

Rotary



District 6670



District Leaders

Gregory A. Birkemeyer
District Governor

Carol Hughes
DG-Elect

Frank H. Scott
DG-Nominee & DRFC

Shannon Graham
District Membership Chair (DMC)

Heidi E. Schiller
District Public Image Chair (DPIC)

Donald Stewart
District Treasurer

Lisa Crachiolo
Assistant Governor

Stanley A. Evans
Assistant Governor

Ronald F. Hollenbeck
Assistant Governor

Elizabeth C. Huber
Assistant Governor

Megan Manuel
Assistant Governor

Stephen D. Naas
Assistant Governor

Mary Elizabeth Nenner
Assistant Governor

James M. Perry
Assistant Governor

Boyd A. Preston
Assistant Governor

Susan J. Taylor
Assistant Governor

SUSAN WILKINSON
Assistant Governor

Events

August 15th
Cancelled - Rotary Night at the Dayton Dragons

September 12th
District Service Project - Bunk Bed

A Message from Your District Governor August



Hello fellow Rotarians! I am Greg Birkemeyer and it is my honor to serve as your District Governor 2020-2021. A little bit about myself - I am a member of the Rotary Club of Dayton. I joined Rotary in 2006 and served in various club leadership roles including club president in 2013-2014. Leading up to becoming Governor, I served on various District committees and in various District roles including three years as Assistant Governor and two years on the District Foundation Committee as District Grants Subcommittee Chair. I am a graduate of Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI). I am a multiple Paul Harris Fellow and my wife Peg and I are members of The Rotary Foundation's Bequeath Society. Peg and I have been married for 36 years and we have two children, Kristin and Jon and 6 grandchildren. In my career, I provide insurance and risk management solutions to companies and non-profits. I look forward to getting to personally know as many of you as I can throughout the coming year.

Rotary's 2020-2021 theme is *Rotary Opens Opportunities*. When I ponder what this means, I think about the opportunities for friendship and fellowship. I envision the opportunities we give to youth through Interact, RYLA, and Youth Exchange and young adults through Rotaract. I visualize the opportunity for a polio free world. I think about the difference we make in our local and international communities through your service projects. Most recently I saw how our District's clubs quickly seized the opportunity to provide food, personal care items and personal protective equipment to those in need and to frontline healthcare workers and emergency services personnel during the COVID-19 pandemic.

What about the opportunity to provide solar power and light? Did you all read the article **Light Source** in the July 2020 issue of *Rotarian Magazine* highlighting the Rotary Club of Raleigh NC Midtown and the **Rotary Club of Cincinnati** partnership to provide LED solar stations for Uganda schools and medical facilities?

Speaking of opportunities, there are upcoming events that I believe you will enjoy.

- There is a 5-part series of *Empowering Women in Rotary* starting August 10, 2020. The series is led by four Past District Governors including Elizabeth Usovicz, our Zone 30/31 Director-Elect. There is no cost to attend. Registration can be done at <https://ewirotary.com/>.
- We will also be having our annual **District Trilogy** on September 23, 2020, which will be held virtually. Registration will open soon on DACdb. No cost to attend.
- There is also an opportunity to attend **Zone 30/31's Annual Summit** on October 10, 2020 from 9 am - 5 pm. The Summit in past years was primarily a training event for our Zone's DGNs, DGEs, DGs and certain district committee chairs. This year's event is open to all Rotarians and there is no cost to attend. More information can be found at <https://www.rizones30-31.org/institute/rotary-virtual-summit-2020/>.
- The opportunity to attend weekly Zone webinars with current and past Rotary International Presidents and senior leaders. More information at <https://www.rizones30-31.org/events/zone-webinars/>

I also wanted to let you know that in partnership with the four other Ohio districts, we will have an Ohio Rotary Week of Service from September 25 - Oct 4. The goal is for every club in Ohio to do a service project in the local community during this period. The plan is to notify the press and have them cover the story statewide. It is an opportunity to show the true power of Rotary. Who knows, the visibility might lead to prospective new members for your club! Start planning now and share with me your ideas for your service project. No project is too small.

As we go through our Rotary year together, I encourage you to think about the opportunities that Rotary has afforded you, your club and your community.

As Rotarians, we are charged with furthering one of Rotary's Areas of Focus - Disease Prevention. During this time of COVID-19, I respectfully request that all Rotarians follow state and local government guidelines and utilize protection against the spread of the virus. While I acknowledge there are differences of opinions about the necessity of wearing masks and social distancing, we can all show our Rotarian spirit and leadership and do our part to combat the spread of the virus allowing us to all return to a more normal lifestyle.

Stay Healthy & Well,

Empowering Women in Rotary



Together, We Inspire: Make MO History

In the 2018-2019 Rotary Year, Missouri history was made. All four Rotary District Governors were women. Meet those women as they discuss what inspired them to be leaders!

AUG
10

Together, We Transform: Empowering Rotary Women in Times of Change

Elizabeth Usovicz and Angel Harris will explore ways we can lead ourselves through change, encourage positive change through others, and intentionally create opportunities for the next generation of women.



AUG
24



Together, We Empower: New Generations for Hope

Razia Jan has worked to forge connections between Afghans and Americans. Her humanitarian efforts are honored in First Lady Laura Bush's 2016 book *We Are Afghan Women*.

Hear Razia and Martha Hoffman Goedert's inspirational message.

SEP
14

Together, We End Polio

Ann Lee Hussey has made the eradication of polio and alleviating the suffering of polio survivors her life's work. Accompanied by Carl Chinnery, they are here to tell their stories.



OCT
12



Together, We Transform: Doing Good in the World

Brenda Cressey, currently serving as a Trustee of The Rotary Foundation, will accompany Pamela Stewart for their discussion on ways that you can make an impact in your community, your nation, and your world!

NOV
9



For more information or to register, visit www.ewirotary.com

New Carlisle Rotary Provides Shoes to Children in Need

Members of the New Carlisle Rotary Club gave away 272 pairs of new shoes to children in the community in conjunction with the Shoes for the Shoeless non-profit organization, The Clark County Sheriff Department and Tecumseh Local Schools. It was an honor to partner with these amazing organizations to provide this needed service to our children.



The first photo is of Mr. Ivan Gehret, President Elect, for the New Carlisle Rotary Club. The second photo is Paula Crew, President of the New Carlisle Rotary Club.



Lebanon Rotary Provides Meals to Area Students



The Rotary Club of Lebanon #3635 may not be having its weekly meetings and enjoying the delicious meals at the Golden Lamb and camaraderie of its membership - but we still are forging ahead and making a difference in the lives of people in our community.

In May, we wrote and received a matching COVID-19 grant and were able to give a total of \$4,000 towards the purchase of nutritious food for Lebanon students who would not have otherwise received daily meals because of the school closing. Our two biggest fundraisers - the Country Western Music Festival and our big 100th anniversary gala celebration - are both on hold until self-distancing is a thing of the past. That means in order to help others in our community, we had to think outside of the box. That's when we came up with two new fundraisers for this fall. The first is we are selling

Harvest/Halloween decorations of pumpkins, straw bales, corn shocks, and mums delivered to your door. This has never been done before, but we are receiving positive feedback. The second is we are selling buckeye trees. That sale won't start til October. Even if we don't raise the funds that we typically do, at least we will be able to help at some level.

Currently we are meeting monthly at the Countryside YMCA's activity center, where we are able to social distance. In August, our County Health Director will be speaking about COVID-19 and what members can do to help keep themselves and their loved ones safe. Our Board will be deciding soon whether to meeting bi-monthly or weekly at the Countryside YMCA.

Batavia Rotary Serves the Community

Batavia Rotary Club of Ohio was able to hold our first in-person meeting with the board members on 7/14 for the pass-the-gavel ceremony. We also offered a virtual option for the rest of the club and had 75% of our club membership attend in one of those two ways! This was our first attempt at a hybrid meeting, and were happy with the results.



Also, as part of that meeting, we were able to show our Covid-19 Grant video we submitted for the DGs meeting the prior Sunday. We highlighted our project where we partnered with the Clermont County YMCA to provide weekly meals for front line workers, see our outline below and the picture attached:

The Batavia Rotary Club was lucky enough to be able to support our community throughout the Covid Crisis, thanks to the Rotary International Grant we received. The

Clermont County YMCA opened their doors to provide all-day day care to the children of first responders for our County. While they were doing the hard work of providing much needed help to those on the front lines of this crisis, we were able to provide meals every Friday night for the YMCA employees and their families. Not only did they receive a hot meal to take home to their family that night, they were also given refrigerated meals to take home for the weekend, so they had the opportunity to spend more time with their families.

Projects like this makes us happy to be part of the best organization in the world, thank you to Rotary International for making this project possible.

Springboro Rotary Helping Front Line Workers During Covid

As the world began dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic in a variety of ways, the Rotary Club of Springboro felt the immediateneed to help where it could. Led by my Springboro Rotarian Kurt Rinke, his company CAMO LLC and its partners, quick action was taken to make desperately needed face shields based on CDC specifications for local healthcare providers.

While there was a significant investment required to make this happen, the team of volunteers were supported by shield material suppliers as well as funds provided by Rotary thanks to the grant of \$2,500 approved by District 6670.

Thanks to the support of District 6670, the Springboro Rotary hands-on volunteers and the leadership of the CAMO LLC organization, over 2,600 face shields were produced and distributed in a two day period.

These face shields were a welcome sight to Dayton and Cincinnati area healthcare workers at the Kettering Health network, Hospice of Dayton, Christ Hospitals, Otterbein Senior Life Center and Premier Health network, all thanks to those who acted on the Rotary motto, **Service Above Self**.



Rotary Club of Cincinnati Activities

Thursday, July 9, was the annual "Changing of the Guard" meeting for the Rotary Club of Cincinnati, as outgoing President Dave Carlin handed off the gavel to incoming President Brett Lebhar. Special thanks and recognition were given to many: President Dave recognized Richard LaJeunesse and Ariel & Hux Miller with Super Involved Rotarian (SIR) Awards, Ed Acheson with a Merit Award, and Bryan Vielhauer with the new Jack Berger Spirit of Rotary Award. All those who served as 2019- 20 Committee Chairs were thanked for their service, as were the outgoing Board members, and the members of the Rotary staff. Foundation Past President John Fahrmeier was recognized for his leadership in 2019-20, and, special gifts and recognition were given to the twenty-one Club members who sponsored new members this past year. Incoming President Brett applauded Past President Dave for his great leadership of the Club during the pandemic. He kept the Club connected through social media and Zoom, and moved us forward with projects to serve our community during the early months of the outbreak. A video of "Rotarians in Cars Drinking Coffee" was shown to thank Past President Dave and honor him for his leadership and his service: [Link for the video below.](#)

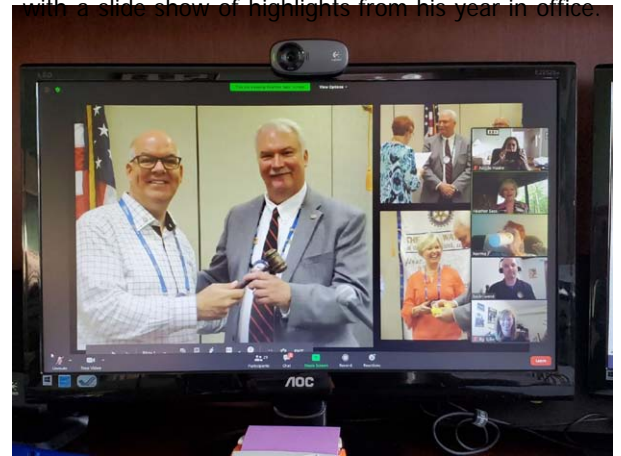
Mason Deerfield Club Activities



The Rotary Club of Mason Deerfield was recently inspired by one of our new members, Steve Sullivan. "Let's get engaged and meet some of the needs of our local families!" Steve partnered with our Community Service Chair, Julie Ilg to organize a drive for two local food pantries who were in need of supplies. We shopped and dropped off items at two members' garages and donated funds to be shared among the pantries, all the while respecting social distancing. It was a spontaneous project that helped us feel connected to our commitment to service, to each other, and to our community and we had fun celebrating the project at our weekly Zoom meeting. (Picture attached)

As part of the Mason Deerfield Rotary Club virtual ceremony to induct new Board members for 2020-2021, we honored outgoing President Michael Kramer with a slide show of highlights from his year in office.

Then new board members invited our club to open a small gift they had delivered the week before--a journal in which to reflect on the theme "Rotary Opens Opportunities." New President Heather Sass challenged the group to consider their opportunities. "What is happening in the world is challenging for us on so many levels: the pandemic, the economic crisis, racial injustice and inequalities. Many people are suffering in so many different ways. But in challenge, lies opportunity. As Rotarians, we know it's not only about what happens, it's about how we respond to what happens that makes all the difference."



Hillsboro and Greenfield Rotary Clubs join Forces for Successful Radio-Telethon



The Hillsboro and Greenfield Rotary Clubs joined forces for the 48th Annual Ernie Blankenship Memorial Radio Telethon as a combined virtual event only, and Highland Countians generously pledged more than \$93,000 for the Highland County Society for Children and Adults (HCSCA).

The event took place on June 24 from 7-9 p.m. and was broadcast live from the Hillsboro Orpheum on the Spectrum Community Access TV Channel, as well as the society's Facebook page and its new website, hicoso.org. Local radion stations WSRW and WVNU also carried the event.

The HCSCA has a long history of helping county residents when traditional programs are unavailable. Many Highland countians have received assistance in the form of transportation vouchers, home nursing supplies, medications, doctor bills, physical therapy, corrective shoes, orthopedic devices, medical tests,

respiratory supplies and equipment repair.

The county's two Rotary clubs have been involved in raising money for the organization since 1973, when the first radio-telethon took place. Until 2020, the Hillsboro Rotary Club had its event in Hillsboro and the Greenfield Rotary Club hosted an event on the same evening in Greenfield, with all proceeds going to the HCSCA. When the COVID-19 pandemic occurred in 2020, the radio-telethon events were impacted and delayed from their traditional late-March date.

Hillsboro Rotarian Rocky Coss, whose wife Gayle is executive director of the Highland County Society for Children and Adults, was active in organizing the virtual event known as the Ernie Blankenship Memorial Radio-Telethon, and during a conversation with Greenfield Rotary President Ron Coffey extended an invitation to the Greenfield club to participate in a unified virtual

48TH ANNUAL ERNIE BLANKENSHIP VIRTUAL MEMORIAL RADIO TELETHON

TO BENEFIT THE HIGHLAND COUNTY
SOCIETY FOR CHILDREN & ADULTS

Please support this worthy cause by donating through the FSB Drive-Thru, online, calling 937-402-5557 during the event or by mailing your check payable to:
HCSCA - PO Box 258
Hillsboro, OH 45133
www.hicoso.org



This year's poster child is Elisha Duncan

WEDNESDAY • JUNE 24TH, 2020 • 7PM - 9PM

Held virtually on: www.hicoso.org and Facebook page

Sponsored by the Hillsboro and Greenfield Rotary Clubs

Hosted by First State Bank

Broadcast live on WSRW 101.5 FM, 1590 AM, WVNU 97.5 FM and
Spectrum Cable Community Access Channels



event at the Hillsboro Orpheum.

◆ We thought it was a great idea, ◆ Coffey said.

◆ While there is a friendly rivalry between our communities when it comes to sporting events and such, the two Rotary clubs work well together for the benefit of Highland County and we appreciated the invitation. Rocky and his team did all the planning on this project and no one wanted to see our fundraising efforts thwarted by COVID-19. ◆

Rick Williams, Herb Day and Coffey served as hosts for the event, and took turns reading the names of donors, chatting with people who called in, and introducing videos made by businesses, organizations and individuals. One of the individuals who called in was 2020 Poster Child Elisha Duncan, who has benefited from the HCSCA.

At the end of the evening, pledges totaled \$80,720, but over the next week the total had risen to \$93,560 as Highland Countians continued their strong support for their neighbors in need.

◆ With all of the challenges that our community and nation has faced due to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, this is a great result, ◆ Coss commented. ◆ Many past donors were unable to give this year or had to reduce their contributions, so the amount raised under these circumstances is a great blessing to the Society and the Highland County citizens it will be able to help in the next year. ◆

Since the telethon's inception in 1973, more than \$3 million has been raised for the Highland County Society for Children and Adults. ◆ Highland County Rotarians are proud to have played a part in this program down through the years, ◆ Coffey said.

COVID-19 Response: Rotary Club of Dayton and District 6670 Partner on Two Projects

The Rotary Club of Dayton and District 6670 have partnered on two COVID-19 response grants this year.

Donation of 1,900 Masks to Dayton Public Schools. The project is a 50/50 partnership between Rotary Club of Dayton and District 6670. The combined donation of \$5000 purchased 1,900 masks for use by students and staff. The masks were purchased from two local firms with members in the club: Logos at Work (Wendy Lewis) and Rick Dobson Enterprises (Rick Dobson) printed the approved school logo on the masks and provide the items to the club. The club coordinated with both firms on the design of the finished product. Club President Brian Martin, Vice President Walt Hibner, and Sue Taylor, Assistant District Governor then delivered the masks to the Dayton Public Schools board of education where we met Superintendent Elizabeth Lollie.



In the Photo as shown (L to R):



Walt Hibner ◆ Vice President, Rotary Club of Dayton
Sue Taylor ◆ Dayton Club Past President and Assistant District Governor

Brian O. Martin ◆ President, Rotary Club of Dayton
Elizabeth Lollie, Superintendent, Dayton Public Schools, and member, Rotary Club of Barberton

District Printed Workbooks Project: The club and district also assisted the district with their copying expenses related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Club and District contributed \$7,500 to DPS for printing of workbooks for students. While most of us have access to suitable internet service, many in poor neighborhoods in urban and rural areas have insufficient access. Therefore, the school district had to provide lesson plans and other information through print media. Since many of the students are also eligible for free meals through the federal government, school buses and staff provide work books as they deliver meals and other supplies to students. To assist with increasing access to wifi, school buses have been retrofitted to include wifi technology for students as buses travel through and dwell within neighborhoods.

Foundation President Holly Wiggins, Past President Jean Maychack, President Brian Martin, and foundation members Sara Hippensteel Hall, AGM Sue Taylor, District Governor Nominee and Dayton Foundation Treasurer Frank Scott, and Dona Vella were instrumental in completing the applications and ensuring delivery of these two /COVID-19 response projects for consideration by District 6670.

Oxford Rotary Donates to Nursing Center



The Oxford Rotary Club donated funds to the Oxford Nursing Center to buy BINGO Prizes for Residents during COVID-19.