

# Governor's MONTHLY LETTER 2020

# 11

## Rotary District 2750



Rotary Opens Opportunities

ロータリーは機会の扉を開く

# November 2020



## Governor's Message

Rotary International  
District 2750 2020-21 Governor

**Yuichi Fukuhara**

**“Heaven helps those  
who help themselves.”**

We have entered the month of November, which marks the fifth month since I assumed the post of District Governor. Only one-fourth of The Official Visits that commenced at the end of September remain. Although I had eagerly awaited this challenge, I never expected it to be this busy. As I was writing the Governor's Message for this month, a new Japanese Prime Minister was born in the form of Yoshihide Suga, and the image of Japan's future to come was announced as “self-help, mutual help, public help and bonds.” I imagine the reason that “help” is such a central theme is because we are in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. Feeling like I had heard “self-help and public help” together somewhere, I looked them up on the Internet. I then discovered that they have been the philosophy behind social security in Japan since around the 1950s. As for “mutual help,” such a system based on mutualism was in place for residents to help each other out since the Kamakura period of Japanese history.

The title of this month's message, “Heaven helps those who help themselves,” comes from an old Latin saying. It became known throughout the world by virtue of being featured in an Aesop's Fable. What it means is that heaven brings aid and happiness to people who endeavor on their own without depending on others. Not unexpectedly, “self-help,” or helping oneself, is a prerequisite for receiving mutual and public help.

That being said, this month is Rotary Foundation Month, which is for “mutual help.” The motto of the Rotary Foundation is “Doing Good in the World.” To that end, we have laid out concrete activity goals in seven areas of focus. While there had been six such areas up to now, “supporting the environment” recently joined them as the seventh. I have touched upon the issue of the environment upon each Official Visit of mine, but looking at recent phenomena such as torrential rain, massive typhoons and forest fires in Florida and the Amazon, it is safe to say that

the preservation of the global environment is a challenge faced by all mankind.

Listed in the order of the amount of grants bestowed by the Rotary Foundation from highest to lowest, the other six areas of focus are: (1) disease prevention and treatment, (2) water, sanitation and hygiene, (3) basic education and literacy, (4) community economic development, (5) maternal and child health and (6) peacebuilding and conflict prevention. While these all constitute separate areas of focus, in the end, they all connect to form a unified whole. That connection represents the realization of “a world in which people can move beyond differences in their race, religion, ethnicity, culture and political views to live in peace and good health.”

There are a number of countries in the world that are sustaining a good portion of their welfare with your contributions. For some people, self-help is just not enough. There are women and children who are caught up in conflicts that occur due to rivalries between ethnicities or differences in religion, and those who suffer from poverty and disease. While journalists have covered the situation of such people on the ground, it is us Rotarians who have lent those people a helping hand. Given that it is beyond our capacity to engage in service activities on the ground, I feel that there is no shame in taking the position that financial contributions are an important activity as well. After all, as past District Governor Sakuma used to say, “Financial contributions are the second form taken by service activities.”

Around the year 670 A.D., there was a monk who went by the name of Gyoki. He is considered to be the chief figure responsible for the erecting of the Great Buddha in Nara. In addition to that statue, Gyoki also organized so-called “Gyoki groups” that established dojos and temples where common folk could congregate to help each other out, precious reservoirs for agriculture, bridges, and huts for the needy in several dozen locations. In this way, Gyoki played an immense role in social activities at a time when the concept of welfare was unheard of in local government. Naturally, he did so on a volunteer basis. It is said that those activities were entirely financed by the donations that Gyoki solicited. His blood flows through our DNA. I ask that you awaken that DNA and do your part for the Annual Fund (under which contributions to a specific area of focus, such as “water, sanitation and hygiene,” can be made), the Endowment Foundation, and the PolioPlus Foundation. Contributing in this regard is an example of a service activity that we can pursue here today.

Allow me to conclude by reminding you that the staff of your district Rotary Foundation Committee is eager to dispense advice to Rotary Club members. Given that this month is Rotary Foundation Month, I see November as being a ripe opportunity for that. Please do not hesitate to ask the Committee for advice.

# District 2750 Membership Report September 2020

Club Name	Regular meeting	Member quantity			Club Name	Regular meeting	Member quantity		
		July 1, 2020	End of Sep. 2020	Variations			July 1, 2020	End of Sep. 2020	Variations
Chiyoda Group					Yamanote West Group				
Rotary Club of Tokyo-South	2	184	189	5	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Jiyugaoka	4	16	16	0
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Shiba	4	56	57	1	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Yoneyama Yuai	3	35	36	1
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Shimbashi	3	56	55	-1	Rotary E-Club of District 2750, Tokyo Yoneyama	2	34	34	0
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Akasaka	4	45	47	2	Rotary Club of Tokyo Daikanyama	2	28	28	0
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Minato	3	32	33	1	Tama South Group				
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Azabu	2	15	16	1	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Hachioji	4	63	64	1
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Global	3	20	20	0	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Machida	3	57	56	-1
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Sunrise Shiodome	3	16	17	1	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Hino	5	34	34	0
Ginza/Nihonbashi Group					Rotary Club of Tokyo-Hachioji West	3	111	109	-2
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Ginza	4	180	180	0	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Machida-Naka	2	28	28	0
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Nihonbashi	3	204	206	2	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Hachioji East	4	32	34	2
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Tsukiji	3	69	68	-1	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Hachioji South	5	78	78	0
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Nihonbashi East	3	41	42	1	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Machida-Salvia	4	35	35	0
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Chuo	3	203	207	4	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Tobihino	3	22	22	0
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Nihonbashi West	3	45	45	0	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Machida East	4	30	29	-1
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Ginza New	3	79	81	2	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Hachioji North	3	43	43	0
Rotary Club of Tokyo-City Nihonbashi	3	38	38	0	Tama Middle Group				
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Chuo Shin	3	56	61	5	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Tachikawa	4	119	122	3
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Akebono	3	20	20	0	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Koganei	4	38	37	-1
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Sanno		36	35	-1	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Kokubunji	4	32	33	1
Keihin Group					Rotary Club of Tokyo-Mitaka	2	42	40	-2
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Haneda	2	55	55	0	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Akishima	2	55	54	-1
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Shinagawa	4	41	42	1	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Kunitachi	3	47	47	0
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Omori	4	35	39	4	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Tachikawa Kobushi	4	87	89	2
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Shinagawa Chuo	4	30	30	0	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Inokashira	3	23	24	1
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Denenchofu	3	48	48	0	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Akishima Chuo	5	48	48	0
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Konan Marine	3	18	18	0	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Musashi Kokubunji	3	42	42	0
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Osaki	4	24	24	0	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Koganei-Sakura	4	25	25	0
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Kamata	3	59	64	5	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Kunitachi Shiroume	3	17	17	0
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Keihin	3	26	26	0	Rotary E-Club of Tokyo Peace Wing	4	23	23	0
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Denenchofu Midori	2	18	18	0	Tama East Group				
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Shirokane	3	24	28	4	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Fuchu	4	55	56	1
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Takanawa	2	23	22	-1	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Chofu	3	64	64	0
Yamanote East Group					Rotary Club of Tokyo-Tama	3	20	21	1
Rotary Club of Tokyo-West	3	197	197	0	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Komae	1	14	13	-1
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Josai	5	67	71	4	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Inagi	4	28	28	0
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Seinan	4	44	44	0	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Musashi Fuchu	4	39	36	-3
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Harajuku	4	17	16	-1	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Tamagawa	3	20	19	-1
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Suginami	4	41	40	-1	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Tama Green	0	29	29	0
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Jingu	5	24	24	0	Rotary Club of Tokyo-Chofu Murasaki	3	66	67	1
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Ebisu	4	117	117	0	Rotary Club of Tokyo i City	2	18	18	0
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Hiroo	3	24	24	0	Pacific Basin Group				
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Shibuya	2	35	37	2	Rotary Club of Guam	4	52	57	5
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Roppongi	3	53	53	0	Rotary Club of Saipan	5	40	42	2
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Atago	4	31	31	0	Rotary Club of Tumon Bay	2	59	59	0
Yamanote West Group					Rotary Club of Northern Guam	2	31	31	0
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Setagaya	4	44	45	1	Rotary Club of Pohnpei	3	18	19	1
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Meguro	4	33	34	1	Rotary Club of Palau	2	14	16	2
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Seijo	2	17	17	0	Rotary Club of Guam Sunrise	5	15	15	0
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Setagaya South	2	97	94	-3	Rotary Club of Truk Lagoon		8	8	0
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Jonan	3	13	16	3	Rotary Club of Pago Bay Guam E	2	23	25	2
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Yamanote	2	70	71	1	Total in Japan - 89		4,364	4,406	42
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Seijo Shin	4	31	31	0	Total in 2750 dis. - 98		4,624	4,678	54
Rotary Club of Tokyo-Aoyama	2	16	15	-1					