



### Speakers

**August 14, 2025**  
Jill Rindfuss  
Ohio Tuition Trust  
Authority - 529 Plans

**August 28, 2025**  
Nicole Fowles  
Delaware County  
District Library

**September 04, 2025**  
Matthew Tway  
Goodwill Industries

**September 11, 2025**  
Lonny Ransaw  
Unity Community  
Center

### Events

No Events found

### Birthdays

No Birthdays Found

### Club Leaders



John O'Connell  
President



Joanne Sexton  
President-Elect



John R. Jordan  
Treasurer



Jutta Reinold  
Secretary



Mike Miller  
Past President  
Club Membership  
Chair



Venkata Chari  
iPast President



Bryan D. Lane  
Club Grant Coordinator  
Club TRF Chair



Jennifer T. Carney Triplett  
Club Service Projects  
Chair

### This Week's Speaker:

**Jill Rindfuss from The Ohio Tuition Trust Authority**

Jill Rindfuss is from Ohio 529 College Advantage where she is a Marketing Rep for Employers. An Ohio native and alumni of THE Ohio State University, Jill brings over 30 years of business experience across public sector, nonprofit, corporate and small business environments. Her passion to connect with and help employers invest in the wellness of their workforce is just one of the reasons she is excited to be a part of the College Advantage Team!

### Club Announcements

**Board Meeting immediately following the 8/14 meeting**

**Happy Hours are back! 4:30pm at Koble Grill on Thursday 8/21**

### Meet Your District Governors

If you are a new member of Rotary, you may be unaware that your club is part of District 6690, which includes 55 clubs and more than 3,000 Rotarians located in central and southeast Ohio. The purpose of the district is to support and facilitate collaboration among local Rotary clubs and provide learning opportunities for presidents elect and other officers. District governors, just like Rotary International presidents, serve only one year.

#### Introducing Your District Governors



**Sandy Knoesel, District Governor 2025-26** Governor Sandy joined the Columbus Rotary Club in 1992 shortly after beginning her career at the State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio as Director of Communication Services. She was promoted to Deputy Executive Director of Member Benefits in 1999, and retired from STRS Ohio after 25 years of service.

Sandy was also a member of the Rotary Club of Newark. Sandy served as president of the Columbus Rotary Club in 2010-11. She was also chair of the Columbus Rotary Foundation twice, most recently in 2019-2020. In District 6690, Sandy served as grants chair for six years and was an Assistant Governor to the Clintonville, Granville, Newark-Heath and Zanesville Daybreak Rotary Clubs. When the pandemic hit, she coordinated the district fund-raising project to provide donations to three food banks. Rotarians donated \$100,000 to the food banks plus another \$25,000 was contributed through a grant by the Rotary Foundation. Sandy is a member of the Paul Harris and PolioPlus Societies and a Major Donor.

**Terry Rataiczak, District Governor 2026-27** – District Governor Elect Terry was born and raised in Bellaire, Ohio, where he cultivated a passion for technology and community service. With 33 years of experience in

the Information Technology field, he spent the last 20 years as the proud owner of Kinetic Networking. Throughout his career, Terry has been deeply committed to non-profit work, contributing to organizations such as the Ohio Valley Athletic Conference, Noble County Youth Soccer, and Caldwell Eagles 2952, just to name a few.

In June 2009, Terry embarked on his Rotary journey, and currently serves his club as Foundation Chair and Treasurer. He was also president of his club during the 2021-2022 Rotary year. His involvement with Rotary District 6690 has spanned four years on the Foundation and Membership Committees, including District

Foundation Chair in 2023-2024. Terry is honored to be recognized by Rotary International as a Major Donor Level 2 and a member of both the Paul Harris and the PolioPlus Societies.



**Darnell Perkins,  
District Governor  
2027-28 –**

District Governor Nominee Darnell Perkins is a member of the Rotary Club of Dublin-Worthington and has been a Rotarian for 25 years. He is active in his club, serving in several club leadership positions and as club president in 2009-10. In the District, he served two terms (6 years) as Assistant Governor and two years as District Grant Coordinator. Darnell is a passionate advocate for Rotary's core values of service, integrity, and fellowship. He is a Rotary Foundation Major Donor and Paul Harris Society member.

An avid believer in service to others, Darnell has volunteered for numerous community organizations. Most recently, he served on the Worthington Community Relations Commission, the Worthington Chamber Orchestra board, and the Endowment Committee of the Worthington Food Pantry and Resource Center. He is an Army veteran who served a tour in Vietnam as a medic. During the day, Darnell works as a financial planner helping others plan their retirement.

[Read More](#)

## District Governor Message

As your district governor, I had the opportunity to spend time last month with immediate past Rotary International President Stephanie Urchick at the Multi-District President-Elect Training Alliance (MDP). The MDP Alliance is a membership consortium of the leadership of Rotary districts that meets to share best practices for training presidents-elect for the key role as club president.

RI Past President Stephanie talked with us about Rotary's key priority of forming new clubs with different models and Membership Retention. She shared one startling statistic – 50% of our members decide to discontinue their Rotary membership in the first three years.

So, what should we improve to ensure we keep our members? "It's all about engagement and making sure new members feel like they belong," said President Stephanie. "My challenge to you is to consider making changes to the experience that your club offers its members to help more people feel like they truly belong."

What are the key components to membership retention?

Clubs all over the world are finding creative ways to introduce new





members to Rotary. The more successful programs are ones that offer a meaningful learning experience, personal connections, inspiration, and fun. Research shows that successful membership retention includes:

- **Membership Orientation** that covers Rotary's history and the benefits of membership such as making a difference in the lives of others, learning leadership skills, and networking with other professionals
- **Mentorship Programs** when new members are paired with a Rotarian who has similar interests to guide them through their Rotary journey
- **Engaging** new members in a meaningful service project
- **Helping** new members log-in to My Rotary and the Rotary Learning Center.

[Read More](#)

## District Fall Assembly Offers Something For Everyone

# UNITE FOR GOOD

Mark your calendar to join us for the District 6690 Fall Assembly in Nelsonville on Oct. 18 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Hocking College. As an added plus, you can enjoy the beautiful fall foliage on your ride to the Hocking College Lodge. Registration is only \$30 and includes a continental breakfast and taco buffet prepared by the culinary students. Connect with old and new Rotarian friends through the assembly discussions. Topics include:

- Expanding your club's membership through the companion/satellite clubs with Ralph Zuke, St. Louis, one of the first district governors from a satellite club.
- Focused hands-on learning on Ignite, a new Rotary phone app that's easy to use.
- Photographic report on the September Honor Flight by PDG Gary Baker and professional photographer Ed Zirkle,
- Adventures of a Rickshaw Bike Ride from St. Louis to Calgary, Canada by District Governor Ralph Zuke, to raise awareness for our fight to End Polio. DG Ralph will offer rickshaw rides at the Fall Assembly.
- Club president David Read will share the success of Westerville Rotary's I Can Program for second grade students on character education. This is a presentation you won't want to miss because of the impact it could have on students in your community.
- Plus, much more!

[REGISTER TODAY](#)

[Read More](#)

## Call for Rotarian Volunteers: Hilliard Rotary Needs Your Help

By John L Vogelpohl



By working together as clubs, Rotarians can accomplish much more than we can alone. The Rotary Club of Hilliard is dreaming big and sponsoring a Peace Celebration on Sept. 20. The club needs our help by volunteering to work – not donate money for the event. About 60 additional volunteers are needed.

The Peace Celebration will take place in downtown Hilliard at the Makoy Center (home of the Great Debate), and Merchant Park.

The District 6690 and the Hilliard Arts Council are partnering with the Rotary Club of Hilliard as well.

At the Peace Celebration, there will be:

1. Arts that celebrate peace – photographic displays, paintings, sculptures.
2. Performance items such as short plays and poetry slams.

[Read More](#)

A vibrant poster for the 'FIRST ANNUAL Hilliard PEACE CELEBRATION!'. The top half features a photograph of a diverse group of people, including children and adults, smiling and interacting. Below the photo, the text 'MERCHANT PARK HILLIARD' is written in a bold, sans-serif font. The date and time, 'SEPTEMBER 20, 2025 9:00am - 3:00pm', are prominently displayed in a green box. The main title 'FIRST ANNUAL Hilliard PEACE CELEBRATION!' is in a large, stylized font, with 'Hilliard' in a script font. Below the title, it says 'Celebrating the United Nations International Day of Peace'. A list of activities includes 'Music & family activities at Merchant Park', 'Peace Symposium at Makoy Center', and 'PLUS, much, much more!'. Logos for 'Rotary Club of Hilliard', 'CROOKED CAN', and 'BELL TREE PRODUCTIONS' are at the bottom. A QR code is on the right with the text 'SCAN FOR UPDATES'. The bottom of the poster has a yellow banner that says 'SAVE THE DATE!'.

## Zone 30 - 31 Institute Offers Saturday Only Special Registration

By Sandra Knoesel



Meet our new Rotary International Board Director Brian Hall at Zone 30-31 at the upcoming Zone Institute September 4-7 in Columbus, Ohio — a premier Rotary event that promises to inspire, connect, and energize your Rotary journey! If your calendar is full on the weekdays, consider attending the Saturday Only event for just \$150. You can experience the best of the Institute in just one power-packed day.

Why You Should Attend:

- Curate Your Experience: Choose from numerous breakout sessions on leadership, service, membership, and public image.
- Be Inspired: Hear from nationally known speakers who are shaping the future of Rotary.
- Connect & Collaborate: Explore the vibrant House of Friendship, where fun, fellowship, and innovative ideas come together.

Whether you're a club president, committee chair, or engaged member, the Saturday experience provides maximum value in minimum time. Don't miss this convenient opportunity to recharge your Rotary batteries right here in Ohio. You'll return to your club with fresh ideas, new energy, and valuable connections - all gained in one powerful day.

\*\*\* [Register today](#) for the Saturday-only option or the full Institute experience!

**Volunteer Opportunities: Sergeant-at-Arms (greeting attendees, directing them, and ensuring everyone feels welcome)**

A Sign-Up Genius has been created outlining specific roles and needs. If you're available and interested in being part of this exciting event, we'd love for you to sign up. Feel free to extend the invitation to your spouse, partner, or friends who may also be attending and want to lend a hand.

[SIGNUP TO VOLUNTEER HERE](#)

Hope to see you in Columbus!

## Make Your 125 Club Donation Today

By William Grindle

It's a new Rotary year and time to recommit your support of the Rotary International Foundation and Polio Plus funds by joining the District 6690 125 Club. The 125 Club recognizes Rotarians who contribute \$100 or more to the Rotary Foundation's Annual Fund and \$25 or more to PolioPlus for the 2025-26 Rotary Year. Donors will be presented with this year's pins at their club meetings. The 125 Club is an easy way to contribute to the work we are doing as Rotarians. Nearly all the funds Rotarians contribute to the annual fund are returned to our district to support our local district grants and global grants.

## Two Ways To Donate

Log into your MyRotary.org account using your Rotary ID and make two donations -- \$100 or more to the Rotary Foundation's Annual Fund and \$25 or more to the PolioPlus Fund.

OR

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se the District's giving app by going to [https://givebutter.com/125\\_Club](https://givebutter.com/125_Club) (Please note that Givebutter charges a \$5.33 credit card convenience fee.)

When you receive your District 125 pin, wear it proudly and encourage your fellow Rotarians to join the 125 Club. Last year, nearly 900 Rotarians in our district joined the 125 Club. Please participate in this important initiative and let's start off the year by aiming for a new record of 125 Club donors!

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## District 6690 Events

# SAVE THE DATES

## DISTRICT 6690 UPCOMING EVENTS – 2025

- SEP 4 – 6: ZONE 30 - 31 INSTITUTE – HYATT REGENCY COLUMBUS  
SEP 20: HILLIARD ROTARY PEACE SYMPOSIUM  
SEP 25: HONOR FLIGHT  
OCT 18: FALL ASSEMBLY – HOCKING COLLEGE, NELSONVILLE  
NOV 2: DISTRICT 6690 AWARDS CELEBRATION – HOFBRAUHAUS, COLUMBUS

## DISTRICT 6690 UPCOMING EVENTS – 2026

- FEB: WINTER ASSEMBLY TBD  
MAR 13: DISTRICT PRESIDENT ELECT LEARNING – COLUMBUS  
MAR 13 – 14: ALL-OHIO PETS – RENAISSANCE, COLUMBUS  
APR 24: DISTRICT 6690 CONFERENCE – HILTON HOTEL POLARIS, COLUMBUS  
JUNE 13 – 17: RI CONVENTION – TAIPEI, TAIWAN

### Club Meeting

Olentangy  
Meets at Scioto Reserve Country Club  
Scioto Reserve Country Club 7383 Scioto Pkwy  
Powell, OH 43065  
Time: Thursday at 07:30 AM

### District Leaders



[Sandra Knoesel](#)  
District Governor