### Governor Kevin Merrill's August message

By Kevin Merrill



### **Greetings fellow Rotarians!**

Thank you for serving your communities throughout Rotary District 6110.
Lisa and I have thoroughly enjoyed fourteen official Governor club visits so far. We have also had the privilege to attend one meeting as visiting Rotarians, attend club socials, Rotary after Dark, join two club workdays at MSNI, conduct two district leadership meetings, and host two virtual happy hours for Rotarians wishing to connect with fellow district Rotarians.

#### WHOO!!

We have been able to do all this because we are full time RVers. That significantly right, we no longer own a home but have lived in our RV since December 2020. We are doing our District Tour by staying in a central location near several clubs, then visiting clubs in that area. That allows us the extra time to meet for additional functions, projects, and club fundraisers.

Lisa and I want to connect with you as fellow Rotarians working side by side **Serving to Change Lives** in your communities. Be sure and let us know when and where your club will be in action and if we or your Assistant Governor can, we will join you!! Honored to serve you this year as District Governor!

PS Please like the Rotary District 6110 Facebook page!! Lots of fun stuff to look at.

Kevin Merrill District Governor

WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT? Governor Kevin and Lisa have fully immersed themselves in the District. They are taking the requirement to visit each and every club to heart and look to catch the flavor of each club as a participant in what each club does. Help them out and invite them in! PS: Wanna see where DG Kevin will be? Click the "District" Tab at the DACdb home page, then click the Calendar icon. Click the "District GOV Official Visit" button on the right and follow along!

September 18 is on your calendar, right? This year's in-person District Conference will be oneyou

won't want to miss! Governor Kevin and his team have put together an exciting program that will inspire, inform and excite! Set in lovely Eureka Springs, AR at the Best Western Inn of the Ozarks, the "DisCon21" will feature several guided opportunities for you to learn from fellow Rotarians, something that has been requested often in the

To "do it right" you need to start the weekend by attending the District

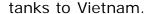
6110 Foundation Banquet on Friday night. This event will honor Past District Governor Ed Hardesty and his wife Jeanette. Ed has been the District's "go-to" Foundation guru for several years. He has spoken at many club meetings about the Foundation and is always willing to help out with Foundation information.

past.

Keynote speaker at the Foundation banquet, and then addressing us next day at DisCon21 will be Past Rotary International President John Germ. A Rotary member since 1976, Germ has served Rotary as vice president, director, Foundation trustee and vice chair, chair of Rotary's US\$200 Million Challenge, RI president's aide

> and President of RI. He is a recipient of Rotary's Service Above Self Award and The Rotary

Foundation's Citation for Meritorious Service. He and his wife, Judy, are members of the Arch Klumph Society. The son of a stonemason, who built the family home with his own hands, Germ developed his work ethic early in life. Nothing came easily. Other schoolboys made fun of his name & they called me &Bacteria & & and his parents couldnot afford college tuition. After a stint in vocational school, he paid his way through the University of Tennessee at Knoxville by working in a machine shop and serving food in a dorm cafeteria. After graduating, he joined the U.S. Air Force. Soon promoted to captain, he was navigator on a 50-ton Douglas C-124, ferrying troops and



ROTARY 2021

CONFERENCE

DISTRICT

You will not want to miss his keynote on Friday, Sept 17.

The fun continues Saturday as DisCon21 gears up. John Germ will speak at the opening breakfast meeting, and continue to inspire all of us. Much of the day Saturday will provided guided opportunities to learn from other fellow Rotarians about all the elements of Rotary. Many excellent projects take place in our four-state wide district, and one of the most requested elements has been for Rotarians to share what they are doing from their peers.

We have a large and diverse district, and every club has something to offer. There will be guided opportunities for clubs to showcase their projects, and demonstrate how they got things done.

Where else can you rub elbows (carefully) with leaders of some 80 groups of "doers!"



Ray is an accomplished international speaker and trainer with an amazing resume. He regularly speaks to large conventions in such locations in the past year as Prague, Budapest, Johannesburg, Bangkok and Mumbai, His talks have been professionally recorded and translated into several languages and distributed worldwide.

He is a past District Governor for District 6150 of Rotary



International which serves Northeast and Eastern Arkansas. Ray is also the owner of Keller Business Alliance and serves as a corporate coach for selected companies in North America. His forter is team building and personal development and he regularly consults with Clients on strategies for growth and effectiveness. You'll want to hear Ray's message!

#### What's a RIPR?

PDG Jill Pietrusinski will join us at District Conference as our Rotary International President Representative, also known as the RIPR. That means she was asked by RIP Shekhar Mehta to represent him at our conference. So when you see Jill at conference, treat her as though she were Shekhar himself.

Jill served as District 6510 Governor 2017-2018 and currently serves Rotary Zone 31 as Rotary Coordinator of 17 Districts. She serves as an Innovative New Club Advocate. She will serve as International Assembly training leaders in January 2022 where all Rotary International District Governors Elect and their partners meet to prepare for the upcoming year. She has a passion for Growing Rotary.



Register NOW for **The Fifth Annual Rotary Foundation Banquet Dinner** or send your REGRET that you cannot attend by <u>clicking here</u>.

Register NOW for **2021-2022 District Conference at Inn of the Ozarks** or send your REGRET that you cannot attend by <u>clicking here</u>.

WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT? We are having an in-person District Conference! Fewer than 25% of our members attend one of these - and they miss out on a lot of good things. Come see what the DisCon21 will bring to your club. Heck it's only \$95 to register- and that includes 3 meals!

Signature Project: The Iola - Kenya Project

The Iola Rotary Club is located almost 150 miles north of Tulsa, and is the northwestern-most club in the district. The city of 5,700 is the County seat of Allen County. They make Rotary happen there!

Dr. Luka Kapkiai, joined the Iola Rotary Club in May of 2014. He is originally from the Burnt Forest region of Kenya (about 50 miles east of Lake Victoria)

and teaches chemistry and physics at Neosho County Community College in Chanute, Kansas. His wife, Sarah, is a registered nurse and works for St. Luke's Health System.

When he joined, he made it known to the club that there was an acute need for medical equipment in rural clinics in the area he and his wife are from. Because of the Medical Supplies Network (MSNI) within District 6110 and after board discussion, it was decided our club would provide \$10,000 toward shipping a container of medical equipment. Efforts



were made to secure import and non-tax authorization from the Kenya government. No progress to that end was made.



In 2015 Luka and his family made the trip to visit family. At that time we sent a few of the Sawyer Point One water filters with him. Then in 2017 another club member, Frances Kinzle, and her husband, Steve, traveled to Kenya to visit Luka and his family. With this visit, more water filters were taken.

The next year, 2018, Luka traveled by himself to have a business discussion with his family, and Steve Kinzle and Bob Hawk also made the trip. This time they took about 70 water filters with the goal of taking them to schools, as most schools do not have potable drinking water. They also ended up taking filters to 3 or 4 rural clinics

and seeing first hand the lack of any equipment. While there we met with the Senator from that area, hoping to secure authorization to import used medical equipment. No luck.

In 2019 Tom Brigham, club president, and Bob Hawk traveledto Kenya again along with Bob s grandson. Their main goal was to distribute water filters to schools. During that trip the population of schools visited would have been in excess of 6,000 students. They also made it a point to take

filters to the rural medical clinics. They met with a Member of Parliament and also the local health authority hoping to secure the authorization needed to ship the medical equipment. Again, no success.

Not to be discouraged, the club looked at what could be purchased in Kenya in the way of medical equipment. One of Luka so brothers visited three clinics to discuss their needs



and to make a list. A wholesaler of medical equipment was located about 35 miles away and gave prices for the wish list. The total exceeded the funds available, so the clinics were asked to modify the list to those items they really needed. When this list was compiled, it was only slightly over the \$10,000 budgeted and the decision was made to wire transfer the money to Kenya to make the purchase happen. Luka and his family were making their every two year visit and would be available to facilitate the distribution.



The incoming 2021-2022 Iola Rotary president, Alana Kinzle (left), and Bob Hawk (right), decided to also make the trip to help the distribution. On the second day of her presidency, Alana was able to participate in the distribution to the Cengalo clinic. The clinic was constructed in 1997 and the beds from the Iola Rotary Club were the first ones in the clinic. In total the club members distributed to three clinics and the appreciation for what we had done was palpable. Alana and Bob "attended" the Iola club meeting via Zoom



while at the clinic! This equipment will make a huge difference in the lives of those living in the communities. As Bob Hawk noted, "Previous to having the beds and birthing equipment, a new mother would be sent home within two hours. To us, that is unimaginable and for them it should be unimaginable as well."

In addition to water and medical equipment a chicken project was begun. James, (right), one of the chick recipients, sent this photo. These eggs and his ability to sell them to generate income are the ultimate goal of the project.

The club has made several TV appearances on area stations, and many newspaper articles from their continued Kenya connection.

The Iola club also has had assistance from other Rotary Clubs. The Garnett, KS, Rotary Club, some 30 miles from Iola, (but in District 5710) provided \$500 towards the water filter project. The Coffeyville Schools have helped with funds, among others.



With about 50 members, including two Past District Governors, the club also keeps quite busy with several local projects, including Rotary Day in the Park, High School Achievement Awards (they've done that for 97 years!), SAFE BASE project, Grocery



Grab, and the Westervelt Memorial Car Show/the Smokin' Hot Car and BBQ project. But the Kenya Project is the one that showcases the Iola Rotary Club's international connections.

WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT? The Iola Rotary Club demonstrates that hard work, perseverance, and "getting everyone involved" make a Rotary Club work. You don't have to be an extremely large club to really make a difference!

### **Rotary Clubs in Service - August 2021**

#### 6110 ROTARY CLUBS IN SERVICE

Here are just a few clubs providing service to their communities. Let us know what your club is doing to provide Service Above Self!

## Mt Vernon Rotary Club Represents!

The Mt. Vernon Rotary Club participated in the first annual Mt. Vernon Chamber of Commerce

Corn Hole Tournament on Saturday August 7th.
Pictured are President Marsha Jones and two star players Rotarian

Brad DeLay and Interact club member Jenna DeLay. Also present was Rotarian Kenny Aughe. It was a hot day but so much fun!

Also note, you see Jenna and Brad with a photo op with the trophies for the champions. In case you were wondering, that's as close to the trophies as they got! #MaybeNextYear



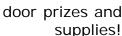
# The Muskogee Rotary Club helps Teachers

Nationally, nine out of ten teachers are not reimbursed for school supplies they purchase themselves, and the national average they spend is \$459.00.

BUT that is quite different in Muskogee, where the Rotary Club provides a Teacher Supply Store.

The club credits Larry Hoffman for helping to coordinate Rotary soluniteer efforts and for getting







## Southeast Tulsa Rotary Club works at MSNI



SE Tulsa Rotary's work day at MSNI was conducted on Saturday July 24, 2021 and was supervised by Matt Harper (son of John) and joining him on the crew - John Harper, Jerry Graefe, Kevin Graefe, Jack Wimbish, Brian Osborne, Scott Long, and Tom Hansen.

Have you scheduled your club to help at MSNI?

# New Officers make for changes in all clubs

We are now into our new Rotary Program year. Changes abound:

Here are a few clubs that wanted the world to know who are their new leaders by publicizing who their new leaders are.

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**Ozark Rotary Club New Officers** 



officers of the Ozark Rotary Club were inducted by District Assistant Governor, Veronica Post last month. Pictured (L-R) Elaine Roser and Bill Brockett, Co-Past Presidents, Jim Ford, President, Charlotte Gibson, Secretary, Dr. Phil Ulmschneider, Treasurer, and AG Veronica Post.

# **Rotary Club of McAlester's new President**

Rotarians in McAlester inducted 2021-2022 club President Millard Bucky Harp, and said thanks to Justin Few for serving as our 2020-2021 club President during an unprecedented time.



# Henryetta Rotary Club's new President



Rotary President over the past year and keeping the club alive during the pandemic!

Shawn has passed the torch to the incoming President, Keith Hare. They look forward to another successful year of serving our community as Rotarians!

## **Altus Area Sunset Rotary installs Board**

The Altus Area Sunset Rotary club installed its new officers, left to right: Veronica Post, Adam Wiederkehr, Paul Post, Gary Au, Cathy Shingledecker, Doris Moncrief, Bob Shingledecker



# 108th President of Tulsa Rotary Club Installed



David Wagner was installed as the 108th President of the Rotary Club of Tulsa by incoming board chair Brenda Melancon. Congratulations David at taking the helm of the largest club in the District!

Rotary Clubs are raising funds for

# their projects

The Coweta Rotary Club is hosting "Shoot Happens" a skeet shooting competition on August 21, Funds raised



will go towards their projects.



### Springdale Rotary Scavenger Hunt coming up

The Springdale Rotary Club's Scavenger Hunt is a darned cool way to get people out of the house and thinking about Rotary!

The new LOW TOUCH fundraiser supports the Club s many charitable projects, including the Third Grade Literacy Project, the Samaritans Feet Event, Christmas Food Baskets, Food Pantries, Book Barrels, and Rotary Park. To enter, teams register online at

www.springdalerotary.org

After registering, they will receive instructions to download the game app and will receive a code to join the game shortly before it begins at noon on Friday, September 3, with the release of the first clue to an object, landmark or sign located in Springdale. Contestants will enter photos of the object/landmark/sign as they find each one. Clues will be released periodically, but all of the clues will be released by Sunday, September 5. The entry fee is \$100 for a team of up to 4 adults, and children under 18 may participate with their parents.

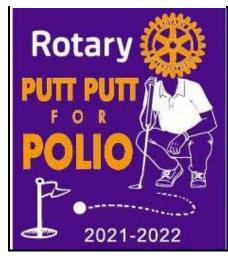


Contestants play at their own pace, but the first team to submit photos of each object, landmark or sign revealed by the clues will be declared the winner. Clues will lead participants around Springdale to learn more about the community and Rotary so work to Do Good in Springdale and around the World!

The Grand Prize will be \$1000 cash awarded at our Friend-Raiser Happy Hour on Thursday, September 9. Smaller prizes are also available, and contestants do not have to be present at the Happy Hour to win.

What an innovative idea - bet they will tell us all about it at District Conference!

#### Putt Putt Golf for Polio in Bartlesville



The Bartlesville Daybreak Rotary Club will host a Putt Putt Golf event on Sunday Oct 10, 2021 from 5 to 8 pm! Mark your calendars and watch for more information as this will be a fun event for all to help stop Polio worldwide.

Here's more info: Bartlesville Putt Putt for Polio

WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT? Is YOUR club doing service to its community? Are you "doing good in the world?" Let us know with the "just the facts" to: Wally Bloss, District Public Image Chair: Wbloss@Gmail.com

### **Rotary 101 - August 2021**

By Wally Bloss



Rotary 101 is a monthly column highlighting the many facets of our wonderful organization.

This month's installment:

#### The Many Sides of Rotary

When we say "Rotary" we usually think about our own local club, right? While Rotary is comprised of about 35,000 clubs, there are more interesting little sides to Rotary. Here in our district we would have as many sides as an Octacontagon - and that's just in our district! Each of our clubs belong to Rotary International, and RI has many, many sides to it.

Many facets of Rotary are bigger than the club, and even bigger than the District. Let's take a look at some of the many sides of Rotary - and uncover the crazy acronyms they use.

As Governor Kevin has noted in a recent "It's Monday" email, there are more than 90 **Rotary** "Fellowships" - a way to find Rotary friends who also appreciate wine, RVs or Amateur Radio, photography, etc.

<u>RAG or Rotarian Action Groups</u> help Rotary clubs and districts plan and implement large-scale projects in their area of expertise - like the WASHRAG - Water and Sanitation Rotarian Action Group.

Here are some other sides to Rotary - your club may have had a connection to them...or not (yet)

**Rotaract** originally began as a youth program in 1968, Rotaract clubs bring together people ages 18 and older to exchange ideas with leaders in the community, develop leadership and professional

skills, and have fun through service. With almost 11,000 clubs world wide, there are seven Rotaract clubs in our district. Rotaract is an official program of Rotary International, and members can be



Interact and Rotary at the same time.

Interact clubs bring together y leadership skills while discovering about 15,000 clubs worldwide, to

Interact clubs bring together young people ages 12-18 to develop leadership skills while discovering the power of Service Above Self. With about 15,000 clubs worldwide, there are 38 clubs in our district. It is an official Rotary International program.

**EarlyAct** - a school-wide service club for elementary students from ages 5 to 13 sponsored by Rotary Clubs and chartered by the district. It is not an official program of Rotary International - yet! The Tulsa North Rotary Club chartered the first EarlyAct club in the



District last year. EarlyAct is based upon the Rotary 4-Way Test and further, EarlyAct teaches Caring, Respect, Empathy, Responsibility, Tolerance, Citizenship, Compassion, Friendship and Leadership.

Inner Wheel - an international organisation closely linked to Rotary that was founded in 1924 by Margarette Golding, a nurse, business woman and the wife of a British Rotarian, to unite wives and daughters of Rotarians (who were not yet allowed to join Rotary themselves). There are almost 4,000 Inner Wheel clubs, with 35 in the USA. Bet you didn't know that one! (the 2018 Council on Legislation requested the RI Board to consider allowing Inner Wheel to maintain a web page on Rotary.org)

RYLA - Rotary Youth Leadership Awards - an intensive leadership experience

organized by Rotary clubs and districts where you develop your skills as a leader while having fun and making connections. Fingers are crossed for the District's RYLA camp to take place in the spring.



RCC - Rotary Community Corps is a group of non-Rotarians who share our commitment to

changing the world through service project. There are more than 10,000

RCCs, tho only about 300 are located in the USA and Europe. 77% are in South/Southeast Asia and Oceania

Rotary Youth Exchange - a study-abroad opportunity for young people who spend anywhere from a few weeks to a full year as an international student hosted by local Rotary clubs. The program is on hold due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Rotex** - a society of past Rotary Youth Exchange (RYE) alumni that engages with current Inbounds and Outbounds to better their exchange experience overall.

RI Convention - takes place annually and welcomes all members and their families. It so generally held in a different world city each year and is attended by 20,000 to 40,000 people. 2020's and 2021's conventions became virtual due to COVID-19 but 2022 is set for June 4-8 in Houston TX, followed by Melbourne, Australia in 2023.





WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT: Rotary has so many sides it is hard to keep track of them all. Here's the first of several primers on the many, many sides of the Rotary polygon.



### **August - Membership and New Club Development month**



August is Membership and New Club Development Month, a time to recognize our members and the incredible work they do locally and globally. In 2021, many Rotarians around the world are working together to curb the pandemic through vaccination drives. After a long year of uncertainty, hope is on the horizon.

Membership Month is a great time to introduce friends and colleagues to the family of Rotary. "Each One Bring One" is a great way to grow Rotary. Here are just a few ideas on how to attract new members and keep them engaged:

Learn about strategies for attracting new members in this online course

in the Learning Center. (A free My Rotary account is required.) The course highlights ways to interest prospective members and showcase your club�s strengths.

Because of the pandemic, many clubs have started meeting exclusively online. The <u>Engaging Online Meetings page</u> has many useful tips and stories on virtual engagement. Take the <u>Best Practices for Engaging Members</u> online course to develop strategies for engaging people at all stages of membership.



Is your club healthy? Find out by taking this <u>online course</u>, which will help your club improve its member experience, service and social events, public image, and club operations. And don to to address your club schallenges! Answer a few questions in the <u>Club Planning Assistant</u> to get solutions that are tailored to the issues you are facing.

Find more membership resources in the "My Rotary" portion of Rotary.org.

WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT? We can be more effective if we have more members. Imagine if your club had a dozen new members this year! People are looking for opportunities to give back and we do that!

#### **Welcome new Rotarians**

Governor Kevin loves the idea of "Each One Bring One" which RI President Shekhar Mehta has suggested. Each month we celebrate new members that have been added to DACdb - which makes them "Official!"

Any photos of induction activities that clubs can send along are appreciated also! (Send to  $\frac{\text{Wally Bloss}}{\text{Dist Public Image Coord}}$ )



Welcome to 38 new Rotary District 6110 members July 13 thru August 10, 2021

New Member	Club	Sponsor	
Ash, Larry (LARRY)	Fayetteville	Lee Ward	
rion, Early (Eritter)	Northside	Loo Wara	
Baker, Matthew	Pittsburg	Joseph A	
(MATT)	rittsburg	Dellasega	
BANK,	Holiday	Al Selleck	
CORNERSTONE	Island	Al School	
(CORNERSTONE)	Island		
Barton, Kevin	Vinita	Brian Prince	
(KEVIN)			
Brown, Maggie	Tulsa Sunrise		
(MAGGIE)		Smallwood	
Cowan, Larry W (LARRY)	Bartlesville	Larry Thrash	
Davidson, Corey C.	Rogers	McElroy	
(COREY)	Downtown	Allison	
Dixon, Andrew S.	Springdale	Matt Fryar	
(ANDREW)	3	Kevin Flores	
Chad C (CHAD)	Aurora		
Fahn, Thomas Frank			
(THOMAS)	Demonville		
Floyd, Sara (SARA)	Fort Smith	Mary Lee Frase	
Gentry, Emily	Fayetteville		
(EMILY)	Northside		
Golden, Sarah	Mid-Marion		
(SARAH)	County		
Hargis, Bradley Kurt (BRADLEY)	Fort Smith		
Hartman, Joe F	Nevada	David Kilmer	
(JOE)			
Hensley, Kerry (KERRY)	Fort Smith	Cindy Gilmer	
Hinkle, Trevor Duane	Nevada	Warren	
(TREVOR)	Ivevada	Lovinger	
Houser, Christopher	Fayetteville	William Henry	
Scott (CHRIS)	Northside	Overby III	
Howlett, Carrie	Aurora	Overby III	
(CARRIE)			
Inglehart, John (JOHN)	Holiday Island	Al Selleck	
Johnson, Karen A.	Frontenac	Courtney	
(KAREN)	Dittale	McCartney	
Johnson, Patricia J (PAT)	Pittsburg	Joseph A. Hart	
Jones, Ruth Ann (RUTH ANN)	Mt. Vernon		
Kitterman, Jerry A	Springdale	Randy Mullikin	
(ALLEN)	Pringadio	Charlie Platt	
1	i .	i	

Cunnigham,	Rob		
(ROB)		Bentonville	

Larimer, Don H (DON)		Layne Ragsdale	Meehan, (KEVIN)	Kevin	Pryor	Gary J Dean
Montes, Gloria B (GLORIA)	Pittsburg	Julie Reams				1
Naccarato, Shawn (SHAWN)	Pittsburg					
Norman, Lisa Ann (LISA)	Fayetteville Northside	David J. Savage Sr.				
O'Hara, Reilly (REILLY)	Tulsa Sunrise	Joe Gaudet				
Orr, Glenda Carol (CAROL)	Tulsa Sunrise	Robert Melott				
Orr, Herbert Sherrill (HERB)		Herbert Stokes Orr				
Pilkington, James C II (CHARLIE)	Bartlesville	Jeannie Sue Strachan				
Reed, Lance (LANCE REED)	Fayetteville Northside					
Ruefer, Fred M (FRED)	Muskogee					
Salichs, Suzanne (SUZANNE)	Wagoner					
Sordahl, Fred H (FRED)	Pryor	Rachel Sordahl				

WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT? We need to spread the love of Rotary with more people. If each member recruited just one more we would double our impact! When we do - here's a way to recognize the new members in the newsletter.

# **Your District Leadership Team**

By Wally Bloss





Paul Harris Society Coord,

Michele Gann

Youth Exchange,

Todd "Bow Tie" Jenkins

Choices Committee,

Susan Sangren

Personnel Committee Chair,

PDG Don den Daas