

Rotary District 6780 News



Events

No Events found

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

District Governor's Message



October is a busy month for Rotarians in our district. Many clubs are hosting golf tournaments and a wide variety of club fundraisers that can be offered with public health and safety in mind.

October is Economic and Community Development Month in the Rotary calendar. Nearly 800 million people in the world live on less than \$1.90 a day. Rotary members are passionate about providing sustainable solutions to poverty. Rotary members and The Rotary Foundation work to strengthen local entrepreneurs and community leaders, particularly women, in impoverished communities. We provide training and access to well-paying jobs and financial management institutions. Rotary makes this happen by creating opportunities to help individuals and communities thrive financially and socially. District 6780 clubs provide such opportunities both locally and internationally.

In addition, we are nearing World Polio Day on October 24. Rotary continues to play a vital role, both in terms of financial support and advocacy, in the world-wide efforts to eradicate polio. Our district has a tremendous legacy in the polio eradication efforts, led by Past RI Presidents James Bomar, Jim Lacy, and John Germ, and Past RI Vice President Bill Sergeant - four giants in the 30+ year international effort to save the children of the world from this dreaded disease.

As we issue this newsletter, we are putting together the final numbers on our very successful third annual Dunkin' Purple Pinkie Day for Polio Eradication. This event raises money for polio eradication, provides important messaging to our communities about the challenges and the needs, and also provides opportunities for our Rotarians to do great service work in preparing and distributing donuts. There are so many people to thank, most notably Rotarians Dave Baumgartner and Margo Hughes of the Bluemont Group (Dunkin') and the "master of positivity" John Downs, our district End Polio Now chair.

Many of us can remember the iron lung (pictured here) that was used for polio cases in the US. There are still some people living in the iron lung today. It is a reminder to us that we must fulfill our promise to the children of the world and bring an end to polio. Thank you for your past, present and future support of End Polio Now!

Thanks to each one of you for being a Rotarian. You are making a positive difference in our world. Stay safe and be healthy.

DG Ron and Karen



Daniel Hipsher
Assistant District Governor
Breckenridge S Morgan
Assistant District Governor
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

Purple Pinkie Donuts Fundraiser a Hugh Success!



World Polio Day Fundraiser was a hugh success! While the goal was \$1,000,000, a total of \$1.2 million was raised with all of the donation matches. This year four other Districts took part: D6760 (West Tennessee), D6800 Memphis and Northern Mississippi), D6860 and D6880 (Alabama Districts).

Almost 5,400 boxes of ten donuts were pre-ordered. There are ten donuts to a box. A total of 55,000 donuts were made so that there would be some for walk-up donations.

Additionally, there were donations of close to \$18,000 that helped push us over the top.

A big thank you to all of the Rotarians and their friends and families that helped make this fundraiser such a hugh success. Also thanks to all of the walk-up customers who donated \$2 to the cause.

Below is the check presentation that took place on World Polio Day, October 24th, in Chattanooga.



Calendar of Events

- Oct 24** ♦ World Polio Day
- Nov 5** ♦ Quarterly meeting of club presidents (virtual)
- Nov 5** ♦ Due date for suggestions from clubs for 2023-24 District Governor
- Nov 7** - Rotary Leadership Institute Level III ♦ session 1 of 2 (virtual)
- Nov 10** ♦ Special Zone-wide Zoom meeting on Positive Peace
- Nov 12** ♦ District-wide Facebook meeting (virtual) - Great Club Projects from Rotary Foundation Grants
- Nov 14** ♦ College of Governors Meeting (virtual)
- Nov 21** - Rotary Leadership Institute Level III ♦ session 2 of 2 (virtual)

Volunteer Vision Offers Win-Win for Knoxville Volunteer Club

By Debby Schriver

The name *Lydia* means ♦ beautiful one ♦ and ♦ noble one ♦ in its Greek origins. To members of the Knoxville Volunteer Rotary Club, Lydia means so much more. A bit of history will explain.

Like all clubs,

Knoxville Volunteer Rotarians are involved members of the community, busy with work, family, and actively engaged in club activities. We are especially proud of our dazzling speakers who inspire us to dig deeper to serve others. We support all things Rotarian ♦ polio eradication, International Youth Exchange, Heart-to-Heart, and focused projects supported by grants. Our Interact Club at Austin-East Magnet High School



grows stronger each year, and there is nothing more heart-filling than reading to first and second graders at Sarah Moore Green Magnet Academy. The Club is also dedicated to the environment and can be found routinely cleaning trash from five adopted miles of the Tennessee River.

We are a small club, and we have always struggled to publicize our programs and services. In fall 2019 Rotary trainers guided us through the strategic planning process. We emerged with a great five-year plan that gave us occasion to look more intentionally at our public relations strategies. We want to grow members, reach diverse groups, and generate funds to support our service work. To reach these goals, we need to be more visible. From our discussion emerged a great idea. We decided to find an intern who has public relations skills and characteristics that embrace our Four-Way Test. [Read More](#)

Rotary Youth Exchange Builds Goodwill and Better Friendships

By Bill Nichols, District Rotary Youth Exchange Outbound Chair

The Rotary Youth Exchange programs does exactly what our maxim says: Outbound Exchange students from District 6780 do a make a positive impression in foreign countries in which they reside for 10 months.

The proof is in the ♦Service Above Self♦ as expressed by these high school students♦ actions. Besides learning a new language, these high school students learn about new culture in the Host Rotary Country. For example, one student stated I learned to be of service when I saw a need for a clothing pantry for the needy in the community in which I lived. I got the help and support of the local Rotary Club to start a clothing pantry. Other students talk about going into the interior of the Amazon and painting and repairing a school for the indigenous children in the Amazon while living on a houseboat.

Parents are constantly telling the members of the District Youth Exchange committee how their son or daughter made positive changes in their lives while being an Exchange student. One parent told us about their introverted son who was a shy, non-athletic high school student here at home. Now the parent says he is so outgoing that they cannot stop him from talking since his return from his Exchange. He took up competitive ping pong and became a member of his high school cultural dance team while in Japan. [Read More](#)

Oak Ridge Breakfast Club Gives Hope after Fire

The Oak Ridge Breakfast Club is working on Phase III of a joint initiative with the Rotary Club of Coimbatore Metropolis, Coimbatore, India and Ganga Hospital, Coimbatore, to provide comprehensive reconstructive surgery to patients with burn deformities. Since the project began in 2012, 551 patients have had 915 surgeries at a cost of \$708,913. This third phase of the project is funded with a \$400,000 Global Grant, which will provide for another 530 surgeries.

Disfiguring burn deformities are an epidemic in South Asia. Though burn prevention campaigns have reduced the incidence, still seven million people suffer from burns in India. Advances in medical care have increased the survival rate, but such care is not available to many people whose hands or faces are severely deformed and disfigured.



Correction of burn deformity is possible. The World Health Organization (WHO) has termed burns a solvable health crisis, but the solution is expensive. To optimize results, patients with severe deformities need multi-staged procedures as well as post-treatment physiotherapy and splints. Burn rehabilitation is skill-, labor-, time- and resource-intensive. If any one of the components is missing, patient outcomes are poor. [Read More](#)

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Chattanooga Hamilton Place Club Provides Warm Coats for Cool Kidz



For the 11th year in a row, the Rotary Club of Chattanooga Hamilton Place partnered with Operation Warm and delivered 180 coats to several local elementary schools via the club's Warm Coats for Cool Kidz annual project.

A brand new coat tells a child, "you're worth it." For the child, a brand-new winter coat can be more than a coat; it can change a child's life and empower

them with greater self-confidence and increased school attendance. Operation Warm manufactures and provides a thoughtfully designed collection of new winter coats to children in need, helping to improve self-confidence, peer acceptance, school attendance and overall wellness.

The Rotary Club of Chattanooga Hamilton Place orders the coats, then club members meet to sort and deliver the coats to the local elementary schools and see firsthand many of the children's smiling faces as they receive their new coats.

Knoxville Area Clubs Partner in Annual Free Flu Shot Saturday

By Tom King

It was a wee bit of a chilly morning in Farragut High School's parking lot for the 28th Annual Free Flu Shot Saturday, and it was busy in the midst of this COVID-19 pandemic. A total of 900 shots were administered and of those, 365 were given to seniors (65 over). The four sites combined gave 2,239 shots.

Event Coordinator Mark Bialik kept all 33 Farragut Rotarians busy from 7:00 AM to noon, when the gates closed. They were helped by five members of the Hardin Valley Interact Club and a trio of Girl Scouts. Thirty-five University of Tennessee College of Nursing students and professors administered the shots in two tents.

Past President Leah Berry and Teri Jo Fox stayed busy collecting \$5,364 for the News Sentinel's Empty Stocking Fund (ESF). Collectively, the four sites brought in \$11,310 for the ESF. Shots were also given at Austin-East, Halls and West high schools.

I want to thank each and every Rotarian who showed up today. This was much different than years past. The Farragut Rotarians were flexible and shifted as required. I am proud of the way we all changed to meet what we were facing. We are good at this.

We should be proud of this, ♦ said Mark Bialik.

South Campbell County Helps Children Sleep Better

The South Campbell County Club recently held a very special build day with Sleep in Heavenly Peace, a national organization with the motto of ♦No kid sleeps on the floor in our town♦.

All children deserve a safe, comfortable place to lay their heads. Across the United States too many boys and girls go without a bed - or even a pillow - to sleep on. These children end up sleeping on couches, blankets, and even floors. This can affect their happiness and health. Sleep in Heavenly Peace is a group of volunteers dedicated to building, assembling and delivering top-notch bunk beds to children and families in need.

Using a District Grant, the South Campbell County club was able to purchase materials to make 30 beds, complete with mattresses and bedding. With additional donated funds for lumber, and the club helped build a total of 40 beds.

The Linus Project also came for the day and donated almost 70 comforters! The Linus Project is a non-profit organization that provides homemade blankets to children in need. The blankets are lovingly made by adults and children from all walks of life and many different sources.

Altogether, over 50 volunteers were on hand for the build day to help with the project. Thank you to The Rotary Foundation and to our district's Foundation grant team for your support of this awesome project! For information about Sleep in Heavenly Peace, please see their website at www.shpbeds.org.

Artists Raise Over \$12,000 at The Oak Ridge Street Painting Festival

The Oak Ridge Club recently partnered with Roane State Community College to hold the 2020 Oak Ridge Street Painting Festival, raising over \$12,000 to fund student scholarships. Over 60 artists participated in the event held in historic Jackson Square.

Initiated in 2000,



the annual event has become an Oak Ridge tradition that provides an opportunity for local artists to showcase their talents while raising money for scholarships for students at Roane State Community College, supporting an educated workforce for the region. Artists signed up for one of several categories, including Elementary, Middle, and High School categories, along with Adult and Family. Awards were also given for Best in Show, People♦s Choice, and a special Heart for Heroes category, designed to provide inspiration and create a heartfelt

gesture of honor for the heroes of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Participants and spectators at this year♦s event also enjoyed a pop-up performance by members of the Oak Ridge Civic Music Association. Local craftspeople were on site selling unique wares during the eight hours artists had to create their masterpieces with pastel chalk on sidewalks surrounding Jackson Square.

Organizers were particularly pleased that they were able to hold the event in spite of the pandemic, during which most public events have been cancelled. Artists were spaced out in the out-of-doors and requested to wear masks at all times, and participation was limited to 60 artists.

Despite the restrictions, this year♦s event raised even more money than last year, totaling a little over \$12,020.

Chattanooga Rotarian Named Tennessee School Superintendent of the Year



Superintendents (TOSS) recently announced that it has named Hamilton County Schools Superintendent Dr. Bryan Johnson its 2021 Tennessee School Superintendent of the Year. Dr. Johnson is a member of the Chattanooga Club.

According to TOSS, Dr. Johnson was selected out of a distinguished group of eight Regional Superintendents of the Year.

Dr. Johnson has just completed his third school year as Superintendent of Schools in Hamilton County with student academic results showing historic levels of improvement, according to TOSS.

For the first time the overall composite and each measured subject area of the Hamilton County School District achieved a Level 5, the highest level of

academic growth on the latest state testing results, and 32 of the schools achieved Reward status, the top distinction a school can earn in Tennessee. [Read More](#)

Rotary International Insurance News

The Rotary International insurance policy provides coverage to US Rotary clubs, Districts, Club and District Foundations, Interact and Rotaract clubs, Rotary Community Corps, RI-certified Youth Exchange organizations, RYLA and PETS organizations. Coverage is provided for members, employees and volunteers while engaged in Rotary roles for these organizations for claims that occur in the United States, its territories and possessions, and Canada. There is limited coverage for a claim that occurs elsewhere is brought in or lawsuit filed in the covered territory.

The insurance policy does not cover provisional Rotary clubs; Fellowship, Inner Wheel, Gift of Life or Earlyact or similar organizations; Rotary Action groups; Youthact; Youth Exchange organizations not certified by RI; and any other entities created by insureds.

The policy provides coverage for general liability, liquor liability, medical payments to others, non-owned and hired auto liability, abuse and molestation, directors and officers liability, and employment practices liability. However, there are several exclusions, which we will highlight in next month's newsletter. In the meantime, if you have any questions about the insurance, please call District Insurance Representative Cyndi Jeffers at (865) 679-4668 or e-mail: dcjeffers1@gmail.com.