



Wednesday,
September
2, 2026

DG Tim's Monthly Message — September

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Greetings Fellow Rotarians,

As September unfolds, we are reminded that each new month brings an opportunity to serve, to reflect, and to inspire. This month, dedicated to Basic Education and Literacy, invites us to champion the power of learning and its transformative impact on individuals and communities alike. From distributing resources like dictionaries to supporting local libraries, mentorship programs, and scholarships, every action we take fosters growth, understanding, and opportunity.

September also reminds us of the importance of connection and belonging. Every Rotary Club has its own personality, strengths, and culture. By listening, sharing ideas and experimenting with new initiatives, we create environments where members feel valued, engaged, and empowered to invite others to join our mission of service above self. As we envision the year ahead, consider how your club can ignite learning and literacy in your community — for children, adults, families, and those facing barriers to opportunity.

Ask yourself:

- * Could you mentor someone or share your knowledge?
- * Could you donate supplies or resources to nurture education?
- * Could you partner with schools, libraries, or literacy-focused nonprofits?
- * Could you tell your story in a way that motivates action and service?

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The path to impactful service often begins with a small, deliberate step. Every act of kindness, guidance, and support contributes to a larger cycle of community empowerment and hope. As we commit to these acts, we honor the essence of Rotary: *Service Above Self*, with learning and fellowship as guiding lights.

Let this September be a month to celebrate our collective efforts, to inspire each other, and to unite for good — strengthening our clubs, enriching our communities, and lifting the spirit of service in every heart we touch.

In Rotary Service and Gratitude,
Timothy A. Lee
Rotary District 6360
District Governor 2026-27
[317.502.9634](tel:317.502.9634)
FaceBook: amyandtimlee

Capstone Legacy Event Highlights



Pictured above: Gilmore Car Museum dining venue

On August 6, 2026, District 6360 came together to celebrate the Capstone Celebration at The Launch Your Legacy Campaign. Over 160 dedicated Rotarians and guests attended the gala-esque event, culminating with a Champagne toast, at the Gilmore Car Museum. The Launch Your Legacy event for The Rotary Foundation (TRF) was an overwhelming success, and the campaign generated \$6.8 Million for TRF. The donors included outright major gifts, Bequests of more than \$10,000, Legacy gifts of \$1,000,000+, numerous Major Donors, and six new Arch Klumph Society memberships of \$250,000. The campaign started as a Million Dollar Dinner inspired by Past Rotary International President Stephanie Urchick, and a personal challenge by 2024-25 District Governor Mark Odland. The Million Dollar Dinner was too small for our top performing District, and a new target

[Exchange News](#)
[Young Leaders' Corner - Short Term Exchange Program](#)

[RI Convention in Spain](#)

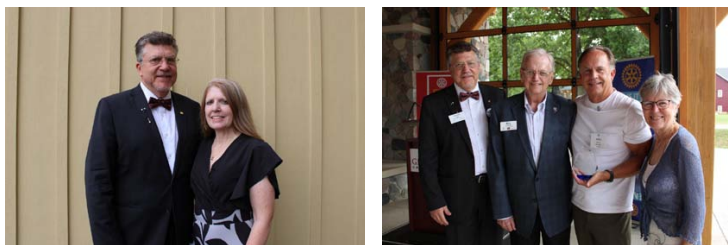
[District Leaders: Register now for our 2026 One Rotary/15 Nations Cancun Summit](#)

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District Leaders

of \$3.5 Million was agreed upon with the promise that Mark Odland would get a Rotary-themed tattoo should the \$3.5 Million goal be reached by June 30, 2025. When D6360 finished just shy of the \$3.5 Million goal by June, 30, 2025, saving PDG Mark from a visit to the tattoo parlor, the campaign was extended until August 6, 2026, and a new \$5 Million goal was established.



Co-hosts DG Tim and Amy Lee DG Tim, PDG Mark Odland, Mike Stout, RI Director Marty Helman — award presentation.

The \$6.8 Million raised during the Launch Your Legacy Campaign will provide funds for generations of Global Grants, funds held in Trusts that will generate perpetual earnings to fund District and Global Grants, and current funds to support our work to eradicate Polio.

A special thank you to the donors who stepped forward to accomplish this amazing feat, \$6.8 Million. The Capstone Event was made possible by Title/Host Sponsors: PDG Mark and LaRae Odland and DG Timothy and Amy Lee; Event Sponsors: PDG Jackie and DGN Mike Huie, AG Jon and Beth Lundy, President Ginny and David Dell, and PDG Rick and Penny Briscoe; and Table Sponsors: DGE Chris Lewis, PDG Margie and Gene Haas, and Gull Lake Area Rotary Club.



Pictured above: Young Leader Coordinator Margie Haas, Youth Exchange Counselor, Marvinetta Woodley-Pen, Outbound Exchange student, Kylie Ruiz, Youth Exchange Officer, Rick Briscoe, and DG Tim Lee. Also featured during the Capstone Legacy event was a presentation to our Young Leader's Outbound Student, Kylie Ruiz, who travels to Argentina on Monday, Sept. 7th. Kylie is sponsored by the Kalamazoo Rotary Club. She was presented with a Rotary Youth Exchange Blue Blazer and District 6360 lapel pins, as an Official District 6360 RYE Outbound Student. She has completed all of her orientation requirements to prepare for her year in Argentina.

Please click [here](#) to open a Google Drive share folder to see more pictures from the Legacy Event.

[Read More](#)



Click on the image above to launch the video.

DACdb registration will open soon.

[Read More](#)

DisCon 2027 Sponsorship opportunities

CREATE LASTING IMPACT

2027 District 6290 & District 6360 Conference

April 16–18, 2027

Why Partner With Rotary?

Rotary brings together leaders committed to making a difference through service, collaboration, and community impact.

Your sponsorship helps create an exceptional conference experience while placing your organization in front of Rotary members, business leaders, and community partners.

Your investment supports leadership development, service initiatives, and connections that create lasting impact throughout our communities.

Your sponsorship will reach more than 3,500 Rotarians who lead throughout Michigan.

Conference at a Glance Districts 6290 & 6360

 April 16–18, 2027

 Crystal Mountain, MI

 Rotary Leaders

 Community Partners

 Service Above Self



LEADERSHIP

Developing leaders
committed to
Service above Self



PARTNERSHIP

Building meaningful
relationships that
strengthen
communities



SERVICE

Supporting service
projects locally and
around the world



IMPACT

Creating lasting
change in the lives
of others

THANK YOU- Your kind support will show Rotarians in District 6290 and 6290 how much you appreciate their selfless service and to congratulate them on their well-earned accomplishments.

All Sponsorships will be recognized in the conference material and during the event based on their sponsor level

[Read More](#)

Membership Growth for August

Submitted by Mike Gallagher, District Membership Committee

District Member Growth 2026/2027

+ **5**

Club Type	Club Name	Members July 1, 2026	Members Sept 1, 2026	Net Change
Rotary Club	St. Joseph & Benton Harbor	80	85	5
Rotary Club	Portage	73	77	4
Rotary Club	Delton Area	56	58	2
Rotary Club	Dowagiac	27	29	2
Rotary Club	Harbor Country (Southwest Berrien County)	64	66	2
Rotary Club	Kalamazoo and Satellite	114	116	2
Rotary Club	Charlotte Evening	21	22	1
Rotary Club	Coldwater Township Sunrise	63	64	1
Rotary Club	Gull Lake Area	38	39	1
Rotary Club	Oshtemo	17	18	1
Rotary Club	Plainwell	13	14	1
Rotary Club	South Lansing-Holt	19	20	1
Rotary Club	Three Rivers	51	52	1
Rotary Club	Union City	29	30	1
Rotary Club	Vicksburg + Vicksburg Impact	34	35	1
Rotary Club	Albion	41	41	0
Rotary Club	Allegan	20	20	0
Rotary Club	Cereal City Sunrise (Battle Creek)	35	35	0
Rotary Club	Climax	22	22	0
Rotary Club	Constantine	9	9	0
Rotary Club	East Lansing	25	25	0
Rotary Club	Fennville Pullman Lakeshore	10	10	0
Rotary Club	Grand Ledge	41	41	0
Rotary Club	Greater Niles	16	16	0
Rotary Club	Hastings	75	75	0
Rotary Club	Hillsdale	35	35	0
Rotary Club	Ionia	15	15	0
Rotary Club	Jackson	28	28	0
Rotary Club	Jackson-Breakfast	24	24	0
Rotary Club	Jonesville	23	23	0
Rotary Club	Litchfield	9	9	0
Rotary Club	Mason	39	39	0
Rotary Club	Otsego	16	16	0
Rotary Club	Paw Paw Area	14	14	0
Rotary Club	Paw Paw Lake (Coloma Hartford Watervliet)	14	14	0
Rotary Club	South Haven	67	67	0
Rotary Club	St. Johns	30	30	0
Rotary Club	Williamston	48	48	0
Rotary Club	Battle Creek	58	57	-1
Rotary Club	Benton Harbor-Sunrise	35	34	-1
Rotary Club	Berrien Springs-Eau Claire	28	27	-1
Rotary Club	Delta Township (Lansing-Waverly)	59	58	-1
Rotary Club	Eaton Rapids	34	33	-1
Rotary Club	Haslett-Okemos	35	34	-1
Rotary Club	Saugatuck-Douglas	41	40	-1
Rotary Club	Sturgis	18	17	-1
Rotary Club	Charlotte	66	64	-2
Rotary Club	Lakeshore (Baroda-Stevensville-Bridgman)	32	30	-2
Rotary Club	Lansing	147	145	-2
Rotary Club	Middleville	30	27	-3
Rotary Club	Marshall	54	50	-4
TOTAL ROTARY CLUB MEMBERS		1992	1997	5

MORE MEMBERS EQUALS MORE SERVICE !

[Read More](#)

District 6360 Membership Growth by Club

Rotary District 6360 Membership

St. Joseph & Benton Harbor	80	85	+5
Portage	73	77	+4
Delton Area	56	58	+2
Dowagiac	27	29	+2
Kalamazoo	114	116	+2
Coldwater Township Sunrise	63	64	+1
Charlotte - Evening	21	22	+1
Gull Lake Area	38	39	+1
Harbor Country	64	65	+1
Oshtemo	17	18	+1
Plainwell	13	14	+1
Three Rivers	51	52	+1
Vicksburg	34	35	+1
Albion	41	41	Even
Allegan	20	20	Even
Cereal City - Sunrise	35	35	Even
Climax	22	22	Even
Constantine	9	9	Even
East Lansing	25	25	Even
Fennville Pullman Lakeshore	10	10	Even
Grand Ledge	41	41	Even
Greater Niles	16	16	Even
Hastings	75	75	Even
Hillsdale	35	35	Even
Ionia	15	15	Even
Jackson	28	28	Even
Jackson- Breakfast	24	24	Even
Jonesville	23	23	Even
Litchfield	9	9	Even
Mason	39	39	Even
Otsego	16	16	Even
Paw Paw Area	14	14	Even
Paw Paw Lake	14	14	Even
South Lansing-Holt	19	19	Even
South Haven	67	67	Even
St. John	30	30	Even
Union City	29	29	Even
Williamston	48	48	Even
Battle Creek	58	57	-1
Benton Harbor- Sunrise	35	34	-1
Berrien Springs-Eau Claire	28	27	-1
Delta Township	59	58	-1
Eaton Rapids	34	33	-1
Haslett-Okemos	35	34	-1
Saugatuck-Douglas	41	40	-1
Sturgis	18	17	-1
Charlotte	66	64	-2
Lansing	147	145	-2
Lakeshore (Baroda-Stevensville)	32	30	-2
Middleville	30	27	-3
Marshall	54	50	-4

7/1/26 Total Membership 1992 1994 = +2

BHAG = GOAL

2092 by 6/30/27
Or +100 in 2026-27

Membership (+2):
1994 on 8/27/26

- Invite a Vet
- Invite Your Friends
- Invite Your Coworkers
- Invite Your Spouse
- Invite Your BFF
- Invite Your Significant Other
- Invite Your Neighbor
- Invite Your Boss
- Invite Your Family

We Can Do This!!!
+2 Right Now

8/27/26 Membership

Public Image Committee seeking members

Submitted by DGE Chris Lewis



Are you passionate about storytelling, marketing, or helping organizations shine in their communities? The Rotary District 6360 Public Image Committee is looking for engaged and creative individuals to join our team. We meet monthly to collaborate on strategies that strengthen the public image of our clubs and the district as a whole, while also supporting individual clubs in building and elevating their own visibility and impact. If you have ideas, energy, and a desire to help Rotary grow its presence and tell its story more effectively, we'd love to have you involved. To express your interest or learn more, please email chrislewis.rotary@gmail.com.

Marty Helman, RI Director, continues Impact Tour

District 6360 Impact Tour, August 5th through August 7th

Rotary District 6360 : "Running with the Big Dogs" and "If You Can't Run with the Big Dog, Stay on the Porch"

The Marty Helman, Impact Tour was a huge success in District 6360.

Cruising:

Marty and crew spent a wonderful and relaxing afternoon sailing on Lake Michigan, hosted by PDG Wayne Titus, where Marty famously stated: "Real boats don't have motors".



Cultivating:

Marty was the honored guest at the District 6360's AKS and Legacy Society dinner hosted by PDG Mark and LaRae Odland. The entire night was filled with captivating and emotional stories about the lasting impact of The Rotary Foundation, and maybe a couple of additional legacy donors were cultivated.



Celebrating:

The world renowned Gilmore Car Museum in Hickory Corners, Michigan was the perfect setting to celebrate the D6360's Launch Your Legacy campaign for The Rotary Foundation, where \$6,800,000 was raised, donors were thanked and appreciated, and Marty was charismatic as the keynote presenter.



Challenging:

Marty was the featured keynote speaker at the Lansing Rotary Club luncheon. She challenged the Club to look for ways to increase membership, engage their community, and continue to be of service to the world community.

Address any questions or concerns to:

PDG Timothy A. Lee
Rotary District 6360
District Governor 2026-27
317.502.9634
FaceBook: amyandtimlee



Leadership Learning Sessions

One of the great things about Rotary is that there is always another way to get involved. Your Rotary club is where the work begins, but there are also opportunities to take what you've learned, share your talents, and make an impact across our entire district.

If you've ever wondered what it would be like to get involved beyond your club, now is a great time to explore what's possible. You don't have to know exactly what role you want to take on—you just need to be curious and willing to learn.

We have three upcoming webinars designed to give you a behind-the-scenes look at some of the ways you can serve at the district level:



Assistant Governor — Sept. 11 - 12PM

Enjoy connecting with people, supporting other clubs, and helping Rotarians succeed? Discover what it means to serve as an Assistant Governor and become a resource and connector for clubs throughout the district. REGISTER [HERE](#)



District Treasurer — Sept. 14 - 12PM - Featuring District Treasure Gregg Guetschow.

Interested in finances, organization, or helping Rotary operate effectively? Learn what it takes to serve as a District Treasurer and the skills you can bring to this important role. REGISTER [HERE](#)



Learning Facilitator — Sept. 25 - 12PM

Do you enjoy teaching, presenting, facilitating conversations, or helping others grow? Learn how Learning Facilitators help Rotarians develop their skills and make the most of their Rotary experience. REGISTER [HERE](#)

These webinars aren't a commitment to serve in one of these roles. **They are an opportunity to learn.**

You may discover a role that is a perfect fit for you. You may discover something completely different. Or you may simply come away with a better understanding of how Rotary works beyond your own club.

Either way, I encourage you to take a chance, sign up for a session, and see where your Rotary journey might take you next.

Your club needs you. Our district needs you. And Rotary needs people who are willing to step forward, learn something new, and make a difference.

I hope you'll consider joining us!

Yours in Rotary,

Chris Lewis, DGE

District 6360 Seeking new District Treasurer



Contact [DG Tim Lee](#) for additional information.

A special learning session discussing the District Treasurer's role will be held virtually on Sept. 14 at 12PM - featuring District Treasurer Gregg Guetschow.

Interested in finances, organization, or helping Rotary operate effectively? Learn what it takes to serve as a District Treasurer and the skills you can bring to this important role.

REGISTER [HERE](#)

Read about the District Treasurer's duties and responsibilities below.

[Read More](#)

Bikes For Malawi Update



Williamston Rotary Launches “Bikes for Malawi: Pedaling from Poverty Toward Prosperity”

Robert F. Kennedy, Sr. articulated a philosophy of “ripples of hope,” whereby small individual acts have the potential to build a cascade of positive change in the world. As members of the Williamston Rotary Club, we keep this idea in mind when embracing new projects.

Recently, our club organized an international service initiative designed to improve educational outcomes in Malawi. Located in southeastern Africa, Malawi is one of the poorest countries in the world and education outcomes—particularly for girls—remain a significant challenge. Only 15% of children and 7% of girls complete secondary school. Long travel distances to school are a major contributing factor. The Williamston Rotary initiative, based upon a similar program pioneered by the Traverse City Sunrise Rotary Club, is simple and practical. The idea is to assist children in getting to school and thereby create an opportunity for learning. The most effective way to do that in Malawi is to give a kid a bike. Something as simple as a bicycle can make the difference as to whether or not a child receives an education. Education offers the promise of a better life for children in sub-Saharan Africa and it starts by attending school.

To put bikes in the hands of kids, the Williamston Rotary partnered with a non-profit working on the ground in Malawi, the Warm Hearts Foundation, and World Bicycle Relief, a non-profit dedicated to the concept that a bicycle can be a difference-maker. World Bicycle Relief designed a specific bicycle, called the “Buffalo Bike,” that is built to handle the harsh conditions of use in undeveloped countries such as Malawi. The bikes are assembled within Malawi, providing a benefit to local workers and the local economy. The Rotary project was designed to provide bikes to a sponsored school, which in turn would create a bike committee to determine the children who would most benefit from receiving a bicycle. The bikes would be retained by the school and upon graduation, could be passed on to another student; thus expanding the impact of the program well into the future. World Bicycle Relief, for its part, would distribute the bikes, and would provide training and access to bicycle mechanics to ensure the bike program's success.

The Williamston Rotary began its project by committing \$2,500 from its foundation and beginning a fundraising effort to see if it could entice members to join the project by donating a bike (actually, the cost of providing a bike). Members of the club enthusiastically jumped on board. The club quickly raised more than \$2,500 in additional contributions. With this money in hand, the club applied for and received a Rotary District Sandelin matching grant of \$5,000. At the same time, the Williamston Rotary put the word out to its regional district and with support from the District International Service Committee excitement for the project expanded and donations followed. In all, 28 Rotary Clubs from Rotary District 6360 contributed at least 1 bike to the cause.

Working with the Warm Hearts Foundation and World Bicycle Relief, it was determined that the ideal contribution to a strong bike program was to sponsor a school with 100 student bikes and 15 teacher bikes. (Many teachers have the same difficulty in getting to school as the students,

[Read More](#)

New Public Image Team



Do people outside of Rotary know about it?

Public Image is more than social media posts, newsletters, websites, or press releases. It is how we tell the story of Rotary. It is how we help our communities understand who we are, what we do, and why Rotary continues to matter. And when we tell that story well, we don't just increase awareness—we create opportunities for people to connect with Rotary, support Rotary, and ultimately become part of Rotary.

That is why we are building a new **District 6360 Public Image Team**, and I would love for you to consider being part of it.

We are looking for Rotarians with a variety of interests, experiences, and skills to help us strengthen how we communicate across the district. You don't need to be a marketing professional or communications expert. If you enjoy telling stories, creating content, working with technology, taking photos or videos, writing, or connecting with people, there is a place for you on this team.

Some of the areas where we are looking for team members include:

- **Videography** – Helping capture Rotary in action and tell our stories through video
- **Public Relations** – Building relationships with the media and helping clubs share news with their communities
- **Communications Team** – Developing messages and resources that connect Rotarians across our district
- **Website & DACdb** – Keeping our digital presence informative, engaging, and useful
- **Newsletter** – Sharing club successes, district news, resources, and opportunities
- **Social Media** – Developing platform-specific teams to strengthen our presence on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, and other channels

Most importantly, I want this to be a team where we can experiment, collaborate, learn from one another, and have some fun along the way. You don't have to do everything. In fact, you don't even have to know exactly where you fit yet. Bring your interests, your ideas, and your enthusiasm for Rotary, and we'll find ways for you to contribute.

The projects happening throughout District 6360 deserve to be seen. The Rotarians

making them happen deserve to have their stories told. And the people in our communities who are looking for a way to connect, serve, and make a difference deserve the opportunity to discover Rotary.

Help us tell that story.

If you are interested in joining the District 6360 Public Image Team—or simply want to learn more about where you might fit—We would love to hear from you. Come to a District 6360 Public Image Committee meeting on August 27, from 7-8 PM. At this meeting we will talk more about things that we can do together to support all the clubs in our district, even better than we ever have before! **REGISTER HERE:**

<https://umich.zoom.us/j/93183805957?pwd=1Rn8kljLsrQab3CPu6365NblylO00a.1>

Together, we can help more people not only see Rotary, but understand the impact Rotary makes every day.

Yours in Rotary,
Chris Lewis
Public Image Co-Chair
Rotary District 6360

Haslett Okemos Club Hero Luncheon



The Haslett-Okemos Rotary Club Invites You to the

18th Annual Hero Luncheon

September 15, 2026 | 11:30 am to 1:00 pm
Marketplace on the Green
(1995 Central Park Drive, Okemos)

Tickets: \$25

Enjoy catering from Backyard Bar-B-Q while contributing to beneficial projects in Meridian Township and internationally! Join us for a great meal and to celebrate the heroes in our community.



Malawi Lighting Project



District 6360 Pilot School Lighting Project: Illuminating the Path to Learning in Rural Malawi

Aubrey Ghambi, a 2026 graduate of Michigan State University's Master of Public Policy program and current student at Ohio University, is preparing for a career in public service in his home country of Malawi. His journey is shaped by a challenge he knows personally: in rural communities, boarding schools have no electricity, making it dangerous or impossible to study after dark.

While many rural schools in Malawi have limited electricity, daily blackouts are common, and teachers typically live in homes without power. Children rely on candles, which are dangerous, dim, and unreliable, to complete homework. This lack of lighting is one of the most significant barriers to academic success for rural students.

Rotary District 6360 has already seen the impact of targeted interventions. In 2026, the Buffalo Bicycle program provided durable bicycles to students in remote areas, dramatically improving school attendance. Building on that momentum, the **Pilot School Lighting Project** aims to remove another critical obstacle: access to safe, dependable light.

The Pilot Initiative

In partnership with the Lilongwe City Centre Rotary Club (District 9210), we will launch a pilot program at two schools in Chitipa, Malawi:

- **Ngoya Community Day Secondary School** – 171 students
- **Muswelo Primary School** – 346 students

Each school will receive solar panels, batteries, and an array of hanging lights for their study areas. Teachers at Ngoya will receive smaller units to assist in preparation of daily lesson plans. Students at Muswelo attend evening classes and require lighting in those classrooms.

Budget & Allocation

The total pilot budget is **\$2,500**, distributed between the two schools:

Ngoya CDSS

- Classrooms: \$882
- Teachers: \$519

Muswelo Primary School

[Read More](#)



If you haven't already, please register for the upcoming virtual meetings for the DACdb Learning Sessions. These sessions will be tailored to your needs and questions and help you understand how to use the DACdb system to manage your club. All sessions start at 7:00PM and are on the Zoom platform. The zoom links are available on each registration page.

[Register NOW](#) for **DACdb Learning Sessions: Together We Learn - VIRTUAL** for Sept 22nd - Topic 'Website Calendar, District and Club File Storage'

[Register NOW](#) for **DACdb Learning Sessions: Together We Learn - VIRTUAL** for Oct 27th - Topic 'EZStories and EZ Bulletins'

[Register NOW](#) for **DACdb Learning Sessions: Together We Learn - VIRTUAL** for Nov 24th - Topic 'Club Leadership set up, RI Integration and Committee set up'

[Register NOW](#) for **DACdb Learning Sessions: Together We Learn - VIRTUAL** for Jan 26, 2027 - Topic 'DACdb Ignite, Financial'

If you have any questions, please contact DAA [Gwen](#)

Membership Growth & Club Experience - NEW TOOL

Prepared by Brian King
Director of Membership Growth & Club Experience
Rotary International



Membership Growth & Club Experience

To: 2026-27 Rotary and Rotaract Club Presidents and Membership Chairs
cc: 2026-27 District Governors, Assistant Governors, District Membership Chairs, District Membership Engagement Subcommittee Chairs, District Rotaract Representatives, RI Directors and Directors-elect, Rotary Membership Coordinators, District Rotary Public Image chairs, Rotary Club Public Image Chairs

As the new Rotary year gets underway, we know that attracting, engaging, and retaining members remains a top priority. To support these efforts, we encourage you to take

advantage of a tool designed specifically to help with these important membership goals. The [Club Experience Concierge](#) is a quick and interactive guide you can use to explore ways to improve members' satisfaction by understanding their expectations and reflecting them in your club culture. Start by choosing one element of the [club experience](#) to prioritize, and then select from a variety of recommendations and resources that can help make your club irresistible.

I hope this guide helps you implement practical solutions to attract, engage, and retain more members. Write to us at membership@rotary.org if you have any questions.

Thank you for prioritizing a meaningful club experience.

Literacy Club — We need passionate Rotarians



Are you passionate about literacy, reading, and helping others discover the power of books? District 6360 is exploring the creation of a new Rotary Club centered on literacy and a shared love of reading. We are seeking Rotarians who would like to help shape and develop this innovative club model. This is not a request for anyone to leave their current club; rather, it is an opportunity to collaborate in creating a new way to engage people both within and beyond our region around one of Rotary's key areas of focus. If you are interested in being part of the planning and the formation process, please complete this interest form: <https://forms.gle/PshvhWDwQQNr3G59>.

A message from DGN Mike Huie



Hey District 6360 Membership Enthusiast, We are looking for someone willing to take over my role next year as district membership chair as I will be DGE then. I would like to spend time this year getting someone up to speed prior. If you are interested in service in this way, let me know and we can have a call to discuss it. If you know someone in your club that would like to know more, have them reach out as well. Thanks!!

Rotary PSAs

Submitted by DGE Chris Lewis



Rotary International has invested in powerful Public Service Announcements (PSAs) that showcase our members as People of Action and highlight the lasting impact Rotary is making around the world. Since the campaign launched in 2020, Rotary PSAs have reached millions of people through television, radio, and print, generating tens of millions of dollars in donated media value. Now it's your turn to help bring these stories to your community. Join Ben Miller from Rotary International for an inside look at Rotary's PSA program. You'll learn how local television, radio, and print outlets can access Rotary's professionally produced public service announcements, where to find campaign assets, and how district and club leaders can work with local media to expand Rotary's visibility. Whether you're a Public Image Chair, club leader, or simply passionate about telling Rotary's story, you'll leave with practical ideas and resources to help your community see Rotary in action. For more information, click [here](#).

Michigan Waterways CEO Mike Stout Receives Award



Pictured: RI Director Marty Helman, DG Tim Lee, PDG Mark Odland, and Mike Stout.

Mike Stout, founder and president of Michigan Waterways Stewards, received Rotary International's Award for Excellence in Service to Humanity, an honor presented to fewer than 150 individuals worldwide each year.

Since 2022, Stout and Michigan Waterways Stewards have mobilized more than 4,200 volunteers across 20 Michigan communities, completing 333 stewardship projects and removing nearly 250,000 pounds of litter, trash and debris from Michigan waterways.

The award was presented by Rotary District 6360 at the Capstone Legacy Event on August 6th at the Gilmore Car Museum in Hickory Corners.

Read more about Mike and Michigan Waterways Stewards being featured in the Gun Lake Area Living Magazine below.

[Read More](#)

Young Leaders' Corner - Young Leader Programs



Inspire. Empower. Ignite.



[Read More](#)

Young Leaders: Interact Advisors Needed



Attention High School Interact Advisors!

The District 6360 Interact advisory council is seeking new members for next year's council. Please send your nominees to [Kim Lewis](#). We'd like you to join us for another awesome year with lots of fun for the young people!

Young Leaders Corner — Rotary Student Program



The Rotary Student Program committee is here to help you!

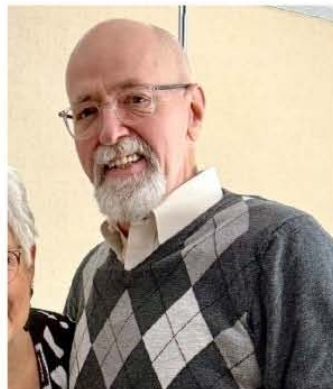
If you know a student who has a **BIG DREAM**, and career aspirations, work with your Young Leader Chair and/or Interact chair, to get set up for a meeting between the student and a professional in that dream career. It is that simple! This can be life-altering for a student. And isn't that why we all joined Rotary? If you would like to join the committee bringing this amazing opportunity to our students, please contact Rotary Student Program Chair, Becky Foster at [269-313-0013](tel:269-313-0013).



The District 6360 Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA) Task Force, commissioned by District Governor Tim Lee to evaluate the RYLA camp's financial sustainability and long-term viability, began meeting in August 2026. The group established two working teams — a Finance Team and a Research/Venue Team.

Key financial concerns include club participation, separating costs between camp operations and promotion, and developing a comprehensive RYLA funding plan, budget, and spend-down plan.

The key research/venue plan is to review RYLA camp operations in surrounding districts to compare them with our current operations. This group is taking an aggressive approach to the financial review and research and will present findings and recommendations to the District Governor and Leadership Team no later than October 31, 2026.



Leadership Training Chair
RYLA Task Force Coordinator
David Ross

MEET OUR NEW INBOUND STUDENTS

We invite you to meet and welcome our two new Inbound students, Marie and Eleonore!



Marie with Babs Southwell, Jackson Breakfast Rotary Club, at DTW Airport.

Marie arrived August 15 from Denmark. Her host family is the Brent & Babs Southwell family and Jackson-Breakfast Rotary Club. Marie will be attending Jackson Northwest High School.



Eleonore from France (far right) arrived August 19. She is hosted by Tom and Linnae Kendall, Marshall Rotary Club, with their two daughters. Eleonore will attend Marshall High School.

STUDENT STUDY ABROAD SCHOLARSHIPS NOW AVAILABLE

Wanted: High School Students who will be 15 – 18 years old by August 2027.

Valued at over \$24,000, the Scholarship covers Room, board, tuition, and monthly stipend for a high school year abroad. The student/family pays for airfare, VISA, passport, medical insurance, other operation expenses, estimated at \$8,000.00.

Explore the world and grow as an academic exchange student in a foreign country. Students stay with host families for an academic year. To gain a greater understanding of the culture, students live with at least two host families during their stay. To ensure safety, the host Rotary club carefully screens and selects all host families.

APPLICATION PROCESS: Students apply to their local Rotary Club, who will interview the student applicant with parents. After the Club interview, the club will refer the student to District



[Read More](#)

Young Leaders' Corner - Short Term Exchange Program

What is STEP?

STEP stands for “Short-Term Exchange Program”, and Rotary offers these STEP programs to young leaders all over the world to promote multicultural understanding, good will and peace. There are two types of STEP programs: **Family to Family (F2F)** and **Multicultural Camps**.

- **Family-to-Family** ST exchanges are 1-1 summer exchanges, hosted by exchange students’ families, whereby an accepted SW MI high school student spends approximately 4 weeks in another country with a Rotary host family, learning about their culture via family immersion, and returns with his/her host family’s high school student and provides his/her multicultural experience with his/her family in SW Mi.
- **Multicultural camps** are offered by 50+ individual Rotary clubs in 50+ countries, whereby the hosting club designs the multicultural itinerary and provides local transport, food and lodging for 10-20 international high school students from different countries. Each camp is unique and can range from 7-20 days in duration.

Our D6360 started participating in STEP in 2025, sending one student to a Taiwan multicultural camp and another student on a F2F exchange with a Brazilian girl her age. This summer, we sponsored 6 STEP ambassadors! Take a look at the young lives we’ve impacted.



Aaron (18) – Spain
Sponsor: Gull Lake Rotary



Allison (17) – Norway
Sponsor: Gull Lake



Mia (17) – Egypt
Sponsor: Kalamazoo Rotary



George – Brasil
Sponsor: Battle Creek



Jack – Slovakia
Sponsor: Marshall



John Paul – Slovakia
Sponsor: Marshall Rotary

“ It changed my way of thinking, not only about Spain, but about other countries. I probably wouldn’t have been to that part of the world without Rotary. It’s so cool to see my eyes open up, a newfound passion for travel,

[Read More](#)

RI Convention in Spain



Experience global connection in Barcelona — Registration opens on 17 September.

Connect with people of action from around the world at the 2027 Rotary International Convention in Barcelona, Spain.

Share innovative projects, exchange ideas, and form connections that open new perspectives. Through interactive breakout sessions, influential speakers, and meaningful exchanges with fellow change makers, you'll explore fresh ways to Create Lasting Impact in your community and beyond.

In Barcelona, Rotary's global family will come together for an exceptional experience focused on learning, collaboration, and discovery. From the energy of the convention floor to the Host Organization Committee's Signature Events, the city itself becomes a convention feature, offering iconic architecture, rich artistic culture, and the relaxed charm of the Mediterranean coast.

Join us in Barcelona, Spain, 26–30 June, and be part of a shared experience that drives lasting change – in the world and within yourself! Click [here](#) for more info.

[Read More](#)

District Leaders: Register now for our 2026 One Rotary/15 Nations Cancun Summit

Rotary
Zones 25 A&B
28, 29 & 32



ACT NOW!

**Register now for the Rotary Zone Institute in September at
the Iberostar all inclusive resort
in beautiful Cancun Mexico!**

Rotarians from 15 countries will gather for learning, Rotary fellowship, sun
and surf. Don't miss out on the unique opportunity.

Sep 16-19 DGEs and DGNs

Sep 17-19 All other Learning Tracks (Public Image, Foundation,
Membership, DISC, DGs, PDGs and Partner Program)

Sep 18-19 Institute Only (All Rotarians and partners!)

**Onsite rooms are limited so we're encouraging to double up, triple up or quad.
Share with Rotary friends.**

Please let us know if you're looking for a roommate. We can help!



**[Click here](#)
register for the Institute.**

**[Click here](#)
to reserve your room.**



Click [here](#) to register for the institute. Click [here](#) to reserve your room.

Gwen's Pen - September



Gwen's Pen - Reminder about the District Newsletter

You may notice this month that there are two issues being published in the District Newsletter.

The first issue should normally go out on the first of the month (as long as the first isn't a holiday or fall on the weekend.) The first issue will be focused on District news. These stories will primarily be about District committees, events, and opportunities. The second issue will be published on the 15th of each month (again depending upon if that date falls on a weekend or holiday.) The second issue will focus on the District Clubs — their activities, fund-raisers and stories, for example.

If an appropriate submission is sent three days before the intended publication date, the story will be published. Please remember to convert your pdf files to jpeg or png files. This really helps to minimize the amount of time required to configure the newsletters. If you are in doubt about which issue your submission should be directed to, email me at rotarydistrict6360@gmail.com. All the submissions should be emailed to that address, and please use the subject line: "issue month" Newsletter. This will help to keep the many submissions organized.

My favorite time of year is a few weeks away. At last, the cool nights and crisp air of
FALL!

Start pulling out those sweaters, my friends, and enjoy our beautiful Michigan seasons!



rotarydistrict6360@gmail.com

Contact me if you have any questions about my stories. I am here to help you!

[Read More](#)

How to submit newsletter stories

District newsletters are intended to be published on the 1st (District focused issue) and 15th (Club focused issue) of each month — except for weekends and holidays.

If you have an item you'd like to submit for the newsletter, please submit it at least three days prior to the publication date. Submissions should be sent to:

RotaryDistrict6360@gmail.com

Subject line: "month" Newsletter submission

We welcome graphics! Please make sure that the graphics are in the PNG, or GIF format.

All word documents or PDFs need to be converted to PNG or JPG formats.

If you need to convert a document or file, visit a website like Canva to utilize free file converters. Click [here](#) to open Canva.

Please note: do not email photos or graphics directly from your smartphone.

There are hidden metadata (EXIF which affects orientation data) that does not convert easily without time and effort on my part. Please save the photo images to your laptop and send them as a jpg or a png.

Items can be news from your club, projects, events, and fun things!

Thanks for helping make our District newsletter entertaining and newsworthy!

Events

September 3rd, 7:00-8:00 PM

Social Media Management

September 6th, 4:00-5:00 PM

Pizza Party at Coldwater Township

September 9th, 7:00-8:00 PM

Club Presidents-Elect Monthly Zoom Meeting

September 10th, 7:30-8:00 PM

Foreign Exchange Student Information Zoom Meeting

September 13th, 7:00-8:00 PM

DG Line/DAA Monthly Zoom Meeting with DG Tim

September 16th, 8:00

Zone Institute Summit

September 22nd, 7:00-8:00 PM

DACdb Learning Sessions: Together We Learn — VIRTUAL

September 24th, 7:30-8:00 PM

Foreign Exchange Student Host Club and Host Family Info Meeting

District website <https://www.district6360.com/>

September 5th, 8:30-9:30 AM

AG Monthly Zoom Meeting with DG Tim

September 8th, 9:00-10:00 AM

DCO Monthly Meeting

September 10th, 7:00-8:00 PM

Club President Monthly Zoom Meeting with DG Tim

September 11th, 12:00-1:00 PM

District Leadership Position Learning Sessions — ASSIST. GOVERNOR

September 14th, 12:00-1:00 PM

District Leadership Position Learning Sessions — TREASURER

September 16th, 6:30-7:30 PM

DISC Virtual Meeting

September 24th, 4:30-7:00 PM

The Rotary Club of Lansing invites members to the MSU Broad Museum Event.

September 25th, 12:00-1:00 PM

District Leadership Position Session — LEARNING FACILITATOR

District Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/RotaryDistrict6360/>