

Rotary



District 6860

April 2020

A Letter from DG Bill Petty

My Fellow Rotarians,

We are in extraordinary times and I know that you, as Rotarians, are doing what you can to assist. I sincerely hope that all is well with you and your family. If not, you know that you can depend on your club members to help if they can. Please try to keep your club as normal as possible. In the past week, I have attended 6 different virtual type meetings, most were ZOOM but also Facebook live and Webinar. I am sure that you have received information concerning the Pandemic from Rotary International, especially our President and fellow District 6860 Rotarian, Mark Maloney. Here is a link:

<https://www.facebook.com/437607112937988/videos/212958943372892/>

And here is the link to the YouTube post:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RaRSAXy6v4M>

Please read all of these information packets and keep your clubs communicating in what ever way possible that you can. There is a great amount of information available, so please look for it, whether on the RI website or by going to Facebook and searching Rotary clubs. The following example is a link to the Zoom meeting held by the Birmingham Club:

Meeting Recording:

https://zoom.us/rec/share/xu9HLpG3rDpJZM_g0GD0S64jD4HkX6a81HJNqPNZzkhu45OrqcmtM-gIEZ3dlpD

◆Rotary Connects the World◆

So let◆s do it!!!!

Bill Petty

District 6860 Governor



Maintaining Member Engagement During COVID-19

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, we want to support the Rotary Clubs of District 6690 in their efforts to maintain engagement during times when many clubs have reduced in-person meetings, projects or social events. We have developed this guide with ideas and strategies for Club Leaders to consider. The following is an offering of support, not a requirement. Club Leaders are encouraged to consult with their boards to assess and determine which strategies will be useful on the local level.



None of these strategies is a replacement for timely, transparent and regular communication with your members about your plans to continue modified operations throughout this time. Be sure that all committee and office leaders in your club are equipped with consistent messaging to minimize confusion to your members and to streamline communications about changes as they arise. Consider sending brief weekly updates to your members or provide a timeline for when decisions will be reviewed and modified if necessary.

[Full Article](#)

April Membership Tip

By Lori Moler

The COVID-19 pandemic is creating a challenging situation for Rotary Clubs in our District and beyond. Many clubs are cancelling meetings, socials, service projects, etc. In light of these unfortunate but necessary cancellations, club officers are encouraged to seek creative ways to connect with membership. There are many e-learning tools on the Rotary International Website. Pick out a few tips around Growing Rotary and share them on your website or via email◆OR consider visiting Rotary◆s first web-based Rotary club, chartered January 4, 2002. www.rotaryclubone.org

Here's to Good Health and Service Above Self,

Heartbeat Newsletter



Please click [HERE](#) to view the March - April Edition of your Zone 30-31 Newsletter, **THE HEARTBEAT**, including stories about helping in your community and even singing the Rotary song while washing your hands.

Verify Club Information & Officers

Submit or verify:

- The names of your club's 2020-21 president, secretary, executive secretary/director, treasurer, Rotary Foundation chair, and membership chair, as well as their contact details, such as mailing addresses, email addresses, and phone and fax numbers
- Your club's meeting details: place, address, day, and time
- Your club's contact information: a permanent phone number and, if you have them, a permanent email address and mailing address where all club officers can receive mail, as well as your club website.

You can submit this information either through [My Rotary](#) (sign in and, under Manage, select Club Administration>Update Member Data) or by emailing it to data@rotary.org. Be sure to report current officers who will remain in their roles for 2020-21.

CANCELED: District Conference 2020

By Carla Buchanan on Monday, March 16, 2020

The District Conference scheduled for April 30th, 2020 has been cancelled due to concerns over health and safety from the outbreak of COVID-19. Registrants will receive a refund, but please be patient as the joint DGs work out a plan to process refunds. While this is disappointing to everyone, these are unprecedented times that call for many drastic measures to ensure the health and safety of all our Rotarians. Everyone should stay focused on the highly publicized precautions to protect yourself from this virus so that we can safely continue our work of Service Above Self.

Food Plant Solutions Appeal

Dear Rotarians,

All around the world people's lives are being severely impacted by COVID-19. To say it's a challenging time is an understatement. On the 20th of March, Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus (who is the Director-General of World Health Organisation (WHO)) advised people to maintain a robust immune system. He said "First, eat a healthy and nutritious diet, which helps your immune system to function properly."

I ask you for just a minute to think of a family, who is living in a country like Cambodia, Cameroon, Uganda, Nepal, Tanzania, Vietnam and Ethiopia where they are worried about the COVID-19 virus, but they haven't even the basics of food security to prevent malnutrition for their families. If there was ever a time when these countries desperately need our support it is now.

Food Plant Solutions creates science based educational materials, in plain English that allow people to understand what the most nutritious local food plants are, how to grow them and how to use them.

Now more than ever local food plants have a key role to play in our diet. Now more than ever we need to be able to feed ourselves nutritious food.

Food Plant Solutions Rotary Action Group has been asked to provide educational materials for many groups, to enable them to assist their communities to develop gardens to tackle malnutrition and ensure food security. To do this we need assistance from clubs to make this happen. We have at the moment requests for educational materials for all the countries above, and we need assistance to produce these materials ASAP. This will cost about \$48,000 in total. I know a couple of clubs have applied for DDF to support them to support us in this task. My own club is involved.

Many of our program partners have had to close the door on their organisations as they've been put into lockdown. One organisation has instructed their employees to take copies of the publications we have made for them and to immediately start building home gardens. Whilst this won't produce immediate results, in as little as 12 weeks some plants will have grown and be producing food for them. This is also another way Rotary Clubs can now immediately help those who are affected. In a time of such uncertainty and angst, this approach not only provides some nutritional food but it allows people to focus on something positive and enables them do something constructive.

Perhaps you might consider what role we, with Rotary, could play in helping communities at this time. It seems that for all of us, life

as we know it has changed and it could be quite some time before it returns to anything resembling our past **normal**. During this time we must help everyone to access nutritious food and together we can do this.

Stay safe.

Una Hobday OAM
Chair

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