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## In This Issue

[Rotary Connects the World](#)

[August is Membership Month](#)

[Jeff Farris Leadership Academy Accepting Applications](#)

[District Grant Applications Due Soon](#)

[Rotary Friend Exchange](#)

[End Polio Now](#)

[Connecting District 6170](#)

## District Leaders



Robert Jaye Thompson  
District Governor



Jamie Higgins  
DG-Elect



Kathy D. Carter  
DG-Nominee



Dennis P. Cooper  
iPDG



Sue Cavner  
District Secretary



Jennifer Johnson  
District Treasurer



George Phillip Betts  
DBA, GRI Membership Chair

David J. Mason

## Rotary Connects the World

By Robert Jaye Thompson on Monday, July 1, 2019



The new Rotary Year has begun. We have been the inspiration for a year under the leadership of now PDG Dennis Cooper following the lead of Rotary International President Barry Rassin, and now is the time for us to become conduits of service across the globe under the leadership of Rotary President Mark Daniel Maloney. Together we will make lasting change as Rotary Connects the World. On Saturday evening, 29 June 2019, I received a charge from PDG Pam Gibson and a new lapel pin as the old year continued to an end and the new year begins. We celebrated great accomplishments under PDG Dennis. He set out to do many things during 2018-19. We did most of them too. He wanted us to engage in an international service project. We did that. He wanted us to help with a wheel chair project. We did that. He wanted us to start some satellite clubs. We did that. He wanted us to work on getting more Rotaract and Interacts clubs started. We did that. When he called upon us to give more money to help with projects, we gave more money than he asked for. We only fell short in one area. Despite the addition of members via satellite clubs, we still fell short of his goal to increase our membership in District 6170. So, what will we do as this new year begins?

We will continue our efforts in the areas of last Rotary year and try to do a little more. Membership retention and recruitment go hand in hand. We must be willing to embrace the flexibility guidelines that Rotary International has given to us and engage more members of our clubs and communities in the work of Rotary across the globe. I am looking forward to enlisting the aid of those who are already engaged in getting more of our members educated for the work and engaged in the work that we can do across the globe and in our communities. We must see beyond the walls of our clubs and communities, dream big dreams, and try to make the next generation of Rotarians better than we are now.

President Mark said, "We must make Rotary easier at every turn." He encouraged us to make it easier to get our projects completed in our communities as we partner and unite with others. We must make it easier to be a member of Rotary as we embrace the new club meeting flexibility guidelines. We must make it easier to be club presidents and district governors as we engage more of our members in the work to be done.

I, Robert J. Thompson, pledge to do my best to make it happen. We will connect the clubs in our district, connect our district with other districts in the zone, and enhance our connection in Rotary International. You are invited and welcome to join me in this endeavor. Stay tuned for more.

## August is Membership Month

What is your club's plan for growth during this Rotary year? One of the most important positions and persons that you have in your club is the Membership Committee Chairman. Who have you chosen to undertake this vitally important task? That person should be appointed in DaCdb and on My Rotary. Why? Rotary is membership driven, and we want to help you.

### Rotary's Challenge

If you have the occasion to listen to the vision presentation of Rotary International President (RIP) Mark Daniel Maloney, you will hear him say that his main goal for Rotary is to grow the organization. The Zone to which we belong has come up with a membership strategy that each club can use to help gain members. On the District files tab in DaCdb, we have provided you with a copy of the resources that a Membership Facilitation Team could use to engage the members of the club in [attracting](#) and [engaging new members](#).

We have so many ways to grow our clubs, but every method that can be employed is dependent upon one thing. **Members are necessary to make new members.** If we want to increase our giving to the Rotary Foundation, the easiest way is to attract and engage new members. New member orientations should be conducted to inform members that we are a service organization that uses both muscle and money to accomplish the great things that Rotary does across the globe. The strategic vision statement is all about increasing our impact and enlarging our footprint in the world in which we live. Our members are all ambassadors of the cause. The vision is that lasting change will take place in ourselves, our communities, and across the globe as our clubs seek to work with others. Rotary is not concerned so much about our meeting together to eat as it is about us being People of Action creating Lasting Change.

### District Governor's Challenge

I would love to have a 10% increase in our membership this year. That means that each club must seek to retain at least 95% of her members while adding 15% to our club rosters. If we have 15 clubs to add a satellite club (minimum of 8 members to charter) we have added 120 members to our base. If we have 3 more clubs to add a community-based Rotaract club (leaders ages 18 - 30 years with a minimum of 15 charter members), we have added another 45 members to our membership roll. If the remaining 18 clubs add two (2) members each, we have added another 36 members. Obviously the easiest way for us to grow our membership is by adding satellite clubs all over the district. We are already losing members faster than we can add them, but we can stop the hemorrhaging by grafting new clubs to our numbers and adding new engaged members to our club rosters.

Satellite clubs will allow those who cannot meet with us for our regular meetings to become engaged with us. New Rotaract clubs will



Paul Harris  
Society  
Chair



Gwynne Joi  
Burton  
International  
Services  
Chair



Jennifer Van  
Houtte  
District  
Rotary  
Foundation  
Coordinator

provide a ready base for future growth and engagement. It has been proven that Rotary members that are engaged are one's that are more easily retained. Even if they transfer, they want to remain a part of Rotary and its endeavors. If you need assistance, the district leadership team (especially the membership committee) is here to help you plan.

Let's strategically and intentionally seek to grow Rotary, not just in August, but throughout the entire year. This is my challenge.

## Jeff Farris Leadership Academy Accepting Applications

Wednesday, June 26, 2019

The Jeff Farris Leadership Academy is now accepting nominations and applications for the next class of participants. [Download the information brochure and application](#). Mail completed registration request and check by August 1, 2019 to: Jennifer Johnson, CPA; 304 Green Street; Morrilton, AR 72110

JFLA is a Rotary-sponsored educational curriculum designed to enhance the personal leadership skills of individual Rotarians within District 6170. The concept originated in 2004 under Past District Governor Jeff Farris. Two years later Rotary District 6170 formally adopted the Jeff Farris Leadership Academy as an ongoing training program. More than 140 Rotarians have now completed the Academy.

Rotarians who exhibit the potential for club leadership ♦ or who play leadership roles in their work lives and communities ♦ are encouraged to attend the Jeff Farris Leadership Academy. Although participation in the Academy does not obligate a Rotarian to a leadership role in the local club, it is a vote of confidence by the club in the individual's future leadership capabilities and potential role.

District 6170 Rotary Clubs and former JFLA participants are invited to nominate individual candidates for each year's Academy. Rotarians interested in attending the Academy are also encouraged to approach their Club President.

The Academy is here to serve any District 6170 Rotarian who exhibits leadership potential. Tuition for the 2019/20 Academy is \$450 ♦ covering materials, food, facilities and faculty honoraria. Transportation and lodging expenses are the responsibility of the participant or the sponsoring club.

Any club interested in the future of Rotary ♦ and in the sustainability of their local club ♦ should nominate and sponsor one or more candidates to the Jeff Farris Leadership Academy. Leadership is not a quality bestowed on all; but through the Academy, a local club can fuel its leadership ranks for years to come.

For additional information contact: J. D. Gingerich - (501) 773-4732

## District Grant Applications Due Soon

The deadline for submission of District Grant requests is upon us. You have a couple of days remaining to get your applications completed online. Remember, we are seeking to connect our district with the world so we can create lasting change.

## Rotary Friend Exchange

By Stephanie Alderdice on Monday, July 29, 2019



The Rotary Friendship Exchange program gives Rotarians and their families the opportunity to experience other cultures firsthand, by participating in reciprocal visits with Rotarians from other countries and their families. Introduced in 1984, this program aims to advance international understanding among Rotarians. It provides Rotarians with the opportunity to form personal contacts and make long-lasting friendships while exploring different areas of the world.

### Types of Exchanges

There are two main types of Friendship Exchanges, the visitor exchange and the team exchange. The number of people or couples participating and the length of stay are flexible in either exchange. However, both are to be determined and agreed upon by the two districts involved. Rotary Friendship Exchanges are expected to be reciprocal.

### Visitor Exchange

The visitor exchange gives individual Rotarians, who may be accompanied by family members, the opportunity to spend a few days in the home of a Rotarian in another country. The typical visitor exchange ranges from three to seven days.

### Team Exchange

The team exchange provides the opportunity for several Rotarians or Rotary couples to travel to different communities in a host district for a period of up to one month.

### Univocational Exchange

A unique aspect to incorporate into either the team or the visitor exchange is the univocational exchange, in which both guest and host Rotarians are of the same profession. A univocational exchange gives the Rotarians involved the opportunity to expand their views on a common interest.

### Exchange Participants

Only Rotarians and immediate family members (partner and children) are eligible for the visitor exchange. For the team exchange, only Rotarians and their partners are eligible. For either type of exchange, both districts should agree on the

participants in advance.

## End Polio Now

Our fight against polio is not over. While we have eradicated 99.9% of the instances of the disease, the 0.1% that remains is capable of devastating our world if we cease our efforts. Therefore, it is important for all of us to continue to contribute to the PolioPlus Fund. The latest report from our zone director is that the total number of WPV cases is now at 56. Pakistan has reported 45 new cases and Afghanistan has reported 11 new cases. Nigeria is still on course to be removed from our watch list with no new WPV cases reported.



## Connecting District 6170

Growing Rotary is the strategic vision of Rotary International because we believe that our organization can bring about lasting change across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves. Our goal this year is to connect the 36 clubs that comprise our district and become a cohesive unit making our world a better place in which to live and our clubs model service organizations for the communities in which we serve. To achieve this goal, our club leadership must look beyond the walls that we have built around our clubs to see how we can make our clubs more vibrant. The challenge is to step outside the box of our traditions and history to see the opportunities that Rotary International has made for us to increase our membership. Club flexibility and new membership types have created a new paradigm for Rotary. Satellite clubs are a way in which we can add persons who struggle to meet each week with us. We should see how the satellite concept allows us to add those persons to our membership rolls and engage them with us in making improvements in our communities. It is also important for us to see how important young leaders can assist us with the work of making the work of Rotary easier through Rotaract clubs. Rotary has adopted guidelines that make Rotary and Rotaract viable clubs. Our future is dependent on getting younger members and engaging them in our work. Our future also includes Interact, clubs made up of youth ages 12 to 17 years old. We can create relationships with schools that allow our members to mentor the following generations and provide a ready source for both Rotaract and Rotary.

Our world is growing ever small as technology becomes an integral part of our world. We are able to establish partnerships with Rotary clubs on the other side of our world to serve a needy humanity. We must not see ourselves as islands in the great ocean of our cosmos. We must see ourselves as only pieces of a greater whole with our role being as important as every other part.

I encourage every club to connect with the other clubs on the District and Club Database. Log on to DaCdb ([www.dacdb.com](http://www.dacdb.com)) and provide us with your club's leadership information. Log in to Rotary Club Central on [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org) and tell us what you wish to accomplish this year. You will find the world is easy to navigate as you will find friends all around the world. I look forward to meeting you there.

## Events

August 15th

[DG Visit with Club - NGC Scenic 7](#)

August 17th

[District Leadership Multi-Year District Planning](#)