



IMAGINE ROTARY NEWSLETTER

Julie Leverenz, District Governor 2022-2023

2023 DISTRICT CONFERENCE DEEMED A BIG SUCCESS!

Thanks to all Rotarians who took time to enjoy and rejuvenate at this year's District Conference at Cedar Creek Resort and Hotel in New Haven, MO.

Although all the evaluations from attendees are not yet in, the general excitement and anecdotal comments suggest that it was a tremendous success. We are so grateful for Rotarians Patty Fisher (Bowling Green) and Jill Rogers (Forest Park) for their work during the past six months to plan and execute this incredible event with the help of Rotarians listed below who served on the **full conference committee**. Thank you!

FULL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Julie Leverenz	Brian Kohlberg
Patty Fisher	Linda Puchbauer
Jill Rogers	Eldna Seener
Valerie Sorensen	Matt Frederickson
Jerry Nolen	Tom Drennan
Margie Sammons	Andrea Stolzer
David Robinette	John Higdon
Jerry Weems	Greg Luzecki
Andrea McCready	Steve Bacon
Susan J. Cobb	Donna-Marie Pierre
Barry E. Winders	Rose Cooper
Ginger Cayce	Katie Schonaerts
Stacey Self	



WHAT'S INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- District Conference Highlights
- DGND Zuke Rides the District
- Valerie Sorensen Induction June 29
- District-wide Service to Feed Kids
- 80+ Pairs of Shoes at Kick-off!

TOGETHER, WE
CONNECT

Rotary  PEOPLE OF ACTION

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE CONFERENCE INCLUDED:

- **Interact students and Rotarians** enjoyed experiential learning about service that supports our newest area of focus - the environment; we **built a Pollinator Garden** on-site, learned about bee-keeping and the importance of butterflies and bees, and **made 'seed balls'** for everyone at the Conference to enjoy;



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE CONFERENCE INCLUDED:

- Internationally recognized leadership speaker, **Todd Whitaker**, ignited everyone's leadership fire as the keynote speaker at the Noon luncheon!



- Our Governor highlighted the remarkable work of the District's Rotarians as we've IMAGINED ROTARY;



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE CONFERENCE INCLUDED:

- An inspiring memorial service lifted up those Rotarians who passed away during this last year;



- Youth Exchange students posted the colors and shared their language, as well as participated in a speed networking experience with Rotarians;

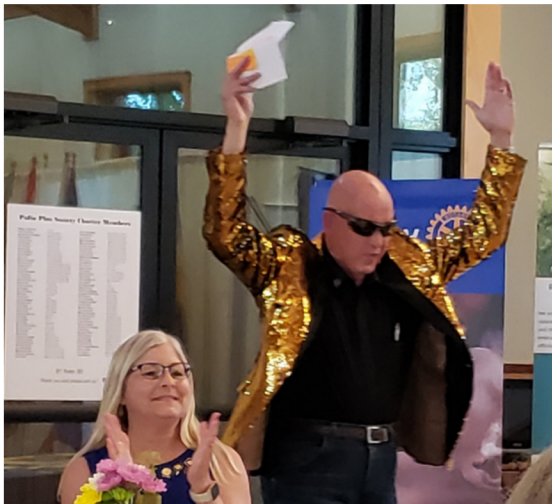


- Rotarians got to check out a **ShelterBox** and learn about how this international partner helps us respond to Disasters around the world with support from Rotarians.



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE CONFERENCE INCLUDED:

- **Rotary singers** and other talented and funny **Rotarians** rocked the house at “**Perform For Polio**” where we **raised nearly \$20,000** for the Foundation.



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE CONFERENCE INCLUDED:

- The **Past District Governors** convened for a reunion and gathering;



- The **District Leadership Council** held an in person meeting to continue to lead the District;

- Foundation donors enjoyed a “HobNob” to celebrate the miraculous impact and learn more about WHY our District 6060 donors choose to give to the Foundation;



- **PolioPlus Society Members** were honored, and we celebrated exceeding the District's goal of 100 charter members in this new giving society; and

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE CONFERENCE INCLUDED:

- **Golfers enjoyed** a beautiful, but chilly, round of golf; and **yogi's enjoyed** a morning yoga practice together.



*Thank
You*



**Thanks to everyone
who planned, executed
and attended!**



DISTRICT 6060'S FIGHT TO END POLIO CONTINUES....

DGND RALPH ZUKE TO RIDE THE DISTRICT FOR POLIO IN JUNE

Our District Governor Nominee Designate Ralph Zuke (St. Louis - Civilians) is no stranger to either long bike rides or spending time raising money to end polio. He's trying something special this June, however. **To meet as many District 6060 Rotarians as possible, and raise money for Polio along the way, he's riding 424 miles from the top of the District down to the bootheel from June 6th through June 12.**

Check out his Ride Schedule for the route and the clubs that are along the way. He'd love to meet with clubs that are near while he's in the area. He'll be reaching out to clubs to determine how you might **capitalize on this bike ride to raise awareness and money to end polio.**

Feel free to contact Rotarian Ralph at disgov2526@gmail.com to coordinate a connection and join the fun!

VALERIE SORENSEN TO BE INDUCTED AS OUR NEXT DISTRICT GOVERNOR: YOU ARE ALL INVITED!

The **Cottleville/Weldon Spring Rotary Club** is proud to host a celebration and induction for our incoming District Governor Valerie Sorensen and her husband, Mike on **Thursday evening, June 29 from 5pm - 8pm** at the Field to Table Institute at St. Charles Community College - Dardenne Prairie Campus (#1 Academy Place, Darden Prairie).

The cost is \$35 and advanced registration is required. Please join us as we honor and appreciate Governor-Elect Valerie as she assumes our District's top job on July 1.

To reserve a place(s), Please contact Rotarian Sue Cobb (Cottleville/Weldon Spring) at rotarysuecobb@gmail.com



RIDE SCHEDULE

Tuesday June 6

Hannibal >Bowling Green >Troy
68 miles

Wednesday June 7

Wentzville >O'Fallon >St.Peters
>St.Charles >Maryland Heights
(Spirit of St.Louis Co.)
52 Miles

Thursday June 8

Forest Park >St.Louis 11
>Crystal City
53 miles

Friday June 9

St. Genevieve >Perryville
60 Miles

Saturday June 10

Jackson >Cape Girardeau
45 Miles

Sunday June 11

Sikeston >New Madrid
67 miles

Monday June 12

Hayti >Kennett >Steele
79 miles



DISTRICT SERVICE PROJECT FEEDS HUNGRY CHILDREN

This year's **Kids Against Hunger District-wide service project** raised **\$8,000** to feed hungry children and families, and more than fifty Rotarians and their families from clubs throughout the District got to participate in preparing hundreds of meal packets that were loaded into boxes, placed on pallets, and prepared for international distribution. What an awesome morning! **Thank you Rotary Club of Arnold** for organizing this opportunity for us to share our time to fill the bellies of hungry children! It was a very rewarding day!



a trademark of Freedom Foods
Kids Against Hunger
Feeding families around the world ... and around the corner



DGND RALPH ZUKE OFFICIALLY INSTALLED TO BE DG IN '25-'26

After being duly elected by a committee of more than ten Rotarians, Ralph Zuke of the St. Louis Civilians, was officially inducted during a ceremony held during a meeting of the Rotary Club of St. Louis. Congratulations Ralph! (And he even wore a tie and long pants :))



DISTRICT 6060 SHOE DRIVE KICKS-OFF AT CONFERENCE



**MORE THAN 80
PAIRS
ALREADY
COLLECTED!**

Rotary
District 6060



**IMAGINE
ROTARY**

"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)406-8618
jlev.joyinthefog@gmail.com