

In 1986, Governors of four districts in North Carolina and South Carolina met to discuss the feasibility of holding a joint Presidents-Elect Training. The first multi-district PETS included three districts from North Carolina and one district from South Carolina (7710, 7730, 7690, and 7750). In 1986 and 1987, the meeting was held in Pinehurst, 1988-1990 the meeting was held in Fayetteville, and since 1991, the meeting has been held in Greensboro, North Carolina — the most central point for the seven districts currently involved.

Prior to 1991, each district handled their own registration. Since 1991, the registration process has been centralized with the current Governors responsible for collecting names and addresses of the club presidents-elect and getting that information to the Registration Chairman in the fall. As all seven districts began using the on-line District & Club Database tool, the identification and communication with presidents-elect has been electronic. Registration is processed through the event website as well as postal mail.

In 1991, RI approved two new districts in North Carolina. Both of these districts voted to continue as a part of the existing organization since most of the clubs had been included prior to the realignment. In the Spring of 1993, the Governor Nominee of District 7670 (Western North Carolina) asked to join the 1993 event resulting in all six districts from North Carolina and one from South Carolina participating. As of 2018, there are 354 clubs currently in the seven districts and over 90% participate in the meeting. Average attendance at the annual event is between 550 and 600 participants.

Carolinas' PETS has an eighteen member planning committee. The seven current Governors, the seven Governors-Elect, a General Chair, Arrangements & Registration Chair, Training Coordinator, and Senior Advisor make up the committee. PETS General Chair 1992~1999 was Ken Morgan. PETS General Chair 2000~2005 was Bob Miller. PETS General Chair 2006~2017 was Harry Brogden. The current PETS General Chair is Cookie Billings. The Arrangements & Registration Chair and the Senior Advisor have both served since 1991. Since 2008, the Registration Chair is paid \$2,000 for coordinating the registration activities.

A three-ring binder was prepared until 1991, using materials from RI, standard sections on membership, The Rotary Foundation, and several other topics. The Governor Nominee assembles one section with information pertinent to his/her district. As of 2012, the Carolinas' PETS curriculum and the materials specific to each district are commercially reproduced.

The event agenda consists of four major addresses at the meal functions, three breakouts by district, four discussion sessions for PEs based on club size, four discussion sessions for PNs, and four discussion sessions for AGs. Coinciding with these breakout sessions, there are orientation sessions for the DGNs and DGNDs.

The keynote addresses are typically provided by current and past RI officers, Rotary Foundation Trustees, motivational speakers and special guests. All other sessions are led by district governors or past district governors. There are electives offered on Thursday with the mandatory components of the meeting beginning on Friday morning and adjourning following lunch on Saturday.