

By Wally Bloss

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Over the past few months we have requested a short bio/profile from each of these leaders and shared them on social media. Now we are publishing them all in this **special edition** of the District newsletter. It might be worth saving in your email folder to refer to later.

What's this all about? Our District is led each year by a volunteer team assembled by the District Governor. Kevin Merrill was installed last Sunday and officially begins as DG at midnight July 1! DACdb will be down then so we're sending this out a few hours early to see the team he has assembled. The team of ~45 volunteers listed below are backstopped by our District Administrator who is the only full time District 6110 staff person, assisted by two part timers in the Tulsa District Office.



Kevin is a member of the Rotary Club of Harrison, Arkansas. He has been in Rotary for 16 years and served as President of his club in 2016-2017. Under his leadership, the club became a 100% Paul Harris Fellow club. Kevin has personally sponsored 18 people into his club. He was selected as Rotarian of the Year in 1999 & 2014. He served District 6110 as an



Assistant Governor from 2017-2019, and served as Lieutenant Governor, assisting the district's Arkansas and Missouri Assistant Governors in 2020-2021. He served as the Paul Harris Society Coordinator from 2017-2019, and with his team, raised an additional \$33,000.00 per year for the Rotary Foundation.

Kevin spent his early life in Tulsa, Oklahoma, before moving to Eureka Springs, Arkansas in 1980, to attend high school. Kevin is a Navy Veteran and served aboard the USS Carl Vinson. He met his wife, Lisa, in high school, and they have been married for 34 years. Lisa is an active Rotarian as well. They have owned and operated Main Street Service Center, a vehicle repair shop, for over 31 years. They were named winners of the ♦Torch Award for Ethics♦ from the Better Business Bureau of Arkansas in 2014 and were finalists for the same award from the International Better Business Bureau in 2015. Kevin is a graduate of the Dale Carnegie Training Course and received the ♦Highest Award for Achievement♦ from his classmates. Kevin and Lisa are the parents of one daughter, Jessica, who is married to Landen. They greatly enjoy three grandchildren, Jasen, Madelyn, and Westin.

The one thing most people probably don't know about him is that he has been homeless twice. once at age 18 and again at 23. When not serving in Rotary, they also enjoy traveling, enjoying our beautiful country.

Kevin and Lisa are both Paul Harris Fellows and members of the Paul Harris Society. They are Level 1 Major Donors, Bequest Society Members, and District 6110 Leadership Academy Graduates. Kevin was also selected as District 6110 Assistant Governor of the Year in 2017-2018. They traveled to Piedras Negras, Mexico, in March 2017 on a Rotary Chiropractic Mission and traveled to India in January of 2020 for the NID. "National Immunization Days" where they joined Rotarians from around the world to give life-saving Polio drops to children.

Kevin was excited and honored to be selected by the District's College of Governors in January 2019 to serve as District Governor in 2021-2022. He and Lisa are looking forward to working with the 79 clubs in our district to build stronger and better Rotarians!

## George Knox - District Governor-Elect



Making plans for his year, **George Knox moves up to District Governor-Elect.**

George has had two rewarding careers (or three or four!) His first career was as a traffic homicide investigator for the City of Hollywood, FL, police department. He then pursued a bachelor of science in criminal justice and a master's degree in criminal justice administration.

His second career was in higher education and he earned his doctorate in higher education administration. He traveled through ranks and served three colleges as their president. After retiring his wife Carol and he settled

in Nevada, Missouri where they really love their community.

George holds a B.S. in Criminal Justice Nova University, M.S. Criminal Justice Administration Nova University, Ed.D. Nova Southeastern University

He and Carol and have been married for 50 years and have two incredible sons who are career military.

♦Retirement career♦ number one came when he ran for a seat on our city council has now served as mayor for the last two years. ♦Retirement career♦ number two finds him occasionally conducting services at area United Methodist churches on Sunday mornings, and serving as Director of church planning and major gifts for his church.

To get away from it all, he enjoys sailing his boat ♦Take it to the Limit♦ on Stockton lake.

His Rotary tenure spans 25 years in three states, North Carolina, Kansas and Missouri. He has served as a club president, treasurer, membership chair, and recently served as an Assistant Governor/Lt. Governor.

On July 1st he becomes District Governor-Elect for the District and will begin planning his 2022-2023 year in earnest.

We welcome George to the District Leadership!

### **John Rains - Assistant Governor Coordinator**

**John Rains** is currently an Assistant Governor, and was recently named AG of the year! John moves up to Assistant Governor Coordinator in Oklahoma.

John has extensive experience in Rotary as a 21-year member in 2 different Clubs. He is currently in the Rotary Club of Tulsa where he has served as President in 2016-17 and was the Rotarian of the Year in 2014. He is a Club Foundation member, a Special Lifetime member, an Allan Edwards Society member, and received the James G Saied Service Above Self Award. He holds the classification of Computer Technology Management.

John is a Paul Harris Fellow +8, a member of the Paul Harris Society, a Rotary Foundation Benefactor, and a member of the Bequest Society. John has served the district as Chair of the Fundraising Committee, and a Zone 30/31 facilitator. He is also a 2020 graduate of the District Leadership Academy.

John is a graduate of the Tulsa Junior College and the University of Tulsa, receiving his Bachelor of Business Administration in Management Information Systems. He and his wife Cathy have shared raising 5 children in their 22 years of marriage and enjoy spending time with family, serving at their Jenks Life Church campus, and traveling in their RV. In his spare time (!) John enjoys fly fishing and hunting.

Thanks, John, for demonstrating Service Above Self!



### **Brett Brough - AG Coordinator, and a LOT more**



Brett Brough moves from Assistant Governor to AG Coordinator for the 21-22 Rotary year and continues several other assignments.

Brett was raised in Estes Park, Colorado, where his grandfather, Ron Brodie, was a 1943-1944 President of the Rotary club of Estes Park.

He has worked for an oil field supply company moving monthly 200 truckloads of steel and handling inventory control and traffic, before it was computerized. Worked as paralegal for several years and moved to Tulsa to work with a team in 1993. Has been a mortgage loan officer and a lease analyst in oil and gas drilling business; and is currently a Manufactures Representative for Titan LED Lighting Solutions, the only American manufacturer of Commercial and Industrial LED Lighting.

Brett and his wife Leisa Gebetsberger have been married for 23 years.

He has been a member of the Rotary Club of Southside Tulsa since 1999 and has completed 22 years of perfect attendance! He has served as The Southside Rotary Club as International, Club, Vocational, Youth, and Community Service Directors, Sargeant at Arms, Secretary, Treasurer, Vice President, and Club President.

Brett is a multiple Paul Harris Fellow and a member of the Paul Harris Society.

He also serves on the Rotary District Communications Committee, is a DACdb database Trainer, and serves on the District Vision Team, helping clubs create a custom club plan for the next five years.

Brett will continue serving Rotary as the District Interact / Rotaract chair, and will begin in July as Assistant Governor Coordinator helping Governor Kevin.

### **Joe Grisolano - Assistant Governor Coordinator**

Our District has lots of talent and we love to put them to work! **Joe**



## **Grisolano is moving up from an Assistant Governor to the AG Coordinator position.**

Joe has been the Crawford County, KS Treasurer since 2005 ♦ re-elected four times! Prior to being that he served as Deputy Crawford County Appraiser for eighteen years after owning and operating Gragg Typewriter Company of Pittsburg, KS.

He holds a Certified Kansas County Finance Executive from Fort Hays State University and Certified Public Administration Finance Master from the University of Missouri St. Louis. In 2012 Joe was awarded the Betty J. McBride Outstanding Kansas County Treasurer of the year award

Joe joined the Pittsburg Rotary Club in 2006, and served as Membership Chair, Club Administration Chair, President, and . Assistant Governor. In 2018 he was named Pittsburg Rotarian of the year Award. He is a Multiple Paul Harris Fellow and member of the Paul Harris Society.

Joe has been married 44 years to Debbie, a retired USD #250 elementary teacher; they have two sons and one grandson. He enjoys singing in the choir of his small Methodist church. Thanks, Joe, for stepping up - again!



## **Rhonda Dunn - Assistant Governor Area 1 - in Kansas**



District 6110 is pleased to welcome **Rhonda Dunn as an Assistant Governor** serving clubs in Kansas.

Rhonda has been a Rotarian since 2015 and served the Fort Scott Club as Treasurer for two years and President for two years. Community Service is her passion, and she is quick to volunteer wherever needed.

After receiving her bachelor's degree in Accounting from Pittsburg State University, Rhonda worked for Texaco in Tulsa, OK. She earned her Master's of Business Administration from the University of Tulsa in 1994. Rhonda spent 17 years working in the oil industry in accounting, marketing, sales, and product development. She returned home to Fort Scott in 2006 to work in her family moving business.

With encouragement from her dad, Rhonda ran for public office and was elected Bourbon County Treasurer in 2010 and in 2016. Her commitment to the community led her to a position at the City of Fort Scott in 2017. Currently, she is Chief Financial Officer for E3 Ranch & Companies. She has been involved in many community events and organizations including the Shirley Yeager Animal Friends Foundation, Good Neighbor Action Team, Historic Preservation, Good Ol Days Committee, and the Visioning Committee.

Rhonda enjoys traveling and has a bucket list goal to see all 50 states. She has just four more to go!

Thanks to Rhonda for her efforts to provide Service Above Self!

## **Ananda Jayawardhana - Assistant Governor Area 2 - Kansas & Missouri**

**Ananda Jayawardhana has accepted the position of Assistant Governor**, serving clubs in Kansas and Missouri.

He is a Professor of Mathematics at Pittsburg State University, in Pittsburg, KS.

He joined the Pittsburg Morning Rotary club in the fall of 2004. Soon after that, the Boxing Day Tsunami hit the Indian Ocean countries killing 230,000 people. He was born in Sri Lanka and used his connections in the community to raise about \$7,000 for tsunami relief within a few days. His club sent that money to a Rotary club in Sri Lanka to help rebuild a school. Ananda served as the Pittsburg Morning club President in 2014-2015. Since 2013, he has chaired the Polio Eradication effort, raising about \$750 annually to RI.

Ananda received a PhD in Mathematics from the University of Missouri, Rolla in 1998 and has been



a professor at Pittsburg State University since then, attaining the status of University Professor in 2018. He has participated in shared governance activities of the university as the Faculty Senate President and the President of the Faculty Bargaining Unit. Diversity issues are very close to his heart and he has been involved in state-level diversity activities of Kansas Board of Regents Universities since 2007.

Ananda likes to eat, drink, and travel, which will serve him well as Assistant Governor!  
Welcome Ananda!

### **Sonia Larimore - Assistant Governor Area 3 - Kansas**



**Sonia Larimore is excited to continue her position as Assistant Governor to five clubs in Kansas.**

Sonia doesn't consider her role as director of Assisted Living at Windsor Place a job. For her, it's more like a chance to spend quality time with good friends and catch up over a cup of coffee. Most days, Larimore buzzes around the facility, overseeing operations and making sure residents are comfortable and well taken care of. "I love being with my senior population," she said.

Larimore honed her people skills early while working at her family's restaurant, the former Bone's Steakhouse, in South Coffeyville, KS. While working she learned all aspects of the business including cutting steaks, cooking, and her favorite; waiting tables. In 1985 she opened her own drive-in burger joint and operated a catering truck which she sold in

1989.

Just weeks after earning her Bachelor of Science degree in human resources management in 1998 from Oklahoma Wesleyan University, she started her career with Windsor Place. Five years later, she moved on to serve as director of Guest Home Estates VIII in Erie. Three years later she returned to Coffeyville taking the position she currently has with Windsor Place.

Sonia is a graduate of Lenapah, OK, High School and Coffeyville Community College. A 2006 Leadership Coffeyville graduate, she served on the program's board of trustees. She currently serves as president for the Kansas Center for Assisted Living and has served as a state leader for the National Center for Assisted Living. She volunteers for the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life, and the Southeast Kansas Senior Safety and Wellness Coalition.

Sonia was president of the Rotary Club of Coffeyville in 2017-18, and has been an Interact Club sponsor. She is a Paul Harris Fellow +1.

She enjoys training her standard poodles and has trained service and therapy dogs. She is a tester/observer for Alliance Therapy Dog Inc. and her dog Boomer is a certified therapy dog. With a full-time job and so many responsibilities, her schedule is often full, which can put a strain on her personal life. But not hers! Rodney, her husband of 24 years, understands. He also shares her love for people. "This makes for a good mix for the time I put in serving my other family," she said. Sonia and Rodney have two sons and two granddaughters.

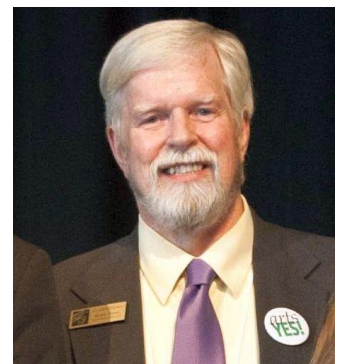
Thanks, Sonia, for continuing your service to District 6110!

### **Wally Bloss, Assistant Governor Area 4 - Missouri and PR/Public Image**

Wally Bloss enters his third year as Assistant Governor - Area 4 in Missouri and continues doing PR/Public Image work for our district.

Wally spent most of his career managing non-profit organizations, beginning in human and social services, and the last 20 years in the arts.

In St Joseph, MO, Wally ran the Allied Arts Council and joined Rotary Club #32 and after a few years, became President. He moved to Utah to run an Arts Council with an 1100 seat theatre, where he later received the Governor's Leadership in the Arts Award. He joined the Logan, Utah, Rotary Club, and became President there. He was the District 5420 Scholarship chair, on the Foundation Committee, and if you attended the



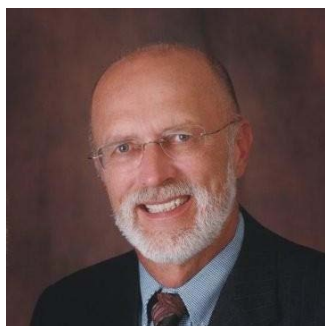
2011 RI Convention in Salt Lake you probably did not see him as he was behind the scenes. He retired to Joplin, MO, and, yes, he became President of that Rotary Club. In his retirement he has chaired and serves on several local and state arts organizations boards, did a 3-year volunteer gig at a nearby public radio station, and performed with his wife, Leecia, in community theatre.

Wally is a graduate of the District Leadership Academy and will continue as Assistant Governor, Admin of the District 6110 Facebook page, District Newsletter Editor, and the District Public Image Chair.

He has been bugging incoming leadership for bios and pix, then posting them for this project. He and his wife Leecia, are multiple Paul Harris Fellows.

His early years were spent in Rochester, NY, then he attended college in Marshall and Columbia, MO, obtaining an MS in Community Development. Wally & Leecia have a blended family of 5 grown children and 3 grandchildren, mostly in Missouri. He put together his first computer in 1979 and tries to keep up with nerd stuff. He loves to sing and was invited by Bobbie McFerrin to sing with him in the Utah theatre he managed. He is looking forward to more Rotary adventures with Governor Kevin!

## **Dick Schrad - Assistant Governor Area 5 - Arkansas**



**Dick Schrad will become an Assistant Governor serving clubs in Arkansas for the 21-22 year.**

Dick first joined the Rotary Club of Davenport, IA in May, 1987, then joined Rotary clubs in Tipton, IA and Knoxville, IA when he was appointed city manager in both cities.

He retired in 2011 and left Rotary for a few years but rejoined in Clinton, IA in 2016 when he was hired as an interim city administrator. He then re-retired to Bella Vista and joined the Bella Vista club in 2017.

Dick's leadership in five different Rotary Clubs through the years included President in the Tipton, IA club, and the Bella Vista club. He has also served as Service Projects Director, Sergeant-at-Arms, Social Chair, and Membership Chair at various times. He is currently a member of the District International Service Committee.

Prior to becoming a city manager, he was an owner of an exhibits firm that designed and fabricated specialty exhibits for museums and corporations in the Upper Midwest, including clients like John Deere.

He has his BA from Creighton University and MBA from the University of Iowa. He also served as an intelligence officer in the US Army with one tour in Vietnam.

Funny story about Dick - while president of the Tipton, IA club, he challenged the membership to become a 100% Paul Harris Fellowship club. They did it and brought in a barber to shave his head!

Let's welcome Dick Schrad to the team!

## **Johnice Glisson - Assistant Governor Area 6 - Arkansas and Missouri**

**Johnice Glisson will continue as Assistant Governor in Arkansas and Missouri for 21-22.**

She is a 5th generation Berryville resident and has been a member of the Berryville Rotary Club since 2014. She recognized the value in Rotary early in life as she tagged along to meetings with her grandpa, Paul Harris Fellow, Burt George. Now a Paul Harris Fellow +3, and member of the Paul Harris Society, she serves on the club's board of directors, heads up RYLA recruiting and fundraising, is a past secretary, past president, and a graduate of District Leadership Academy.

Johnice is the Regional Library Administrator for the Carroll and Madison Library System, steering the big ship for six public libraries. She also serves on the board of the Single Parent Scholarship Fund of Northwest Arkansas. She recently married her husband Trace





Glisson, though she has known him since pre-school. She recently became a mom by adopting Trace's 14-year-old son Layton.

Thanks, Johnice for continuing to provide service above self!

### **Michelle Robinson, Assistant Governor Area 7 - Arkansas**



Your District is pleased to announce **Michelle Robinson, Assistant Governor** serving clubs in Arkansas.

Michelle was born in Annapolis, Maryland, and grew up in Maryland. She is the oldest of four children, the only daughter, and learned early the responsibility of helping others.

Michelle was a military spouse while raising three children. Frequent moves and living in other countries and across America made a distinct impression on her in recognizing the need to make an impact in other's lives.

Michelle's career journey has been in Insurance throughout her adult life beginning out of college in Baltimore and winding through different states; now in Van Buren, Arkansas in a State Farm Agency.

She has been the Ambassador Chairperson for the Van Buren Chamber of Commerce, a Youth Group Leader for her Episcopal Church, Sunday school teacher since she was sixteen, the Mayor of her village at Fort Irwin, CA Army base, the Enlisted Spouse's President, and the Family Readiness Group Leader for spouses and families of deployed soldiers.

Michelle is a Paul Harris Fellow, a recent member of the Paul Harris Society, Past President of the Rotary Club of Van Buren in 2019-2020 and 2020-2021.

She has one granddaughter who is two years old and the best kid ever! Her son, Ryan is serving in the US Army, daughter Jessica is a Dental Assistant, and youngest daughter, Julie is attending college in Arkansas. Her husband, Kevin is a retired Vicar for the Episcopal Church. Michelle devotes her heart to her family and Rotary service to make a difference in this world!

Welcome to Michelle!

### **Veronica Post, Assistant Governor Area 8 - Arkansas**

Veronica Post is pleased to continue her service as Assistant Governor - Area 8, serving clubs in Arkansas.

Veronica was a banker for 22 years, then became involved in Altus, AR city government, first as a city council member, now as the Mayor serving for eight years so far. Besides being a vested firefighter, she appeared in and promoted the city in the first reality television series of "The Simple Life" and was featured in People Magazine.

She serves on the Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors; Historical Society Board; Altus Grape Festival Committee and Springtime Gala Committee; coordinates Fourth of July Festivities and Christmas Parade; and was featured in a fashion magazine as a model for clothing!

Veronica and her husband Paul, President of the Altus Club for 21-22, have three children and six grandchildren. Veronica and Paul own **Post Winery** which produces several varieties of wines and grape juice.

She enjoys gardening, reading, watching "Wheel of Fortune" in her spare time.

Thanks, Veronica for your continued Service Above Self!



### **Stewart Brunner Assistant Governor Area 9 - Arkansas**

**Stewart Brunner continues his service to the District as Assistant Governor to clubs in Arkansas.**

He has been a Rotarian for more than 30 years, serving in Harrison, AR, and currently in Mountain Home, AR.

Stewart is a major donor, assistant governor, past president, current board



member of the Rotary Club of Mountain Home, AR., and a member of the Paul Harris Society.

He has one son, Eric, who will be married July 4th this year and resides in Miami Florida. His favorite areas of Rotary are the Rotary Foundation and contributing and delivering wheelchairs from District 6110 and the American Wheelchair Mission. He has been on 7 wheelchair delivery missions and looks forward to doing it again.

Stewart is the General Manager of Twin Lakes Radio, with three stations in Mountain Home, and three more stations in Harrison, AR. He has been in the radio business for 39 years.

Spring is his favorite time of the year. He spends time boating and exploring the lower Buffalo River with his Jack Russell Terrier, Chopper. He enjoys catching and releasing small-mouth bass. Thanks to Stewart for demonstrating service above self!

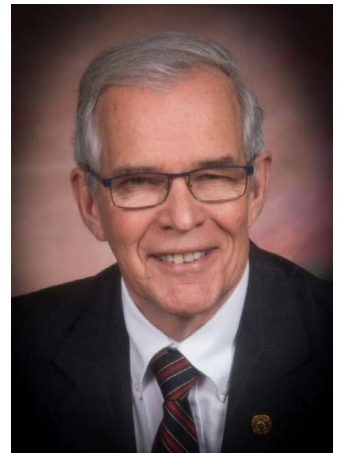
### **Ivan Devitt - Assistant Governor Area 10 - Oklahoma & Missouri**

District 6110 welcomes **Ivan Devitt to the Leadership team as Assistant Governor** for clubs in Oklahoma and Missouri

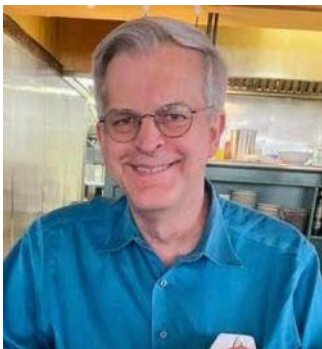
After serving in various capacities, including manager of the Grove Lowes store, Ivan retired - again. Since "retiring" he has been enjoying serving and helping others as a Real Estate Broker.

Ivan has been a Rotarian most of his adult years in many locations (Houston, Ft. Walton Beach, Augusta Georgia, Richland Hills Texas, and Athens Georgia). He has been a member of Grove Rotary for 12 years. Since moving to Grove, he has served in various capacities, including President, Foundation Chair, and Assistant District Governor. He retired after many years in the Walton Corporation as a general manager of Sam's Club but then began working on special projects for Lowe's. He was born in Mt. Vernon, Illinois, educated at Texas A&M, has two grown children and two grandchildren, and enjoys cars, golf, and travel.

Please welcome Ivan to Governor Kevin's Leadership Team!



### **Dr. Tim Holder - Assistant Governor Area 11 Oklahoma**



We are pleased to announce that **Dr. Tim Holder has been named Assistant Governor - Area 11**, for clubs in Oklahoma.

Tim graduated from the University of Texas Medical School at Houston, and Family Practice Residency in Corpus Christi, Texas. He is Board Certified in both Family Practice and in Hospice and Palliative Medicine and is the Medical Director of Supportive Care Solutions of Tulsa. He was previously Medical Director for Supportive Care and Survivorship at Cancer Treatment Centers America - Tulsa from 2013 to 2020. He has over 20 years of experience in Hospice and Palliative Medicine/symptom control and

management.

Dr. Holder served on the Attorney General's Task Force to Improve End-of-Life Care in Oklahoma. He has received several awards, including the 2004 Red Cross Everyday Hero Award and 2001 Five Who Care volunteer award.

Tim served on the board & as President of the Muskogee Morning Rotary Club from 1999-2000. He helped the club achieve 100% Paul Harris Fellow designation through their participation and fundraising for an International Matching Grant. When the Morning Club disbanded in 2002, he



transferred to the Muskogee Rotary Club until his induction into the Tulsa Sunrise club. Tim has also held the office of Chair for Membership Development and International Service. Tim is a Paul Harris Fellow +7 and is an Ambassador for the MSNI. He is married to Kaia, his wife of 30 years. Kaia is a cellist and previously played in the Fort Smith Symphony. They have 3 daughters. Tim has a heart for international mission work, having worked in East Africa, Nicaragua, and India. Let's welcome Tim to the 21-22 Leadership team!

### **Brice Martin - Assistant Governor Area 12 - Oklahoma**

**Brice Martin will be returning as an Assistant Governor** serving clubs in Oklahoma.

Brice is a member of the Rotary Club of Wagoner Oklahoma. He is married to Cheyenne and has two boys Jaden and Bryson. He has been a firefighter since 2004 and with the Tulsa Fire Department since 2008. Brice has been a Rotarian since 2007, serving in numerous roles including club President in 2016-17. Brice served as an Assistant Governor for PDG Rolf Hufnagel in 2019 - 2020. He is a multiple Paul Harris Fellow and a member of the Paul Harris Society. We welcome Brice to Governor Kevin's team!



### **Anne Williams - Assistant Governor Area 13 - Oklahoma**



**Anne Williams has been named as Assistant Governor** serving clubs in Oklahoma for 21-22.

Anne just finished her term as president of the Rotary Club of North Tulsa. She retired from Delta Airlines, Inc. with 33 years of service in several capacities and cities.

Since her retirement, she refers to herself as a community volunteer. She has served as Tulsa Chapter President and Area Chair of International Trends and Services for The Links, Incorporated; Board of Directors of Morton Health Services; Board of Directors for The Metropolitan Tulsa League of Women Voters and is a member of The Advisory Board for The Tulsa World.

She has volunteered with many other organizations including Goodwill Industries, Kipp Tulsa College Preparatory School, Gilcrease Elementary,

Reading Partners, Rotary, and The Community Garden at O'Brien Park.

Anne's hobbies include reading and traveling. She is most passionate about her travels and work with her husband (Past District Governor Wallace Williams) doing the many works of Rotary. She has used her time and talent to impact her international community through service with her Rotary District 6110 and the partnership with the American Wheelchair Foundation. Anne and Wallace have had the pleasure of attending 19 consecutive Rotary International Conventions. Married to her best friend and co-laborer, Wallace, for 48 years, they are the parents of two adult sons Alex (Tamara) and Steven, and one grandson, Xander.

The one thing that people probably do not know about Anne is that she has been an avid Soccer Mom since the 1980s and traveled all over the USA screaming and cheering for her son as a player and coach. Now she is a Soccer Grannie doing the same screaming and cheering and forcing Wallace to drive four hours each way to see their 6-year-old grandson in uniform. Congratulations to Anne as a new Assistant Governor!

### **Lisa Engel - Assistant Governor Area 14 - Oklahoma**

We are proud to add **Lisa Engel** to the 21-22 leadership team as an Assistant Governor to clubs in Oklahoma.

Lisa joined Rotary in 2002 - first in Concord, CA, then Grants Pass, OR, and now Broken Arrow. She is completing her term as President of the Broken Arrow Club, and excited to start her journey as an Assistant Governor in July. Broken Arrow uses the five-year progression, so she has been membership chair, programs chair, and committees and socials chair. She received the Service Above Self award in 2017-18 and Rotarian of the Year award in 2019-20. Lisa and her husband Galen, also a Rotarian, started an after after-hours satellite club which has been very successful. They meet on the first and third Thursdays from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.



Lisa graduated from Oklahoma State University with a double major in international management and human resources management. After college, she moved back to her home state of California and worked in public accounting for 17 years as an audit manager of union pension and health care funds. Then she became director for Junior Achievement of the Bay Area. She and Galen moved from the San Francisco Bay Area to southern Oregon, built a commercial building and opened a Curves ladies fitness franchise. They moved back to Oklahoma due to her father's failing health, and the collapse of the economy on the west coast in early 2009. They started Tiger Town Tees, in 2010 in a back bedroom of their house and now have a 4,000 square foot shop in Broken Arrow. They do custom screen printing for anyone who needs printed apparel!

A little-known fact about Lisa: her father would do bit parts in different series when she lived in California and landed her a small role in a movie when she was seven. The movie was Moonshine War and starred Richard Widmark and Alan Alda. She was swinging on a tire swing and had to yell, "Daddy, daddy, help, help!" but she thinks her part ended up on the cutting room floor! But she did get paid for it!

Thanks to Lisa for continuing her service to Rotary!

## **Pam Crawford - Assistant Governor Area 15 - Oklahoma and District Governor Nominee**



### **Pam Crawford is going to have a busy year!**

She joins Governor Kevin's Leadership Team as an Assistant Governor to four Oklahoma clubs while starting her plans as District Governor Nominee. Pam joined Bartlesville Daybreak Rotary in 2015 at the urging of her husband, Paul, who had joined in 2010. When they attended their first RI Convention in Atlanta in 2017, she became a total convert to Rotary. Serving in her own community and club is huge; to be part of an international organization doing so much good in the world, well, she was hooked. She wants to tell people what we are doing about polio eradication and how we support youth. She's thrilled that the environment is a new theme. Pam loves to talk about Bartlesville Daybreak's two major service

projects. (Just ask her!)

She wants to learn about and help all the clubs in District 6110 to be the most they can be in their community and the world.

Pam was a career Information Technology person for Phillips 66 (and its previous names). Her last role in Project Management is something she still uses in her non-profit work since retirement in 2018. She studied Math at Iowa State and then the University of Tulsa and earned an MBA from Tulsa.

Pam has become a plant and tree person for the last 15 years (even added a glass room on the back of their house for wintering plants!). The redbud in her front yard was grown from a twig she got from the Arbor Day Foundation in 2009. She keeps trying to make her poinsettias produce red leaves. And she plants milkweed for the butterflies. Next adventure: Pam wants to grow a crop of

okra! She drives a hybrid car and is studying electric cars. She and Paul are avid recyclers! Let's welcome Pam to the leadership team!

## **Dr. Laura Garrett - Assistant Governor Area 16 - Oklahoma**

District 6110 is pleased to welcome **Dr Laura Garrett as an Assistat Governor to four Tulsa area clubs.**

Dr. Laura lives in Tulsa and is a member of the Tulsa Sunrise Club, and Past President of the El Reno, OK Rotary Club. She is a third-generation Rotarian, has been a Rotarian for over 20 years, and is a Paul Harris Fellow. She serves as an Assistant Professor of Psychology at Tulsa Community College and as a Community Educator for the Oklahoma Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association.

Dr. Laura has a Doctorate of Education in Family Studies and Child Development from Oklahoma State University with a Graduate Certificate in Gerontology. She holds a Master of Human Relations from the University of Oklahoma and a Bachelors in Consumer Affairs with a Secondary Major in Gerontology from Kansas State University.

She is a Certified Dementia Practitioner, a Certified Eden Associate, and a Certified Family Life Educator. She has two children; her daughter Sarah is an orchardist at an apple orchard in the Hudson Valley of New York and her son Rob is a sophomore at the University of Southern California.

She and her husband Stan love to travel and since their international plans were squelched by COVID, they bought a little Casita travel trailer and have been traveling around the US. Her name is Lost in States so wave if you see them!



## **Janie Green - Assistant Governor Ares 17 - Oklahoma**



**Janie Green will be an Assistant Governor in Oklahoma for 21-22.**

Janie was inducted into the Rotary Club of Broken Arrow in November of 2007. Prior to that, she had been to a few Rotary meetings in various clubs, and had attended an International Convention. It was this experience that convinced her that Rotary was a great fit.

Her career, after gaining a Tulsa University BFA, has been in graphic design, beginning with 20 years as art director in an advertising agency, then as a freelance designer and marketer. Currently semi-retired, she maintains a few clients, but primarily does work for non-profits as a donation. When she visited the Rotary Club of Broken Arrow in 2007, she saw an opportunity to use her skills within that club. She took over producing the newsletter soon after joining and has continued ever since. She actively promotes membership and has ensured that club members

have photos in DACdb, taking photos if needed. As she is a determined introvert, Rotary is valuable to ensure that she makes connections with other adults and working alongside them. She earned awards as Rotarian of the Year and Service Above Self. Her current ipast president position has led her to accept the invitation to become an assistant governor, and she looks forward to learning from the clubs she will be serving, sharing ideas, and assisting them to achieve their goals.

Janie has been involved in several District 6110 events, attending District Assembly and Conference. Her first Rotary International Convention was 2007 in Salt Lake City, and she's since attended Conventions in Montreal, New Orleans and Hamburg.

Janie is married with two adult children from her first marriage and added two more when she married Michael Green in 2013. Since then she has gained six grandchildren and thoroughly enjoys sharing time with them. She enjoys listening to classical music, reading, gardening (especially vegetables), attending Catholic Mass, hiking in the mountains, kayaking, sailing, cooking, sculpture, watching sports, designing adventures for grandchildren, graphic design and



just enjoying time at home.  
Let's welcome Janie to the District leadership team!

## Cathy Webster's Vision

District 6110 clubs have a vision thanks to **Cathy Webster and her Visioning crew!**

Cathy has been a member of the Rotary Club of Pryor for 23 years and has been the club secretary all that time. She is currently the club secretary/treasurer, club RI Foundation Chair, the Club Foundation Vice-President, and takes over as President for 2021-2022 on July 1.



She is a Paul Harris Fellow, a Paul Harris Society member, a Major Donor, an MSNI Ambassador, and a 2013-2014 graduate of the District Leadership Academy. She will continue as Chair of the District 6110 Visioning Committee. Cathy has been on the planning committee for 3 District Conferences. She also serves on the District personnel committee.

Her latest addition to her D6110 service is as an instructor for the District Leadership Academy.

The **District Visioning Committee** is her favorite for many reasons. One is being able to work with an excellent team to help clubs develop a living Master Plan that puts the top club goals on a three-year long-range plan which results in success, increased club engagement and membership, and development of leadership skills for club members.

Cathy received her bachelor's degree in Biochemistry from Oklahoma State University and her master's degree in Geosciences from the University of Tulsa. She is a founding board member and an Administrative Assistance for the Pryor Academic Excellence Foundation, Secretary and Treasurer for Pryor Ministries Center (local food pantry), Treasurer of Chapter GL of P.E.O., and is active in various activities at St. Mark Catholic Church in Pryor.

Besides enjoying being active in her community, she loves spending time with family, gardening, hiking, reading, working in stained glass, and travel. She and her husband Bob will celebrate 40 years of marriage in September this year. They have three children: Brian and daughter-in-law Katie and Cathy and Bob's granddaughter Olivia, son Steven, and daughter Dr. Melinda Webster and her husband Joshua Newman. Both sons take after their father in careers as programmers and Melinda takes after both parents with her career in science.

From small mountain town Buena Vista, Colorado to Oklahoma City to Harrah, then Stillwater, and finally planted in Pryor, Oklahoma, life experiences have shaped Cathy's dedicated Service Above Self attitude to help make the world a better place.

Some people already know that incoming Assistant Governor Janie Green is Cathy's sister. A Dynamic Duo for District 6110! Can you tell?

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## **Ed Hardesty - District Foundation Chair and District Trainer**



**Ed Hardesty will continue as the District Foundation Chair as well as becoming the District Trainer.**

Ed was born in Ft. Worth, Texas. He has been married to Jeanette, an Interior Designer for 49 years. They have two daughters in Texas and five grandchildren.

Ed retired from the Social Security Administration where he worked for over 38 years. He served as a District Manager from 1980 until his retirement in November 2010, serving in Texas and Louisiana prior to coming to Tulsa in 1995.

Ed is a graduate of Texas Tech University. He and enjoys playing golf and training and competing in obedience, rally and agility trials with the family

dogs, Bailey and Teddy. Ed's dogs have been awarded multiple titles by both the American Kennel Club and United Kennel Club.

Ed initially joined Rotary in Alexandria, Louisiana and became a member of the Rotary Club of Southeast Tulsa in 1996, where he served as Sergeant at Arms, Club Secretary, Foundation Chair, Vice President and President. He served as District Governor during the 2005 ♦ 2006 Rotary year. He has served on the District 6110 Rotary Foundation Committee for over ten years.

Ed served as District 6110's delegate to the 2013 and 2016 Councils on Legislation. He also served as a Training Leader at the 2013 and 2015 International Assemblies in San Diego, and several other Rotary Zone 31 positions.

Ed, Jeanette, their children, and grandchildren are all Paul Harris Fellows, and Ed is a member of the Paul Harris Society. Ed and Jeanette are Benefactors, members of the Bequest Society, and are Level 2 Major Donors to the Rotary Foundation.

Let's welcome Ed to again demonstrate Service Above Self!

## **Beth Keck, Global Grants**

**We are pleased that Beth Keck will continue as Global Grants and International Chair!**

Beth Keck's affiliation with Rotary began when she was selected to be a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar and studied at The Chinese University of Hong Kong. Upon moving to Bentonville, Arkansas, in 2004, she and her husband, Ken Leonard, joined the Rotary Club of Bentonville. She is currently chair of the District 6110 International Service Committee and the Global Grants committee where she works with clubs to advance Rotary International Service.

Beth has been a member of the Rotary Club of Bentonville's board of directors. She and Ken initiated the club's first global grant. With the Rotary Club of Jodhpur Padmini, the club provided toilets and clean water to 2,000 school children in Jodhpur, Rajasthan, India. Beth and Ken also co-founded the club's International Women's Day celebration which has raised more than \$30,000 in scholarships for local students. Beth has designed and facilitated three breakout sessions on the topics of diversity, equity and inclusion, and vocational service for Rotary International conventions. She currently is working with Rotary International staff to produce a series of webinars to advance diversity, equity, and inclusion in Rotary. Beth served as vice-chair of the Rotary International Global Networking Groups Committee from 2016-19 where she provided oversight and policy direction for Rotary Fellowships, Rotary Action Groups, and vocational service.

Beth and Ken have been a host family for International Youth Exchange students from Chile and France. They love Rotary's global reach and have attended six Rotary International Conventions. Beth is a Major Donor, Paul Harris Fellow, Rotary Foundation Benefactor, and was selected as her club's Rotarian of the Year in 2009 and also in 2015.

Thank you, Beth, for continuing your service above self!



## **Gary Pollmiller, District Dictionary Project Chair**



District 6110 is well served in many ways, including the very successful Dictionary Project, which Gary Pollmiller has chaired for 15 years and will continue!

Gary joined the Rotary Club of Parsons, Kansas in May, 1988 and served as the club's newsletter editor for nine years, as Secretary for 11 years, and as President for the 2003-2004 year. He has served as the chair of his club's Dictionary Project from 2001 to present. He also served as an Assistant Governor from 2005 to 2018.

In 2001, he began serving as the Kansas representative for the District's Dictionary Project, under the chairmanship of Stanley Dixon. Gary became chair of the District 6110 Literacy/Dictionary Project in March of 2006 and continues to serve today. Since 2018, he has served as secretary of the

Board of Directors of The Dictionary Project, Mt. Pleasant, SC.

Gary also served on the Board of Directors of the Medical Supplies Network, Inc. in 2011-15.

Gary is a Sustaining TRF donor, Rotary Benefactor and a multiple Paul Harris Fellow.

By profession, he is a retired Commercial Product Photographer following a fulfilling 40-year career. In his spare time, Gary enjoys attending live concerts, Pro and High School football games, and lake fishing for trout or largemouth bass. Gary loves spending time with his two children, their spouses and his three fine grandsons.

Since 1983 Gary has portrayed Santa Claus as his "ministry" for the elementary school students in the Parsons area.

## **Don den Daas - chair of the District Personnel Committee**



Don den Daas will be serving in his fifth year as chair of the District Personnel Committee.

The committee is responsible for overseeing all aspects the District's three employees. Under Don's chairmanship, the District has hired two District Administrators. The other positions are a bookkeeper and an Administrator for Youth Exchange.

Don was born in Amsterdam, Netherlands in 1949. His family moved to the Monterey Bay area California in 1956. Don was raised there and in San Jose CA. He became an American citizens in 1963.

Don graduated from Colorado State University with a BS in Business Administration.

He served in the United States Army from 1968-1971. After owning his own business for over 30 years, Don sold the business and retired so he could meet the travel schedule required of a Rotary District Governor. Upon completion of his term, Don went to work for JD Young Company as a technology consultant. He is in the process of retiring so he can pursue his hobbies of golf, reading and traveling.

Since becoming a member of Southside Tulsa Rotary Club in 1986, Don has served his club in a variety of capacities, including president and several terms as a board member, and as president of the Southside Rotary Foundation. He has served District 6110 in a variety of positions including District Governor in Rotary year 2016-17. Don and his wife Judy are Major Donors as well as members of the Bequest Society.

Don and Judy have been married for 50 years, and have two adult children who live on the east coast. David a licensed architect in Washington DC, and Katie is an Executive Producer with ABC News in New York. Judy retired after 43 years as a classroom teacher. All of Don's family members are Paul Harris Fellows.



## **Jayne Lowe - District Membership Chair, and, and, and**



District 6110 has a lot of ♦Past District Governors.♦ Some of them just ♦keep on going♦ like that certain bunny! One of those is **Jayne Lowe**. Jayne has been a proud Rotarian for 29 years. She always says she was born to be a Rotarian as she and Paul Harris share the same birthday! (But in very different years, just to be clear.)

She has served as the piano player for her Iowa club; President of the Plymouth, MN, club, and President of her current club - Rotary Club of Bentonville, AR.

She♦s served District 6110 as Assistant Governor; proud graduate of District Leadership Academy; started the Club Visioning program in our District, chaired the inaugural Women in Rotary committee, and was honored to serve as the 2018-19 District Governor.

Jayne will continue to ♦keep going and going♦ as our:

**- District Membership Chair**

**- 4-Way Test Speech Contest Co-Chair**

**- Assistant Rotary Public Image Coordinator for Zone 31**

JLo is also Vice President of the Empowering Women in Rotary group.

She also enjoys her membership in 3 Rotary Fellowships: Rotarian Musicians, Past District Governors, and Wine Appreciation. Jayne is a Major Donor, Level 4 Bequest Society, and a member of the Paul Harris Society.

Jayne and her husband, Gary, the former ♦First Dude♦, live in Bella Vista and enjoy traveling♦.especially to Cabo♦.as well as getting their boat out on the lake.

Say thanks to Jayne for her ♦energetic♦ service above self!

## **Ron Peterson - 4-Way Test Speech Contest Co-Chair**

**Ron Peterson Sr** is another Past District Governor who keeps busy with his Rotary service. He continues as co-chair (with PDG Jayne Lowe) of the **District 4-Way test Speech Contest**.

Ron was born in a small Northwest Kansas community and has been married to Louise for 56 years. She is also a Rotarian. They have five children, fourteen grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Ron's radio broadcasting career spans over 55 years with positions in the Joplin and Columbia, Missouri markets. He was successful in putting 50,000 watt 95.1 KMXL-FM on the air in March of 1991. Ron, Louise, and their son Ron Jr. co-own MikeFM & Fabulous 1490 AM KDMO 93.5 FM.

He served as President of the Missouri Broadcasters Association in 1986 and was honored by the association as the 2005 Distinguished Broadcaster of the Year. Ron is Chairman of the McCune Brooks Regional Hospital Board of Trustees which manages a \$20 Million public trust for the City of Carthage. He has served on many other city and county boards. Ron's hobbies include wine making, outdoor cooking, woodworking & being with his grandchildren.

He joined the Carthage Rotary club in 1977 and has served as a board member, Sergeant of Arms, Vice President and as President. In 1998 Rotary International recognized him with the 4 Avenues of Service Citation and in 1998 he was awarded the Rotarian of the Year by his club. He served District 6110 as Assistant Governor for 4 years, District Governor 08-09, Public Relations Chair 09-14, Health & Hunger Chair 09-14 & Chairman of the 4-Way Test Speech Contest 10-20 & Co-Chair 21-22. He has been involved with Mid-America PETS since 2012, last as Board Chair in 2016.

Ron, Louise, and Ron Jr are all Paul Harris Fellows. Ron & Louise are members of the Paul Harris Society and are Rotary Foundation Level 4 Major Donors, Rotary Foundation Sustaining Members, Foundation Bequest Society Members and Rotary Foundation level 2 Benefactors.

Thanks to Ron for his continuing commitment to youth with the 4- Way Test Speech Contest!



## **John Williams - District Grant Chair**



We are pleased that PDG **John Williams Jr will continue in his service as District Grant Chair**.

After graduation from the University of Arkansas, BSBA, 1971, John has enjoyed a 50-Year career in the life insurance Business with Eichler Williams Insurance; current member, Million Dollar Round Table, 35-Years; been a Chartered Life Underwriter since 1975 and in 1985 served as President of the Arkansas State Association of Insurance and Financial Services Professionals (NAIFA).

In 1992 and again in 2010, John received the Award of Excellence, the highest award given annually by the State Association of NAIFA to the outstanding Life Insurance Agent in Arkansas.

John has been a Rotarian for 48 years with 47-Years of Perfect Attendance with Northside Fayetteville Rotary Club, Rotarian of the Year 1994, served District 6110 as District Governor 2012-2013, Assistant Rotary Coordinator Zone 31 for 3-Years, Multiple Paul Harris Fellow; member Paul Harris Society and Bequest Society; a Major Donor. He currently serves as Chair of District Grants and the Rotary District Foundation Banquet for 5-Years. Serves as a Delegate to the 2019 Council on Legislation and will serve again in 2022.

Devoted to children, John has assisted the children of Special Olympics, Polar Bear Plunge, Master of Ceremonies for 10-Years plus a volunteer basketball and softball coach, Fayetteville Boys and Girls Club for 12 years.

In 1999 after 28-Years of service, John retired as a Lieutenant Colonel, Field Artillery, US Army. His hobbies include music, travel, watching old movies and golf.

John's wife Connie is a Paul Harris Fellow and a member of the Bequest Society and a Major Donor. She recently retired after a 40-year career as Head of the Guidance Counseling Department, Springdale High School. They have been married 48-Years, with 2 daughters, Whitney and Sarah, and 5-grandchildren.

THanks to John for his grantsmanship service to the Rotarians of District 6110.

### **Matt Hancock - RYLA Co-Chair**

Continuing our review of the Leadership team for DGE Kevin Merrill's upcoming year is the co-chair of **RYLA**, **Matt Hancock** along with Tracy Dean as the other co-chair. Matt has been a Rotarian since July 2010 in the Rotary Club of Broken Arrow where he has served as club president and foundation chair. Matt is currently a member of the Rotary Club of Tulsa.

He is the Chief Operations Officer (COO) for the YMCA of Greater Tulsa. Matt is a graduate of Oral Roberts University where he was a member of the Golden Eagle Baseball team and was drafted by the Boston Red Sox in the 2005 amateur draft.

Matt lives in Avant, OK with his wife Tommie Jane and their 9-year-old son Maddox, 7-year-old daughter Sawyer Jane, and 4-year-old daughter Devin Averie. He is entering his 9th year as chair for our District's Rotary Youth Leadership Award program and is currently serving as our District's Youth Services Chair.

Matt brings a strong vision of the future of Rotary and the importance of youth in our community to be true leaders by embracing our community and the true mission of all Rotarians "Service Above Self."

If you've never been to RYLA, make sure to schedule a visit for yourself!

Thanks to Matt for providing the leadership skills to hundreds (thousands!) of our District's youth.



### **Tracey Dean - RYLA Co-Chair**



We're pleased that **Tracey Dean is returning as RYLA Co-Chair**, with Matt Hancock.

Tracey joined the Rotary Club of Pryor in 1999 and since that time has held the office of Sergeant of Arms, Vice-President, and President. She served District 6110 as an Assistant Governor from 2009-2012 and has been the Co-Chair of Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) since 2012. Tracey is the behind-the-scenes force of RYLA handling administration duties of the campers from registration to cabin assignments, name badges, and camper/parent contact. RYLA has grown from 79 campers in 2011 to 283 in 2019. She is a Paul Harris Fellow +5.

Tracey was born and raised in Tulsa, Oklahoma graduating from Monte Cassino High School. She attended William Woods College in Fulton, Missouri obtaining a Bachelor of Science degree in Paralegal Studies and was a member of Chi Omega National sorority. She retired from the travel industry in 2004 when she became a professional volunteer. She has previously served on the Board of Directors of the Pryor Area Arts & Humanities Council, Rogers State University Foundation, Thunderbird Youth Academy, and the Pryor Area Chamber of Commerce, where she graduated from the Mayes County Leadership Academy. She has served on the Board of Governors of the Oliver Dewey Mayor Foundation and is a member of Monday Forum (General Federation of Women's Club) where she served as President. For her volunteer efforts Tracey has received the Volunteer of the Year Award from the Pryor Area Chamber of Commerce, and Citizen of the Year from the Pryor Sertoma Club.

Tracey and Gary, her Rotarian husband of 28 years enjoy traveling, cooking, gardening, and opening their swimming pool to the neighborhood kids.



## **Rachelle Langley - District Communications Officer**

**Rachelle Langley will become the District Communications Officer** on July first. She is the go-to person for DACdb issues, training, etc. Rachelle is a member of the Rotary Club of Sand Springs. She was first introduced to Rotary when she went to work for the Rotary Club of Tulsa in 2014. In 2018, Rachelle became the District Administrator for District 6110 and joined DACdb in 2019 as a member of the Support Team.

She is a graduate of North Georgia University with a degree in Human Service Delivery Administration. Prior to working with Rotary, Rachelle worked in Student Counseling & Career Services with North Greenville University, nonprofit case manager, adoption facilitation, and the Department of Human Services.

Rachelle currently resides in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico with her husband, Bryan, and Petey, their canine furbaby. Email, Zoom, and texting work great for her! When in the USA, Rachelle and Bryan enjoy spending time with their 5 children and 2 grandchildren.

Rachelle is well known to many District Rotarians, and we are pleased that she will continue to provide Service Above Self to our members as our District Communications Officer!



## **Larry Long - Rotary Friendship Exchange Coordinator**



PDG (there's that term again) **Larry Long will continue as the Districts Rotary Friendship Exchange Coordinator.**

Larry has been a member of the Rotary Club of Fayetteville since 1996. He has been President, President-elect, Chair Program Committee, Chair, GSE Committee, Chair, International Services Committee, Chair of the Long-range Planning Committee, member of Youth Exchange, etc. He sings bass with the RCOF barbershop quartet (Cog Hogs). He has attended several RI Conventions, and presented at the Lisbon 2013 convention.

He was District 6110's District Governor 2015-2016; and also Group Study Exchange Team Leader to India; Rotary Friendship Exchange Chair 2008-current; RFE trip to Thailand, Chair, Short-Term Youth Exchange Committee Chair 2003-2007, Chair, D6110 College of Governors, 2020, 2021. District Leadership Academy, 2014.

He is a Paul Harris Fellow, Paul Harris Society, Major Donor, Bequest Society, and Sustaining Member.

Larry grew up in Ponca City, OK and became an engineer (OU), IBM, Military (USAF/ANG C-124 navigator, Vietnam vet), husband, grad school (MS and Ph.D.), industrial engineering professor at Lehigh University (PA), strategic-level IT/management consultant (international), father of 2 boys, and has authored seven feet of books on information technology and management.

Larry and his wife Nancy retired in 2003, however, Larry is continuing to work on his manuscript on risk-readiness, a concept, that if applied correctly, will help people get to where they want to be, doing what they want to do.

He enjoys music and songwriting with Soldiers, Songs and Voices (guitar, fiddle, banjo, mandolin, keyboard, harmonica), Cog Hogs (barbershop quartet), cycling, tennis, hiking, Rotary, travel, and anything that is fun.

In his spare time, Larry teaches guitar to veterans and performs regularly. He is a volunteer head coach tennis, involved with strategic planning, and Technology Advisory Committee at the Fayetteville Public schools. He is active with the Chamber of Commerce, tennis tournaments, Volunteer Head Coach for 55 youth teams in tennis, basketball, soccer, and baseball), and Central United Methodist Church.

Thanks to Larry for keeping Rotary Friendship alive!

## **Laura Tapp - RLI Coordinator, Asst DCO**

**Laura Tapp** will be doing double duty for Gov Kevin's leadership team. She will be the RLI (Rotary Leadership Institute) Coordinator. This is a series of workshops and training opportunities for us to learn more about Rotary. She will also be the Assistant DCO (District Communications Officer) and will assist the district with DACdb training.

She is a native Tulsan and is a graduate of the University of Tulsa, earning a Bachelor's in BioGeosciences (sounds fancier than it is). She spent 6 years in the Oil and Gas Industry starting as a Geotech before maturing into a Project Manager/Data Analyst. After that, Laura decided to return to school and recently obtained her Certificate in GIS (Geographic Information Systems) from Tulsa Community College and is currently in search of a company to call home. Laura is a proud member of the Rotary Club of Southside Tulsa, having joined in July 2019. She serves as the Bulletin Editor and Club Communications Officer there, and recently joined the District Club Visioning Committee. She is a graduate of the District Leadership Academy, class of 2020.



She enjoys all manner of natural science and, on a more relatable note, gets absolutely silly about cars! In her spare time, she enjoys living life and traveling. But if she's not doing that, you can find her on a patio enjoying a good book. In fact, during 2020, she read 261 books! We're excited to see the service Laura can bring to the team!

### **Bob Headlee - Chair of the District Finance Committee**



**Bob Headlee will become Chair of the District Finance Committee** this coming year.

Bob was born and raised in Joplin, Missouri graduating from Joplin High School and Missouri Southern State University with a Bachelor of Science in Marketing and Management. Bob was in the grocery industry for most of his career. Division President of Fleming Foods of Nebraska and President of Fleming Foods of Missouri; co-owned Bob's IGA with his wife Judy in Carthage, Missouri before selling to a regional chain; served as Director of New Business Development for MSW, Inc. before retiring in 2013. Bob has served on several community boards and committees and presently serves as Chairman of Southwest Missouri's SCORE (which is a resource partner for the Small Business Administration) and the Chairman of the Southwest Missouri SCORE's Executive Committee.

Bob has been in Rotary for 24 years with membership in the Rotary Club of Joplin and the Rotary Club of Carthage. His responsibilities in Joplin have included: Red Badge Committee Chair, judge for the club's 4-Way Speech Contest for several years, graduate of District's Leadership Academy, Secretary/Treasurer, President-Elect, President, Board of Directors. Presently serving on the club's Mentoring Committee as Chair, Foundation Committee, Golf Committee, Joplin Community Fund Board.

Bob is the founder of the Rotary Sculpture Garden in Joplin - a major project of both Joplin clubs. He serves as Chairman of that Board, which currently has 12 sculptures on permanent display in the Sculpture Garden at Mercy Park, with three more slated for installation this summer.

Bob will chair the Rotary District 6110's Finance Committee this year.

Bob not only gives of his service but also contributes financially. He is a Rotary Foundation member, a Foundation Benefactor and Paul Harris Fellow +6. He and his wife Judy are members of the Rotary Foundation Bequest Society; level 3.

Bob and his wife Judy celebrated their 53rd wedding anniversary on June 1st. They have an adult son and daughter-in-law living in Colorado.

### **Bill Lawson- developing new Rotary Clubs in the District**

**Bill Lawson will be in charge of developing new Rotary Clubs in the District next year.** He and Gov Kevin look forward to two new clubs!

Bill joined Rotary in 1992 as a charter member of the Morgantown North

(WV) Rotary Club. He has served as president of two Rotary clubs and as Assistant Governor for District 6110 since 2018. He is a Paul Harris Major Donor, a member of the Paul Harris Society, serves on the Medical Supplies Network (MSNI) board of directors, and the MSNI Ambassador Society. Bill is currently the Secretary for the Rotary Club of Tulsa Sunrise where he was recognized as Rotarian of the Year for 2018-2019.

He is the Director of Technology Commercialization at The University of Tulsa. He is a physicist with a broad technology background including 31 years at the US Department of Energy's National Energy Technology Laboratory and its precursors.

Bill earned three degrees from West Virginia University including a PhD. He continues to serve WVU as a member of both the Physics and Astronomy Department and the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences Visiting Committees.

Bill retired from the Navy as a Commander having served in both Vietnam and Desert Shield/Desert Storm. He is married to Greta Creekmore and is blessed with children and grandchildren. As avocations, he enjoys hunting, dancing, reading, cooking, and shooting. What most Rotarians do not know about Bill is that he has been a competitive ballroom dancer primarily in the Standard International style in white tie and tails (Waltz, Quickstep, Tango, Foxtrot, and Viennese Waltz). He has also done Argentine tango demos and has a lot of fun social dancing in all styles. His recent dance career has spanned 15 years.



## **Layne Ragsdale - Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion**



**Layne Ragsdale joins the District Leadership Team in the area of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI).**

Layne is a Certified Financial Planner®, investment advisor, and owner of The Nest Financial® in Harrison, AR. She was born and raised in Branson, MO and graduated from the College of the Ozarks in 1984. She began her career in the Financial Services industry in 2005 after serving the community for 8 years as President of the Harrison Chamber of Commerce. During her time at the Chamber, she graduated from the Community

Development Institute at the University of Central Arkansas and was certified as a Community Developer.

Layne continues her involvement in the community and was honored as the 2010 Individual



Community Service Award winner by the Harrison Regional Chamber of Commerce. She was a founding member of the Harrison Community Task Force on Race Relations in 2002 and currently serves as the Task Force's Public Information Officer. She and other Task Force members have been involved with media interviews from across the globe and featured in documentaries shown on PBS, CNN, the BBC, and Al Jazeera.

Layne has been a member of the Harrison Rotary Club for 25 years and served as Club President in 2004-2005. She is a Paul Harris Fellow +1 and continues to lead the Club's annual fundraiser which encourages community leaders and adrenaline junkies to skydive for charity. She is also a member of the North Arkansas College Foundation Board, the Boone County Regional Airport Board, and the Boone County Economic Development Corporation. She is a member at Eagle Heights Baptist Church and loves spending time with her fellow Rotarian husband, Loren, and their large extended family.

Please welcome Layne to her post!

## **Scott Tatman - District Leadership Academy Dean**

**Scott Tatman has stepped up to take a critical leadership position as Dean of the District Leadership Academy.**

Scott takes the reins from Ellis Potter, and will be working with his team to revamp the Academy to operate it locally.

Scott is a 3rd generation Rotarian, and a member of the Coffeyville Rotary Club since 2007. He was its President in 2012-13, then an Assistant Governor for 3 years. He is a graduate of the District Leadership Academy and an instructor. He has chaired the District Golf Tournament, is a Paul Harris Fellow +3, and has sponsored 4 new members.

Following his graduation from Washburn University in 2005 he began his career as Sales and Marketing Supervisor for Acme Foundry, Inc. in Coffeyville, KS where he continues. He has been the Head Golf Coach at Roosevelt Middle School and the Program Facilitator of Leadership Coffeyville.

Scott is married to Robyn for 12 years and they have two children, Halle and Jack. Robyn is also a Rotarian and served as President in 2018-19. All four are Paul Harris Fellows.

Scott's family has lived in Coffeyville Kansas for multiple generations on both sides. In fact, his Great-Great-Great-Great Uncle is John J. Kloehr, the legendary sharpshooter in the Dalton Raid that occurred in Coffeyville in 1892.

We look forward to Scott's deft aim in developing the Leadership Academy for the District!



## **Todd "Bowtie" Jenkins - Rotary Youth Exchange**



**Dr. Todd "Bowtie" Jenkins continues his service to the District in the Youth Exchange program.**

He currently serves as a Global Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Leader at a Fortune 100 company and as an Executive Inclusion Trainer, Strategist, and Speaker with Bowtie Leadership, Inc.

As a consultant, he has worked with companies such as Walmart, Google, Facebook, American Airlines, Deloitte, etc., oil and gas companies, small and large non-profits, and entrepreneurs. He graduated with honors from the University of South Carolina with two degrees, a Bachelor of Science in Psychology and Sociology, obtained a Master of Science from Illinois State University, and Doctorate from

the University of Arkansas. His research area focused on minority professionals, retention, and perception of their supervisors within the workplace. Currently, he is enrolled at Harvard University, completing post-doctorate studies as Harvard Fellow. Dr. Jenkins serves as a faculty member for the Executive Institute on Inclusion and on the Diversity Business Journal Review Board.

◆Bowtie Todd◆ is a proud Rotarian and Paul Harris Fellow from the Rotary Club of Fayetteville. he has served as the former Rotaract Advisor, Interact Sponsor, RYLA presenter, Youth Services Chair, two terms on Club Board of Directors, and graduated from his District and Zone Leadership Academy. Dr. Jenkins is currently one of the youngest Youth Exchange District Chairs in Rotary International. He has had the honor to speak at various Rotary districts, zones, and international conventions. He has recently been selected and appointed to serve on the first Rotary International Committee- DEI Taskforce to align Rotary's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion assessment, strategy, goals, and initiatives.

Today he is known as Dr. "Bowtie Todd," who has given inspirational talks and education to audiences of all sizes and backgrounds throughout North America, Asia, South America, and Europe. He is a proud husband, father, author, servant leader, and conversationalist who believes in his philosophy "bowtie" it all together, serve and simply be a gift unto the world!

Thanks to ◆Bowtie Todd◆ for his continued service to Rotary.

## **Lisa Merrill - District Conference Chair**

Besides the task of scheduling and keeping District Governor Kevin ◆on track, ◆ **Lisa Merrill will chair the District Conference, which is scheduled for September 18 this year.**

Lisa grew up in Berryville and Eureka Springs, Arkansas. She met her husband, our District 6110 Governor-Elect Kevin Merrill while attending high school in Eureka Springs. They attended their Junior-Senior prom together in 1984 at the historic 1886 Crescent Hotel where the District 6110 Leadership Installation event will be held on June 26 and where she is planning to hold the District Conference.



Lisa became an official member of the Rotary Club of Harrison in 2018, but she was actually a Rotarian at heart long before that with her family's history in Rotary. One of her great uncles was a charter member of the Harrison club serving as President in 1929-1930. Lisa's father was an active member of the Rotary Club of Berryville and served as their President in 1969-1970. Lisa's husband, Kevin, was their Club President in 2016-2017, and she assisted him with many activities during the year he served and attended meetings regularly.

Lisa and Kevin were named co-Rotarians of the Year for their club in June 2014. Lisa was named a Paul Harris Fellow in 2015. In 2017, Lisa received the ◆Non-Rotarian Spouse of the Year Award◆ for District 6110 from Rotary International.

Lisa is a graduate of the District 6110 Leadership Academy graduating with the all-women class of 2019! She and Kevin are members of the Bequest Society and the Paul Harris Society. They are also Level 1 Major Donors. Lisa and Kevin have attended the International Conventions in both Atlanta & Toronto. She enjoyed helping Kevin with his Assistant Governor responsibilities and went to most club meetings and events that he attended.

Lisa's ◆Rotary Moment◆ occurred when she and Kevin participated in a National Immunization Days trip to India in January of 2020 with a group of 48 other Rotarians. The whole trip was life-changing but being able to visit the villages and put those life-saving polio drops in the mouths of the children there was so moving! Many lifelong friendships were formed on that trip as well.

Lisa and Kevin will celebrate 35 years of marriage this July. They have one daughter, Jessica, who lives with her husband, Landen in Victorville, California. They have given Kevin and Lisa three awesome grandchildren, Jasen, Madelyn & Westyn. Kevin and Lisa have just sold their home in Harrison and are starting a full-time adventure traveling the country in their RV with their four dachshunds. They have recently joined the Recreational Vehicle Fellowship of Rotarians and look forward to attending some of their rallies in the future. In her spare time, Lisa enjoys doing various crafts, reading, & cooking. She especially loves trying new recipes with family & friends! Lisa is looking forward to helping Kevin with his District Governor duties this coming year and will be attending all club meetings and events with him. She is excited that the District conference will be IN PERSON this year and expects EVERY Rotarian to attend! She and Kevin are excited to serve all the clubs of our great district!

## **Michele Gann - Paul Harris Society Coordinator**



We are pleased to announce that **Michele Gann is named to the Leadership team as the Paul Harris Society coordinator.**

Michele has been a Rotarian for 13 years; 11 years in Eureka Springs, and 2 years in Bella Vista. She is currently a PHF+6 and will be a +7 by the time Kevin is installed as Governor. She is a member of the Paul Harris Society since giving to the Foundation is something she strongly believes in. She served as secretary-treasurer in the Eureka Springs club and has been the Foundation chair for Bella Vista since July 2019.

She is a Registered Nurse with a Master's in Healthcare Administration and has been a nurse for 40+ years. She works for a large cardiology group as

a phone triage nurse.

Michele recently purchased a recumbent trike and is busy relearning the fun in cycling.

She will be calling upon clubs to promote the Paul Harris Society ♦ so let♦s welcome her to the team!

## **Susan Sangren - Choices program chair**

### **Susan Sangren joins the District Leadership team to chair the CHOICES program,**

Susan has been a member of the Rotary Club of Harrison since 2001, serving as President in 2012-2013. She graduated from the District 6110 Leadership Academy in 2014 and was Assistant Governor from 2016-2019. She is a Major Donor, Rotary Benefactor, and a Paul Harris Society member and was selected as her club♦s Rotarian of the Year in 2011 and 2016. She has attended three Rotary International Conventions.

Susan is currently the Youth Exchange Officer for her club. She is on the District♦s Personnel Committee and is Chair of the CHOICES program. The CHOICES workshop consists of two 45-minute sessions delivered by volunteers on consecutive days in the classroom during the school day to eighth and ninth grade students. The first session focuses on the value of staying in school and the second session introduces life skills to help teens succeed in both school and life.

Susan was born and raised in Harrison, AR. She graduated from the University of Central Arkansas with a degree in Psychology. After graduation, she spent a year in Bozeman, Montana as a Vista Volunteer. She is the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Director for the Northwest Arkansas Economic Development District.

We welcome Susan to the District Leadership team!



## **Danny Mitchell, Chair of Elections, Credentials, and Parliamentary Committee**



Danny Mitchell will serve the District again in the 2021-2022 year. He was inducted into Rotary in 1993 and is a member of the Rotary Club of Tulsa Southeast where he has served in many positions including President 2003-2004. He has served as the Assistant District Governor and Committee Chair for RI Fellowships. He was District Conference Chairman 2 years. Danny served as District Governor in 2011-2012. He has served as District Trainer and Youth Exchange Officer.

Currently Danny serves and will continue as **Chair of the Elections, Credentials, and Parliamentary Committee.**

This committee shall conduct all district elections and votes, whether at a district meeting or ballot-by-mail. The committee shall certify electors in advance of a vote in accord with the rules of district voting as required

under R.I. Bylaws. The committee will notify clubs in advance regarding the rules and schedule for seeking certification of electors. The committee shall conduct the business-meeting portion of district meetings when a vote is to be taken. The chair of the committee shall preside at all district votes. This committee shall provide a Parliamentarian at each meeting where a vote is to be taken on a district matter.

Danny is a member of the Paul Harris Society, and White Hat Society. Danny and his wife Peggy



are Level 2 Major Donors and members of the Bequest Society.

The experience at the first RI Convention in 2011 ignited the passion for Rotary. After leaving the convention Peggy said she had been ♦Rotarized♦

Danny is an Architect and owner of Mitchell Architects in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He is a professional member of the American Institute of Architects and certified with the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards. He developed and operated multi-story climate controlled self-storage facilities.

## **Noel Morris - Wheelchair Project**

**Noel Morris continues as the point person for the Wheelchair project which has provided over 10,000 wheelchairs to those in need.**

Noel has been in Rotary for over 30 years and held most positions in the Springdale Club and Wheelchair committee chair for several years. He was an Assistant Governor and has completed the District Leadership Academy.

He was in financial services for 25 years and is currently teaching in the Finance Dept at the University of Arkansas



He has two sons in their 30♦s, one in the Air Force and one in music education - both have married well. Noel and his wife Sandy have one incredible 9 yr old granddaughter. They have been married for 42 years and Sandy has accompanied Noel on all of their Rotary District Wheelchair distribution trips. They have also made many wonderful friends that share that same passion and have been together on wheel chair trips.

He has been on a life long journey for the ultimate chocolate chip cookie and it took him about 30 years and 30 pounds to come up with his best effort. Also during the pandemic, he began trying to bake a presentable loaf of sourdough bread. Not as easy as the cookies are to make.

Thanks to Noel for his continued Rotary service in wheelchair distribution.

## **You too can serve District 6110**

By Wally Bloss on Wednesday, June 30, 2021

Whew...what a crew we have ready to serve!

Thanks for reading all the way to the end!

Each year the incoming District Governor looks for people to serve the clubs in our district - see what a wide set of knowledge and service is shown above!

Are you interested in helping other clubs in our district?

Here's a few ways:

- Be a past president
- Enroll in the District Leadership Academy
- Let the current District Governor, or perhaps the District Governor-Elect know of your interest!

PS: Remember the contact info for all these good Rotarians is in DACdb and in the attached info sheet!



**SERVE TO  
CHANGE LIVES**

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