



District 6450 Headline News



Rachel Ossyra
District Governor 2024-25



District Newsletter 5-5-2025

Dear Irresistible District 6450 Rotary Members,

As we welcome in May, I hope you are doing well and enjoying this season of renewal and celebrations. THANK YOU for the great work you are doing together in your communities and beyond. TOGETHER we are growing our impact and expanding our reach to create lasting change.



We Made Magic Together!
We had a truly **Irresistible 6450 District Learning & Conference** on April 26 at Waubensee Community College in Sugar Grove. Rotarians, Rotaractors, Youth Exchange Prebonds and Alumni gathered from across the District to engage in fellowship, learning, service, transformation, networking

and celebration.

CHECK OUT THIS LINK to a video scrapbook of photos from the conference for your enjoyment!



Huge thanks to these amazing folks for engaging and inspiring us throughout the day:

Learning Facilitators: Michelle Smith, Osei David-Andrews Hutchinson, Mike Theodore, Chuck Newman, Sandra Scedrina, Nina Menis, KK Odeluga
• Love Bags for Domestic Violence

Victims Service Project Leader: Mary Dougherty

- Peacebuilding Speakers: Aleta Williams, Hannah Rincon, Nick Latimer, Maja Markovic
- Magic of Rotary Speakers: Manon Crowley, Kathryn Armstrong, Chuck Newman
- Grow Rotary Testimonials: Michelle Smith, Leo Rios, Deondre Rutues, Julia Mullikin, Jacque Clermont, Eve Green
- Youth Mental Health First Aid Testimonials: Marian Stricker, Rob Hupp, Toya Garnes, Mark Zerinskas
- Host Sponsor Club: Aurora United
- Event Team: Linda Yates, Dennis Evashenk, Mary Dougherty, Mary Onorad, Hunter Byington, Andolf Rincon

District Calendar Update 5-5-2025

OPPORTUNITIES

Check out the [District Conference Scrapbook Video](#).

DISTRICT EVENTS

- **Council on Legislation Process & Outcomes Review with PDG Jane Hopkins – May 15, 4-5pm.** No registration is necessary. Here is the Zoom link - [COL Process & Outcomes Review](#). Documents to review: [Proposed Legislation](#), [Legislation Vote Totals](#)
- **District Governor Installation – Friday, June 13, 2025, The Stadium Club at Rate Field.** Join in the celebration for the installation of 2025-26 District Governor Bonnie Sanchez-Carlson at the Huntington Bank Stadium Club at Guaranteed Rate Field. **REGISTER HERE!** If you would like to be a **sponsor** or have your congratulations to Bonnie in the program, **opportunities can be found here.**
- **Veterans Summer Stand Down Day Help Needed – June 26 & 27, Humboldt Park Armory.** Volunteers are desperately needed for the Summer Stand Down Day. To sign up for one or more shifts **USE THIS LINK.**
- **2025 Rotary International Convention, Calgary, Canada** For more information on the convention, hotels and tours from District Convention Chair Barry McKeown **CLICK HERE.**

CLUB EVENTS

- **Rotary Club of Chicago 120th Anniversary Exclusive Bourbon Gift Set** – by J. Henry & Sons Distillery. There are a limited number of sets available, so order yours now at **BOURBON GIFT SET.**
- **Channahon-Minooka Rotary Golf Outing – Friday May 9.** Help Channahon-Minooka raise funds for their backpack food program. For more information **CLICK HERE!**
- **Woodridge Rotary Recycling Extravaganza, Saturday May 10th, 8-11am.** Get your spring cleaning done and take those recyclable items to Cypress Cove



Aquatic Park in Woodridge. For more information, [see the Woodridge Rotary website.](#)

- **Bolingbrook Rotary 50th Anniversary – May 30, 2025, Bolingbrook Golf Club.** Save the Date and plan to join Bolingbrook Rotary in celebrating 50 years of doing good in the world. [Purchase Tickets Here!](#)
- **Chicago Cosmopolitan Rotary 10th Anniversary Fundraiser for FORA – June 6th, 7-10pm.** For more information and to register, [CLICK HERE!](#)

IMPORTANT NEWS

- **New People of Action District Rotary Wear Now Available** – T-shirts, hoodies, & zip hoodies are now available in heather blue with white printing. [ORDER HERE TODAY](#)
- **Help Us Help the Paul Harris Home**

District 6450 is the Birthplace of Rotary and is proud to support the Paul & Jean Harris Home, located within our District in Chicago. The District has regularly contributed financial support to the Paul & Jean Harris Home Foundation from its inception 20 years ago. The Home is now open for visitors and regularly hosts guests from around the world. The Home continues to need financial support for its regular operations. To show support, District 6450 will match all donations to the Paul & Jean Harris Home Foundation, dollar for dollar, up to \$15,000 in matching funds. This match will be available now and until May 20, 2025.

District 6450 is proud to support the Paul & Jean Harris Home Foundation and urges all Rotarians and Rotary Clubs to consider contributing to preserving this unique part of Rotary's history and of the lives of Paul and Jean Harris. Anyone can take advantage of this match!

- To Donate by Credit Card go to: www.paulharrishome.org and click on Donate button.
- To Donate by Check mail to:

PJHH Foundation
c/o Dennis Gorman and Associates, CPA
9517 Ogden Avenue
Brookfield, IL 60513-1841

- Donations of \$250 or more will qualify for donor recognition with an engraved paver brick at the Paul & Jean Harris Home.
- Direct questions to Chuck Corrigan at cjcl@dbcw.com or (630) 853-946

Recruit Rotary Peace Fellow candidates

Rotary and Rotaract clubs can work with their district Rotary Foundation chair or Rotary Peace Fellowship subcommittee chair to [recruit and recommend candidates for Rotary Peace Fellowships](#). Each year, the Foundation awards up to 130 fellowships to experienced peacebuilders from around the world so they can study at one of our Rotary Peace Centers. The fellows can earn a master's degree or an advanced professional development certificate in disciplines related to peace and development.



Strategic Partnership Agreement with Albania-Kosovo District

The District Board approved a Strategic Partnership Agreement with the new Albania-Kosovo District 2485 to potentially cooperate on joint projects, cultural exchanges and collaborative efforts in community service, youth programs, economic and community development and peacebuilding. This opportunity was brought to us by Naperville-After Dark Rotarian Maja Markovic, who met District 2485 Governor Butrint Batalli while in Chicago during the recent Council on Legislation. Maja will serve as the District 6450 liaison for the partnership. RI President Stephanie Urchick recently spent 8 days in

Kosovo working Butrint and meeting with the communities and officials of both countries. This may open doors to form a Satellite Club in our District with people from Kosovo-Albania.



Together We Are Growing Rotary

The Magic of Rotary is in our membership. We are progressing towards our goal to be an **IRRESISTIBLE DISTRICT** by forming at least 4 new clubs (traditional, satellite, caused-based, Rotaract, ...) and increasing net membership by least 100 or more this Rotary year.

Since July 1, we've grown by 98 members and welcomed 3 new clubs!

We congratulate the following clubs for completing the **Club Gold Membership Challenge** to increase member engagement and retention

and welcome and nurture new members: **Aurora United, Bradley-Bourbonnais, Channahon-Minooka, Chicago, Chicago Citywide Service, Chicago Cosmopolitan, Chicago Lakeview, Maywood-Proviso, Naperville, New Lenox, Oak Forest, Romeoville, Woodridge.**

As Rotary founder Paul Harris said, "*If you have the love of your fellow men in your hearts, my friends, you are a potential Rotarian.*" I encourage you to invite a friend, a colleague or someone new in your community to discover the magic of Rotary for themselves.

Together we are People of Action making The Magic of Rotary happen!

Yours in Rotary,

Rachel Ossyra
District Governor
Rotary International District 6450

Applications will be accepted from 1 February through 15 May. Peace fellows will begin their studies in 2026 at partner universities in Australia, Japan, Sweden, Türkiye, Uganda, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Find out [who is eligible and how they can apply](#). The Foundation pays for tuition and fees, room and board, round-trip transportation, and internship and field-study expenses. Clubs and districts do not need to provide funding in order to recommend fellowship candidates. [Use this referral form](#) to have information sent to potential candidates.

Since the Rotary Peace Centers program began in 2002, more than 1,800 fellows have graduated from our programs. They are working in peace and development in more than 140 countries.

Important News About Your Club?

Send it to office@rotary6450.org and we will put it in the D6450 Headline News

Don't forget that if you want your event to show up on the district calendar, you need to put in on your club calendar and use the event category "club event for district posting only".

If you want additional DACdb and/or website training, let me know.

Linda Yates
District Administrator