

## DLA Plan for March 2026:

### **Session 3 Class C: Small Clubs Forum – Small But Mighty!**

**What:** District 7390 Spring 2026 District Learning Assembly (DLA)

**Who:** D7390 Rotarians and Guests

**When:** March 14th, 2026, 7:30 AM – 12 PM

**Where:** Messiah College, Boyer Hall

**Why:** To grow in Rotary and make our clubs stronger

#### DLA Outcomes:

(1) Understand club level knowledge in the areas of membership, computer systems support, foundation, and legal issues.

(2) Dialogue with other Rotarians to exchange ideas and offer mutual support building a Rotarian network that fosters member passion, engagement, and output.

(3) Improve club and inter-club operations to strengthen Rotary in District 7390 and serve the south-central Pennsylvania communities.

#### Timeline:

- 7:00 Staff arrives, open rooms, set up
- 7:30 – 8:15 Registration and breakfast
- 8:15 – 8:25 Opening session in main room
- 8:25-8:30 Transition
- 8:30-9:20 Session 1
- 9:20 – 9:30 Break and transition
- 9:30-10:20 Session 2
- 10:20 – 10:30 Break and transition
- 10:30-11:20 Session 3
- 11:20 – 11:30 Break and transition

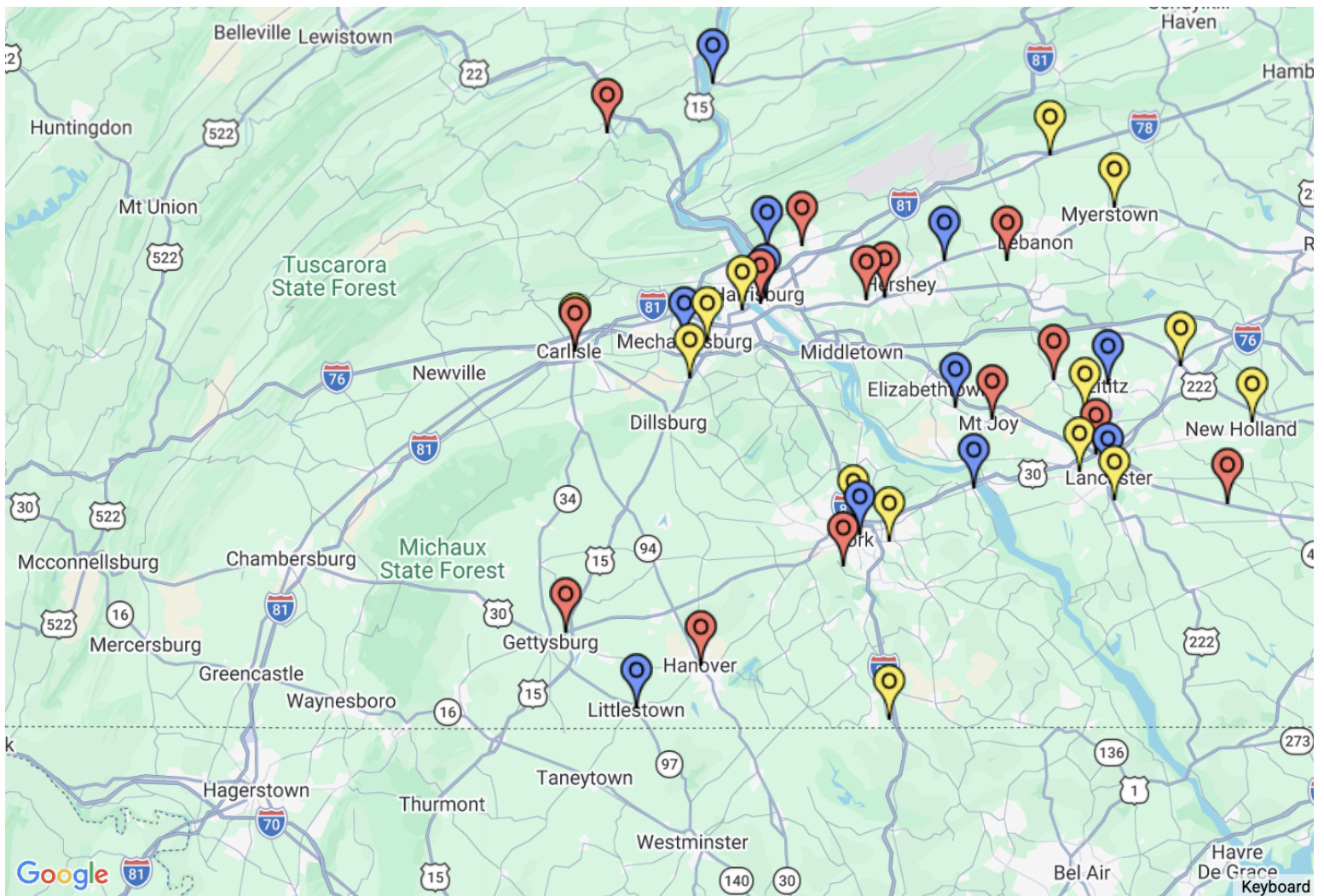


(Class Survey)

- 11:30 – 12 Summary discussion and closing

**Learning Committee Lead/Instructor:** Karen Anthony (D7390Passport)

Lesson Summary: *This class will explore the unique challenges and opportunities of the smaller Rotary clubs, those with less than 25 members. This will be a facilitated dialogue to explore the current situation in small clubs and develop opportunities for potential growth and effective service. Participation is open to any Rotarian with interest in understanding and supporting small clubs.*



📍 Morning   📍 Noon   📍 Evening   📍 Other

## Learning Objectives:

A. Understand the current situation of operating as a small club in South Central Pennsylvania.

### NOTES/FACTS: (Highlights indicates in attendance today)

- 18 out of 40 clubs are “Small”
  - D7390 Passport - 18
  - Eastern Lancaster County - 8
  - Eastern York County - 23
  - Hanover - 21
  - Lancaster Hempfield - 11
  - Lancaster Penn Square - 10
  - Littlestown - 11
  - Manheim - 8
  - Millersburg - 9
  - Northern Lebanon - 15
  - Palmyra - 21
  - Paradise - 18
  - Perry County - 20
  - Southern York County - 17
  - Susquehanna Township - 8
  - Yellow Breeches - 10
  - Uptown York - 24
  - West Shore - 17
- Are they geographically “Spread Out” or “Concentrated”?
- Some Specific/Unique Club Situations are.... Some clubs are hybrid (mix of in-person and on-line) allowing for traveling members/”snowbirds”, large portion of members are Charter

*Members with little growth since, and many provide Zoom/TEAMS opportunities, Passport Club membership covers entire district*

**B. Explore both Challenges and Opportunities of D7390 small clubs.**

	<u><b>OPPORTUNITIES</b></u>
	New/developed committees due to growth
	Annual gatherings like Christmas Dinners and Summer Picnics (restaurants and members' homes can hold small groups)
	Social Events and Fun Activities (easy to plan)
	Good turn-outs for major events
	"Snowbirds" can maintain membership, wide geographic opportunity to go to other Rotary events
	Expert Speakers can experience intimate settings and/or be shared with other small groups.
	Wealth of positives and can feel "big" when partnering with thriving industries and/or service projects.
	Incredible feeling of support from other small clubs

<b>CHALLENGES....and follow up conversational suggestions of ....</b>	... <b>“How to OverCome”</b>
Too much time spent “in the weeds” at meetings	Develop committees to sort “weedy” items and present only final info
Getting members to come to meetings and/or perpetual absences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Vary meeting locations and/or themes</li> <li>* Slightly increase dues to cover costs for guest/speaker meals as well as a discount for regular members.</li> <li>* Survey members for their interests</li> </ul>
Lack of Club Leaders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* ”Direct Ask” of members’ interests/passions</li> <li>* Quicker new member committee involvement,</li> </ul>
Fundraising and Small Project Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Partner with other clubs</li> <li>* Smaller scale</li> <li>* Reinforce/emphasize importance of involvement</li> <li>* Offer choices or give specific assignments</li> </ul>
Membership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Have an Open House to share “What is Rotary”, “Facts and Myths” and “Meet the Committee Chairs”</li> <li>*Invite people to social and service gatherings instead of meetings</li> <li>* Schedule engaging speakers</li> </ul>
Recruiting Younger Members	* Interact Clubs in High Schools

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Post club happenings on social media (TikTok and Instagram)</li> <li>* Schedule engaging speakers</li> </ul>
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**C. Possible recommendations for district leaders to best support small clubs.**

<u><b>RECOMMENDATIONS</b></u>	<b>DISTRICT LEADER? (DG, AG, COMMITTEE)</b>
Regional gathering/collaboration of similar sized groups	?
More in person district events/socials with smaller costs than Conference and/or Foundation Dinner	?
District Learning classes/topics "Follow Up" Opportunities	<b>DLC</b>
Work on high level partnerships with other regional non-profit organizations (TCCP, Partnership for Better Health)	?

**Afterwards, please complete the class survey using the QR code on the first page....thank you!!!**