



District 6360 Gazette

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DECEMBER 2015



**District Governor
Rick Briscoe &
Penny Briscoe**

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A Time for Giving

Now that we've survived the Thanksgiving Feast, Black Friday, Buy Local Saturday and Cyber Monday what could be next? Resting up from all of that might be a first priority, but now it's time to think of others. And that is exactly what is happening in Rotary Clubs throughout District 6360.

When I made my official visits earlier in the year I asked each club to "change the life of at least one family" at Christmas. What I heard back was that most of our 57 clubs had been making Christmas special for multiple families for many years. The stories of incredible generosity made me proud to be able to call myself a fellow Rotarian. Since that time I have heard from a number of clubs that have initiated a new program this year to achieve the goal of every club positively impacting on someone in their community this Christmas season.

One new program that I want to share with you is from the Rotaract Club of Kalamazoo. This group of young professionals continues to amaze me with their sense of compassion and concern for doing good in the world. Not exactly the group with the most disposable income; they still find ways to help others. This year they initiated "Bundle Up Kalamazoo." Working with local non-profits that serve needy people, they created a winter clothing drive and, using their marketing skills, generated many donations of new and gently used winter clothes that will keep many people warm this winter.

Now, I am going to ask you all to go one step further. I want every Rotarian in our District to give me a gift for Christmas. That's right — I am asking for gifts. What I want is for each of you to make a donation to the Annual Fund of The Rotary Foundation. I don't care if you donate \$10 or \$10,000; I just want you to donate. If you are truly too broke to come up with \$10, then ask someone else to forego giving you a gift and have him or her make the contribution to The Rotary Foundation. If you don't know how to fill out the paperwork, contact me and I will fill out the form for you and send it to you. Heck, give me cash and I will write a check and make the contribution on your behalf. I can't really think of a reason why we shouldn't have 2,700 gifts sent in to The Rotary Foundation in December. Wow, would that ever make for a cool Christmas for me.

One more gift I want for Christmas — Every club conduct elections and report their new officers to Rotary International and District 6360 office by December 31.

Thank you all for what you do as Rotarians and Merry Christmas to all.



Club Challenge: Name a New Paul Harris Fellow



Our District's new initiative, which kicked off last month, is well underway. Each club is asked and encouraged to name a new Paul Harris Fellow from the local community.

Here is what we are asking each club to do:

- **Raise \$1,000 in contributions** to The Rotary Foundation from your club members (dollars contributed, rather than points).
- **Select a person from your local community** – NOT currently a member of your club – to honor with this new Paul Harris Fellowship.
- **Honor this recipient at one of your club meetings.** Make this a big deal: invite not only the new Paul Harris Fellow, but his/her family and co-workers. We can help by providing the template for a nice, impressive ceremony if you would like, and anything else you might need. Take photos, and let the community know that you have honored this person.
- **This newly named Paul Harris Fellow will also be recognized by the District.** Please let our District's Rotary Foundation Fundraising Chair, Past District Governor Bill Dimond, know of your club's new Paul Harris Fellow selection. We will keep the District's roster of these new honorees updated.

Here's how your club will benefit:

- **Increased awareness** in your community of what your Rotary club does.
- **Added publicity** for your club in your community.
- **Potential new club members:** maybe your newly named Paul Harris Fellow, since he/she is not a member of your club, will consider membership. Maybe some of the guests at the meeting when you honor the new Paul Harris Fellow will also consider Rotary membership.
- **You are giving your club members another way to support The Rotary Foundation,** as Paul Harris Fellow contributions support the work of The Rotary Foundation through grants, both in your local community, and around the world.

**ARE YOU UP FOR
THE CHALLENGE?**

If you have any questions or need assistance with this in any way, either PDG Bill or District Rotary Foundation Committee Chair Teresa Brandell will be glad to help.

PDG Bill Dimond

District TRF Fundraising Committee Chair

Bill3127@aol.com

DGN Teresa Brandell

District TRF Committee Chair

Teresa.M.Brandell@gmail.com

Clubs Step Up with November Contributions to The Rotary Foundation

November was The Rotary Foundation (TRF) month in the Rotary world. Figures are not yet complete, but a number of clubs in our District really stepped up to the plate with contributions to TRF from their club members. As of November 25, leading clubs include:

- Kalamazoo
- Gull Lake Area
- Kalamazoo Sunrise
- Lakeshore
- Portage
- Allegan
- Delta-Waverly



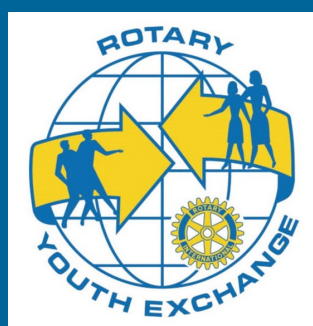
Thanks to members of these clubs, and all Rotarians, who supported TRF in November! Our contributions help make possible all the good work Rotary does, both in our community and around the world. Well done!

The
Rotary
Foundation



2015 Year-End Contribution Dates to Re-member

As the end of the calendar year approaches, it's a great time to remember The Rotary Foundation in your year-end contribution plans. December 31 will be here before you know it! Of course, contributions to The Rotary Foundation can be made at any time during the year.



A New Record— Seven New Exchange Students!

District Interviews were recently held in Mason for seven potential Outbound exchange students on Nov. 14. Amazingly, ALL SEVEN students were accepted into the program— a new record! ***Many thanks*** to our Interview Panelists, including DGE Bill Smith, District Secretary Deb Trapikas and her husband Bruno, YEOs Jennifer Kirsch and Bruce Wigginton,

Rotarian Monica Moser, District YE Chair Lee Scherwitz and Inbound Chair Sue Scherwitz, Rebound Parents Sara and Frank Christensen *and* three Rebound students, returned from their own year abroad. The seven students—five young ladies and two young men—will learn their country selection next month. In the meantime, they are gearing up for orientations, packing and saying their good-byes... departure will soon be here in Summer 2016. ***Congratulations, Outbounds!*** Want to learn more about Rotary Youth Exchange and how your Club can be involved? ***Contact Ingrid Nova at 517-604-6360 or Rotary6360@gmail.com***

Albion Rotary Club– Forks Senior Center Presentation



At the November 19th meeting of the Rotary Club of Albion, President Kelly Rice (photo, left) introduced guest speaker Gina Costa, E.D. (photo, right) of the Forks Senior Center. Costa said that the center was started 10 years ago and now has 350 members. It is open 6 days a week and involves about 56 people a day, 1200 a month.

The Senior Center is funded by membership dues of \$75.00 per year and other sources such as the Calhoun

County Senior Millage, the Area Agency on Aging Region 3B, the Albion and Battle Creek Community Foundations, the City of Albion Recreation Millage, and the Albion-Homer United Way. Also contributing are the Rotary Club of Albion Charitable Fund, the Firekeepers' Revenue Sharing Board, and the Delmar & Audria M. Olson Family Foundation.

The mission of the Forks Senior Center is "to improve and maintain the physical, mental, and social well-being of the area's Senior Citizens" and is open to all persons age 60 and over. There are about 90 activities each month, including one or two trips to interesting places. There are exercise classes everyday and a room full of exercise equipment. There is a breakfast club, a cooking club, a bicycle club and a diabetes support group.

Micki Ogilbee has been providing a service to help people with their Medicare Part D prescription drug plans during the open enrollment period, October 15 to December 7th. Also, a senior congregate dining site provides noon meals four days a week to any senior for only \$1.50.

The Center is located at 101 N. Albion Street . Call 517-629-3842 for more information.

IMPORTANT REMINDER!!

Clubs should be preparing their slate of officers this month in November to be elected in December. The results need to be sent to the District and RI by *December 31!*

Does your Club have a President Elect in place? If not, FIND ONE NOW!
Pre-PETS and PETS (President Elect Training Seminar) Coming Soon!

Gull Lake Area Rotary Club Dictionary Project 2015

by Pete Graham

Every third grader in the Ryan Intermediate School, Vineyard Academy, St. Ann School, and The Home School Partnership at Bedford School received a brand new dictionary as part of the Gull Lake Area Rotary Club's Dictionary Project.

Rotary club members visited each third grade classroom to make the presentations in late October and early November of this year. They told students about the work of Rotary and showed them features of the dictionary.

Why third grade? Third grade is the ideal time for children to use a dictionary as they transition from learning to read to reading to learn. In the third grade most students still rely on print media for most of their research information.



Photo Above: Gull Lake Rotarian Paul Dykstra distributing Dictionary Project dictionaries in Mrs. Van Egmond's class

The students were excited to receive their own dictionaries. The dictionary has a nameplate in the front for each student to write his/her name – identifying the book as his/her personal property. For all the Rotarians who participated in handing out books, just seeing students' eyes light up and hearing "thank you" made their efforts worthwhile.

The annual distribution is made to promote our Rotary Club's literacy goal. In the past eight years Gull Lake Rotarians have given almost 2000 dictionaries to Gull Lake area third graders. Some of the club's other education related projects include scholarships for graduating seniors,

Student Volunteer Service Awards, donating children's books to the Richland Community Library, and participating in the Meet Michigan Authors Collaborative which brings authors to speak in our community..

Dictionaries are obtained at reduced cost from The Dictionary Project in Charleston, South Carolina

The project was suggested to the club by long-time Rotarian, Dick Gross, and spearheaded by Rotarian Dean Beguhl. Pete Graham and Paul Dykstra are the current project chairs.



White Pigeon High School Interact Club– Staying Strong!



The White Pigeon High School Interact Club is off to a great start this year. Membership stands at 60 members. They just completed a food drive at the high school which netted over 1,300 items that were delivered to the White Pigeon Care Network food pantry.

On October 23rd they held a "Purple Pinky Day Change is in Your Pocket" event and raised \$290 to be contributed toward polio eradication.



They have also judged the Central Elementary schools annual Halloween costume party and 22 Interactors are involved with a weekly "High School Buddy" mentoring program at the elementary school. Upcoming events include participation in the White Pigeon Rotary's Christmas party for disadvantaged elementary students complete



with pizza and a visit from Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus with presents for every student on December 8th and bell ringing for the Salvation Army on December 12th. **Way to go, Interactors!**

***Want to start an Interact Club
at your local High School?***

***Contact Kirk Hoffman for
more information:***

517-474-8416 or

kjkahoff@comcast.net



Climax Rotary Club– A Speaker's Perspective

Article by Melissa Hart, Dairy Agenda Today

As we saturate ourselves in the news of today and scroll through our social media feeds, we are fooled into believing that we know what's going on, that we are connected and are satisfied with our virtual friendships. I just described myself.

When I get done going through Facebook in the morning I feel as though I know what all my friends have done, are doing or are going to do. I've seen the current grandchild photos, the latest photos of a former 4-Her's three-year-old and the big buck the neighbor snagged up North at their hunting cabin. And that should be enough, right? But it isn't.

On a Wednesday in October, I traveled 75 miles northeast to speak at a Rotary meeting. I had never been to a Rotary meeting before in my life. My father was a member of the Rotary and every Wednesday he met above the old fire station in town to meet with other business men in the area but I had no idea what they did at those meetings. All I know is that the same cook provided the meal. Every. Single. Wednesday.

As I walked up the sidewalk in this small town I looked down the street to see a truck pulling a livestock trailer 'comin' in hot' and slamming to a screeching halt in front of the meeting hall. A flannel clad man hopped out and hustled into the meeting. I walked in the door and was greeted by a man in dirty clothing with a big smile. He was the local hydroponic tomato grower. Another man in jeans and a chambray shirt walked up and introduced himself, he was a volunteer fire fighter. I sat down and to my left was the president who was dressed in a t-shirt and jeans and who worked for the tomato grower on my right. The room was filled with all sorts of men from different businesses and vocations. Arriving late to the luncheon was the only suit in the room, a local businessman.

Lunch was served by the women of the Methodist church and the meeting began. It was a total riot. I sat between the Spartan loving tomato grower and the Wolverine faithful president. The topic of conversation, involving the entire room, was the MSU - U of M game. Plays, replays, penalties, terrible referees, cheaters, low class fans, broken hips, 10 second changes, they covered it all.



I spoke, they laughed, cried and cheered. And when we were done, the tomato grower invited me to his farm to tour his operation. The whole thing was fun, warm and relational. I rarely leave a speaking engagement where I feel as though I could call every audience member a friend...except for that one.

In this small bedroom community with nothing but a blinking light, every single Wednesday, these men meet. All from varying backgrounds, ages and economic levels, they come together and enjoy the fellowship we, as humans, are meant to enjoy. Maybe it was because so many of them were farmers. Maybe it was because it was a small rural community. Maybe it was because it was a beautiful fall day. But I tend to think it was the human contact we are created to enjoy on a daily basis that made that October Wednesday one of the best I've had in a long time.

2016 Rotary Convention

- ☼ Seol's Attractions
- ☼ A connected City
- ☼ Fellowship & Networking
- ☼ Unique Cultural Experiences
- ☼ Best reason to go to Korea
- ☼ What makes the Seol Convention Special?



KOREA 2016
28 MAY-01 JUNE **SEOUL**
ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION



CONTACT US

2016 Rotary International Seoul Convention HOC office

Tel : 02 516 2016 - Fax : 02 732 2016 - email :

2016shoc@hanmail.net

<http://www.riconvention2016.org>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_tn_Hfhst2k



Save the Date for
Rotary District 6360
2016 District Conference
Saturday, April 23, 2016
Kalamazoo Radisson Hotel

Questions? Concerns? Suggestions? Please contact District Administrator Ingrid Nova

517-604-6360 or rotary6360@gmail.com

District Office: 741 Wolverine Road, Mason, MI 48854



District 6360 is now on **Facebook!** Join our Group Page— Just Search “District 6360!”





Congratulations to Last Month's Winner!

Laurence Hawthorne of the **Oshtemo Rotary Club** won last month's prize drawing— ***Congratulations!*** A small gold Rotary phone was hidden in the world of the RI theme on page 1 of last month's newsletter. *Tricky tricky!* Where could it be this month?? Every month I will ask you to find the Rotary phone hidden somewhere in the newsletter.... It will look like the one below (that's not the one hidden!), but it may be any size or color!!

If and when you find it, email or call to tell me where you found it and you will be entered into that month's drawing for a "wonderful prize!!" Have fun and happy hunting!!

Ingrid Nova, District Administrator

517-604-6360

Rotary6360@gmail.com



The stakes have been raised: Find the phone and be entered to win!
This is your chance to honor someone with a
Paul Harris Fellowship! *Good Luck!*

NewsLetter
DEADLine



Upcoming Deadlines, Dates & Events...

- ◇ December 12, 2015 – **NEW!!** AG Forum, Schuler's, Marshall, 8:30 AM
- ◇ January 17-23, 2016 – International Assembly – San Diego, CA
- ◇ January 30, 2016 – Staff Meeting & Board Meeting, Schuler's, Marshall, 8:30 AM
- ◇ February 13, 2016 – PETS 1 – Jackson Public Library, 8:30—11:30 AM
- ◇ February 27, 2016 – PETS 1 – Kalamazoo Valley Community College, 8:30—11:30 AM
- ◇ March 10-12, 2016 – Great Lakes PETS – Kalamazoo Radisson
- ◇ April 6, 2016—District Training Seminar—Battle Creek Lakeview Community Middle School—5:30-8:30 PM
- ◇ May 29-June 1, 2016—Rotary International Convention, Seoul, Korea
- ◇ June 29, 2016—District Governor Handover Dinner—Time/Location TBD

Don't Forget to Check the Calendar on the District Database: www.DACdb.com!

Club	Members 6/30/2015	Members Current	YTD-Chg	Chg From Last Mo.	Meetings Held	Average Attend%	ATT % Rank
Albion	43	44	1	0	5	76.6	15
Allegan	44	43	-1	0	4	57.76	40
Battle Creek	86	79	-7	-3	4	54.2	46
Benton Harbor-Sunrise	41	43	2	-1	4	80.61	6
Berrien Springs-Eau Claire	41	41	0	0	4	62.8	28
Bronson	31	31	0	-1	4	79.2	8
Cereal City Sunrise	32	32 (Sep)	0	n/a	0	0	56
Charlotte	77	78	1	0	4	85.88	3
Climax	22	23	1	0	5	77	13
Coldwater	85	84	-1	-1	4	72.6	22
Coldwater Township Sunrise	42	44	2	0	5	91.6	1
Constantine	18	18	0	0	4	78	12
Delta Township	56	57	1	0	4	67.5	26
Delton Area	32	35	3	1	4	75.45	16
Dowagiac	39	43	4	1	5	43.3	55
East Lansing	76	75	-1	0	4	45.31	53
Eaton Rapids	37	37	0	0	4	60.81	34
Grand Ledge	64	54	-10	0	4	60.14	35
Gull Lake Area	50	48	-2	0	5	79.13	9
Harbor Country	27	27	0	0	5	75.19	17
Haslett-Okemos	52	54	2	0	4	54.41	45
Hastings	62	65	3	2	4	69.44	23
Hillsdale	38	39	1	0	4	62.68	29
Ionia	37	38	1	0	4	51	48
Jackson	63	64	1	-1	4	63.16	27
Jackson-Breakfast	20	20	0	0	4	75	18
Jonesville	20	20	0	0	4	78.75	11
Kalamazoo	222	216	-6	1	4	52.46	47
Kalamazoo Sunrise	16	17	1	0	4	61.67	32
Lakeshore	51	50	-1	0	5	62.14	31
Lansing	224	225	1	0	5	47.01	50
Lansing - Dewitt Sunrise	26	25	-1	0	5	82.67	5
Litchfield	18	16	-2	0	4	69	24
Marshall	55	55	0	-2	4	46.23	52
Mason	28	29	1	0	5	56.92	41
Middleville	42	44	2	1	4	79.8	7
Niles-Buchanan	26	28	2	0	4	45	54
Oshtemo	23	23	0	0	5	74.43	19
Otsego	19	19	0	0	5	56.84	42
Paw Paw Area	26	28	2	1	5	72.86	20
Paw Paw Lake	16	16	0	0	4	57.8	39
Plainwell	18	19	1	1	5	88.4	2
Portage	86	85	-1	0	4	59.54	37
Quincy	26	26	0	0	4	77	14
Reading	12	10	-2	0	4	85.5	4
Saugatuck-Douglas Rotary	37	38	1	1	5	46.48	51
South Haven	58	58	0	1	4	68.06	25
South Lansing-Holt	30	30	0	1	4	59.83	36
St. Johns	53	53	0	1	4	58.79	38
St. Joseph & Benton Harbor	147	150	3	-1	4	55.86	44
Sturgis	45	44	-1	0	4	48.29	49
Three Rivers	70	69	-1	0	3	62.46	30
Union City	26	27	1	0	4	61.11	33
Vicksburg	36	36	0	0	5	72.78	21
White Pigeon	13	14	1	0	4	79	10
Williamston Sunrise	30	28	-2	-1	4	56.25	43

Totals, Net Gain, Avg Attendance:

2714

2714

0

-31

4.27

65.85%

55 of 56 clubs reporting