

Governor Kevin Merrill's September message

By Kevin Merrill



Greetings fellow Rotarians of 6110!!

My Grandson, Jasen, who is six and lives in California, told me while visiting us in Arkansas in June that he wasn to in his world, but that he was in ours. It took a bit to understand what he was referring to, but I finally caught on. When my daughter and sonin-law moved to California, he was told by multiple people that s a whole other world out there. LOL!!

Last year, Lisa and I visited 22 states during the pandemic, selfcontained in our own little RV world. It was interesting to see

that everywhere we went, everyone was dealing with the same issue. Not like in a localized disaster our fellow Rotarians are dealing with down in Louisiana.

See below an opportunity to take action and help hurting Rotarians in their current world of disaster.

From Rotary International Director Elizabeth Usovicz

Rotarians are People of Action. Throughout the world in disaster recovery situations, our compassion and commitment to service are a significant part of relief efforts. **Right here, right now, your help is needed here in our own zones.**

Hurricane Ida has devastated communities in our Districts 6200 6840 and 6820. Governors Bob Vaughn (6820) and Mark Lee (6200) have assembled recovery teams to identify needs and coordinate response across all affected areas in Zone 31. Neighboring District 6190, through Governor Karen Johnson, has transported water for distribution in Louisiana. A group of Rotary members from Fairhope, AL, will prepare over 600 meals for three days.

In many areas, there are no shelters, no electricity, very limited resources for food, gasoline and supplies, and scarce medical services. **Communities such as Golden Meadow, LaPlace and Galliano are broken and families are left with nothing. Our own Rotary leaders in the area have been affected.** Now more than ever is the time for us to live our hashtag, #RotaryResponds.

Here@s how you can help.

- Please make a donation, and encourage your club, club members and district to make a donation.
- Donations can be sent to the District 6840 Foundation via the following link: Rotary Secure Donation Link Donations are taxdeductible and will be used to help affected regions in each district.

Hurricane Ida Relief

Your gift supports our mission. Make a donation today.

Rotary District 6840 Hurricane Ida 2021 Relief Fund

• Your donation will help to fund supplies such as: tarps, generators, gas and gas cans, roofing nails, bottled water, chain saws, meals, pet food, baby formula, diapers, cleaning supplies, and charging stations. **Donations are desperately needed to fund these items.**

If you have a network to suppliers who are willing to donate large quantities of these items, or are considering sending a team of recovery volunteers, please contact Governor Mark at <u>Gov Mark email</u> or Governor Bob at <u>Gov Bobs email</u>

Please help those who have lost so much by responding with a donation. Thank you for being a Rotarian, and on behalf of the people of Louisiana and Mississippi, thank you for your compassion.

Elizabeth Usovicz

D6110 Youth Exchange News � the Study Abroad Scholarship

By Todd Jenkins

This past year Rotary International announced that the very popular Youth Exchange program will begin again on July 1, 2022. Since the recruiting cycle is one year ahead of the student's departure, the YE Committee will begin recruiting on Sept 16, 2021, for the 2022-23 school year. That s RIGHT NOW!

So...Rotarians, please get that word out in your communities, **especially to the high schools**.

Use this link for info to give to schools: <u>School</u> <u>Announcement</u>



The committee will hold Zoom info sessions for interested students and parents. Below are the days. For an invitation to a Zoom session, please email Dr. Rodney Arnold at <u>rarnold@northark.edu</u>.

Students/ Parents are welcome to attend one or several. (*Note: The Zoom link changes each week so get the new one from the email above.*)

- Thursday, Sept 16, 7pm
- Tuesday, Sept 21, 7pm
- Thursday, Sept 30, 7pm
- Tuesday, Oct 5, 7pm

- Thursday, Oct 14, 7pm
- Tuesday, Oct 19, 7pm

NOTE: With RI's approval the YE program in D6110 is being rebranded as a **Study Abroad Scholarship**, since the student gets free schooling and room and board, plus a stipend for spending money. When you talk to your High School, refer to the **Rotary D6110 High School Study Abroad Scholarship**.

Applicants must be 15 to 19 years old on the day their study abroad starts. Applications are due November 5, 2021. Club interviews take place in late Nov and early Dec. The district level interviews (which will be held virtually) take place December 11, 2021.

After selection, the students will train for the exchange all spring, culminating in a 5-day training Camp in June. Depending on the destination country, students depart from late July 2022 through Sept 2022.

Your Youth Exchange Committee will appreciate your reaching out to your local school(s) and asking them to make Study Abroad Scholarship announcements two days prior to each of the above dates. If your club has a Youth Exchange Committee, please ask the Chair to reach out to and personally contact the appropriate official at your high schools to assist in spreading the word about our program and the upcoming Zoom sessions information sessions.

Study Abroad & Rotary in Action Creating Cross-cultural Understanding

D6110 YE Committee

Dr. Todd (Bowtie) Jenkins RotarianTodd@gmail.com

WHAT S THIS ALL ABOUT? Rotary provides a life-changing experience for a youth in your community to live in another country for a school year. What a wonderful gift to world understanding. Find out more on our District 6110 Youth Exchange website: https://www.6110studyabroad.com/



Rotary Clubs in Service - September 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!

Fort Smith Southside Rotary Club inducts President!

The Rotary Club of Fort Smith Southside Rotarians thanked Denny Altes (right) for serving as Club President over the past year, and inducted new Club President, Scott Chambers (left) for the 2021-2022 Rotary year!



The Van Buren Rotary Club Starts the Year Right

The Rotary Club of Van Buren inducted Kyle Pierce as their new Club President for the 2021-2022 Rotary year! Immediate Past President, Michelle Robinson presented Kyle with his Paul Harris Fellow medallion as well, the club was very excited!



Fayetteville Northside Rotary Cleans up

The Fayetteville Northside Rotary recently conducted their first trail cleanup of the new Rotary year on their newly assigned segment

of the City's Mud Creek Trail. They also debuted the club's new bright yellow work vests that feature the Rotary emblem and "ROTARIAN AT WORK" printed across the back. In steamy weather and a shower or two, the following Northside Rotarians chatted, laughed, and got better acquainted while dodging poison ivy and picking up trash: Caroline Ceola (club president), Rachel Whitman (new member), Chris Houser (new member), Mike Mohler, Curtis Wray, John Williams, Alan Wilbourn, Victoria Wilbourn, Kahlil Rowett, and Katrina Osborne.

This team's work resulted in the removal of eight large, overfilled bags of trash from the



trail, and some good clean fun.

Van Buren Rotary Club Donates a Harmony Garden for its 100th year

To celebrate its 100th year, the Rotary Club of Van Buren donated a Harmony Garden to the City of Van Buren on August 10th. The Rotary Harmony Garden is made up of metal butterflies and flowers that make musical sounds when played. The club plans to purchase two more instruments to complete the garden. The Centennial Anniversary was in 2020, but because of COVID-19, the project was postponed - but not forgotten! The dedication was joined by the Mayor of Van Buren, the Chamber of Commerce, and local Main Street



L-R: Aaliyah Grant, Kyle Pierce, Cathy Gifford, Michelle Robinson

businesses that participated in the Ribbon Cutting.

Skiatook Rotary Club Becomes MSNI Ambassador



The Skiatook Rotary club recently heard from VJ Lively, the Director of Operations of the Medical Supplies Network, Inc,



known as MSNI. They were inspired to become MSNI Ambassadors (with some matching funds!)

Above, left, Club President, Toni Cornelius, and Ray Turner, with MSNI, left. display the Certificate the club received for their Ambassador donation to MSNI. Chet Reyckert, the President-Elect also became an Ambassador for MSNI.

That's a lot of International service support for a club of about a dozen Rotarians!

Rotary District Leaders help MSNI

Some of the District Leadership modeled some "Service Above Self" at MSNI recently. Working in the nicely air conditioned (and heated) warehouse they packed 5 pallets of usable medical equipment for shipment to countries needing them.

Afterwards they enjoyed some fellowship over lunch at Tally's Good Food Cafe - it was!





Rotary Clubs in Pittsburg make United Way Newsletter

AREA GROUPS STUFF THE BUS WITH KINDNESS

Acts of KINDNESS

As a new school year prepares to get underway, area organizations are doing what they can to help ensure students start the year with the tools they need to succeed.

The Pittsburg Noon Rotary Club partnered with the Pittsburg Sunrise Rotary Club and the Salvation Army of Pittsburg, a United Way of Southwest Missouri and Southeast Kansas partner agency, to host a Stuff the Bus school supplies drive this past weekend at the two Walmart locations in Pittsburg.

Rotary volunteers spent the day at both Pittsburg Walmart locations collecting items such as backpacks, spiral notebooks, pens, pencils, crayons as well as monetary contributions from members of the community. The donated items will be used to help students of USD 250 Pittsburg Community Schools. Many families in our community struggle with purchasing the necessary basic back to school supplies for their children. Additionally, pens, pencils, crayons and even backpacks break over the course of the school year.

Thanks to the Acts of Kindness of the Pittsburg Rotary Clubs, the Salvation Army of Pittsburg, the Pittsburg Walmart locations and the community, students will now be equipped with the supplies they need to learn and be successful.

United Way of Southwest Missouri and Southeast Kansas also supports programs that help children and youth in our communities get a great start and do well in school and reach their full potential.

You can join the fight by going to <u>www.unitedwaymokan.org</u> and making a donation to support programs in your community.



For more information, contact United Way of Southwest Missouri and Southeast Kansas in Joplin at 417.624.0153 or Pittsburg at 620.231.8140.

> We win when we LIVE UNITED! Unitedwaymokan.org

> > 0

Mountain Home Scholarships

The Rotary Club of Mountain Home, AR recently presented a check for \$8,000.00 to the Mountain Home Educational Foundation for scholarships to students that attended high school in Baxter County. The grant included club funds and a District Grant. The District Grant, of course, comes from donations made to the Rotary Foundation by district Rotarians. (That's us!) Well done!



Mt Vernon Club Explores Corporate Membership

President Marsha Jones leads a discussion of Corporate Memberships for the Mt Vernon club. Scott George, 30-year member and Lynda Hull joined in the discussion. AG Wally Bloss also suggested some things that have worked with other clubs. (he took the photo)



Drumright Rotary Club Benches people

The Rotary Club of Drumright showcased its park bench when Governor Kevin and Lisa Merrill Stopped by. You really know that Rotary is active in Drumright!





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 - September 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, Part "457"

When we say "Rotary" we usually think about our own local club, right? While Rotary is comprised of about 35,000 local clubs, there are more interesting little sides to Rotary. Let s continue our look at some of the many facets of Rotary.



We like our numbers...can you think of what Rotary facets come in 4, 5, or 7?

The Four Way Test:

In 1932, The Four-Way Test was developed by Herbert Taylor, a Rotary Club of Chicago member and 1954-55 RI president, to guide his attempt to save a faltering aluminum company. Rotary later adopted it, and it underscores Rotary so value of integrity. The Four-Way Test has long served as an ethical guide for members to live by in their personal and professional relationships. Our district also sponsors a Four-Way test speech contest. Here's the speech contest info: Four-Way Test Speech Contest info

(You know this by heart @ right?)

OF THE THINGS WE THINK, SAY OR DO: 1. Is it the TRUTH? 2. Is it FAIR to all concerned? 3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS? 4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

The Five Avenues Of Service:

We channel our commitment to service through five Avenues of Service,

which are the foundation of club activity.

Club Service focuses on making clubs strong. A thriving club is anchored by strong relationships and an active membership development plan.

Vocational Service calls on all Rotarians to work with integrity and contribute their expertise to the problems and needs of society.

Community Service encourages every Rotarian to find ways to improve the quality of life of people in their communities and to serve the public interest.

International Service exemplifies our global reach in promoting peace and understanding. We support this avenue by sponsoring or volunteering on international projects, using local member expertise to build long-term

partnerships for sustainable projects, seeking service partners abroad, and more.

Youth Service recognizes the importance of empowering youth and young professionals through leadership development programs such as Rotaract, Interact, Rotary Youth Leadership Awards, and Rotary Youth Exchange. (This avenue was added originally as New Generations", in 2010 then clarified as "Youth" in 2013)



Seven Areas of Focus

Rotary is dedicated to causes that build international relationships, improve lives, and create a better world to support our peace efforts and end polio forever. We focus our resources on these seven areas:

- Promoting Peace
- Fighting Disease
- Providing Clean Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
- Saving mothers and children
- Supporting education
- Growing local economies
- Protecting the environment (just added in 2020)



Coming next month: mottos, objects, vision, Peace Centers, and a lot more!

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

Your Club Can Give the Gift of Mobility

By Noel Morris

The Rotary District 6110 wheelchair project is alive and well. For the past 18 years, the Springdale Rotary Club has partnered with other clubs and the District to purchase and deliver wheelchairs around the world to those that need one but cannot afford one. Since we started this project, we have been able to purchase over 10,000 wheelchairs to provide mobility to those in need.

Here's a great 5 minute video of our District at work in Cancun - give it a look: <u>Wheelchair video</u> You can also use this with your club.

There are a lot of things that we take for granted, such as pre-natal care, and technological advancements, that are not as common elsewhere in the world. The results are birth defects, and disabilities among children and adults. We have been able to make distribution trips to over 20 locations in Mexico, and Central America, to personally see the miracle of mobility in action.

We are currently in the process of planning a trip to Mexico City in the spring of 2022 and any Rotarian is invited to go. You can get more info at our booth during District Conference September 18 in Eureka Springs.



Just as a reminder, you can have a profound impact and change a life and the lives of those around the recipient for \$150. These can be purchased by individual Rotarians or your club. If you, or your club wants to give the gift of mobility, contact Noel Morris via email: <u>Noel Morris</u> email or call him at: 479-841-7340





WHAT's THIS ALL ABOUT? We Rotarians believe in "Service Above Self" - and giving people a way to get around instead of crawling certainly fits that! We have connected with the American Wheelchair Mission, whose president is Chris Lewis (yes, the son of Jerry Lewis) - More info here: Amwheelchair.org

Eight tips for getting young people interested in your club



Nathaniel Smith and Kristin Post met on a walking tour of Dupont Circle, a lively neighborhood in Washington, D.C. The Halloween-inspired walk featured ghost stories and neighborhood history. It also replaced a regular meeting of the Rotary Club of Dupont Circle Washington. It's just the kind of activity that can attract young people -- or the young at heart -- to Rotary.

"This type of club meeting not only shakes up the traditionbound notions of Rotary, it also creates an event to show off our club to younger prospects," says Post, a founding member of the

Dupont Circle club.

Here are some of their tips to help your club do the same:

1. Organize interesting meetings

Post says her club has found that organizing at least two special meetings a year creates a unique experience for attracting new members and cements friendships among club members. Explore your community for activities that you can use to create a different kind of club experience.

2. Look at your traditions

Smith says newer generations aren't impressed by pomp and circumstance. He points to the Rotary Club of Crawley in Western Australia, whose membership is one of the fastest

growing and most diverse. They no longer sing the national anthem or fine their members.

"Some tradition is important, but too much time spent on these rituals may prevent a younger member from feeling at home in your club," he adds.

3. Update how and where you talk about Rotary

When the Rotary Club of Bondi Junction started referring to itself as a **"social enterprise that delivers social change**," it saw an immediate uptick in interest from younger members. Choosing the right communication channels for your club is

equally important, whether it's Facebook, LinkedIn, or your website.

"The trickiest part is keeping it updated, but this is also critical. If your presence on these sites becomes stagnant, you'll lose the opportunity to hook a younger audience," says Smith.

4. Examine your club dues

The Dupont Circle club decided to offer appetizers and a cash bar rather than a full meal at its meetings to **keep dues affordable** for young professionals. You might also consider offering reduced dues to younger members for their first year.

5. Provide alternatives to weekly attendance

"Attendance is another challenge," says Post. "Members in

our club often travel for work, plus they have family or other personal commitments that vie for their time." The Dupont Circle club makes make-ups easier by counting participation in service days, committee meetings, district trainings, and club social events.

6. Plan events that members can attend easily

In many urban areas, young people rely on public transportation to get around. Choose meeting locations with that in mind. And hold some events on the weekend so members with full-time jobs and young families can attend.

7. Involve young members early to build club loyalty

Involve new members in club projects right from the start. Seek their input. Give them responsibilities so they feel a sense of accomplishment and worth. And assign them mentors in the club to ensure that they feel valued.

8. Plan family-friendly projects and activities

Plan club meetings, service projects, and events that appeal to young families. For instance, the Dupont Circle club threw a baby shower to celebrate three upcoming births. The shower was held in a space that offered plenty of room for the children of other club members to play together.







September - Basic Education and Literacy Month

Actually, it works out pretty well. You see, September is Basic Education and Literacy month in the Rotary year. Which sure fits with all the dictionaries our district s clubs give out every fall!

More than 775 million people over the age of 15 are illiterate. That is 17 percent of the world is adult population. But right here in the US, the Department of Education says that the number of functionally illiterate 17-year-olds in the United States still is about 13 percent. Among minority youth, 44 percent of 17-year-olds are functionally illiterate. Functional illiteracy is defined by the extent to which difficulties with reading and writing prevent an adult from serving as a functioning member of society.



Does your club deliver dictionaries to 3rd graders? It **\$** s one of the most rewarding local, easy-to-do projects! Over half of the district clubs delivered dictionaries or provided college

scholarships, using a District Grant, and many more provided them from their own club resources.

Other clubs have provided summer reading enhancement, tutoring, special reading materials and programs and work with autistic students. Clearly, our district understands the importance of basic education and literacy!

	What else can your club do to promote education?
•	 Has your club adopted a school? Does your club recognize local students on an annual or monthly basis? Have you considered mentoring students at a school? Do you provide scholarships? Are you giving dictionaries, thesauruses, or atlases to students?



WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT? Each month we focus our attention on a particular area, and September is Basic Education. To insure a literate and educated society Rotarians want students to have early successes. To find out more on delivering dictionaries, contact Gary Pollmiller - <u>Gary Pollmiller email</u>

District Grant Update

By John D. Williams Jr.

Info for completing the paperwork for LAST YEAR S

Grants: Effective July 1, 2021 through November 30, 2021, clubs can apply for new District Grants. However, we still have

District Grants



24 District Grants that are requesting \$39,728 in District Designated Funds (DDF). We have the Funds in Tulsa to settle these grants. **Please do the homework so we can send you a refund check.** Remember, these grants must be settled before November 30, 2021.

John D Williams District Grant Chair Johndwilliams56@sbcglobal.net 479-841-2614 Cell

RI Houston Convention Early Bird Registration

Early Bird Registration: RI Houston Conference June 4-8, 2022

It s been said things are bigger, better and friendlier in Texas so what better location for Rotary International's next **in-person** Convention in Houston during the week of June 4-8, 2022.



Join 20,000+ of your closest friends in Houston enjoying motivational speakers and informative breakout sessions, an exciting House of Friendship with lots of new ideas, your favorite Rotary vendors, and the sights and sounds of one of America s most vibrant cities.

Houston is the home of the Johnson Space Center and America s astronauts. There's also great theater, a world class symphony and other outstanding performing arts offerings. Amazing museums are within a short ride from the week's convention activities. If your taste leans more toward sports, how about a Houston Astros game at Minute Maid Park - within walking distance of the Houston Convention Center?

If great food is what puts you into orbit, Houston s varied cultures are reflected in exceptional restaurants serving up tantalizing Creole, Chinese, Thai, Vietnamese, Italian, African, Caribbean, Argentinian and, of course, Tex-Mex and the best-of-the-best BBQ.

Take advantage of early bird registration. \$475 per person until New Year setuc. Register NOW at <u>https://convention.rotary.org</u>.

WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT? They say the third time is charm, so let's actually have an in-person Rotary Convention in Texas!

Say Hello to our new District Rotarians - September

By Wally Bloss

Governor Kevin loves the idea of "Each One Bring One" that 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 <u>Wally Bloss</u>, Dist Public Image Coord)

	<u> </u>	
Member Name	Club	Sponsor
Bache, Jack (JACK)	Pittsburg Sunrise	Dan McNally
Brickey, Dena (DENA)	Tulsa Southside	Mary Hawthorne
Champ, Monica Ann	Claremore	
(MONICA)		
Churchwell, William (BILL)	Rogers	Jene Huffman-Gilreath
Cox, Philomena J	Bull Shoals-Lakeview	Gordon Cox
(PHILOMENA COX)		
Evans, Michaela Don	Bentonville	
(MICHAELA)		
Hankton, Kathryn E	Broken Arrow	Lisa Engel
(KATHRYN)		
Hardyman, Tim (TIM)	Mt. Vernon	Brad A. DeLay
Hutto, Heather D (HEATHER)	Bristow	
Johnson, Merlyn (MERLYN)	Cassville	Eric White
		Roger Brock
Kleeman, Casey (CASEY)	Grove	Berwin Kock

Langdon, Karen (KAREN)	Tulsa	Linda L. Bradshaw
Long-Nickell, Patricia Rylee	Rogers	Shannon Warren
(RYLEE)		
Marler, Vickie (VICKIE)	Fayetteville	Trudy Tavares
Naylor, Zoe (ZOE)	Fayetteville	Tim R. Tarvin and Howard
		Brill
Oxley, Warren G. (WARREN)	Fayetteville	Rotary Drop In
Powell, Dayshawn	Rogers	Joseph R. Spivey
(DAYSHAWN)		
Rains, Catherine C (CATHY)	Sapulpa	Mary Webb
		Cathy Gebetsberger
Robinson, Mike (MIKE)	Bella Vista	
Simpson, Sean T (SEAN)	Broken Arrow	Megan Quickle
Sullivan, Katherine (KATE)	Tulsa Southside	Bob Sullivan
Walkup, Darren (DARREN)	Tulsa	Matthew D. Davis
Williams, MacKenzie R	Harrison	Alba Taylor
(KENZIE)		
Wilson, Serena (SERENA)	Miami	
Winters, Debra K. (DEBRA)	Fayetteville	

Note: For members to appear on this list, their start date must be entered.

The **Broken Arrow Rotary Club** spotlights new members with a nice writeup in their newsletter:

Meet New Member Kathryn Hankton



Kathryn was inducted into our club during the governor's visit. She and her husband, Demond, have five children. Her grandfather was a Rotarian and club president, so she has a rich tradition to follow. She is a Farmers Insurance Agent.

Look her up in DACDB to find out more about Kathryn and her interests.

Welcome and congratulations Kathryn!

Rotary International District 6110 8209 E 63rd Pl, Tulsa, OK 74133 www.district6110.org 918-481-6110