-97, New Castle) asked PDG Charles M. Waltenbaugh (1970-71, Meadville) to write a history of District 7280. PDG Chuck not only compiled a short narrative about the district, but also collected histories from a number of the clubs in the district.

Later, in preparation for the celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of Rotary International, then DG Mary "Skip" Sample (2003-04, Grove City) asked me to update the history compiled by PDG Chuck and to create a display for the 2004 district conference.

In this notebook, you will find a reprint of PDG Chuck's historical compilation; descriptions and charts detailing such topics as district governors, district annual projects, Group Study Exchange teams, Ambassadorial Scholars, and district conferences; a section of pictures; and a reduced, close reproduction of the centennial timeline displayed at the 2004 district conference. Although this notebook is light on narrative, all the printed material has been copied to a CD so that the project descriptions and charts can be embellished if desired, corrected if needed, and reprinted whenever a district historian or governor wishes. With a concerted effort to add to these descriptions and charts in future years, the history of District 7280 will always be up-to-date for interested Rotarians.

Much more work could be put into making this history complete. One chart that could be developed a great deal more, for example, is the list of the district annual projects. Some of the longer running or more substantial projects have been described as part of PDG Chuck's work. Other Rotarians may want to chime in and contribute more details to enhance the record of annual projects. Another example of descriptions that could be added is a list summarizing the kinds of activities and tours we have offered the Group Study Exchange teams who have visited our district. As another example, one glance at the district budget chart, and one can see that work is needed to collect and present more data there.

A great deal of thanks goes to Marcia McNees, widow of PDG John "Jack" McNees (1962-63, Kittanning), for her contribution of years of Rotary-related files that she had meticulously maintained. Thanks also go to four Rotarians from the Grove City club who helped read through past district governor monthly letters to glean tidbits of interest and confirm names and dates: Howard Seamens, Mike Cunningham, Bill Matesich, and, in particular, John Moser.

Respectfully submitted 27 January 2007,

Diane W. Lacey  
District Historian, 2003-06  
Member, Rotary Club of Grove City

## Order of Presentation

1. Motivation Found in Various Governors' Monthly Letters
2. "Honoring Legacy of Service," a reprint of the 27 January 1997 compilation of District 7280 history by PDG Charles M. "Chuck" Waltenbaugh (1970-71, Meadville)
3. Charts
  - a. Club Charters
  - b. District Governors
  - c. District Annual Projects
  - d. Youth Leadership Programs
  - e. Youth Exchange
  - f. Rotary Foundation Scholars
  - g. Rotary Foundation Service Awards
  - h. Group Study Exchange
  - i. Rotary Foundation and Fellowship Events
  - j. Golf Challenges and Exchanges
  - k. Women in Rotary
  - l. District Connections to RI Presidents
  - m. District Conferences
  - n. District Budgets
  - o. Insurance and Taxes
4. Miscellaneous pictures (Not on Website)
5. Close reproduction of centennial timeline displayed at the 2004 district conference (Not on Website)

***Editor's Note:*** Readers should be familiar with the following abbreviations, which may be used in this history without further explanation:

<i>DG or D.G.</i>	<i>district governor</i>
<i>PDG or P.D.G.</i>	<i>past district governor</i>
<i>DGE or D.G.E.</i>	<i>district governor-elect</i>
<i>DGN or D.G.N.</i>	<i>district governor nominee</i>