

Rotary



District 6150



From the Governor

By Michael E. Bennage

As I attempt to write this newsletter, I realize this will be my last newsletter as District Governor. At the end of this month, James Arbuckle will take on the duties of District Governor for the next year. I know he will be very successful as your Governor, so please join me in welcoming him to his new role in the District. I also realize how much I will miss being your Governor. It has been a true pleasure to serve.

We chartered new waters this year due to the pandemic, and most of them have made Rotary stronger. I could dwell on the negative things that happened, but that serves no purpose. I want to focus on the positive and look to a bright future for District 6150. What a great time we had in Heber Springs celebrating the end of the Rotary year. The turnout was great, but most importantly, getting to see a lot of those faces we haven't seen in a while, sure made the trip for me. We had a lot of outstanding Rotarians recognized in our Friday luncheon, too many to list here, that deserve the recognition they received. I was truly honored to present those awards.

The district also chartered a new satellite club for pet lovers. Thanks to the Sherwood club for being innovative in finding new ways to serve. I am in hopes that things like this will continue to grow Rotary and make our district stronger. Way to go Sherwood!

Lastly, I want to thank all of the district leaders and staff for all of their hard work. Without people like Sydney Gilbert, Brian Rega, Adam Sartin, John Carter, and many others, we would not have been near as successful as we were. We have a bright future in District 6150, and I can't wait to see how it turns out.

Best wishes to all and Thanks for your support.


Mike Bennage

District Awards

By Michael E. Bennage



Congratulations to the following Clubs and Rotarians on their accomplishments during the 2020-21 Rotary Year!!
Thank you for your Service.

Governor's Banner: Cleburne County Little Rock Metro Sherwood West Little Rock	Clubs of the Year: Little Rock Metro West Little Rock Sherwood Jonesboro	Presidents of the Year: David Gullic Michelle Oglesby Jeff Hildebrand
Governor's Award for Membership: Cleburne County Little Rock Metro Marianna Sherwood	Best Club Visit- Virtual: Little Rock	Best Club Visit- In Person: Wynne
Outstanding Service to the District: Dr. Jennifer Dillaha Brian Rega John Carter Kelly Lewis	Governor's Award for Leadership: Adam Sartin Rena Kelley Erin Kerley Mathews	Service Above Self Award: John Jordan
Rotary Opens Opportunities Award: Michelle Oglesby	Rotarian of the Year: Charles Harris	Rotary District 6150 

District Membership Challenge

By Michael E. Bennage



District 6150 had a Membership Challenge this spring. Clubs grew Rotary all over the District. Great Job!

The Winners of the Challenge are...

Highest Percentage Gain in Membership:

1st Place & \$2000 Winner: Cleburne County
2nd Place & \$1000 Winner: Marion
3rd Place & \$500 Winner: Sherwood

The Sherwood Rotary Club sponsored a Satellite Club earning another \$500. A Paul Harris Fellow will be awarded to Rena Kelley for sponsoring the most new members.

Congratulations to all the clubs that gained in membership this year!

June Administration Announcements

By Sydney O'Quin Gilbert

Make sure your Membership & Officer info is correct:

- Compare Officers in DACdb vs. Rotary International - [View this how to document](#).
- Compare Membership info in DACdb vs. Rotary International - [View this how to video](#)

Prepare for Dues:

- Dues from RI will be emailed to your Club President & Club Treasurer soon after 7/1. Please send your dues in to RI in a timely manner.
- I will email invoices for dues for District 6150 and President-Elect Training shortly after 7/1. Dues for the District are \$42 per member as of 7/1. The cost for PETS is \$175. Please send 2 checks to Rotary District 6150 at PO Box 242282, Little Rock, AR 72223.



Club News - Cleburne County

By Tina Moore

Cleburne County Club - Reflection on the Year

As we are wrapping up our 2020-2021 Rotary year, it is a great time to look back and reflect on what we have accomplished this year. This year most certainly came with some challenges that we have never been faced with before, but I am so proud of our club for finding ways to serve our community and each other the entire year. Some of the changes our club agreed to make this year were to have less meetings and to reduce the fees. Instead of weekly, we now meet on the first and third Thursdays of the month. This has actually worked very well and our meetings were well attended throughout the year. Our club meets at The Red Apple Inn, and the staff was very accommodating to our needs. Another challenge we faced was speakers; asking outside speakers to come in person to our meetings just did not feel right. So instead, we spotlighted our own members and really got to know each other. It has been so exciting to get to know each other and our backgrounds!



However, my favorite part of this year as Club President, was watching our members get excited about serving our community! Some of the projects we did this year were: The Ozark Trail Festival Scholarship pageant where we raised over \$12,000 for our yearly scholarship program. We also gathered supplies for Margie's Haven House, a local women's shelter. In addition we signed up for a bi-monthly cook and serve team at Breakin' Bread, a local food bank where the community is served meals three times per week. Other community service projects included: partnering with the Heber Springs Rotary Club for the dictionary project (every third grader in the county received a dictionary with the Rotary emblem) and most recently, several members of the club gave individual donations and we raised over \$900 to buy new toys for the Community School!



Coming into the year, our general fund balance was low due to not being able to hold our fundraising events last year. In April we held

our Rotary Rummage sale and raised over \$3000 for our general fund. As a result of all of our changes and our momentum, and some very excited club members, we grew by 15+ members in this Rotary year. I truly believe that when others saw us serving and having fun doing so, they wanted to be a part of what was going on with our club! Despite some challenges, this Rotary year was successful, fun and exciting! As my year as Club President is coming to an end, I am excited for the future plans our club has to continue to serve our community for many years to come! I am so thankful that someone invited me to Rotary back in 2014 when I was new to Heber Springs! There is never a better time to invite someone to Rotary than right now!



Club News - Helena

By Ron W Dowda

Club Rotarian of the Year

The Rotary Club of Helena awarded Brooke Tappan as the 2020-21 Club Rotarian of the Year. The club was given a special diamond pin from the family of Otis Howe, a beloved member. They honor his service to the community, his family and friends, and their club by awarding the Rotarian of the Year the pin. Brooke Tappan will wear this pin for one year until the next Rotarian of the Year is chosen.

Congratulations Brooke Tappan!



Club News - Paragould

By Pam Diggs

Rotary Club of Paragould

The Paragould Club hosted our 2nd ANNUAL Spring Golf Tournament on May 20th at the Paragould Country Club. We had 17 teams and this is now our largest yearly fundraiser that helps support our many community projects. The weather was great and we would like to say a big thanks to everyone that participated, volunteered or sponsored the event. It was a great success! We also inducted 2 new members, Brad Rodgers and Kari Rucker on Monday, May 29th at our regular Wednesday meeting.

