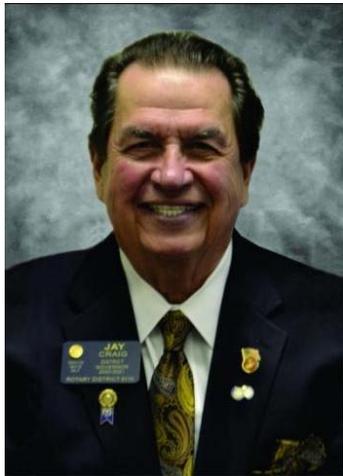


Rotary



District 6110 Newsletter

Governor Jay's Final Message



Rotarians,

I don't know if I have the ability to adequately state the gratitude that I have to all members of District 6110. This year, in spite of the very unusual circumstances, has been remarkable! No matter the challenge, you have responded admirably, giving your time, effort, money, love, leadership, and devotion to the principles and goals of our beloved Rotary. In many cases your families have suffered, your businesses have suffered, and you have suffered. Yet, you carried on, doing what you love in the service of those who love what you do.

Our District Office, our District Leaders, our club leaders, and all of you, have been challenged, daily. Challenged with situations you all never imagined you would have to deal with, and yet, you did deal with them. You dealt with them with smiles on your faces, ever content that the situation would one day get better, and you were right. You have persevered, and succeeded!

Each of the 78 clubs and two satellite clubs that I was honored to visit, and I visited all but three in person, had a wonderful attitude. I was met with the warmest welcomes, hospitality, gratitude, and cheer. You were proud of your accomplishments this year, despite the extra challenges, and your pride was not only evident, it was well deserved.

I thank all of you for the good work you did in your communities, and around the world. I thank our Club Presidents, Presidents-elect, and all other club officers. I thank our District Administrator, our District Trainer, our Assistant Governors, our District Committees. I thank our College of Governors for their advice and support.

Mostly however, I thank you, the fabulous Rotarians who make up this large, diverse, wonderful, district. I am SO fortunate to have been your Governor this past year. I am SO proud of each and every one of you. My wife Frankie, and I, thank you sincerely for all you have done to continue this district's history of excellence. I know that you will continue doing what you have done this next year, and the next, and on and on. I will forever cherish the wonderful memories made this year. Thank you for them, and for all you have done, and continue to do.

You are all wonderful Rotarians! We'll see you down the road....

Learn more about Rotary with the NEW District Leadership Academy



This coming Rotary year a new and improved [District Leadership Academy](#) will be available to Rotarians who want to learn more about Rotary. Aimed at members considering leadership tracks in their club and the district, the Academy is being revamped to operate under our district's banner. It is a comprehensive opportunity to dig deep into what Rotary is all about.

The Leadership Academy began in 2012 with Ellis Potter of the Iola Rotary Club as Dean, and after this year's class graduates, some 91 District 6110 Rotarians have learned much more about their organization. The district originally joined into the framework developed by Harriet Schloer, a Rotarian in Oregon. It has grown substantially, and now is the time for our District to operate it ourselves.

DGE Kevin Merrill has appointed Scott Tatman, of the Coffeyville, KS Rotary Club as the new Dean and has assembled a crack team to make the Academy "ours."

The Academy uses an on-line learning system used by many colleges, called "Canvas Learning Management System." Several courses are taught, and can be accessed at home on your on schedule on your computer.

Courses are set from August, 2021 thru May, 2022 and include:

- Rotary Communications
- Membership
- Public Image
- Youth Service
- RI Programming
- The Rotary Foundation
- District 6110



All courses are guided by District 6110 Rotarians with knowledge and passion for the subject, and who are available to help their fellow Rotarians taking the course. The cost of the program is \$100. It is highly recommended that local clubs sponsor participants. In the end, the club will reap the reward.

Much more, including applications and course requirements can be found on the website:

<https://academy6110.org/>

WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT? Rotary is a many faceted organization, and the Academy is an excellent way to learn more. Over 90 district Rotarians have been graduated from the Academy and serve their clubs and district with a full set of Rotary knowledge.

District Grants Can Improve Community Projects

By John D. Williams Jr.

As soon as the new Rotary year begins on July first, many clubs make their applications for a District Grant. Here  some info on the process and how your club can join in the fun of receiving your share of Foundation money!

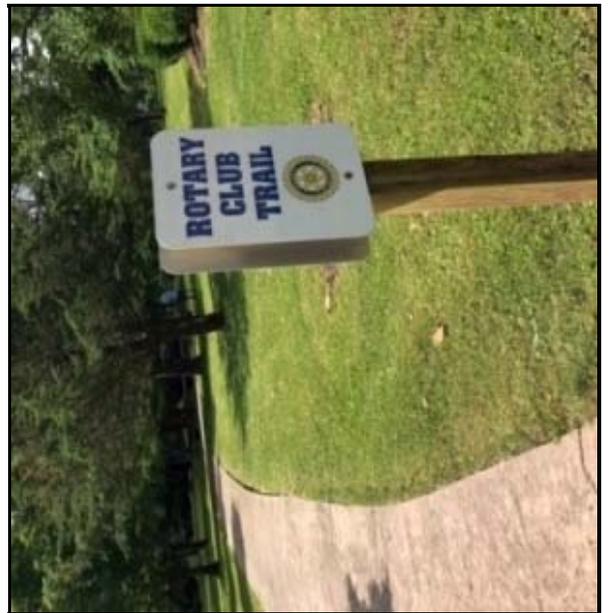
On April 6, 2021, your Grants Team presented the Second Virtual Grant Management Seminar (GMS). It was attended by 113 participants, representing 49 Rotary Clubs, people from other Districts, and some from outside the USA. Your club can qualify for up to \$3,000 in District Designated Funds (DDF), by having at least one, preferably two, members attend the Seminar (even AFTER the fact), sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and return the signed form to Cole Adamson, District Administrator: districtadministrator@district6110.org.

Funding Grants

In 2019-2020, we had 72 District Grants, and in 2020-2021, we had 61. We give priority to funding of clubs that reach the \$100 per capita giving to the Annual Fund. Clubs below the \$100 per capita giving must wait until all other Grants are funded. Fortunately, during the past two years, the District has been able to Fund **all** District Grants that were applied for. We encourage all clubs to give to the RI Annual Fund and complete an application for a District Grant. For Rotary Year 2021-2022, the District will have \$100,866 in DDF monies to fund these projects.

What can District Grants be used for?

You are limited only by your imagination! Many clubs use the funds to purchase dictionaries or send students to RYLA. Others use it to fund a "Signature Project" - see the article in this newsletter on the Parsons Rotary Club's partnership with the Parsons Arboretum for example. Other grants include support of a hands-on science classroom in Bartlesville, High School scholarships (several clubs), helping students on the autism spectrum, and even an outdoor musical park! More details in the info sheets and in the Grants Management Seminar.



How Can I Learn more about making an application?

Go to the district website www.rotarydistrict6110.org. Click on [Rotary Foundation](#) on the left side of the top bar. Next click on [District 6110 Grants](#). You can find documents such a District Policies, the MOU and other information. We encourage the President and the President-Elect to sign the MOU, even if they did not participate in the GMS training. Why? Club leaders need to be informed. Scan the signed MOU to Cole Adamson at districtadministrator@district6110.org.

Can I still apply for a District Grant?

I was unable to attend the April 6 Virtual GMS - can our club still apply for a District Grant for 2021-2022? You bet! This year the GMS (75-minutes) was recorded and posted on the district website. If your club would like to become eligible to apply for a District Grant, the process is simple. Send Cole Adamson three things: (1) an email indicating [whom by name](#) will be reviewing the video: (2) sign the MOU; and (3) Scan the signed MOU to the District Office. On the most recent audit, only 11 Clubs had submitted the signed MOU. Your club is not fully qualified until you send the signed MOU to the district office. Have the Club President and the President Elect sign the MOU

Ready, Set, Go!

Grants can be submitted between July 1 and November 30, 2021. The Final date to complete a District Grant is November 30, 2022. We have shortened these dates in an effort to get club grants settled sooner.

Helpful Suggestions:

1. Read the document ♦ Completing a District Grant ♦ Step by Step Instructions ♦
2. Change the Rotary Year to 2021-2022.
3. Audit Club Signatures.
4. Increase your contact list.
5. If you missed the April 6 training, it is not too late to qualify your club for a Grant.
6. If you get stuck on a step, pick up the telephone and call. We are here to help.
7. Receipts can support that you did your project. Posting checks are best.

Who serves on the Grant Committee?

Charlie Keeter, *Joplin*; Larry Nelson, *Mountain Home*; Les Crider, *Mount Vernon*; Judy Brigham PDG, *Iola*; Rolf Hufnagel PDG, *Bixby*.

DON'T BE AFRAID TO TRY - You can learn to complete a District Grant.

John D Williams, District Grant Chair	Cole Adamson, District Administrator
479-841-2614 Cell	918-481-6110
Johndwilliams56@sbcglobal.net	districtadministrator@district6110.org
Rachelle Parker Langley, DACdb Specialist	
918-350-8379	
rachelle@dacdb.com	

Signature Project Feature: Parsons Arboretum

Does your club
have a "Signature



Project?" It's a way of making a difference in your

community while generating great publicity for your club. Rotary clubs often do several projects - delivering dictionaries to 3rd graders, picking up trash, etc. A Signature project is usually bigger and more visible - something that really demonstrates your club's commitment to your community.

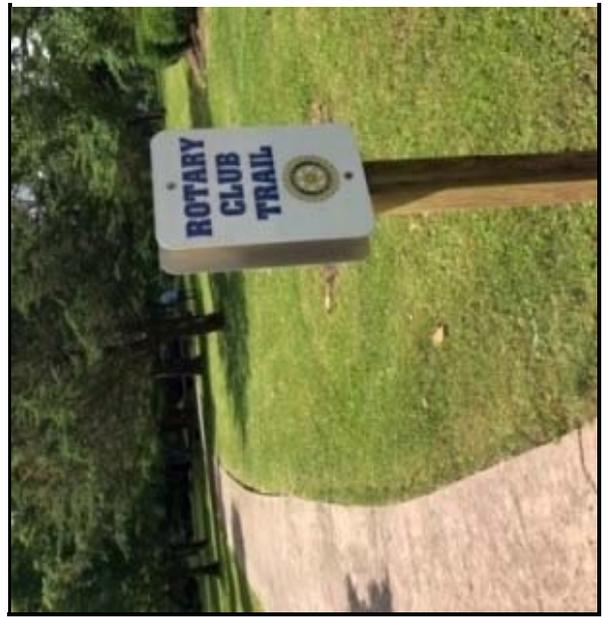
We'd like to feature several clubs and their Signature Projects, and we are beginning with the Parsons Rotary Club's partnership with the Parsons Arboretum.

The Parsons Arboretum was created in 1991 when the Union Pacific Railroad deeded nearly 19 acres of land to the city of Parsons, KS. The Parsons Arboretum Foundation was established in 1993 to continue efforts to develop this beautiful facility. Today the Arboretum encompasses 25 acres and displays an astounding 825 trees along with numerous flower specimens. It is the only Arboretum in Southeast Kansas and one of only a handful across the state.

The Parsons Rotary Club completed the **Rotary Club Memorial Shelter** in 2016 and extension of walking trail in 2017. The trail is 6' wide and paved concrete. A variety of trails are available throughout the Arboretum for the public to enjoy. Gazebos, arbors, wetlands, memorial trees and other features contribute to the beauty offered at the Arboretum. **The club has used District Grants to significantly increase their funding for these projects.**

Parsons Rotary Club volunteers provide regular maintenance work days to keep the grounds beautiful. Club President, Gary Goodnight notes that "further plans include connecting the trails and the arboretum to

the children's museum that is just across a main thoroughfare and across the creek. That will require utilization of an old railroad bridge across the creek and signals for the crosswalk."



Watch for the club to make applications for **District Grants Funds** to make this happen!

Congratulations to the Parsons Rotary Club for making a difference in their community!



Great Partnerships

A good way to honor specific Rotarians





Rotarians ready to beautify

Rotarians work in the Gift shop



Does YOUR club have a "Signature Project?" Tell us about it!

Wally Bloss, District Public Image Chair

wbloss@gmail.com

WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT? We Rotarians have been "doing good in the world" for more than 100 years. But often we forget to let the community and world know what we do! We didn't want to "blow our own horn." BUT by keeping our service quiet, we also missed out on finding others who may wish to join with us. We need to let the world know that we provide "Service Above Self!"

2021 International Virtual Convention happening NOW

Rotary Convention is on now!



Have you wanted to attend a Rotary International Convention, but found the travel costs prohibitive? That won't be a problem this year, as the RI annual event will again be conducted virtually.

Originally planned for Taipei, Taiwan, the decision to present the Convention as a virtual event was made by the Rotary Board of Directors, to protect the health of everyone involved. It will be held June 12 thru 16, 2021. The Virtual Convention will be open to all Rotary members and participants. All pre-registrations for the original in-person event are being refunded. Registration for the Virtual Convention is \$65.

Please check this site to register for the virtual event: [Virtual Convention](#)

WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT? Each year 30,000 or more Rotarians gather somewhere in the world to exchange ideas, learn about Rotary, and explore new cultures. This is the 2nd year the Convention has been changed to a virtual event.

PS: Next year's Convention is in Houston, TX!

MSNI Contributes Oxygen Concentrators to India

By William F. Lawson Jr.

Medical Supplies Network Inc [MSNI.org](#) recently played a part in helping Rotarians in India deal with a COVID spike.

The Rotary Foundation recently requested assistance from District 6220 to help a Rotarian, Mr. Harshad Shah, in Chattanooga, TN, find oxygen concentrators for relief in the COVID surge in India. The Foundation contacted our District because they know of MSNI and wanted to make a connection in the Rotary world.

Oxygen concentrators are in short supply worldwide. A few hundred would appear on the market and be gone in 15 minutes. A year ago the devices cost about \$400 - by May they were over \$900 and unavailable.

In response to the Foundation's request, MSNI Board member, Bill Lawson, located 5 devices at MSNI. VJ Lively, MSNI's Operations Director, made them available free of charge and Lawson shipped two of them directly via air by FEDEX to India (at about \$1,000 each) and the other three directly to Mr. Shah in Chattanooga where he could find a cheaper method (USPS air shipping only cost \$750 each).

Mr. Shah bore all the

expenses for boxing and shipping the devices. The concentrators were shipped over two weeks in May and by June 5, **eleven seriously ill patients were finally able to be discharged from the hospital, alive and recovering.** This small effort will continue to save lives in India for the foreseeable future.

Mr. Shah has relatives in India which brought the urgent need for oxygen to his attention at the beginning of this last surge. He has now shipped now five concentrators. MSNI made the concentrators available free when Mr. Shah could not find new ones for purchase. He plans to ship even more as he can obtain them.

On the Indian side, Mr. Miland Parikh of the Jalaxmi Society received the oxygen concentrators, converted them overnight for 220 volt operation and delivered them to a hospital in Vadodara, Gujarat, a very poor area.

MSNI continues to need Rotary clubs to assist in the warehouse, and assist with shipping costs. If your club can help for a few hours it will be greatly appreciated!



Rotary 101 - June 2021

By Wally Bloss



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

"There is nothing so constant as change."
Heraclitus, Greek Philosopher

June 30 is the end of our Rotary program year - and what a year it has been! Our large district covers parts of four different states, with COVID-19 restrictions and issues different in each. All clubs did not meet for some period of time, some pivoted quickly to Zoom/virtual meetings, then hybrid with both in-person and virtual going simultaneously, but some clubs are just now getting back to meeting in person. What a change!

Our theme this year was "Rotary Opens Opportunities," and we have had lots of new opportunities this year! Many of our annual activities and projects were postponed, canceled, or had to be done virtually. That's the kind of change we do not want!

July 1 is when we change leadership in our clubs and in the District. It's a new beginning, a new annual theme, and a new set of goals. Many clubs have a special "change-over" meeting when the outgoing President reviews the club's accomplishments, and the incoming President sets goals and is installed. Our district conducts an installation event for the incoming District Governor, marking the change.

So change is always with us - we get used to it. What does NOT change is our resolve to make our community, our world, and ourselves become a better version each year. We still believe and make happen "Service Above Self."

After all, Rotary's vision statement is all about change:



Rotary vision statement:

"Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves."

As we change into a new year with a theme of "Serve to Change Lives" let's take that to heart and "be the change."

WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT? It's time for a change! Make it happen in your club, your community, your world, and you!



Fayetteville Rotary Club returns; 100 years in the making

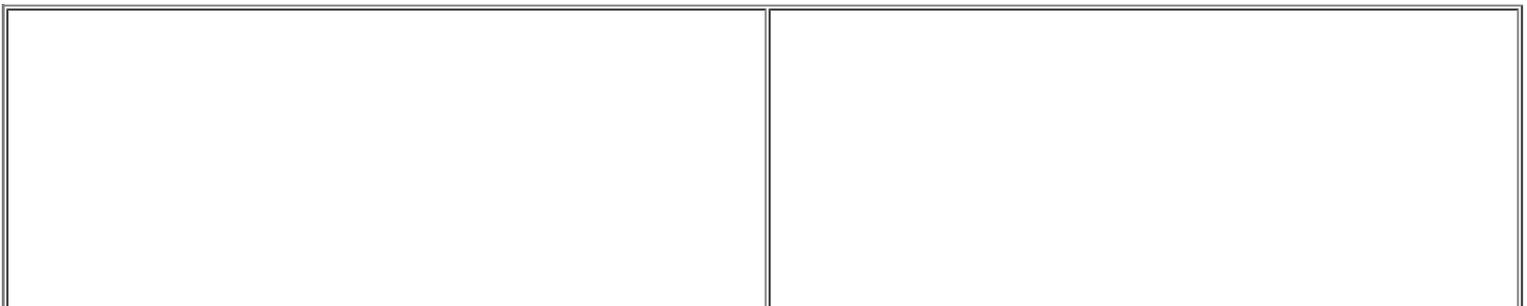
The Rotary Club of Fayetteville celebrated its return to in-person club meetings with a special event after more than a year of being apart.

They met at the playground the Club had sponsored at Kessler Mountain Regional Park. The Club had provided more than \$155,000 to assist the City of Fayetteville in building this premiere playground. The equipment consists of custom hand-sculpted and hand-painted glass fiber reinforced concrete formed into rocks, trees, and wildlife animals including an eagle, raccoon, squirrel, and rabbit. These realistic structures are designed to encourage children's mental and physical activity through an eagerness to play and imagine.

Besides the return to regular meetings, they also celebrated their 100th birthday and Service Above Self Banquet all rolled into one. It was great!

Rotarian Glenda Patterson was selected to receive the Fred Vorsanger award and community leader, Monique Jones, who runs the food pantry at St James, was selected to receive the Clark McClinton award. It was an exciting time to see all the members and celebrate their special day.

Special thanks to the University of Arkansas Chancellor Dr. Joseph Steinmetz for speaking and to the SAS Committee for all of their help and support.





Fayetteville Rotarians gathered under special Rotary tents



Barbara Pritchard enjoyed the 100th anniversary



Rotarians enjoyed the park benches



Fayetteville President Zoe Naylor (L)



University of Arkansas Chancellor Joe Steinmetz addressed the cub



Priscilla Kumpe enjoyed the event

WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT? Some clubs have not been able to meet in person for more than a year due to COVID-19 and the availability of meeting places, etc. Several clubs in the district have been providing service for more than 100 years. Fayetteville is glad to "be back!"