



The Heartbeat



Zones 30-31

January 2019



Greetings and Happy 2019 to each of you and your families!

We are more than six months into Rotary Year 2018-19 – the half-way point. Highlights of the first six months include:

Membership: Since July 1 and through December, 2018 Zones 30 and 31 have lost 272 members and four Rotary clubs.

TRF giving per capita through 12/21: Zone 30 is at \$45.03 and Zone 31 is at \$41.02. There are several Foundation gala events planned over the next several months.

Multi-year planning: 14 districts have completed and nine more are in the queue.

Visioning: 25 districts have trained club visioning teams working within their districts.

Heart to Heart: 26 districts participate in our program with D4140 and D4170 in Mexico.

RI President-elect Mark Maloney just announced the theme for 2019-2020, “Rotary Connects the World.” I was with our Zone 30-31 class of governors-elect in San Diego at the International Assembly when this was unveiled and their response was very positive. For the first time at the International Assembly, 60 Rotaractors participated in the session with governors-elect as our organization continues to more fully integrate this important group into our organization.

In this edition, see the article by Beth Stubbs about the Heart of America event at the International Convention in Hamburg. It will take place on Sunday evening, June 2, at the Hofbrauhaus-Munchien, within walking distance of the Convention venue. You can register by going online to our Zone website or <http://bit.ly/zonehamburg> or in DACdb. Thanks to Beth and Jerry Wear for their coordination of this event. Also see the introduction of Bob Callahan, the new Rotary Coordinator for Zone 31. Bob replaces Brent Rosenthal, whom we thank for his service and good work. Thank you Bob for stepping up to this important role!

During the month of December, I spoke with our sitting district governors to check in and see how their first six months have gone. I am so impressed with what each is doing to strengthen their districts and work with their governors-elect, governors-nominee and leadership teams to ensure important continuity in their districts. Many of them said they are very proud of what their clubs are doing in their own communities and international work with which some are involved.

At the Montgomery Institute this past October, Wynonna and the Big Noise entertained us, proceeds going to our End Polio Now Countdown to History campaign. I am pleased to let you know again that we raised \$55,000 that night, matched by an anonymous donor and, hen again by the Gates Foundation for a total of **\$330,000**. Thank you to all who attended and to our sponsors for that evening.

As your director with six months left on my term, my goal has been to visit every district in some way over my two years. I am pleased to say that I should be able to accomplish this goal—but there are still a few left. Let us continue to **Be The Inspiration** as we embark on yet another year of service in Rotary!

Greg



The Mississippi River Runs Through Us

We are searching for clubs and districts with projects connected to the Mississippi River from Minnesota to Louisiana. When Ambassador Andrew Young spoke at the Zone Institute he mentioned the coalition of 88 municipalities along the Mississippi who have partnered. We have been in contact with The Andrew Young Foundation and the Mississippi Rivers and Towns Initiative (<https://www.mrcti.org>) to coordinate Rotary clubs as grass roots advocacy partners. Both the Water & Sanitation Rotarian Action Group and the Environmental Sustainability Rotarian Action Group are engaging with us.

The next step is to cross reference our clubs in these communities to see what may already be happening and to promote this collective Rotary presence on March 22, World Water Day. Forty percent of our global food supply is affected by the Mississippi River and the socioeconomic issues of water and sanitation impacted by the river and its tributaries. Please send any information or interest in participating to jspietrusi@yahoo.com.

Zone Fellowship Dinner in Hamburg

Rotarians from Zones 30 and 31 and their guests attending the International Convention are invited to gather for dinner at the Hofbräu München Wirtshaus at Esplanade 6 in Hamburg on Sunday, June 2. The event will start at 6 p.m. and end at 10 that evening.

Registration is now open and can be accessed from “Register Now” link on the Zone website at www.rizones30-31.org. Registration is also available from the DACdb calendars within the two zones. The links will allow both member and public without a DACdb login to see registration options. The price is \$50 per person, which includes an open bar. Food will be served buffet style to the table and include appetizer, entrée, vegetables and dessert.

The venue is billed as, “Bavarian flair in northern Germany” with “well-chilled” original Hofbräu beer served in steins. Women, pack your dirndls, and men, your lederhosen, and join your fellow Rotarians for an evening of fun, fellowship and entertainment.



Zone 31 Membership Status



Rita Esterly
Zone 31 Rotary Coordinator

Five districts reported negative membership since July 1 and one reported an increase. No new Rotary clubs have yet been chartered this year in Zone 31. However, a plan is in development with support from the Assistant Rotary Coordinators to help District Membership Chairs create opportunities for developing new or satellite clubs in large cities, starting with state capitols.

There is also exciting news concerning the new Membership Initiative rolled out during Summer Seminars. Eighty six Membership Facilitators were trained in six districts between August and December and stand ready to support club Membership Chairs. Some of these Facilitators will go to district meetings; others have been asked to present the Call to Action to all Presidents-Elect at a joint meeting. Still more are presenting details during the Membership training portion of PETS.

Sixteen clubs have been supported by the facilitators so far, with another 35 wanting to schedule soon. Eight districts are scheduled for such training in January through April.

This project will span three years. The Membership Facilitator training will be finished in year one. During PETS in 2019, all Presidents-Elect will be encouraged to invite one of these Membership Facilitators to visit their club to develop action plans for some membership strategies. During year two, as many clubs as possible will be supported by this project. In years two and three, clubs will implement their action plans. The anticipated result is that Zone 31 will grow significantly in membership by 2021. A promotion plan for this project is being developed with the help of our Public Image Coordinator, Elizabeth Usovicz.

2019-20 Theme

At the International Assembly in San Diego, Rotary International President-Elect Mark Daniel Maloney announced our theme for the next Rotary year. It is “**Rotary Connects the World.**” He explained his vision for building a stronger Rotary, calling on leaders to expand connections to their communities and to embrace innovative membership models.

“(Rotary) allows us to connect with each other in deep and meaningful ways across our differences,” Maloney said. “It connects us to people we would never otherwise have met who are more like us than we ever could have known. It connects us to our communities, to professional opportunities, and to the people who need our help.”

“Through Rotary, we connect to the incredible diversity of humanity on a truly unique footing, forging deep and lasting ties in pursuit of a common goal,” he added. “In this ever more divided world, Rotary connects us all.”

He continued, “And Rotary offers something no other organization can match: an existing infrastructure that allows people from all over the world to connect in a spirit of service and peace and take meaningful action toward that goal.”



Director's Accountability Report

Here's a summary of activities related to RI responsibilities handled by your Director since the last update and into the near future:

Month	Day	Activity
November	1	Foundation speech at Club 11, St. Louis, MO
	2-3	District 6510 Conference, Mt. Vernon, IL
	5	Quarterly call with Rotary Coordinators
		Presentation to Rotary Club of O'Fallon, IL
	8	Presentation to R.C. of St. Clair County, Sunset
	21-23	Rotary club gathering, Ragusa, Italy
	28	Strategic Planning committee webinar
	29	Meeting with Jaycees
December	All Month	Phone calls with all District Governors
	14	Membership call with RID Mark Maloney
	17	Meeting with incoming president of the Jaycees
	19	Speak at the Rotary Club of Knoxville Breakfast
		Speak at the Rotary Club of Maryville-Alcoa, TN
	20	Speak at the Rotary Club of Oakridge, TN
January	10	Rotary Club of O'Fallon (IL) re-visioning event
	13-18	International Assembly, San Diego, CA
	20-23	Rotary International Board meeting, La Jolla, CA
February	15-17	District 5240 (CA) Multi-Year Planning Session
	19	District 6150 Foundation dinner, Little Rock, AR
	20	Speak at Rotary Club of Hot Springs, AR
	21	Speak at Rotary Club of Hot Springs Village, AR
	27-28	Rotary International Strategic Planning meeting
March	1	Rotary International Strategic Planning meeting
	17	Land of Lincoln PETS, Effingham, IL
	29-30	Show Me PETS, Jefferson City, MO

- Rotary Coordinators**
Zone 30
 Bob Callahan, RC
bcjr@callahanmail.com
- Woody Northup, RRFC
woodyn@radiosound.com
- Chuck Barnett, RPIC
chuckbarnett@gmail.com
- Zone 31**
 Rita Esterly, RC
esterly.rotary6080@gmail.com
- Big Rich Churchman, RRFC
ToothXprt@aol.com
- Elizabeth Usovicz, RPIC
eusovicz@kc.rr.com
- Endowment/Major Gifts Advisors**
 Floyd Lancia, Zone 30 EMGA
floyd.rotary@gmail.com
- Pamela Stewart, Zone 31 EMGA
Rotary6190pstewart@gmail.com
- Other Zones' Leadership Team Members**
Zone 30
 Glen Vanderford, Visioning
Gv6760@bellsouth.net
- Fred Heitman, PHS
jfredd@aol.com
- Bob Callahan, Jr., EPN
bcjr@callahanmail.com
- Greg Landry, Newsletter
Greg@LA-Law.org
- Zone 31**
 Bob Warner, Project Lead
drbob@cscnea.com
- Brian Hall, PHS
bhall@aim-technologies.com
- Stacey Self, EPN
Rotaryhalfpint@yahoo.com
- Mike Brown, Technology
Dg2012@district6690.org
- [For a listing of all the assistant Rotary Coordinators click here](#)

Peace in Action: The Rotary Academy for Positive Peace



Elizabeth Usovicz
RPIC, Zone 31

In April 2016, I was en route to a meeting with the members of the Vocational Training Team I led to Malawi. As is usual, the road between Mangochi and Zomba was rife with checkpoint stops – some governmental, some not. At one unofficial stop, a tense young man approached us with an AK-47 slung over his shoulder. He was no more than 16 or 17 years old. In rudimentary Chichewa, we respectfully showed our papers for the rental car and explained our Rotary project. Hearing about our work with Malawi Children’s Village, he waved us through the checkpoint with a smile that demonstrated why Malawi is known as “the warm heart of Africa.”

I thought about that young man as I recently completed the introductory course offered by the **Rotary Academy for Positive Peace**. Developed through Rotary’s partnership with the Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP), the course provides an overview of eight measurable pillars of positive peace and ways to utilize them in Rotary projects across the Six Areas of Focus. The Academy’s course can be accessed at this link: my.rotary.org/en/join-rotary-peace-academy.

The self-paced, online course takes about two hours to complete and covers global tools such as the IEP’s Global Peace Index. The Index uses 23 indicators weighted on a 1 to 5 scale and ranks the peacefulness of 168 countries. I checked Malawi’s rank - 44th - and also its rank of 4 on a scale of 1 to 5 for ease of access to weapons.

In addition to the global perspective and framework for positive peace, the course provides tools to bridge the gap between macro-level indicators of positive peace and the one-to-one encounters with creating peace we have each experienced as Rotarians. The course also incorporates case studies of positive peace workshops that have been held in communities around the globe, and suggestions for integrating a positive peace perspective into the Six Areas of Focus. Future resources include a curriculum for conducting Positive Peace Workshops.

“Peace is not something you wish for, it is something you make, something you are, something you do, and something you give away,” notes author Robert Fulgham. Two hours is a small investment in our commitment to putting peace into action, in our clubs, communities and around the world.



July through December Rotary Foundation Contributions in Zone 31

We have twelve new Bequest Society members, one new major donor and one new Arch Klumpf Society member, with a total of \$561,883.75 in new endowment gifts and \$89,500 in outright gifts. The total endowment increase for the first half of this year is \$753,694, up 169.56% from last year.



We have inducted two new AKS members and have given recognition to a number of our Major Donors, both new and those who have moved to a higher level.

Pictured at left are our Zones’ AKS representatives at the AKS celebration at the International Assembly.

Meet Zone 30 Rotary Coordinator Bob Callahan, Jr.

My name is Bob Callahan and I live in Fairhope, Alabama. My wife Maria and I have three grown sons and are blessed with eight grandchildren. For the past 39 years, I have operated an independent telecom consulting practice helping clients manage cost, audit voice and data services, and ensure contract compliance.



In 1989, a friend from church invited me to lunch at his Rotary Club. I knew many of the members, found the people friendly and when asked if I might be interested in membership, said yes. I could see that many community leaders such as our mayor, city council members, judges, hospital president and business owners were members and, I, frankly, anticipated what I could gain personally through membership. I wish I could say that I joined and immediately became involved and contributed to the health of my club, but because my focus was on "I" and personal gain I missed the mark. I was one of those often referenced as a member of Rotary but not a Rotarian. I didn't have time to be on a club committee; my attendance was poor; I sat at a back table when at meetings; I gave nothing to our Foundation, and I eventually quit.

I quit Rotary, but Rotary did not quit me. Several members persisted in sharing with me news of the club, inviting me to just come for lunch and visit, and eventually the prodigal son returned. Shortly after I returned to membership, Hurricane Katrina hit the central Gulf Coast and changed my Rotary experience and my life. In the aftermath of Katrina and through my Rotary Club, I was able to experience at a personal and intimate level Rotarians helping people, people who in many cases had lost everything. Through a chainsaw, cook stove and mosquito bites, I learned about Rotary service. I just as importantly saw the goodness in my fellow Rotarians' hearts as they gave so selflessly of their time and treasures to help our neighbors. Katrina was a Rotary moment for me, my gateway to finally understanding that Rotary is a path to giving and not getting.

Three years later, I became my club's president. Our club became involved in grant projects in Central America and, through these projects, was blessed with even more Rotary moments. After terms as a district committee chair and Assistant Governor, I served as Governor of District 6880 in 2013-14.

Rotary has continued to give me opportunities to serve. For the past three years, I have served as the Zone 30 End Polio Coordinator. This has enabled me to meet and know many deeply committed Rotarians. Now I am particularly happy to serve our Zone as Rotary Coordinator. I believe that there are many potential Rotarians seeking what Rotary has to offer, the opportunity to serve. My goal is to help them find their opportunity for happiness in Rotary service.

Vocational Service Month

In January, Rotarians are encouraged to focus on this important avenue of service. Discussions on vocational service can lead to projects that not only develop the ethical consciousness and vocational skills of Rotarians but also the talents within their communities. Vocational Service Month is an opportunity to begin year-long vocational service activities ranging from Rotary discussions, to awards, to community projects. Some suggested activities for January:

- Devote a meeting to examine the second Avenue of Service, including The Four-Way Test and The Declaration of Rotarians in Business and Professions.
- Introduce a "mini-classifications talk" series.
- Present a vocational award to someone in the community.
- Present a vocational award to someone in the community and develop a project in response to those needs.
- Encourage club members to put their vocational skills to work as a Rotary Volunteer.

Coming Events

2019

PETS

February 28-March 3 Lone Star PETS, Dallas, TX
March 1-3 Midwest PETS, Itasca, IL
March 8-9 All Ohio PETS, Columbus, OH
March 13-16 Great Lakes PETS, Kalamazoo, MI
March 15-16 Ole Man River PETS, Natchez, MS
March 16-17 Land of Lincoln PETS, Effingham, IL
March 28-30 Mid-America PETS, Fort Smith, AR
March 29-30 Show Me Rotary PETS, Jefferson City, MO
Mid-South PETS, Chattanooga, TN

District Conferences

April 5-7 (Districts 6740 & 6780), Gatlinburg, TN
April 11-12 (District 6620)
April 11-13 (District 6800), Memphis, TN
April 11-14 (District 6670), Cincinnati, OH
April 12-13 (Districts 6650 & 6690), Columbus, OH
(District 6560), Muncie, IN
April 25-27 (Districts 6860 & 6880), Birmingham, AL
April 26-27 (District 6150), Jonesboro, AR
April 27 (District 6580), Clarksville, IN
May 2-6 (Districts 5830, 6200, 6820, 6840), Cruise from New Orleans, LA
May 10-11 (District 6540), Notre Dame, IN
May 16-18 (District 6760), Franklin, TN
May 17-18 (District 6710), Louisville, KY
June 14-15 (District 6170), Hot Springs, AR
October 18-19 (District 6490), Bloomington, IL

Heart of America Leadership Training

May 5-7, Evanston, IL

International Convention

June 1-5 Hamburg, Germany at the Hamburg Messe
June 2, Heart of America gathering at Hofbrauhaus-Munchien, Hamburg, Germany

Leadership Seminars

July 12-13 Zone 30
July 26-27 Zone 31
August 2-3 Zone 30
August 9-10 Zone 31

Zones 30-31 Summit

October 10-13 Fort Wayne, IN

