Growing Stronger With Change

Welcome to our new Rotary year—our Zones, Districts, Clubs and members still monitoring and responding well to the COVID-19 reality that compels us to continually exercise courage and commitment to keep Rotary relevant.

RI President Holger Knaack implores Rotarians to seize the many opportunities that our organization offers to enrich lives and communities, not in spite of, but because of, the pandemic. Rotary isn’t just a club for people to join, but “an invitation to endless opportunities,” he said in sharing his 2020-21 presidential theme, Rotary Opens Opportunities.

“...we will capture this moment to grow Rotary, making it stronger, more adaptable, and even more aligned with our core values.”

Our President urges us to embrace change so Rotary can expand and thrive. Rather than setting a specific target for increasing the number of members, he asks clubs and districts to think about how to grow in sustainable and organic ways, keeping current members engaged and adding new ones who are right fits for our clubs.
Well — “Rotary Connects the World” year has ended, but is not forgotten. Compliments to PRIP Mark Maloney and Gay for their dedication to Rotary. Their leadership through the COVID-19 pandemic year will certainly be long-remembered. Even though the year didn’t end as it was hoped we hung in there and Zoomed until the cows came home. What is far more important is that we continue being creative and flexible in the way that we meet and connect. Virtual meetings took on a whole new meaning. I’d not heard of “Zoom” until a few months ago, but now find it to be the best way for Rotarians in the Heart of America and world to conveniently meet.

President Holger Knaack and Susanne are passionate Rotary leaders and give us a new lens in which to continue our service. “Rotary Opens Opportunities” is our Rotary theme for the next 12 months. President Holger reminds us that as we provide opportunities this is our moment in time because our Rotary of yesterday will not be the same as our Rotary of tomorrow.

Stories of how we continue to do the work of Rotary virtually, with social distancing and other cautions, are plentiful and will be part of our history. General Secretary John Hewko is quoted as saying “we were built for this new normal” — whatever it may be. Today’s Rotary will endure crises as it has in the past, with resilience, stronger, more flexible and more creative in tomorrow’s Rotary.

In 1997, PRIP President Bill Huntley said, “Rotary has no existence except the existence we give it. It has no glory except the glory of the dedication and the noble service of its member.” The source of the dedication and noble service comes from within us and from our core values: Service, Fellowship, Diversity, Integrity and Leadership. What we do through our Rotary service will outlive us for generations to come, which is why as Rotarians we should be defined by who we are and what we become through Rotary service.

Service is a gift that gives generation after generation. The application of service in each Rotarian’s personal, business, and community life remains what we foster and encourage for the betterment of our communities. So, let’s prepare and move into greater service this new Rotary year following President Holger’s vision — “Now is the time to put everything on the table, test new approaches, and prepare Rotary for the future.”

Let’s ponder the future by asking ourselves:

☐ Where do you want your club or district to be in the next five years?
☐ Will you, your club or district go back to normal but keep embracing what we have learned virtually during the pandemic?
☐ Will you and your club and district attract potential members who are a good fit, and will you meet their expectations?
☐ Will your club and district remember our promise to the children of the world to eradicate Polio with financial support?
☐ Will you continue with great fellowship and make Rotary engaging and enjoyable?

Because we are people of action, using our leadership skills, our diverse experiences through fellowship and integrity, and our unwavering commitment to service, we will bring about greater glory to Rotary service by opening opportunities.

Yours in service to Rotary,

Floyd

RI Director, Zones 30-31
At Rotary, we have no tolerance for racism. Promoting respect, celebrating diversity, demanding ethical leadership, and working tirelessly to advance peace are central tenets of our work.

We have more work to do to create more just, open and welcoming communities for all people.

We know there are no easy fixes and that challenging conversations and work lie before all of us. Rotary’s strength has long been our ability and commitment to bringing people together. We will tap into that strength now as we stand with those who are working for peace and justice.

Rotary will do our part to listen, learn and take action to ensure that we continue to contribute to making positive change.
Zones 30-31 Virtual Summit

Mark your calendar now for our **2020 Virtual Zone Summit**, Saturday, October 10, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Central Standard Time. All Rotarians, including past and future leaders, are encouraged to attend via Zoom.

Different from other trainings and well worth your time, this year’s virtual summit promises several unique opportunities:

♦ Network online with other Rotarians;
♦ **Get a quick 20-minute overview of four key Rotary initiatives**;
♦ Take a deeper, 60-minute dive into one of six specific areas of interest;
♦ **Get a quick, 15-minute update on Rotary’s progress toward global Polio eradication**;
♦ Hear a humorous and motivational message about Rotaract;
♦ **Get new ideas for building your club’s membership**;
♦ Hear from RIPE Shekhar Mehta or Foundation Chair Ian Riseley; and
♦ **Get tips on leading your Rotary or work team through a crisis; and more.**

All of that without having to pay for registration, meals, travel or lodging. The Summit is free!

A registration link will be available closer to the October Summit date on https://www.rizones30-31.org. Stay tuned!
### Heart of America Coordinators

**Rotary Coordinators**
- Bob Callahan Jr., Zone 30, bcjr@callahanmail.com
- Rita Esterly, Zone 31, esterly.rotary6080@gmail.com

**Rotary Foundation Coordinators (RRFC)**
- Dan Ryan, Zone 30, danryan.rotary.gmail.com
- Michael Nowobilski, Zone 31, nowobilski@midam-inc.com

**Public Image Coordinators (RPIC)**
- Chuck Barnett, Zone 30, chuckbarnett@gmail.com
- David Bixler, Zone 31, dbixler@bixlercorp.com

### Virtual Summer Leadership Seminars 2020

- **Saturday, July 11**
  - Bridges to Understanding: Diversity, Equality, Inclusion
  - Race and Social Justice

- **Saturday, July 18**
  - Virtual Foundation Part I

- **Saturday, July 25**
  - Attracting and Engaging Members: Online and Hybrid Meetings

- **Saturday, August 1**
  - Virtual Foundation Part II

- **Saturday, August 8**
  - High-Impact Club and District Meetings: Online and Hybrid Ideas

**All Sessions Are:**
- 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. CT
- 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. ET

[https://www.rizones30-31.org/events/virtual-summer-leadership-seminars/](https://www.rizones30-31.org/events/virtual-summer-leadership-seminars/)