

Governor's  
MONTHLY  
LETTER 2020

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Rotary  
District 2750



Rotary Opens Opportunities  
ロータリーは機会の扉を開く

# August 2020



## Governor's Message

Rotary International  
District 2750 2020-21 Governor

**Yuichi Fukuhara**

**“If you want to know about something, hark to the source.”**

Please allow me to first express my deepest condolences to the people who recently lost their lives due to the flood and landslide disasters caused by record-breaking torrential rains, as well as my sympathies to anyone who was otherwise affected by those disasters. There remains no end in sight for the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). We have no visibility on The Official Visits that are scheduled to commence in September. I am not even sure if my own presence in those visits will be through Zoom or perhaps as a participant in a hybrid meeting. Be that as it may, I believe that gathering together is the foundation of Rotary, and wish to see you all face to face provided that it is possible. Although The Pacific Basin Group Official Visit that was originally scheduled for July has already been delayed, I hope to make that visit next Spring. Also, while August is “Membership and New Club Development Month,” our goal from Past District Governor Sawatari’s term three years ago, that of making our female membership at least 20% in our district, has yet to be achieved. The contributions of women are what underpin diversity. Please make that goal a reality during my year as District Governor.

While the situation at the moment does not permit scheduling to go how we would like it to, since assuming the post of District Governor, I have given thought to the shape that Rotary will take going forward. What prompted me to do so is the news that the number of people infected with COVID-19 and the accompanying

mortality rate is overwhelmingly lower in the East Asia than it is in Western countries. Some theories that have been postulated as to why are the effectiveness of the BCG vaccine against tuberculosis, differences in lifestyle and, more recently, mysteries whose answer lies in genetics. I, for one, have the impression that the reasons are found in differences between Asian-type “Gemeinschafts” (communal organizations) and Western-type “Gesellschafts” (associational organizations/profit-oriented societies) and differences in the philosophies and religions behind those concepts.

The title of this message indicates the frame of mind of haiku master Matsuo Basho when he penned his works. He instructed his disciples to hark to the source of the subject of their works while discarding themselves (the self) and merging with nature instead. As haikus illustrate, East Asian ways of thinking are founded in insentience, or the act of leaving the self behind. Conversely, in Western countries, schools of thought by numerous noted philosophers such as Kant, Hegel, Schopenhauer and Sartre begin with an affirmation of “the existence of the self,” or, to borrow Descartes’ immortal phrase, “I think, therefore I am.” In the West, there is one truth, as well as one god. A characteristic of East Asian thinking is its diversity, with multiple religions and philosophies that include Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism and Japanese Shintoism present. Our everyday world is founded on coexistence.

It could be said that globalization as it exists today is the final destination of capitalism as expanded over time principally by the United States. While globalism has certainly propped up the development of economies, we now seem to be entering a phase of reflection on its shortcomings. In New York, where COVID-19 spread considerably, the rich fled the state. Meanwhile, in Asia, the communal mentality of “keeping yourself from getting infected and from infecting others” is working to safeguard communities in the region. Back in 1905, Paul Harris founded the Rotary Club as a communal organization in Chicago based on the danger he perceived at the state of America at the time. I can see why that organization has taken root across Asia today. As the world experiences turmoil, the value of the Rotary Club appears to be growing more and more over time.

# District 2750 Membership Attendance Report May 2020

Club Name	Regular meeting	Attendance percentage	Member quantity			Club Name	Regular meeting	Attendance percentage	Member quantity		
			July 1, 2019	End of June 2020	Variations				July 1, 2019	End of June 2020	Variations
<b>Chiyoda Group</b>						<b>Yamanote West Group</b>					
Rotary Club of Tokyo-South	0		189	185	-4	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Jiyugaoka	2	73.95	15	16	1
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Shiba	4	70.52	50	56	6	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Setagaya Central	3	82.50	16	0	-16
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Shimbashi	3	68.21	62	56	-6	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Yoneyama Yuai	2	65.00	34	35	1
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Akasaka	0		48	45	-3	Rotary E-Club of District 2750, Tokyo Yoneyama	1	95.00	32	34	2
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Minato	4	72.30	38	32	-6	Rotary Club of Tokyo Daikanyama	2	52.00	21	28	7
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Azabu	2	56.25	13	15	2	<b>Tama South Group</b>					
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Global	1	57.89	21	20	-1	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Hachioji	4	71.79	67	63	-4
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Sunrise Shiodome	3	57.90	21	16	-5	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Machida	4	66.80	56	56	0
<b>Ginza/Nihonbashi Group</b>						Rotary Club of Tokyo-Hino	2	81.43	34	32	-2
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Ginza	1	78.36	184	180	-4	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Hachioji West	4	90.58	106	111	5
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Nihonbashi	0		202	204	2	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Machida-Naka	4	83.27	27	28	1
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Tsukiji	1	82.28	72	69	-3	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Hachioji East	4	98.40	27	32	5
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Nihonbashi East	2	100.00	47	41	-6	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Hachioji South	4	100.00	76	78	2
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Chuo	3	60.27	211	203	-8	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Machida-Salvia	4	75.76	30	35	5
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Nihonbashi West	2	87.21	42	45	3	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Tobihino	4	84.70	21	22	1
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Ginza New	3	59.69	74	79	5	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Machida East	2	83.34	29	30	1
Rotary Club of Tokyo-City Nihonbashi	2	70.50	41	38	-3	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Hachioji North	3	96.66	39	43	4
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Chuo Shin	3	60.90	58	56	-2	<b>Tama Middle Group</b>					
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Akebono	3	71.10	21	20	-1	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Tachikawa	3	100.00	114	119	5
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Sanno	2	68.18	34	36	2	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Koganei	2	75.00	37	38	1
<b>Keihin Group</b>						Rotary Club of Tokyo-Kokubunji	2	90.52	34	32	-2
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Haneda	0		55	55	0	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Mitaka	3	73.50	44	42	-2
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Shinagawa	2	82.36	47	41	-6	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Akishima	4	75.72	54	55	1
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Omori	3	88.29	41	35	-6	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Kunitachi	2	100.00	49	47	-2
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Shinagawa Chuo	0		31	30	-1	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Tachikawa Kobushi	0		91	87	-4
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Denenchofu	2	81.42	48	48	0	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Inokashira	4	100.00	26	23	-3
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Konan Marine	2	69.44	20	18	-2	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Akishima Chuo	4	74.20	49	47	-2
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Osaki	3	77.64	29	24	-5	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Musashi Kokubunji	3	89.00	36	42	6
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Kamata	3	94.50	60	59	-1	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Koganei-Sakura	2	80.00	23	25	2
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Keihin	0		26	26	0	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Kunitachi Shiroume	3	90.40	16	17	1
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Denenchofu Midori	2	79.74	21	18	-3	Rotary E-Club of Tokyo Peace Wing	4	50.00	24	25	1
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Shirokane	3	81.30	32	25	-7	<b>Tama East Group</b>					
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Takanawa	1	78.26	22	23	1	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Fuchu	0		58	55	-3
<b>Yamanote East Group</b>						Rotary Club of Tokyo-Chofu	3	75.00	64	64	0
Rotary Club of Tokyo-West	1	77.01	193	197	4	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Tama	3	70.63	24	20	-4
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Josai	4	59.51	71	67	-4	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Komae	3	77.58	15	14	-1
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Seinan	4	67.80	52	50	-2	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Inagi	3	74.64	30	29	-1
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Harajuku	4	65.28	21	17	-4	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Musashi Fuchu	4	83.99	42	39	-3
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Suginami	2	69.45	40	41	1	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Tamagawa	2	73.20	21	21	0
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Jingu	3	93.60	27	24	-3	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Tama Green	1	75.86	29	29	0
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Ebisu	3	100.00	120	117	-3	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Chofu Murasaki	3	100.00	69	71	2
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Hiroo	3	62.96	28	24	-4	Rotary Club of Tokyo i City	2	75.00	17	18	1
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Shibuya	1	81.94	34	35	1	<b>Pacific Basin Group</b>					
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Roppongi	3	100.00	52	53	1	Rotary Club of Guam			61	55	-6
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Atago	5	84.20	30	31	1	Rotary Club of Saipan			39	42	3
<b>Yamanote West Group</b>						Rotary Club of Tumon Bay			61	62	1
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Setagaya	1	93.33	47	44	-3	Rotary Club of Northern Guam	0		35	32	-3
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Meguro	2	100.00	37	33	-4	Rotary Club of Pohnpei			23	23	0
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Seijo	3	75.00	16	17	1	Rotary Club of Palau			16	16	0
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Setagaya South	2	100.00	100	97	-3	Rotary Club of Guam Sunrise	4	56.00	17	16	-1
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Jonan	2	67.65	20	13	-7	Rotary Club of Truk Lagoon			8	8	0
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Yamanote	1	84.29	71	70	-1	Rotary Club of Pago Bay Guam E			13	13	0
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Seijo Shin	4	80.40	31	31	0	<b>Total in Japan - 89</b>			4,469	4,377	-92
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Aoyama	1	72.60	23	16	-7	<b>Total in 2750 dis. - 98</b>			4,742	4,644	-98

: Annual average attendance rate