

I'd like to begin by welcoming Assistant Governor Amir Kahn Today.

Welcome Keith Armington.

Get Club members names from Keith or Jane

Thank you, club members of TT, for providing me the opportunity to advance our club in its 31st year of its existence. I pledge my best to continue its reputation as a club known for its spirit and its impact internationally, and in District 7620.

For those of you who are relatively new to Rotary it is important to remember that the president's job is to coordinate and lead, but the president has no more authority, than any other member of the club.

The governing body is the board, not the president. Therefore, my job is to understand what the members want to do, and to provide them with my recommendations of what would be in the best interest of the club, but not to dictate direction, because this club is no more my club, than your club.

This morning I will put my work plan forward, that I will request your input on, and ask the board to bless it, or modify it, as they see fit at the July board meeting. Then I will report back to you at the Club Assembly meeting in July the actions the board took re: the work plan.

But before I share that work plan with you, it is important for us to remember what Rotary is all about: that Mankind is our business, we are agents of change and every Rotarian is dedicated to doing Good, together.

And being dedicated to doing things together, refers to aligning what we do on the club level is aligned with Rotary International

and with district 7620. Because the more we do together, the greater our impact, and the greater our impact, the more effective we are, at advancing peace and justice in the world.

Peace and Justice is why we meet regularly. this is our purpose! This is what Mankind is our business means! So, peace means more than the absence of war!

Peace starts in the home! It comes from justice for all, and equal opportunity.

It comes from safety and security! Advancing education. The prevention of disease! The wellbeing of women and children. And protection of the environment that assures clean water, clean air and the ability to earn enough money to support a family. This is why these causes are supported by the Rotary Foundation we give to each year:

Peace

Fighting Disease

Providing Clean Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Saving Mothers and Children

Supporting Education

Growing local economies

And Protection of the Environment

As Rotarians we do not subscribe to the assumption of scarcity, i.e., that there is never enough money, time and members. We believe in the assumption of abundance, that there is always enough money, time and members if you seek it and associate yourself with those who believe they can, rather than those who believe they cannot.

At this time I would like to introduce you to the partners of carrying out this work Plan our Board of Directors and I'd like them to come forward as I call their names.

First I'd Like to call on

Jenette Young who will serve as our Past President & President of the Towson Towne foundation board.

Kunle Onalaja will serve as President Elect (*Pin Kunle*),

Jane Brewer will continue as Club Treasurer

Sharon Bregel as Club Secretary

Rob Ketron as Sargent of Arms and RI Foundation Chair

Ann Marie Ketron Club Service Chair

Ann Saar as Program Chair

George Brown - as Community Service Chair

Mahmood Far az daghi as International chair

Suzanne Pearce as Membership Coordinator

Installation

I would like you all to keep in mind that no one role is more important than another. Every member of the board, must work together for the best interest of the club to move closer to its agreed upon goals, and to assure honesty, and integrity, by following the 4 way test.

Each member was selected for their diverse perspectives. Their main role is to perform the duties of strategic planning and oversight. While these terms are used often, it's important not to

diminish these duties, as they are the backbone of club success and become realized when fellow board directors are willing to ask tough, and probing questions, to vet all sides of an issue. Board directors need to be well-informed and fully engaged with all major issues that affect the Club. Board directors must be willing to act quickly, and responsibly, when they need to take action, to comply with a crisis that may occur at any time. The board is also tasked with assuring alignment amongst the objectives of RI, the district and the club's goals and objectives.

Do each of you swear allegiance to carrying out these duties and expectations. If so, please respond by saying I do.

With that you are formally installed as the board of directors of TT Rotary for the 22-23 Rotary year and Let's applaud them for their willingness to serve as they return to their seats.

The work Plan for the year is as follows;

Assure Goals of RI, District and Club are in Alignment.

1. Our RI President, Jennifer Jones, has tasked all of us to advance diversity, Equity and an inclusivity in Club Culture. And she has provided us with several reminders for us to keep this in mind.

One is the color of her banner:

BANNER

the colors of women suffrage for the first woman President of Rotary.

Notice it sports colors of white, green, purple and gold_
White; for the white dresses and purity of cause

Purple: for steadfast loyalty to the cause

Green: for hope- the emblem of spring

Gold: for the Missouri sunflower and the gold flame that lights the way

Another aid she has provided is this hat:

The Circle represents the North Star and the direction of our objective for the year. Diversity, Inclusion and Equity.

The dots around the circle represent her goal of expanding membership in each of the 35,000 clubs across the world. And the words, Imagine Rotary, represent the key to expanding membership by removing club structure practices that limit

Participation.

The green line represents the digging stick of Australia where she expects every club to gather and dig up enough interest and money to get there for the international convention. We expect to send President elect Kunle.

The third memory aid, is President Jones' pin which I have placed at each of your plates to remind you of our objectives this year. (put **one at each place**)

All of the subsequent mentioned action steps will be reviewed by committee, have input of club membership, and be voted on by the board of directors before becoming our operational direction for the year. The First part of the work plan has to do with Andy, Kunle, & Jenette *working closely on assuring club alignment with RI, the district, my initiatives and the initiatives established by Jenette to help assure continuity of efforts.*

Goal 1 of the work plan Advance Diversity Equity and Inclusion in every club:

The Actions to determine Success in achieving the goal are:

- **Revising the club Bylaws** to assure equity and inclusion in how we operate. Rob Ketron, Ann Saar, Andy Ross and Kunle Onalaja will serve as the committee to revise the by-laws to assure they are up to date with how we operate and consistent with President Jones goals of inclusive language that eliminates emphasis of the male gender and barriers to joining clubs due to inflexible membership models and lack of meeting time flexibility.
- **Engage club in discussion of the impact of prayer on inclusivity and welcomeness in club meetings and events** so club members can take an informed position on this issue. Keep in mind this objective is aligned with a committee that will be established by District

7620 for this purpose as well. This effort will be led by Andy Ross

- Continue to assure opportunity for club fellowship - This effort will be led by Stephanie Bigwood.
- Continue to deploy systems that assure deadlines for District Grants, dues payments, submission of reports, training etc. are maintained so deadlines are met in a timely way. (Kunle will take over responsibility of making the monthly role of task assignment list and share it with Sharon to send out as a reminder to club members of their weekly responsibilities and I will work with Ann Saar to calendarize our deadlines as reminders.)
- Assure welcome environment by having **every member give a classification talk, not just new members**, so every member is aware of how talented each member of this club is. Remember how much we learned about even long time members by hearing their talks - Deborah, Ann Marie, Ed, Jenette, etc. (Ann Saar will schedule these)

Goal 2: Expansion of club membership.

Keep in mind, membership drives everything in Rotary - enthusiasm, how high club dues are, Club network, club impact, club visibility, volunteer capacity so it will be the primary objective of the year.

The strategy for expanding membership, is to Create a constant stream of representatives from business and other

professions, and club members family, friends and neighbors being invited to meetings and events to experience Rotary in action.

The Actions to determine Success in achieving the goal are:

- **Send out invites to businesses in Towson, Lutherville & Timonium Owners/executives to informational events.** (Membership committee: Suzanne Pearce, Ann Marie Ketron, Ed Podowski, Chester Hobbs and Andy Ross)
- **Conduct Classification/profession gap analysis** from securing a list of local businesses and professions from the chamber of commerce and identify businesses and professions that ought to have someone in Rotary. Then present the list at a club assembly and ask which members know them and how best to invite them that is as a speaker, attend mtg. participate in activity, etc. (Membership committee)
- ~~**Assign members to visit businesses to share Rotary with owner/manager to determine their interest or one of their up and coming leaders to belong to Rotary (membership Committee).**~~
- **Assign members to attend Towson Chamber meetings** to get to know members and align our projects with the community's strategic plan. (membership committee)

- **Identify business owners/ executives and professionals to speak to club** and be exposed to a Rotary mtg. And explore membership with those we are interested in being members. (Membership Committee and Ann Saar)

- President Jones Imagine Rotary being more accessible through **flexible membership models and meeting formats**: We can help achieve these ends by:

Moving meeting to the Towson Y (Ann Marie, Amy Gantz-Cheatham and Chintha are working on this.)

Establish one evening meeting per month (Ann Saar)

Visit companies to share Rotary as an opportunity for their management. (Andy recruits interested club members to do this.)

- Retain members through **fellowship activities** and assuring each member has a meaningful role in the club (Stephanie Bigwood and Andy Ross)
- Identify 3rd service projects we become known for in the community to better promote our visibility in the community. (Patty Haw, Jenette Young, Deb Regeura, George Brown)
- **Explore satellite relationship or merger of Hunt Valley Club** with Towsontowne Club

A preliminary discussion we had last week with HV Pres. Armington, District Reps AG Kahn, and Gov Elect Harding revealed HV is strong in areas we are not, i.e.,

vocational lane - 4 way test, Interact Club relationship, warm coats project, lunch club tradition, Garden?

Our strengths bolster Hunt Valley by having a growing club membership, a strong speakers and international program, that our initial joint club social event at Valley Inn generated a lot of positive energy and we have a mutual interest in supporting the NCR trail. Therefore, we decided to get to know more about one another's clubs through direct contact and mutual meeting attendance to explore if our cultures and interests over the next 3 months would best result in HV becoming a Satellite Club of TT, merge with us or remain as we are, i.e. 2 separate clubs. (Andy, Kunle and Jenette)

- **Establish a Club Business** to generate income for our foundation as an alternative to a fundraiser (Entrepreneurs and creative thinkers) Volkssport Walking Club as a business to prevent disease and support protection of environment and attract Rotary prospects (Andy & anyone who is interested in volunteering)

Goal 3: Increase visibility of TT Rotary in the community, the district, on the web and in social media:

Actions to determine Success of achieving goal:

- Install h membership committee)
- Select a club photographer for each meeting and event to assure pictures for website. - **Kunle Assigns for meetings and for events.**

- **Jenette, Andy & Kunle Meet with Ed** to monitor website progress monthly and report to board of directors on the analytics.
- **Use District Membership Recruitment resources to grow membership - Suzanne and Andy**
- **Organize fellowship activities with other Baltimore area clubs** to get to know their members. - Stephanie Bigwood.
- **Track our progress on achieving district goals:**
 Leadership development participation, Rotary Fellowship, foundation (Annual Fund, Polio plus, Paul Harris) media stories about club projects, district training participation, attendance at district conference, international conference

I will close my remarks with the question we pose to every visitor to our new website. Do you identify with the Ghost of Jacob Marley? That question is the litmus test for every new member we bring to the club?

For those of you who don't remember who Jacob Marley is, you don't remember because mentioning who he is the week of July 4th wouldn't normally trigger your memory.

It won't trigger your memory because you think of Marley at Christmas. For he was Scrooges business partner in Charles Dicken's A Christmas Carrol.

And while Scrooge was sleeping, the first ghost to visit him, was his business partner Jacob Marley.

And Marley presents himself to Scrooge fettered in chains. When Scrooge sees him he says: “Jacob why are you fettered?” I wear the chains I forged in life! Scrooge replied, But Jacob you were always a good man of business! And Marley responded: Business! Mankind was my business. The common welfare was my business; charity, mercy, forbearance, and benevolence were my business. The dealings of my trade were but a drop of water in the comprehensive ocean of my business!”

The one thing I’m sure of in life is that every person in this room agrees with Marley.

I say that because Your purpose, matches my purpose, and our purpose aligns with the purpose of Rotary to do what we can, to make a difference in:

Gun Violence in Baltimore at Roberta’s house,

To seek out those who are looking for a place to give their purpose in life expression through Rotary,

To fulfill our promise to make those park rangers proud by the end of October to have one of the first bike trails equipped with bike fix it stations from the beginning to the end of its trail,

To establish a club business to generate money to support community projects,

To conclude our project with the Rotary Club in India to provide the funds to plant 400,000 fruit trees so our brothers

and sisters in that part of the world can grow a crop that will better sustain their families

We will continue our efforts to move ahead on the Bombay North Club Collaboration and the Mumbai Pediatric Hospital for that \$142,000 grant to assure hospital care for kids

And we will also continue our efforts to bring closure on the \$135,000 grant to equip the Sandhani Eye bank in Dhaka

We will follow through on our plan to organize a shoe drive to help soles for souls provide the materials they need to establish micro-businesses in developing countries.,

And to do our part to carry out Ri's first woman president's efforts to expand Rotary and move it closer to its objectives of diversity, equity, and inclusivity.

Let's give again to end Polio in the last 2 country's that have it, Pakistan and Afghanistan, and support the District's efforts to grow the Rotary International Foundation

And by doing so we will demonstrate to the community, the world and ourselves Rotary makes a difference and have fun doing it.