

Rotary District 6780 News



District Leaders

Ronald E. Appuhn
District Governor

Gregory J. Maciolek
Vice District Governor

Cindy A Gammons
DG-Elect

Alan N. Clark
DG-Nominee

Deborah R. Alexander-Davis
District Rotary Foundation
Chair

Jenifer Yaggi Campbell
District Treasurer

Patricia S. Daughtrey
District Secretary

Norman C. Fontana
AG Coordinator

Robert L. Beasley
Assistant District Governor

Susie Cantrell
Assistant District Governor

Jon Alan Carlberg
Assistant District Governor

Christine Celik
Assistant District Governor

David Curtis Chaffin
Assistant District Governor

Rob Dansereau
Assistant District Governor

Barry Doss
Assistant District Governor

John G Downs
Assistant District Governor

Debbie D. Farmer
Assistant District Governor

Daniel Hipsher
Assistant District Governor

Breckenridge S Morgan
Assistant District Governor

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District Governor's December Message

Calendar 2020 is almost over now. This calendar year has been difficult for District 6780 Rotarians, as we have seen the impacts of tornados and the pandemic. We have lost many members of our personal and Rotary families. The economic impacts have been very hard on many individuals, businesses, and towns.

Our district Rotarians have continued to step up to help those in need, throughout all the challenges, sometimes in very creative ways and always with a strong service ethic. THANK YOU for being a Rotarian and for doing all you have done, and continue to do, to make our world a better place.

December is Disease Prevention and Treatment Month in the Rotary calendar. In the world today, hundreds of millions of people cannot afford or do not have access to basic health care. Disease results in misery, pain, and poverty for millions of people worldwide. Rotary leads efforts both large and small, setting up temporary clinics, blood donation centers, and training facilities in underserved communities struggling with outbreaks and health care access.

Rotary designs and builds infrastructure that allows doctors, patients, and governments to work together. Rotary members and clubs have hundreds of health projects underway around the world to educate and equip communities with the tools they need to combat the spread of life-threatening diseases like malaria, HIV/AIDS, multiple sclerosis, diabetes, and polio.

Prevention is important, which is why we focus on health education and bringing people routine hearing, vision, and dental care. District 6780 clubs continue to be leaders, both locally and internationally, in disease prevention and treatment through numerous projects that are supported by club donations of time and money, Rotary Foundation district grants, and Rotary Foundation global grants.



The holidays bring us opportunities to remember past celebrations, to enjoy and appreciate our family and friends, and to consider what we can do in the months and years ahead to help make a difference.

Speaking of past celebrations, here is a picture of your District Governor last year wearing the mandatory holiday ugly sweater and outrageous eyeglasses. Yes, I am a fan of the Beatles and of Elton John, so it was not as painful for me to wear as it is for you to witness. We wish you all a safe, healthy, and happy holiday

season! Happy New Year!

DG Ron and Karen

Teresa Musice
Assistant District Governor
Amy Rudder
Assistant District Governor
David E. Sergeant
Assistant District Governor
David Sorge
Assistant District Governor
Lynda C. Welty
Assistant District Governor

Susie Cantrell Selected as District Governor 2023-2024

District Governor Ron Appuhn, having received no challenges to the recommendation by the District's Nominating Committee for Susie Cantrell to be our 2023-24 district governor, officially declared that Susie Cantrell has been selected and will serve as District 6780 Governor for 2023-24. Please reach out and congratulate Susie on her selection.



Susie is a charter member of the Rotary Club of Cookeville Sunset, was the club's president in 2016-2017, and currently serves the District as Assistant Governor for the Cookeville, Cookeville Breakfast, Cookeville Sunset, Jamestown and Livingston clubs. She was selected as a District's Rotarian of the Year in 2020.

Susie was raised in East Tennessee. She came to Cookeville at the age of 18. Attending her hometown university, Tennessee Tech University and the American College of Sports Medicine, she has attained many certifications and licenses to further her career as a local business owner.

Connoisseur of music, Susie has played the piano since the age of 8 and has a tremendous love for the arts, theater, and Broadway. Five Sundays of the year, you can find her at the Bryan Symphony Orchestra, where she is a season ticket holder. As an avid traveler, she hopes to one day trace the footprints of Beethoven in Vienna. She also enjoys event planning and spending quality time with her husband and son.

In addition to Rotary, she served two terms as Board Chair for Cityscape, a downtown revitalization organization, and is the Board Chair for TTU Friends of the Library. To quote Susie Cantrell, "Rotary holds such a special place in my heart, and I can't help sharing it with others!"

District Leadership Mid-Year Meeting

District leaders, please mark your calendar for the upcoming District Leadership Mid-Year Meeting. We will hold a Zoom session on **Saturday, January 9, 2021 at 11:00 AM Eastern / 10:00 AM Central**. The session will not last more than two hours.

All current and incoming Assistant Governors, the Governor's Committee, and all current district committee and subcommittee heads should plan to attend this important meeting.

The agenda is not yet finalized but will include the following:

- Review of updated January-June 2021 district calendar of events
- Challenges for the next six months and the impacts of the pandemic on clubs, goals, and awards
- Brief reports from committees

District Governor Ron will send out the Zoom invitation and the draft agenda sometime in December.

Please note that this meeting is in addition to the District Team Training Seminar in February, to which most of the same district leaders will be invited. One major purpose of the February meeting is for District Governor Elect Cindy to review topics and set the tone for her 2021-22 year as Governor.

Please send any suggestions on specific topics, as well as any other comments or ideas, for our January 9 meeting to District Governor Ron.

Rotary and Teddy 🐻 Bringing Happy Thoughts, Smiles, and Hope

Nearing the end of each virtual club visit by the District Governor, the club president would introduce a special guest 🐻 a Teddy bear. Each Teddy was made in Mexico

(as a Mexico club fundraiser) and traveled to each one the club presidents. For most of us, when we see or hold a Teddy bear, we think happy thoughts and we smile. Rotary is the Teddy bear of opportunities for you, your community, and for the people we serve by bringing happy thoughts, hope and smiles through our integrity, diversity, leadership, and especially our fellowship and service.

Our Rotary year of 2020-21 is only half over. Let's make hope happen in 2021!



Calendar of Events

December 31 ♦ Report Club officers for 2021-22 to Rotary International
January 9 ♦ District leadership mid-year meeting (virtual)
January 14 ♦ District wide Facebook meeting
January 23 ♦ Heart 2 Heart Virtual Global Grant Project Fair
January 30 ♦ Leadership meeting for 2020-21 club presidents (virtual)
January 31 ♦ Rotary International dues payment are due
January 31 ♦ District Grant submissions are due

Jamestown Provides Children's Shopping Spree for Christmas

On December 19 members of the Jamestown club will take 300 school-age children on a shopping spree and will provide Christmas for all Head Start students and for several high school students. This year the club will be able to provide Christmas for over 400 children because of the generosity of the community and the hard work of the Rotarians. The club has been working for months to make sure they could adapt and alter their shopping spree program to continue this wonderful event safely.

The Jamestown club recently raised \$22,850 during its annual radiothon to support the club's Christmas shopping spree project. All of the money raised will be spent on children in Fentress County for the Rotary Christmas Shopping Spree Plus.



Club president Debbie York commented, ♦ This has been a rough year for our teachers and school administrators as well. We thank them for taking the time out of their already busy days to help us get the children signed up for the shopping spree. The magical thing about the shopping spree is that it is not all about the money and the presents, but it is about letting each child know that they matter, they are important, and that they are cared about. This is all about sharing love and showing hope. It is truly what Christmas is all about! There is no better way to close out 2020 than with a gift of hope and the gift of a brighter future. ♦

Knoxville TV Feature on Dunkin' Purple Pinkie Day

WATE TV, the local ABC affiliate in Knoxville, recently ran a very nice short feature on the Dunkin' Purple Pinkie Day. You

can share it with your club, other Rotarians, and friends. The link to the feature is

<https://www.wate.com/community/wate-6-on-your-side-heroes/small-donut-big-difference-fundraiser-helps-to-eradicate-polio/>.



Farragut Club Takes Toys to Patients at Children's Hospital

Members of the Farragut Club have collected over 300 new toys that they will give to children and young people who are hospitalized on Christmas Day at East Tennessee Children's Hospital (ETCH). The Club's first-ever ETCH toy drive has been a colossal success.



The hospital has 152 beds, and the club originally planned to get that many toys. But more than doubled that goal with 332 toys, which will be delivered in 84 Christmas-themed bags produced and sewn by the Hardin Valley Academy Interact Club. The Interactors also contributed to the toy count by having a toy drive at the school. The CVS in Lenoir City is also donating a number of toys which will increase 332 number.

Club members delivered the toys on December 15. COVID prevented them from entering the hospital, but hospital employees came out and took the donated toys inside to the patients.

Fairfield Glade Rotarians Volunteer with OWCA to Preserve the Obed River Watershed

November 21 was a beautiful Saturday on the Plateau, perfect for removing trash and invasive plant species that endanger the biological integrity along the Obed River watershed. Ten Fairfield Glade Rotarians were out in force that day with clippers and chain saws along the stream bank at Centennial Park.

In October Rotarians assisted the Obed Watershed Community Association (OWCA) with planting native plants along one of the tributaries in Pleasant Hill. OWCA is committed to work on streams, rivers and wetlands to stabilize waterways, restore habitat, and remove invasive plants and accumulated trash.

Fairfield Glade Rotary partners with this organization dedicated to preserving and promoting the critical relationship between a healthy watershed and availability of clean water for our community.



OWCA is a non-profit organization whose mission is to maintain and enhance the health and vitality of the Obed River Watershed. The Obed River and its two main tributaries, Clear Creek and Daddy's Creek, cut into the Cumberland Plateau of East Tennessee, providing some of the most rugged scenery in the Southeast.

For more information about the Obed watershed, visit the website www.obedwatershed.org/, and find many informational resources about the Obed watershed at the OWCA Facebook page [www.facebook.com/Obed Watershed](https://www.facebook.com/ObedWatershed).