



CREATE HOPE NEWSLETTER

Valerie Sorensen, District Governor 2023-2024

WELCOME TO ROTARY YEAR 2023-2024!

This year we have **three big initiatives for our District and Clubs** as we embody the new Rotary International theme: **Create Hope in the World.**

Shoe Drive: Our District is joining with our neighboring Missouri Rotary Districts 6040 and 6080 in a **statewide shoe drive**. Our campaign has been named “Let’s Bury Larry” by Mike Sorensen, First Man of District 6060. Larry Lunsford is a current Trustee of The Rotary Foundation. Back in 2002, when Larry was governor of District 6040, he partnered with Buckner International in the Shoes for Orphan Souls shoe drive. This drive has continued in District 6040 ever since. In 2005, Districts 6060 and 6080 joined in and all three districts collected over 70,000 pairs of shoes. This year we are bringing the shoe drive back with a goal of collecting 20,000 pairs of shoes from our district alone. **These close-toed, new shoes** will go to vulnerable children in the United States and around the world. Having proper shoes promotes health, disease prevention, and access to education where shoes are required to attend school.

Since the Shoe Drive Kick-off at Show Me Rotary, our District’s Clubs have brought shoes to the District Conference and Installation Dinner. The number of shoes currently at Valerie and Mike’s house is 118 pairs. We are on our way to our 20,000 goal. **Success stories are pouring in** from clubs with strategies in collecting shoes, such as clearance and BOGO deals to maximize their buying dollars. Great Job!! We will collect your club’s shoes at the District Governor visits.

Appoint a Club Shoe Champion to track the number of shoes your club collects. We have the final collection and roll call at the Funvention at Margaritaville on April 19-21, 2024.

Let’s Bury Larry with 20,000 pairs of shoes!



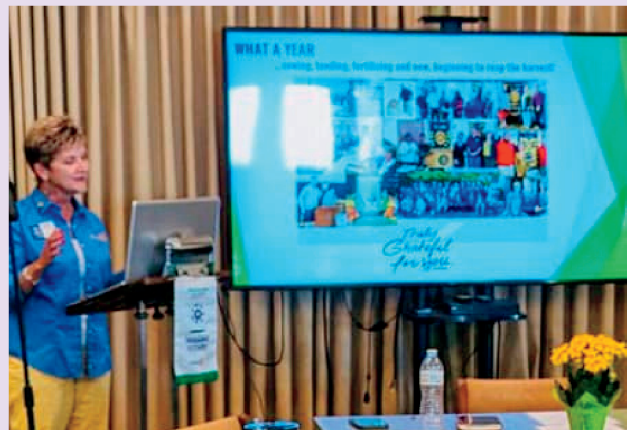
WHAT'S INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Thank you IPDG Julie
- Empowering Girls initiative
- Navajo Water Project
- Membership
- Riding For More Than a Cause
- Installation Dinner
- Happy New Rotary Year!

THANK YOU IPDG JULIE!

On behalf of District 6060, we want to extend our **sincere thanks to Julie Leverenz for her Leadership** this past year as District Governor. During the 2022-2023 Rotary Year, with Julie's insights and vision, **she provided the opportunity for Rotarians to "IMAGINE ROTARY"**. The daily motivation and energy provided strength to Rotarians to connect.

The past year's **success prevailed as a result of her leadership** as she exemplified "Service Above Self". We wish Julie great success as she transitions to the role of Immediate Past District Governor.



Thank You for your dedication to District 6060 and to Rotary International!

EMPOWERING GIRLS INITIATIVE

Get your Club's application in now for the **\$500 Empowering Girls Gift** from District 6060.

Submit applications to Sue Cobb at rotarysuecobb@gmail.com.

Contact Rose Cooper with questions at 314-605-6330 or rosec904@gmail.com.

How will your club empower girls in our district and beyond?



Rotary
District 6060



Questions

Rose Cooper:
314-605-6330 or
rosec904@gmail.com

Easy Application

Submit to Sue Cobb:
rotarysuecobb@gmail.com

APPLICATION
DEADLINE
SEPTEMBER 1, 2023

AS MANY AS 40
GIFTS OF UP TO
\$500 TO BE
AWARDED!

Final Report

EMPOWERING GIRLS
PROJECT FINAL REPORT
must be completed and
submitted to the district.

EMPOWERING GIRLS 2023

DESIGN AND IMPLEMENT PROJECTS
BY SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

"Especially for girls, creating opportunities that enhance their education, safety, health, and well-being has the power to transform their futures - and also to transform their families and communities. Rotary members worldwide can make a difference in transforming communities by empowering girls."

~ Elizabeth Usevich, R.I. Board of Directors

Valerie Sorensen, District Governor July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024

NAVAJO WATER PROJECT

Did you know that the average Navajo uses only 7 gallons of water per day and the average American uses 80-100 gallons per day?



With the Navajo Water Project, D6060 Rotarians are challenged to donate \$5 each to provide complete water systems for two homes in Navajo Nation. We can help people within the United States with this project and concentrate on the Rotary Area of Focus: Water and Sanitation.



MEMBERSHIP:

The District Membership Committee **invites all Club Membership Chairs to join quarterly virtual meetings** to hear from clubs about club successes and challenges in order to continue to improve serving clubs. The next meeting is on **Wednesday, July 26, at 6:30 PM.**

Please RSVP to Raffi@RaffiAndonian.com

Currently the District Membership Committee also includes 3 subcommittees with which you might already be engaging:

1. DIBE: headed by Jennifer Williams to help expand the audiences we serve.
2. Satellites: headed by Ralph Zuke to help clubs explore this avenue with which he has had success.
3. Innovative: headed by Bill Dees to help support newly forming alternative clubs such as cause-based clubs.

RIDING FOR MORE THAN A CAUSE BY RALPH ZUKE

For the last 5 years I've been riding to raise awareness and funds for the End Polio Now Campaign. After 35 years, there was a general feeling of fatigue setting in as many of the Rotarians who championed the project at the beginning were no longer with us, or had reached an age that active involvement was becoming increasingly difficult. They had done an incredible job getting us "this close" to the goal. **Now it is time for the next generation to take up the baton and cross the finish line.** This is why I started to do Polio Rides.

As I embarked on this journey, I quickly realized something that I had always kind of known, but became that much more obvious, **Rotary builds connections.** I could write a book about the incredible people I have met while doing these rides.



**Start of Ride in Hannibal:
Stevens Plowman, Ralph Zuke,
Bill Dees, and Andrea McCreedy**



**Bowling Green with
President Kevin Brown**



**Cape Girardeau with
President Barry Winders**

RIDING FOR MORE THAN A CAUSE...

The “Rotary District 6060” ride was no different. While it was touted as a Polio ride, it was also an opportunity to introduce myself to the many Rotarians who make up the district; and to whom I look forward to serving as district governor in 2025-26. The ride started off with a warm send off by Rotarians James Fox, Bill Dees and Andrea McCready in Hannibal and ended seven days later greeted by Rotarians Mike Davis and Club President Randy Trimm.



Riding in Kennett

In between, I added many new people to my Rotary Family as well as reconnected with many who I got to know last year while riding to Houston. To feel the full effects of how wonderful Rotary is, I always encourage members to not only be involved in your club, but to reach out to others in your district and beyond.

We all have a common bond in placing Service Above Self.

INSTALLATION DINNER

The **Rotary Club of Cottleville/Weldon Spring** hosted the District and Club Officer Installation on June 29th at Field to Table Institute in Dardenne Prairie. **Jill Rogers** served as our wonderful emcee. **Julie Leverenz** gave a recap of 2022-23 and passed the gavel. **Margie Sammons** installed all of the new officers. **Valerie Sorensen** closed the night with gratitude for everyone's support and the District Initiatives for 2023-24.

Here's to a great Rotary year!!





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 District 6060 Governor 2023-24
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