



# IMAGINE ROTARY NEWSLETTER

Julie Leverenz, District Governor 2022-2023

---

*From the Editor: Jill Rogers – Rotary Club of Forest Park  
Welcome to a new Rotary Year! To complement Rotary International  
President Jennifer Jones' theme, Imagine Rotary, we're calling this monthly publication  
the Imagine Rotary Newsletter this year. We hope you enjoy the July issue!*

---

## THANK YOU GOVERNOR MARGIE!



What a year! From downturns in membership, energy and impact during the challenging years of a pandemic, Governor Margie's leadership ignited the spark in all of us to rediscover the power of Rotary in District 6060. Her tireless visits to clubs and events throughout the District to be present, share insights, perform installations, inductions, and Paul Harris recognitions, and to listen whole-heartedly is likely never to be replicated. What an incredible leader! When not on the road, nearly every day during her tenure Governor Margie could be found in a zoom meeting or

on the phone with a club leader helping them find resources or simply lending an ear. During this past year, our District has restored membership, increased giving to the Foundation, and experienced an energizing return to in-person engagement. Many clubs in our District are thriving! Inspiration from her District Assembly, District Conference, Past District Governor gatherings, Show-Me Rotary and Rotary International Convention enabled District 6060 to rise up from the challenges of the pandemic.

We are eternally grateful for the force for good that Margie offered us all during her year as President. Her deep caring and whole-hearted commitment to Rotary's potential invited all in her sphere of influence to enjoy and engage more deeply in discovering that same passion.

Thanks for a great year, Margie!



# IMAGINE ROTARY: LEADING WITH PASSION AND FALLING IN LOVE

*Thoughts from Julie H. Leverenz, District Governor 2022-23*



I invite you to ponder with me: **What if your club experience resulted in Rotarians falling in love with Rotary over and over again? Perhaps it does!**

I love Rotary...what we stand for, the remarkable people I get to work beside, and the amazing good in the world we are able to accomplish together. As you check out

the July issue of Imagine Rotary Newsletter, you will see evidence of both remarkable leadership and life-enhancing success. When we love what we do and with who we're doing the work, we perform at a higher level, we're happier, and we in turn want to do more. Do you love Rotary?

**How will YOU fall in love this year and LEAD others toward sharing the same experience?**

As your new Governor, my leadership role is simple: to passionately lead Rotarians in our District to enjoy, unite, imagine and take action to create meaningful impact in the world, our communities and in ourselves. We've imagined our future together; and now it's time for us to lead with passion as those dreams begin to unfold. Here are the priorities our District will emphasize this year:

- Lead With Passion
- Be Peace-Builders
- Build Better Friendships
- Tell Our Story, and
- End Polio and Make History

As the poet laureate Maya Angelou reminded us, "People will forget what you said; People will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel." Discovering ways for Rotarians and future Rotarians to enjoy their clubs and their friends in Rotary, celebrate their successes in making the world a better place, and notice their enormous and meaningful contributions to innovation, hard work and life-enhancing action is our leadership quest.

This month we have new leaders, new plans and so many opportunities to make our communities, the world and ourselves better. Our passion and commitment will enable us to have the resilience to imagine the possibilities and live into our dreams. The world gets better, when we get better. Peace begins with each of us. I invite you to consider how you will lead within your Rotary club regardless of your role; how will you strengthen others around you, and help others enjoy service above self? Rotarians are all leaders; just look around your club, leadership is part of our members' DNA. We simply have the privilege of serving in unique ways based on our strengths and aspirations.

Let's imagine. Let's lead, let's fall in love, and let's take action to live into our dreams to serve. And let's leave the world a better place than we found it.

## WHAT'S INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

*Thank You Margie!*

*District Governor's Message*

*Meet Julie Leverenz*

*DG Margie Honored*

*RI Convention Report*

*Ralph's Ride to End Polio*

*District Officer Installations*

*RYLA Inspires!*

*Works of the Rotary Foundation*

*Club Health Grant Report*

*Club CAP Grant Report*

*Membership Team*

*Imagine Peace Event 9/21*

*Imagine Rotary Tour Kickoff*

*Rotary Youth Exchange*

*DLC Meeting & Picnic 7/16*



*(Continued page 3)*

# IMAGINE ROTARY: LEADING WITH PASSION AND FALLING IN LOVE

*Continued... Thoughts from Julie H. Leverenz, District Governor 2022-23*



It is my pleasure and honor to serve as your District Governor as we embrace the Rotary International Theme of "Imagine Rotary". Thank you for allowing me, your fellow Rotarian in District 6060, to volunteer and lead in this way. ~DG Julie

## MEET JULIE LEVERENZ, GOVERNOR – DISTRICT 6060



Julie, pictured here with Rotary International President Jennifer Jones, has been a member of Rotary for ten years. She claims to have fallen in love with the organization after she traveled to Togo, Africa to serve with fellow Rotarians in villages administering polio vaccines, building a school and attending the West African Rotary project fair. It was there that she experienced Rotary's incredible reach, impact and potential. Her Rotary journey continued as she served as President of the Rotary Club of Hannibal – a year in which the club embraced a new vision and action plan catalyzing growth in membership, service and impact. Her favorite role

before being invited to serve the District as its Governor was as an Assistant Governor where she began to appreciate the wonderful diversity among clubs and communities and she got to know many of the remarkable Rotarians living in our District. Traveling to Guatemala with Rotary further deepened her appreciation for the transformative work of Rotary in the world. Julie was a healthcare executive for more than 30 years, and is now the CEO of her own leadership consulting company. She and husband, Glen, own and operate a grain and cattle farm in Pike County, and they most enjoy celebrating life with their parents, children and grandchildren. To participate in Rotary closer to home, Julie joined the Rotary Club of Bowling Green in 2020. She is a graduate of both Mizzou and Washington University's Olin School of Business, and is a fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives. She's excited to meet you soon!



## GOVERNOR MARGIE SAMMONS HONORED BY HER CLUB



As Governor Margie completed her term of service as our Governor, she was surprised by her club with a World Dial Glass Clock. Pictured are Left, Randy Sammons, Margie's husband; Margie Sammons, (DG); Judy Smith, President-Elect Arnold Rotary Club; and Drew Sophia (President Arnold Rotary Club). The Rotary Club of Arnold is the home club of Governor Margie!



## ROTARIANS DISCOVER NEW HORIZONS AT HOUSTON RI CONVENTION

Nearly 11,000 Rotarians from around the world gathered in Houston in June to celebrate and inspire the future of our organization. This crowd included many from District 6060. Attending this year were Margie and Randy Sammons (Arnold), Elda and Tom Seener (Washington), Chad Baker, Ralph and Danielle Zuke (St. Louis Civilians), Tom Drennan and Jerry Nolen (Spirit of St. Louis), Julie Leverenz (Bowling Green), Cindy Duncan (West St. Louis Co), Howard and Carolyn Nimmons (Florissant), and Ameya Pethya (Cottleville/Weldon Springs). As Governor Margie shared in her detailed email communication to all members regarding the Convention, the experience was 'Wow'!



## DISTRICT INSTALLS 2022-23 LEADERS

Following a District Leadership Council meeting in May held at Woods Fort Country Club in Troy, MO, leaders and their families gathered to celebrate and induct Rotarians from District 6060 into key roles for the coming year. Many thanks to PDG Jill Rogers for emceeing the event and to PDG Rick Tinucci for installing the District's leaders. To set the tone for a great new year and express appreciation for the wonderful support she receives from her family, with the help of PDG Linda Puchbauer, Julie Leverenz surprised five members of her family with Paul Harris Fellow recognition at the event. For names and contact information for all those serving this year, please go to the District website. [www.Rotary6060.org](http://www.Rotary6060.org)

**Congratulations and many thanks to all!**

## ST. LOUIS ROTARIAN MAKES HISTORY WHILE ENDING POLIO!



Our fellow St. Louis Rotarian Ralph Zuke with Rotarian Chad Baker (St. Louis Civilians Satellite Rotary Club) orchestrating the trip, rode his bicycle pulling a Barkalounger from St. Louis to Houston – taking 31 days with many stops along the route to raise money and awareness for Rotary's quest to eradicate polio from the face of the earth! Check out his journey on the club's FB Page. <https://www.facebook.com/Stlouiscivilians/> While in Houston he was featured on "Houston Life" - Check out the feature video to see him tell his amazing story!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RIoZ7W1X4Q8>



Thank you Ralph!  
If you've not yet had an opportunity to support Ralph and the St. Louis Civilians (the satellite club of St. Louis Club 11) in their quest to end polio, just scan the QR Code.

# MISSOURI RYLA INSPIRES THE FUTURE!

*By Jerry Nolen, District Governor Nominee and RYLA Volunteer*

As you are reading this newsletter, the first session of the Missouri RYLA Academy has ended, and the second session will be happening very soon. By the end of both sessions, over 175 students from across Missouri will have been exposed to Rotary and Service Above Self. The Missouri RYLA Academy is a 4-day, 3-night leadership academy for diverse incoming high school sophomores, juniors and seniors who exhibit a desire for community service.

Developed by some of Missouri's top professional educators and Rotarians from Districts 6040, 6060 (that's us), and 6080, the curriculum is designed to identify and enhance the qualities of servant leadership for each participant, educate them on how to successfully plan and implement a service project, and inspire them to live a lifetime of "Service Above Self." In addition, participants are introduced to the programs and values Rotary has to offer. Established in 1992, Missouri RYLA Academy has educated and inspired more than 2,000 students statewide. It is currently recognized as a model program for Rotary International, worldwide.

<https://youtu.be/UuQYwWMo7eE>

Club presidents should look for information from Missouri RYLA in March of 2023 for the 2023 Missouri RYLA Academy and how to send one or more students. For more information, go to [www.missouriryla.com](http://www.missouriryla.com).



## YOU FUEL THE GOOD WORK OF THE ROTARY FOUNDATION

*By Linda Puchbauer, D6060 Chair – The Rotary Foundation*

The Rotary Foundation is the lifeblood of Rotary. Whether in our communities in District 6060 or in the world, you can find The Rotary Foundation lifting up people through our gifts of time and treasure. The Rotary Foundation (TRF) Annual Fund Share is the Foundation's mechanism for funding our CAP Grants, Scholarships and local projects. And donations to End Polio will continue to be matched by the Gates Foundation 2:1. It is time for all Clubs to enter their Foundation goals for 2022-23 in **Rotary Club Central at MyRotary.org**.

Let me know if I can answer any questions, help your club formulate its strategy for the year, or support you in submitting your goals.



# HEALTH GRANTS MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF DISTRICT 6060 RESIDENTS

By Linda Puchbauer, D6060 Chair – The Rotary Foundation



*A portion of our Foundation's District Designated Funds (DDF) this year were used to support clubs with projects designed specifically to enhance the health and wellbeing of their communities. Twenty-one clubs applied and received Health Awareness Grants and a total of \$20,877 was distributed! Projects included the purchase of food, AED's, manikins, CPR training, CPAP machines, dental equipment, Protective Equipment, EKG machines, toiletries, surgical equipment and coats. Way to go Rotary clubs!*

*Those participating included: Rotary Clubs of Arnold, Bowling Green, Cottleville Weldon Springs, Florissant, Lousiana, Mexico, Paris, Piedmont, Poplar Bluff, Reynolds County, Sikeston, Southeast Missouri Service, Spirit of St. Louis County, St. Francois County, Ste Genevieve, Troy, Union, Vandalia, Warren County, Webster Groves, and Wentzville*



**Congratulations to the 28 clubs which participated in the 2021-22 CAP Grants.**

Community Action Project (CAP) grants distributed were \$34,855; these funds complemented Club funds of \$46,924 with a total of \$81,779 invested in the Club's local Communities to enhance the betterment of lives! Well done Rotary Clubs of Arnold, Bowling Green, Cape Girardeau County, Cottleville Weldon Springs, Florissant, Forest Park, High Ridge, Jackson, Kennett, Kirkwood, Lousiana, Montgomery County, Paris, Perryville, Piedmont, Poplar Bluff, Reynolds County, Sikeston, Southeast Missouri Service, Spirit of St. Louis County, St. Charles, St. Charles Sunrise, St. Francois County, Ste Genevieve, St. Peters, Union, Vandalia, and Warren County.

Stay-tuned for the announcement of the 2022-23 grant recipients!

# D6060 MEMBERSHIP TEAM LAUNCHES!

## MEET THE TEAM...



**Rotarian Raffi Andonian** is leading the charge to Grow Rotary in 2022-23 as chair of our new **District Membership Team**. He is joined by PDG Rose Cooper who has agreed to serve as Raffi's co-chair! Bill Dees who has served the District for the last three years as Chair of Membership, is serving as our Innovative Club Chair this year. The new team has held a convening meeting and has begun to develop its approach to supporting our clubs this year.

The 2022-23 District 6060 Membership Team includes:

- **Rotarian Raffi Andonian** - District Membership Chairman - St. Louis Civilians Satellite Club of Rotary Club of St. Louis, [Raffi@RaffiAndonian.com](mailto:Raffi@RaffiAndonian.com)
- **PDG Rose Cooper** - Rotary Club of St. Louis, [rosec904@gmail.com](mailto:rosec904@gmail.com)
- **Rotarian Bill Dees** - Past District Membership Chairman - Rotary Club of Hannibal, [wjdeer50@gmail.com](mailto:wjdeer50@gmail.com)
- **Rotarian Heidi Meckes** - Rotary Club of Kirkwood, [hmm10181715@gmail.com](mailto:hmm10181715@gmail.com)
- **Rotarian Mashiur Rahman** - Rotary Club of St. Louis, [muhammed\\_rahman@hotmail.com](mailto:muhammed_rahman@hotmail.com)
- **Rotarian Rebecca McNulty** - Rotary Club of St. Charles, [Rebecca.McNulty@edwardjones.com](mailto:Rebecca.McNulty@edwardjones.com)

If you have ideas for the Membership team or club successes to share, please reach out to a member of the team. And if you'd be interested in joining this energetic group of Rotarians in helping our clubs share the gift of Rotary, please reach out to Raffi or Rose; they'd love to have you on the team! More to come....

## IMAGINE PEACE!

*By Rose Cooper, D6060 Chair – New Generations*

Now is the Time **To Be PEACE-BUILDERS!**

**A PEACE GIFT OF UP TO \$500** may be awarded to your Club to Promote Peace In Your Community!

IMAGINE PEACE in your community and all across our District on September 21st, 2022! Your project must be completed on **World Peace Day September 21, 2022**.

Your peace project will be highlighted in the District newsletter, on our social media apps and on Rotary Showcase.

Download your Peace Builder Application TODAY at <https://rotary6060.org>. Apply now! As many as 40 Peace Gifts of up to \$500 to be awarded!

- Click on the Peace Builder Project Tab
- Choose the Peace Builder Grant Application.

The deadline to submit your application for the Peace Gift is September 1, 2022.

If you have any questions, call or text me 314-605-6333 or email me [rosec904@gmail.com](mailto:rosec904@gmail.com) I will be watching for your application to come in.

Cottleville/Weldon Spring Club has submitted the 1st IMAGINE-PEACE Application.

World Peace Day  
September 21, 2022

# IMAGINE ROTARY TOUR 2022-23

## AND SHE'S OFF...



Each year the District Governor has the privilege of personally visiting the 50+ Clubs and affiliated Rotary groups in our District. This year, Governor Julie has entitled her 12,000 mile journey across the District as the **D6060 IMAGINE ROTARY TOUR**! During the journey, she looks forward to meeting you, your club members and learn how best to support you in strengthening the Rotary experience and the impact of Rotary in your communities.

Since "Telling the Story" is one of our District's priorities this year, during the Imagine Rotary Tour, Julie will be inviting Club Presidents and Club StoryTellers to share with the club, with her and hopefully with the local media, the story of your club to showcase and highlight the unique value of each club. During the club meeting, she will bring greetings from Rotary International as it's District ambassador, but most of all, Julie hopes to learn what makes each club in the District special.

We are all hoping that your club will take advantage of Governor Julie's visit for an opportunity to get the local media interested in your club's incredible story of doing good in the community and in the world. Julie also hopes to meet with each club's leadership as she travels across the District.

## IMAGINE ROTARY TOUR STOPS IN JULY

Wednesday, July 6, 2022	Rotary Club of St. Charles Sunrise
Thursday, July 7, 2022	Rotary Club of Kennett
Friday, July 8, 2022	Rotary Club of Hayti
Tuesday, July 12, 2022	Rotary Club of Hannibal
Thursday, July 14, 2022	Rotary Club of Steele
Thursday, July 14, 2022	Rotary Club of Washington
Monday, July 18, 2022	Rotary Club of Cape Girardeau
Monday, July 18, 2022	Rotary Club of SE Service
Tuesday, July 19, 2022	Rotary Club of Reynolds Co
Tuesday, July 19, 2022	Rotary Club of St. Genevieve
Monday, July 25, 2022	Rotary Club of Fredericktown



*Please join  
Governor Julie  
at an  
Imagine Rotary  
Tour Stop!*





# ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE IS BACK IN BUSINESS!

*By Greg Luzecky, D6060 Chair – Rotary Youth Exchange*

After a two-year suspension created by the pandemic, Rotary Youth Exchange has been cleared to begin exchanges once again. As we begin gearing back up, we will have one Outbound and three Inbound students in the coming school year. The Inbound students will be arriving in August from Brazil, Germany and Belgium. More on that in a later newsletter after their arrival.



Our Outbound student is **Alex Drury, sponsored by the Kirkwood Rotary Club**. Alex is a recent graduate of Kirkwood High School, where he excelled both in Advanced Placement German language studies, as well as in soccer. Those pursuits should serve him well, as he has been accepted for placement in Rotary District 1940 in Germany. Alex will be hosted by the Rotary Club of Berlin-Gedächtniskirche, in an area famous for the landmark Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church.

Alex's father is a recently retired math teacher from Kirkwood and baseball coach and his mother has worked in education as well. They are excited for this opportunity for their son. Alex and his parents have been introduced to the Kirkwood Rotary Club, which will be able to follow him during the course of his exchange.

Fulfill the dream of a young man or woman in your community while promoting Rotary's object of world peace and international understanding by sponsoring an Outbound applicant or hosting an Inbound student.

**For more information, contact one of our District Youth Exchange leaders:**

- Greg Luzecky, District Chair, [rye6060gregl@gmail.com](mailto:rye6060gregl@gmail.com)
- Steve Bacon, Inbound Coordinator and Co-Chair, [sjbacon@bcd-llc.com](mailto:sjbacon@bcd-llc.com)
- Norbert Glassl, Outbound Coordinator, [norbertglassl@gmail.com](mailto:norbertglassl@gmail.com)

"LET'S IMAGINE.  
LET'S LEAD,  
LET'S FALL IN LOVE, AND  
LET'S TAKE ACTION TO  
LIVE INTO OUR DREAMS  
TO SERVE. AND LET'S  
LEAVE THE WORLD A  
BETTER PLACE THAN WE  
FOUND IT."



**Julie H. Leverenz**  
District 6060 Governor 2022-23  
**(573)406-8616**  
[jlev.joyinthefog@gmail.com](mailto:jlev.joyinthefog@gmail.com)



Calling Club Presidents & DLC Members!  
Join us for **FUN & FELLOWSHIP** on the **FARM**  
**SATURDAY, JULY 16TH**

You and your family are cordially invited to join the  
District Leadership Council (DLC) at its first meeting and family picnic

DLC Meeting 9:30—11:30 (All are welcome)

Picnic and Family Fun 11:30—2pm



At the Farmstead of  
Governor Julie and Glen Leverenz in Pike County  
20900 Pike 218 Bowling Green, MO 63334  
Bring your fishing poles and fish stories (be sure to  
bring life jackets for the little ones); we'll inspire one  
another as we explore the business of District 6060  
and build shared memories as we play together after  
our meeting. There's lots of room to relax and enjoy  
the serenity of the farm. Let's enjoy Rotary!



Bring a Dish to Share and your favorite beverage. Governor Julie will provide fried chicken.

RSVP to [julie@JLev.Life](mailto:julie@JLev.Life) or text 573-406-8618 to Governor Julie

