



Speakers

December 11, 2025
Bill Grindle
District 6690 Rotary
Foundation

Events

December 18th
[Ring the Bell for
the Salvation Army](#)

Birthdays

Mike Miller
December 12th
Bryan D. Lane
December 18th
Jenise N Lefevre
December 18th
Alex Eikenberry
January 5th

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



[Brian
Folwarczny](#)
Club
Director



[Joseph
Keane](#)
Club
Director



[Bryan D.
Lane](#)
Club Grant
Coordinator
Club TRF
Chair

This Week's Speaker: Bill Grindle, Rotary District Foundation Chair

Bill is our District Foundation Chair. He joined the Worthington AM Rotary Club in 2006 and has served as a two-time club President. Before becoming foundation chair, he served as our District Global Grant subcommittee chair for four years. He has helped champion multiple district and Global Grant initiatives, including providing clean drinking water to the people of Haiti through his club's work and to the people of Malawi, Africa, through a district-wide global grant that involved 26 clubs in our district and 10 clubs in district 6670

Outside of Rotary Bill works as a marketing consultant, he is a devoted husband and father of two. He is passionate about service, loves live music and the outdoors. When he's not busy working with a client or on a volunteer project, he is happiest spending time with family with a tank on his back in the ocean, a pack on his back in the mountains, or a club in his hand on the golf course.

Reminder: People In Need Holiday Clearing House Coat Drive

The PIN Holiday Clearing House is celebrating its 71st anniversary this year and we are blessed to be part of it and running Coat Land, where each child is provided with a **brand-new** winter coat along with a hat and pair of gloves.

Please bring coats to the 12/11 meeting or contact [Alex Eikenberry \(call/text 740-294-8297\)](#) to arrange for pickup

Shout-Out to Austin Meyer for being the first to donate this year!

Updated Coat Sizes Needed:

**Girls: Medium 10/12, Large 14/16, XL 18/20
Boys: Small 7/8, Medium 10/12, Large 14/16, XL 18/20**

If you already purchased coats in sizes not listed above - we still appreciate them and will graciously accept your donations.

Club Notes:

- This week will be our club's final meeting for the year. We'll see you again on January 8th, 2026.
- Huge thanks to Brian Stanfill and John O'Connell for Ringing the Salvation Army Bell at Kroger on December 6th!

Uniting for Good as We Close Out 2025

By Sandra Knoesel

It's hard to believe that 2025 is ending, and we have about 24 weeks before our district and clubs welcome new leaders. Rotary is such a unique



Jennifer T. Carney
Triplett Club
Service Projects Chair

UNITE FOR GOOD



organization. Most organizations could never withstand annual leadership turnover but—as Past District Governor Craig Maxey often reminds us, “Our structure is our secret sauce.” What keeps us strong is our shared commitment to improving the lives of others through service. Our communities know they can count on Rotarians.

Recently, I had the privilege of participating in one of these meaningful service traditions with members of the Zanesville Noon Club. Since 1927, club members have provided Christmas gifts and hosted a holiday party for special needs children. The project began when the club founded the Crippled Children’s School in Zanesville, and Rotarians stepped in to ensure that the children felt supported and celebrated during the holidays.



Today, the club continues that legacy by providing gifts to the Zanesville City Elementary Schools’ Special Needs classes. Each child submits a list of three toys they would love for Christmas, and Rotarian Shopping Elves carefully select gifts—up to \$50 per child—to fulfill their wishes. Led by Club President Matt Schreiber, members fan out across Walmart gathering presents for three to five children each.

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District Earns World-wide Recognition as First 100% Peacebuilder Clubs



Representatives from 10 countries congratulated District 6690 leaders last month during a Zoom call for becoming the first district in the world with 100% Peacebuilder Clubs.

The Rotary Action Group for Peace Chapter celebrated the district’s success during a Zoom call on Sunday, Nov. 23. Tijana Ristic, chair, of Rotary Club Belgrade International District 2483, Serbia, recognized district leaders Tom Carlisi and past district governors, Mj Shackelford, Gary Baker, and the RD6690 Governor line, from Craig Maxey to Sandy Knoesel, for support and commitment to the Peacebuilder Club program. Instrumental in helping reach the 100% Peacebuilder Clubs goal were the district Peace Committee members and assistant governors.

Rotary Action Group for Peace’s Peacebuilder Clubs are part of a global network dedicated to advancing peace and understanding. These clubs extend their impact beyond their local districts, collaborating with organizations and individuals worldwide. Through meaningful projects, conferences, and initiatives, Peacebuilder Clubs serve as catalysts for positive change.

“We worked really hard last year to achieve our goal of 100% Peacebuilder Clubs,” Gary Baker, immediate Past District governor, said. “As a Peacebuilder Club, our 55 clubs joined this dynamic movement that gives us access to a worldwide network of like-minded individuals and valuable resources.”

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Pelotonia Legacy Award Goes to Columbus Rotarian

Rotarians make a positive impact on the lives of others in many ways. Columbus Rotarian Dwight Hurd jumped at the chance to pay it forward in 2009 riding in the event to raise money for innovative cancer research at The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center. A cancer survivor, Dwight recently received the Pelotonia Legacy Award.

The Legacy award recognizes an individual who demonstrates exceptional dedication to the organization’s mission of ending cancer through fundraising, leadership, and passion. At age 93, Dwight is a living symbol of resilience and hope.

In 2025, the Pelotonia community raised \$29.2 million bringing the all-time funds raised to more than \$339 million in the event’s 17-year history.



Brazil New Group Study Exchange Team Arrives in January



District 6690 will proudly welcome a delegation of educators from Brazil for a new Group Study Exchange (nGSE) visit Jan. 6 – 29, 2026. Clubs hosting the team include Circleville, Columbus, Dublin-Worthington, Marietta, Whitehall-Bexley and Zanesville.

This Rotary-funded program enables emerging leaders to engage in immersive cultural and vocational experiences, build global understanding, strengthen professional skills, and serve as ambassadors for peace and friendship.

Last summer, Rotary District 6690 sent five education professionals to São Paulo, Brazil (District 4621) for a three-week New Generation Service Exchange. The team (pictured) consisted of Lyndsay Rayner (Zanesville), Margaret Cleply (Bexley), Tracy Najera (Columbus), Stephanie Freas (Zanesville), and Crystal Carley (Bexley).

[Read More](#)

Zone 30 vs Zone 31 Competition Combats Food Insecurity

By Wolfgang A. Lant



Across our district, too many families are choosing between buying groceries and paying bills. From Nov. 10 to Jan. 10, 2026, District 6690 clubs

can help us measure the impact of our volunteer efforts by recording Rotarian activities to help with food insecurity in our communities by joining the Operation Full Plate Competition between Zone 30 and Zone 31.

Operation Full Plate is a friendly competition developed by Jenny Stotts, Zone 30 Membership Coordinator and an Athens Sunrise Rotarian, and Julie McCoy, Zone 31 Membership Coordinator to increase and measure helping our communities with food security programs and making our volunteer work more fun.

Our Zone 's challenge is to collect more food items, make more monetary donations, and donate more volunteer hours than our fellow Rotarians in Zone 31. Bonus points will be awarded for involving non-Rotarians in our efforts. Points are also given for public image activities such as media posts, news releases, radio PSAS, and announcements through community forums.

Wolf Lant, chair of the district service project committee, recently distributed an easy form to club presidents to track their club's impact during the 60-day contest.

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Preventing Disease, Protecting Hope: Why Polio Plus Matters

By William Grindle



December is **Disease Prevention and Treatment Month**, a powerful reminder of Rotary's long-standing commitment to creating healthier, safer communities at home and around the world. Nowhere is that commitment clearer—or more urgent—than in our fight to end polio. For four decades, Rotary has led the global effort to eradicate polio. And while we have reduced cases by 99.9%, our work is **not** finished. As long as the poliovirus exists anywhere, it remains a threat **everywhere**. Without continued vaccinations, surveillance, and rapid response, the virus could mutate, regain strength, and spread—undoing decades of progress.

This is why contributions to the **Polio Plus Fund** are so essential. Your support ensures children receive life-saving vaccines and health workers can detect and contain outbreaks. Finishing the job requires all of us.

Reaffirm your commitment to Every Rotarian, Every Year today

As we reflect on the importance of disease prevention this holiday season, why no reaffirm your commitment to Every Rotarian, Every Year. When each of us gives something to the Foundation—no matter the amount—we help drive life-changing projects like these in our communities and across the world.

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District Grants Make A Difference Locally, Globally



In District 6690, our clubs continue Rotary's mission of care and compassion for those who need it most. This month, we highlight the Barnesville Rotary Club's Christmas Project, a District Grant initiative bringing warmth, dignity, and joy to hundreds of local residents.

The project provides gifts and personalized gift bags for approximately 150 low- or fixed-income seniors and adults, along with an additional 100

individuals living in three long-term residential facilities. Each gift is chosen with purpose—items that are useful, needed for daily living, and bring comfort to enhance quality of life.

This project is an example of how Foundation dollars flow directly back into our communities and how Rotary meets people with kindness.

Beyond our district, Rotary's impact extends across borders. One of our district's most meaningful Global Grant efforts is led by the Worthington AM Rotary Club, with support from the Marietta, Granville, Delaware, Dublin Worthington, and Dublin AM clubs. Together, they are helping provide clean, safe drinking water to families in Ouanaminthe, Haiti.

This initiative will improve the health and safety for thousands of people across 15 Haitian communities by reducing waterborne disease, empowering families, and strengthening resilience in one of the most underserved areas of the Western Hemisphere.

Projects like this remind us that when we give to The Rotary Foundation, we are part of something far larger than ourselves – we are part of a global network of hope.

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