

Rotary



District 6110 Newsletter

Governor Kevin Merrill's July message



Greetings fellow Rotarians!

We are off to a great start in the 2021-2022 Rotary year. Service projects and fundraisers are already underway as clubs are back in full swing. How can we help you this year? The leadership of District 6110 is anxious to help your club be as successful as possible. For your consideration on how we can partner with you is providing quality programs from Rotarians serving in various positions in the district. For instance, have Cathy Webster share with your club how a club visioning can impact your club's growth

and vitality in your community. Have Gary Pollmiller share how providing dictionaries to 3rd graders makes a lasting impact in a child's life. Get Ken Savells to share how every child under five in your community can receive a free book through the Dolly Parton Imagination library project! The list goes on!! Check out the leadership contact attachment in the [It's Monday](#) email and start booking inspiring, thought provoking programs today!

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

WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT? Governor Kevin Merrill has taken the reins from (now) Past District Governor Jay Craig. Each year on July first all of Rotary starts a new program year with new club Presidents, new District Governor and new Rotary International President. This transfer of leadership infuses new ideas and new methods - but there is no change in our resolve to do good in the world!



July: New Leadership Month

Rotary's program year begins July first. Each year we transition to new leadership in clubs, at the District, and at Rotary International. Some clubs hold a formal installation banquet with PowerPoint presentations of the prior year's accomplishments and a solemn installation ceremony. Others just hand the gavel to the new President and say "good luck!" Either way, we're off to a great new Rotary year!

As with any new beginning, it is a time to set goals, gather a



new leadership team, and begin anew doing good in the world. District Governor Kevin has asked that all clubs set goals for their club. Only by setting a goal can you plan for your activities, and work to meet the goal. Does your club enter its goals (Foundation giving, membership, projects, etc.) on the Rotary Website in the Rotary Club Central? It's easy to do, and helps you track your progress. Ask your Assistant Governor if you need help!

Each new Rotary year brings a new Presidential theme - this year is "Serve to Change Lives" (see below). Many clubs hang a banner of the current year's Presidential theme in their meeting place. Most use the Presidential Theme image on their website or social media sites - remembering to remove last year's image! Each month of the program year also has an area of focus for clubs. You can use this in setting club projects, in selecting speakers for club meetings, and in social media. Graphics like the one above are available for each month for you to use.

<i>MONTH</i>	<i>Area of Focus</i>
<i>July</i>	<i>New Leadership</i>
<i>August</i>	<i>Membership & New Club Development</i>
<i>September</i>	<i>Basic Education and Literacy</i>
<i>October</i>	<i>Community Economic Development</i>
<i>November</i>	<i>The Rotary Foundation</i>
<i>December</i>	<i>Disease Prevention and Treatment</i>
<i>January</i>	<i>Vocational Service</i>
<i>February</i>	<i>Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention</i>
<i>March</i>	<i>Water, Sanitation and Hygiene</i>
<i>April</i>	<i>Maternal and Child Health</i>
<i>May</i>	<i>Youth Service</i>
<i>June</i>	<i>Rotary Fellowships</i>

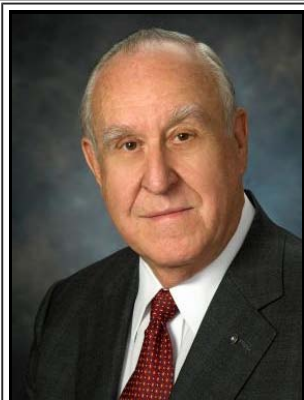
WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT?
 Now is the time get on that committee you wanted and help out!
 Maybe even suggest a new project and see it through!



Governor Kevin Merrill and especially his wife Lisa have been working hard on this year's IN-PERSON District Conference. It is set for Saturday, September 18 at the Best Western Inn of the Ozarks in Eureka Springs. For under \$100 (it's only \$95!!) you will have a day chock-full of what Rotarians have asked for: sharing ideas of what works! Three meals are included in the price also. We'll tell you some more below but here's even more good news:



The night before, Sept 17, we will conduct the Fifth Annual District Foundation Banquet, with a special honoree of long-time District Foundation chair, Ed Hardesty. Ed is well known in the district and is an inspiration when it comes to promoting our Foundation. You won't want to miss this special Foundation event!



Both events will feature remarks in-person by past RI President John Germ. John is also a past Foundation Chair, and will have special insight for all attending both events. The special focus of the Conference will be in sharing ideas. Reviews of post-conference surveys have demonstrated an interest in learning from each other. One club may do a bang-up project, and another club may want to "try it on" for their club. There will be plenty of Idea Exchange opportunities at the Conference.

Reservation links for the conference and for the Foundation Banquet are below. There are also some sponsorship opportunities for the Foundation Banquet, contact PDG John Williams for information on that. You might consider booking your hotel room ASAP as rooms are limited.

Use the links below for those familiar with DACdb

Click here for Conference Registration: [District Conference Registration](#)

Click here to Register for the Foundation Dinner: [Foundation Banquet](#)

Use these link for anyone: [District Conference Registration - Anyone](#)

Use this link for anyone: [Foundation Banquet - Anyone](#)

Call the Best Western Inn of the Ozarks for Reservations
Event Code Rotary: 479-253-9768

Signature Project: Bartlesville Daybreak's Fantasy Land of Lights

Many Rotary clubs have a "Signature Project" that is well known in the area and provides a significant service in the community.

[Fantasy Land of Lights](#) is an annual, drive-through Christmas light display at Johnstone Park in Bartlesville, OK that has become a holiday tradition and is the premiere project of Bartlesville's Daybreak Rotary. With the help of generous donations from the public, Fantasy Land of Lights continues to grow each year. The signature project takes the work of all of their members in the weeks between mid-October and mid-November to set-up the displays. Summer isn't a down time as they have used the off season to go completely to LED lights in 2017 and to repair the displays (primarily re-taping lights onto the steel)!

The club involves several partners in the project:

- The City of Bartlesville allows the park to be closed to traffic from October to January to allow the display.
- The Bartlesville High School Soccer Team is critical to their success as they help load in and load out the display
- The Gingerbread House is manned by dedicated volunteers from Bartlesville November 20 - December 30, every year to collect donations and handout candy canes (donated by the local credit union) and dog biscuits.
- Volunteers may be Rotarians, and many times they are community groups looking to give back during the holiday season. It takes a village to make Fantasy Land happen.



This signature project began with a very small committee of just four people; Judy Duvall, Doug Lynch, Randy Weatherly and Gretchen Winger. They took care of the placement of the displays, the purchase of new displays and bulbs for the displays as well as advertising and organizing the volunteers. The first year that Daybreak Rotary began sponsoring Fantasyland was a challenging year. It was 2002, and after September 11, 2001 the city had placed red, white and blue bulbs in all of the displays for that Christmas Season. All of those displays needed to be changed back to the original color combinations. That was a long process for the club members.

For many years following that the club members would remove the displays from the storage facility every October. They then would check all of the bulbs in the displays for burned out or broken bulbs, which inevitably led to someone inserting a pair of pliers into a socket to

remove a broken bulb, without unplugging the display. You could hear the yelp across the park!

The Rotary wheel near the entrance to the park, was made by the family of Daybreak Rotarian, Gretchen Winger.

This is such a community tradition that in 2014, when

extension cords were stolen one night, the community immediately made donations to replace all the cords so they could open! And then in January 2018, before everything was put away, a dog was rescued from the adjacent Caney River using the extension cords!

Although there is no admission fee, donations are accepted. 2020 was a record breaking year as driving through the park was something ♦normal♦ to do during the isolation of COVID-19. Once the expenses are paid, money is set aside to purchase or repair displays and a budgeted amount goes to Bartlesville Daybreak Foundation to cover educational scholarships to students in the Washington County area.

The club provides 2 University Scholarships each year of \$5,000 in total; the recipients receive \$625 per semester for 8 semesters if they keep up their grades, etc. This way the club always has 8 students in process. New this year is the addition of scholarships for vocational training at Tri County Tech.

A new event was started in 2019 called Fantasy Land on Foot. It is the only time you can walk the road through the park. The event was created when the club lit up a new display in memory of our Big Elf, Randy Weatherly, who unexpectedly passed away during the 2018 Fantasy Land season; Randy was the person who got Daybreak started on this annual project.

Sherri Wilt, the President of the Bartlesville Chamber of Commerce noted, ♦FLOL is such a wonderful addition to the Christmas season. The magically lit park with all the displays is a unique draw not only for our local residents to enjoy but draws regional people here as well, which is always a win for our community. The chamber so appreciates all the work Rotary puts into this project. Families look forward to it each year and it has become a family holiday tradition for so many. ♦

Congratulations to the Bartlesville Daybreak Rotary club for its Signature Project!

WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT? A "Signature" project is one that engages all the club members and provides a significant service to the community. It is an opportunity for a club to really show their stuff and made a significant impact. What's yours?



Plan NOW for your club's Four-Way Speech Contest

**ITS EASIER THAN EVER FOR A
ROTARY CLUB TO PARTICIPATE IN
THE FOUR WAY TEST SPEECH
CONTEST**

By Co-Chair PDG Ron Petersen



If your Rotary Club isn't involved in the Four Way Test Speech Contest, will you make a big difference in your community by helping High School Students understand and live by some ethical and moral lessons from Rotary? It's a natural because Rotary has always helped young people! Now is the time to plan for the event in your club, so you can hit the ground running

when school starts.

The contest is an annual project for many clubs. It brings the principles of Rotary to the youth and into homes and schools. Why not lead the way for your club by getting involved and not only teach these students both business and personal ethics, but reward them for the really outstanding way they express those principles. AND if they are good enough they could win serious money to help further their education.

This scholarship contest is open to all young men & women in grades 9 to 12 in public, private and parochial schools and the home schooled. The Rotary Four Way Test Speech Contest gives educators the opportunity to provide an ethical learning experience to young people.



YOUR GOAL: Go to

<http://www.rotarydistrict6110.org/four-way-speech-contest.php> and download the easy to follow manual. You will find the manual very

complete with all the forms and even talking points for a school visit and a sample lesson plan. BEFORE leaving the site, be sure and check out the YouTube links to many past finalist's videos. It will help the teachers and students to see the best of the best there.

We challenge you to look beyond yourselves and make this happen for the young people in your community. Stuck? Call us! Thank you, and Good Luck!

PDG Ron Petersen PDG Jayne Lowe
District Co-Chair District Co-Chair
417-359-3417 479.644.6576
ronsr@cbciradio.com jaynerotary@gmail.com

Rotary 101 - July 2021

By Wally Bloss

Rotary 101: What is Rotary?

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

How do you describe Rotary? If asked, do you fumble a bit then say "we eat lunch a lot"? There are so many characteristics of a Rotary club, as well as the activities of 1.2 million Rotarians ♦ there are the features of service, internationality, fellowship, classifications of each vocation, development of goodwill and world understanding, the emphasis of high ethical standards, concern for other people and many more. (whew!)

In 1976 the Rotary International Board of Directors was interested in creating a concise definition of the fundamental aspects of Rotary. They turned to the three men who were then serving on Rotary's Public Relations Committee and requested that a one-sentence definition of Rotary be prepared. After numerous drafts, the committee presented this definition, which has been used ever since in various Rotary publications:

"Rotary is an organization of business and professional persons united worldwide who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations and help build goodwill and peace in the world. ♦"

Those 31 words are worth remembering when someone asks, ♦What is a Rotary club?

Here's a great Rotary publication on the basics of Rotary - download it for use in your club:
[Rotary Basics](#)

Rotary Clubs in Service - July 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!

Pittsburg Rotary Club hosts the Inaugural Women Are Champions Event

The **Rotary Club of Pittsburg, KS** held their inaugural Women Are Champions event recently. It was



very well done and a lot of fun! Dani Welniak, Sports Director at KCTV5 in Kansas City was the keynote speaker. She's incredible and has

an amazing story. PDG Jayne Lowe introduced the crowd to (virtual) Jennifer Jones, RI President in 2022-23.

Tulsa Southeast Rotary Club - "Changing Horses"

(Right) Change of leadership happens every year in every club. But the Tulsa Southeast club does it in style! Here's a Past Club President and Past District Governor who is President again!

Danny Mitchell (left in the ...**kilt?**) thanks past president **Lawrence Brophy** for his service.

In May, the club served a special lunch to the 5th grade graduates of the Roy Clark School. Sounds like a great year is in store for the Southeast Tulsa Rotary Club!

Below: District Governor Jay Craig presents Ed Hardesty with an honor for his distinguished service as Foundation Chair for District 6110 for many years!!



Rotary Club of Wagoner's Gets some Ink



The Wagoner Rotary club used its change of leadership as a reason for a news release and subsequent article and photo in the local newspaper, *The Wagoner County American-Tribune*. This media connection helps the local newspaper with solid content, while promoting the ideals of Rotary to the community.

Seth Yoder (left), financial advisor with Edward Jones, will serve as the president of the club for 2021-22. He accepted the gavel from outgoing president, Grant Huskey, at an installation ceremony July 6. Gena Parsons, the Rotary Club

of Wagoner publicity chair, noted, ""Rotarians are people of action. Through traditional and social media, we can raise awareness, engender goodwill, and garner support to the benefit of our communities."

At the installation banquet, Jeff and Debi Hamilton were named Rotarians of the Year.

According to the club, "Jeff is instrumental in the club's Pancake Day fundraiser and Summerfest burger booth. Debi is the long-serving club secretary."

Lifetime Achievement Awards were given to Frank Stephens and Kevin Grover for their combined 70 years of Rotary membership.

Read the whole article here - and consider a release to the local media for your club's events:
[Wagoner Generates Publicity](#)

The Iola Rotary Club - Zooms new President in from Kenya

The Iola, KS Rotary Club is the furthest north and west club in our district. But long distances do not bother them. At the first club meeting of the 21-22 year the brand new President, Alana Kinzle, Zoomed in to the club from their project providing Sawyer Point One water filters to the Burnt Forest region in Kenya, Africa. This area is the home of club member Luka Kapkiai, who teaches chemistry and physics at Neosho County Community College in Chanute, Kansas. Look for a full report on this project in an upcoming newsletter.



At that meeting, Wally Bloss, District Public Image Chair, presented a program on publicizing Rotary and some ideas regarding making our good works better known in the community. He spoke on using social media to get our message out and the correct use of the current Rotary logo.

The Muskogee Rotary Club "Cleans Up"

Several Muskogee Rotarians worked with the Muskogee Police Department in early July to walk several miles of the Centennial Trail to clean up trash and limbs. They made the channel 6 news! Thanks to the Muskogee club volunteers and the Muskogee PD for helping be good stewards of our community!

Pictured here are Larry Hoffman, Ed Choate, and



Justin Calvert , and son, Anderson)

Springdale swears in New Officers

The Springdale Rotary Club's new President, Matt Fryar, has been sworn in, along with the other officers and the Board of Directors! Matt was joined at their weekly meeting by his lovely wife, [Cori Fryar](#) and their daughters to celebrate the beginning of his 2021-2022 term.

Notice the great background of Rotary banners from other clubs including ones in Poland, Uganda, Thailand, and South Africa. This is a great backdrop and shows the International flavor of Rotary. Well done!



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

Welcome New Rotarians



Governor Kevin loves the idea of "Each One Bring One" which our new RI President Shekhar Mehta has suggested. Each month we will 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 [Wally Bloss, Dist Public Image Coord](#))



Welcome to our new members added from July 1 thru July 12:

New Member	Club	Sponsor
Baker, Mindy (MINDY)	Tahlequah- Cherokee County	Wayne Allen Coldwell

Blakely, Reyna (REYNA)	Nevada	Sheree Gayman
Bowman, Larissa D (LARISSA)	Pittsburg	Jay Byers, Joe Grisolano
Byrd, Ricky (RICKY)	Rogers	Joe Spivey
Carney, Jessica (JESSICA)	Tulsa	Brady Nguyen
Elias, Stephen (STEPHEN)	Tulsa	Darren Walkup
England, Kristy Graham (KRISTY)	Van Buren	Robert A England
Garcia, Patrick (PATRICK)	Tulsa	Sarah Stokely
Headley, Rob (ROB)	Tahlequah-Cherokee County	Wayne Allen Coldwell
Herr, Michael (MICHAEL HERR)	Joplin Daybreak	Joe Craigmile
Holmes, Quentin (QUENTIN)	Pittsburg	Pam Henderson
Jackson, Brian (BRIAN)	Tulsa	Scott H. Filstrup
Myers, Krisha (KRISHA)	Van Buren	Michelle J Robinson
O'Donnell, Mae (MAE)	Van Buren	Michelle J Robinson
Painter, Dennis James (DENNIS)	Nevada	Warren C. Lovinger Jr.
Palmer, Annie (ANNIE)	Van Buren	Michelle J Robinson
Powell, Pat (PAT)	Van Buren	Cathy E. Gifford
Ricks, Michael (MIKE)	Pittsburg	Zach Adams
Rogers, Devin (DEVIN)	Van Buren	Kyle Pierce
Sawyer, Amy Lynne (AMY)	Pittsburg Sunrise	Dan McNally
Sawyer, Mary Beth (MARY BETH)	Tulsa	Jeri Dawn Barrientos
Simon, Cynthia (CYNT)	Tulsa Southside	Ken Osborn, Brett Brough
Talbott, Drew (DREW)	Pittsburg	Johnna Norton
Tollett, William D (WILLIAM)	Harrison	Spree Hilliard
Williams, Cassie (CASSIE)	Van Buren	Michelle J Robinson

L to R: Joe Grisolano, Larissa Bowman, Quentin
Holmes, Pam Henderson and Jon Bartlow



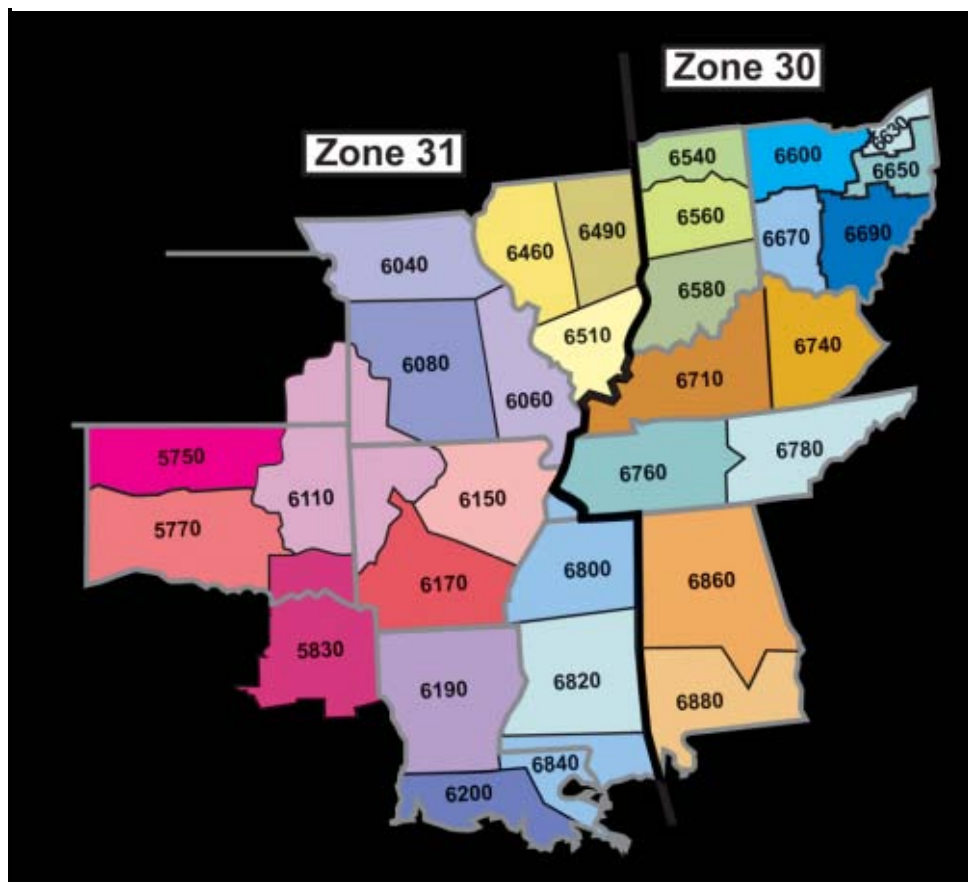
Be "In the Zone"

PATHWAYS to our FUTURE

September 28 - October 3, 2021
Chattanooga, Tennessee

Every Rotary club is connected to a district - we're District 6110 in the four corners of Missouri, Arkansas, Oklahoma and Kansas. But did you know that all of the Districts are also connected to a Zone? There are 34 Zones in the Rotary world and we are in Zone 31. We work together with our neighboring Zone 30 and we call it the "Heart of America." Together it includes 31 Districts in 13 states (See map below).

Special learning opportunities abound at the Zone level, including the upcoming in-person Zone Conference, being held Sept 30 - Oct 3 in Chattanooga, TN. It is an engaging, entertaining, and educational opportunity where Rotarians from both of the Heart of America zones can gather. Speakers such as RI President-elect, Jennifer Jones; Past RI President, John Germ and Nobel Peace Prize Winner, Jody Williams will be in attendance. Conversations and deep dives in to Membership, The Foundation and Youth will be available. There will also be free time to explore Chattanooga! Go to www.rizones30-31.org to register and check out more details!



Your District Leadership Team

			
AG Area 1: Rhonda Dunn	AG Area 2: Ananda Jayawardhana	AG Area 3: Sonia Larimore	AG Area 4: Wally Bloss
			
AG Area 5: Dick Schrad	AG Area 6: Johnice Glisson	AG Area 7: Michelle Robinson	AG Area 8: Veronica Post
			
AG Area 9: Stewart Brunner	AG Area 10: Ivan Devitt	AG Area 11: Tim Holder	AG Area 12: Brice Martin

			
AG Area 13: Anne Williams	AG Area 14: Lisa Engel	AG Area 15: Pam Crawford	AG Area 16: Laura Garrett
			
AG Area 17: Janie Green	AG Coord: Joe Grisolano	AG Coord: Brett Brough	AG Coord John Rains
			
District Governor: Kevin (& Lisa) Merrill	District Governor-Elect: George C Knox	District Governor-Nominee: Pam Crawford	District Administrator: Cole Adamson

			
Dist Membership Chair, 4-Way Test Co-Chair: PDG Jayne Lowe	District Grant Chair: PDG John Williams	'International Service / Grant Chair: Beth Keck	District Visioning Chair: Cathy Webster
			
DACdb Trainer/DCO: Rachelle Langley	District Public Image/PR Chair: Wally Bloss	Dist Foundation Chair, Dist Trainer: PDG Ed Hardesty	Rotary Friendship Exchange: PDG Larry Long
			
District Conference Chair: Lisa Merrill	Elections, Credentials, Parliamen- tarian: PDG Danny Mitchell	Wheelchair committee: Noel Morris	Literacy/Dictionary Project: Gary Pollmiller

			
Diversity, Inclusion and Equity, Layne Ragsdale	New Club Development, Bill Lawson	Rotary Leadership Institute, ADCO, Laura Tapp	District Leadership Academy Dean, Scott Tatman
			
Dist 4-Way Test Co-Chair, PDG Ron Petersen Sr	Finance Committee Chair, Bob Headlee	RYLA Co-Chair, Matt Hancock	RYLA Co-Chair, Tracey Dean
			
Personnel Committee Chair, PDG Don den Daas	Paul Harris Society Coord, Michele Gann	Youth Exchange, Todd "Bow Tie" Jenkins	Choices Committee, Susan Sangren

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