



#### BY THE NUMBERS

3,514  
ROTARIANS

CLUBS  
59



CASES  
OF POLIO  
WORLDWIDE  
(TO-DATE 2019)



+ \$173,552

CONTRIBUTIONS TO  
THE ANNUAL FUND

+ \$83,000

CONTRIBUTIONS TO  
POLIO PLUS

## The opportunities of a new year

A MESSAGE FROM DISTRICT GOVERNOR CRAIG MAXEY



Craig Maxey  
District Governor

Happy New Year! I am happy to report that, after almost one entire month in the new calendar year, there are no reported cases of polio! We are this close!

January is Rotary Vocational Service Month. Some ideas to enhance your Club's Vocational Service:

- Strengthen the emphasis on vocation and classification in new member recruitment and induction.
- Identify means of emphasizing vocation in club activities.
- Create a stronger emphasis on business networking with integrity in Rotary at the club and district levels.
- Focus more attention on business networking with integrity as a means of attracting and mentoring the new generation.
- Emphasize the connection between the Four Way Test and the Rotary Code of Conduct and their importance to the core values of Rotary.

Vocational service is the essence of Rotary and serves as the foundation from which we serve our communities around the world.

Our District Foundation Committee is launching the District's first Matching Points Campaign. Until the end of February, you will receive matching points for all personal

donations to the Rotary International Annual Fund and/or PolioPlus between \$100 and \$1,000. We expect this program to be a huge success, so get your donations in early. Please follow the instructions found in this newsletter. This is a great way to achieve your first Paul Harris Fellow or recognize someone special with their very own PHF!

Our joint district conference, Better Together, will be held April 12-13, 2019 at the Hilton Polaris. I am happy to announce that Past Rotary International President K.R. Ravi Ravindran will be our keynote speaker at the All-Club Luncheon on Friday, April 12. What a great opportunity to hear from a senior leader of Rotary International. In addition to the All-Club lunch, Rotarians from Districts 6690 and 6650 have been planning a great conference for you. Back by popular demand is our innovative ROTalks. There will be a variety of break-out sessions, a morning of hands-on service projects and a Caribbean-themed dinner and dance party!

If you have not experienced a district event or even if you have, you will not want to miss this one. Registration will be open the first week in February.

Thank you for the opportunity to get to know you and your clubs. It is truly inspirational to experience the excitement within our District. When you add it all up, it really equals something very special.

***Be the Inspiration!***





Barry Rassin

## From the road: lessons on service

### A MESSAGE FROM THE ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

In my travels over the past year, I've visited many strong, vibrant clubs and districts that are transforming their communities. When I attend their meetings, I can feel the energy. When I meet their members, I can see they are people of action. And when I look at their communities, I can recognize the impact of their work.

I've also visited communities with Rotary clubs that were hardly more than social clubs. It shouldn't ever be that way. Fortunately, there's a simple approach that I believe can help revitalize any club.

I'd like to challenge every Rotary club to come up with at least one high-impact service project. Each club already has the potential, the resources, to make it happen. It has the power to change people's lives — completely.

It doesn't take millions of dollars. One of the most transformational projects I've been a part of involved providing a Jeep to a group of midwives in Haiti. We had asked the midwives what we could do for them, and they told us they needed a way to reach expectant mothers in a remote part of the country. We supplied a Jeep, painted it pink, and put the Rotary logo on it. Three years later, we went back to see how they were doing. They were excited by the outcomes: They told us that the mortality rate for mothers and infants in that region had dropped by 50 percent.

That's what I call transformational service.

But Jeeps don't last forever, and after eight years on the road, that vehicle was on its last legs. So we bought a pink Land Cruiser. It's still on the road, allowing the midwives to provide prenatal care to women in that remote region. What makes a project transformational? It doesn't have to involve a lot of money, but it has to reach people and have a major impact in the community. That is the key, and that is where careful planning and thorough research come in. So do your research. Leverage your resources. Seek partnerships that can increase your impact. And then take action.

Of course, service is only part of what a strong club must offer. It must also have good speakers, provide leadership development, involve Rotaract and Interact, and bring value to its members and reasons to participate in Rotary events.

If your club is transformational and well-organized, everything else will follow. Members will be engaged, and new members will be eager to join you. Fundraising will be easier: People love to give when they see how their money is making a difference and when they know the organization is accountable. Your club will be vibrant, relevant, and alive — and it will.

**Be the Inspiration** to those within its ranks as well as to the community it serves.

## 2019-20 Rotary Theme and Logo Announced!



PICTURED ARE FROM LEFT, JANET VAUGHN, 6690 DISTRICT GOVERNOR ELECT GARY VAUGHN, RI PRESIDENT ELECT MARK MALONEY, GAY MALONEY



experience. "(Rotary) allows us to connect with each other, in deep and meaningful ways, across our differences," he said.

"It connects us to people we would never otherwise have met, who are more like us than we ever could have known. It connects us to our communities, to professional opportunities, and to the people who need our help. In this ever more divided world, Rotary connects us all."

Rotary International President-elect Mark Daniel Maloney, of the Rotary Club of Decatur, Ala. unveiled the 2019-20 presidential theme: "Rotary Connects the World," to incoming district governors at Rotary's International Assembly, in San Diego, Calif. on Jan. 14.

Maloney believes that connection is at the heart of the Rotary



**ROTARY CONVENTION**  
**HAMBURG, GERMANY 1-5 JUNE 2019**





# Around District 6690

Members of the Upper Arlington Rotary Club journeyed to Guatemala in Nov. to visit the club's service projects in and around Panajachel. In partnership with the Mayan Families NGO, the Club has built two pre-schools, middle school and provided support for several other projects.



Westerville Noon Rotarians host the 2018 Phil Brown Basketball Classic with all proceeds benefiting the Westerville Athletic Programs.



At a Coffee Connection, Chillicothe First Capitol Rotary present Paper City Mentoring with a \$1,000 grant.



Logan Rotarians celebrate another successful Bike Drive; the Hocking County Jobs and Family Services distributed the bikes over the holidays.



A \$1,000 check is presented to The Friends of Belmont County Staying Clean Club on behalf of both Rotary Clubs of St. Clairsville, who have been busy raising funds for kids in the club.



Belpre Rotary and American Legion Post 495 commemorate Wreaths Across America at Cedarville Cemetery promoting the WAA mission to Remember the fallen, Honor those that serve, and Teach our children the value of freedom.



## Rotarian Spotlight: John O'Meara COLUMBUS ROTARY

This month's Rotarian in the spotlight is probably more likely to be found outdoors in brilliant sunlight. Hiking, canoeing and mountain climbing are John O'Meara's ongoing pursuits now that he's retired from a long,

successful tenure as Executive Director of Metro Parks here in central Ohio.

Equal in his devotion to Metro Parks, is John's commitment to Rotary. He's been involved in the Columbus club for 29 years serving on the board and currently serving as President Elect. John's Rotary volunteerism includes everything from serving breakfasts at the local Ronald McDonald house to participating in tree planting projects throughout Columbus. The Rotary project he is most fond of is the club's centennial project to build a military-style obstacle course at the Scioto Audubon Metro Park.

"This is really a giant playground for adults," John describes, "It was a major undertaking for the club and it turned out to be a significant contribution enjoyed by those who come to experience that park."

And John knows all about parks. Prior to Metro Parks, he served as Director of Geauga Park District, Scenic River Coordinator for the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Naturalist for Cleveland Metroparks, and taught Natural Resource Conservation at a vocational high school. He received B.S. and M.S. degrees in Natural Resources from The Ohio State University.

Now, after almost 30 years of contributions to his community, we asked John if he could remember back to when Rotary participation just "clicked" with him. He responded, "I think it was the realization that all together we could accomplish really significant things - not just in Columbus - but globally. Things like the Polio Project. That's just powerful - to be able to pull people in from all channels of government and business - and to make great progress."

John lives in Columbus with his wife Helen. They travel extensively - and globally. Their last trip to Ghana was to visit their former Mandela Scholar exchange student in Worawora. While there, John continued to spread his sunshine, delivering medical supplies to a local hospital.





# Happy Birthday, Rotary!

FEBRUARY 23 IS THE 114TH ANNIVERSARY OF ROTARY.

IT IS ALSO THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST MASS POLIO VACCINATIONS, WHICH STARTED IN PITTSBURG, PA IN 1954 AND EXPANDED ACROSS THE US.



## Be Part of District 6690 Newsletters!

District 6690 would love to highlight your club's fundraisers, service projects or other activities for our "Around District 6690" feature or as an article in the monthly newsletter.

Please submit your photos and articles (100 words) to the District Newsletter Editor, Julie Colley, at [julie.colley@westerville.org](mailto:julie.colley@westerville.org) by the 15th of each month.



## OUR VISION

TOGETHER, WE SEE A WORLD WHERE PEOPLE UNITE AND TAKE ACTION TO CREATE LASTING CHANGE — ACROSS THE GLOBE, IN OUR COMMUNITIES, AND IN OURSELVES.

### FEBRUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

2	WESTERVILLE SUNRISE CHILLY OPEN
9	DUBLIN AM ROTARY POLAR BEAR GOLF OPEN & THE GAHANNA ROTARY AUCTION
16	ATHENS SUNRISE THE CASE OF KING TUT MURDER MYSTERY
23	WORTHINGTON AM THAW YOUR HEART OUT

### MARCH

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

3	OLENTANGY EUCHRE TOURNAMENT & WVILLE NOON FISH FRY
8-9	ALL-OHIO P.E.T.S. (PRESIDENT-ELECT TRAINING), COLUMBUS

### LOOK AHEAD: APRIL

3	DISTRICT 6690 RYE BENEFIT DINNER FOR POLIO
12-13	BETTER TOGETHER DISTRICT 6650 AND 6690 DISTRICT CONFERENCE

Rotary



BE THE INSPIRATION





## Rotary District 6690 encourages you to share the Gift of Life

This year, Rotary District 6690 has partnered with Lifeline of Ohio to help save lives by educating our community, family, friends and fellow Rotarians about the importance of organ, eye and tissue donation. Sadly, nearly 115,000 Americans are waiting on a life-saving organ transplant and 20 of those individuals will die each day for lack of an available organ. This national health crisis is something that our organization is committed to changing.

District Governor Craig Maxey encourages you to join him in supporting this cause by registering today. "The need is real and occurring in our very own community," said Maxey. "It's time for our community to understand the donation process, de-bunk the myths and make educated decisions to provide a second chance for thousands of people and their families each year."

Rotary Clubs are encouraged to share the importance of organ, eye and tissue donation with fellow community members. Consider inviting Lifeline of Ohio to one of your meetings for an education session. Or, download free resources and materials from Lifeline of Ohio's site: <http://lifelineofohio.org/working-together-save-lives/>. Or simply pass along the customized link to your friends, family and colleagues and encourage them to register: <https://services.dps.ohio.gov/BMVOnlineServices/DL/OrganDonor/Referrer/Rotary>

For more information on how you can make a difference as a registered organ donor, visit [www.lifelineofohio.org](http://www.lifelineofohio.org).



**SATURDAY, APRIL 6 | 6 P.M.**  
**INTERNATIONAL DINNER**  
HOSTED BY RYE STUDENTS

PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT  
*ROTARY'S END POLIO  
CAMPAIGN*

ST. PATRICK'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
7121 MUIRFIELD DR., DUBLIN  
\$50/PLATE CASH BAR

# SAVE THE DATE



April 12-13, 2019 • Hilton Polaris Columbus, OH





# Disaster Aid USA pairs Rotarians with humanitarian aid

Disaster Aid USA (DAUSA) began with one Rotary Club's Vision to nurture Rotary's dream of a world absent of pain and suffering by providing humanitarian aid when domestic disasters strike. DAUSA is a Rotary project and is open to all US Rotary Districts, their clubs and their members. DAUSA's goal is to build a significant humanitarian aid organization that provides immediate relief to those victims when disasters strike.

DAUSA is not a First Responder. It views its role as "mucking and gutting" – tarping roofs, chain-sawing, debris removal, helping prep meals and cooking, etc. DAUSA prides itself on delivering humanitarian aid while being transparent and accountable with the objects of Rotary as its foundation. DAUSA focuses on rebuilding communities by assessing their needs and then securing and delivering aid through its Disaster Response Teams (DARTs).

Two District 6690 Rotarians involved in Disaster Aid USA are Dave and Jan Roasa, both members of the Grove City Club. Dave learned about Disaster Aid USA when attending an RI Convention and soon thereafter, began a year-long disaster response training to become a member of DART.

In the aftermath of Hurricane Florence last fall, Dave traveled

to North Carolina with Disaster Aid USA and for about two weeks, led teams in the cities of New Bern and Lumberton - an area that experienced tremendous flooding and tree damage. Dave's teams cut and removed downed trees, cleared flooded household contents, and cut and removed wet drywall and flooring.

Shortly thereafter, Hurricane Michael ravaged the Florida panhandle and Dave and Jan were deployed to Panama City where they assisted with disaster relief efforts for two weeks. When Dave and Jan arrived, portions of the city were without electricity or water. While Jan enjoys cooking, her skills were maximized in leading a team that served over 300 meals a day to the community and volunteers from sunrise to sunset! Dave led teams that tarped roofs, cut and removed downed trees, cleared out personal belongs, and removed wet ceilings. Dave has found that each disaster is different. While Hurricane Florence brought wind and a lot of flooding, the best description of Hurricane Michael's damage is a 100 mile wide tornado that stayed in place for 2 hours!! Dave and Jan Roasa are available to present Disaster Aid USA to your Rotary Club or simply answer questions - they would love share their experiences. Please contact Dave at [daveroasa@gmail.com](mailto:daveroasa@gmail.com).



## District 6690 P.E.T.S. Challenge

*In partnership with My Very Own Blanket, supporting children in foster care.*

### Goal: 3,600 blankets

Make your own blanket or donate \$10

For more information, [click here](https://www.allohiopets.org/service-project/)

(or <https://www.allohiopets.org/service-project/>)







## **District Matching Points Campaign**

**Now through February 28, 2019**

**Matching Donations from \$100 to \$1,000  
to the Annual Fund and/or Polio Plus.**

### **How it Works**

1. Write a personal check made payable to The Rotary Foundation in any amount between \$100 and \$1,000.
2. Complete the form below indicating your club and fund you want to contribute to.
3. Mail check and completed form to:

**6690 TRF Matching Gifts Campaign  
Bill Shorthill  
PO Box 1155  
Reynoldsburg, OH 43068-0155**

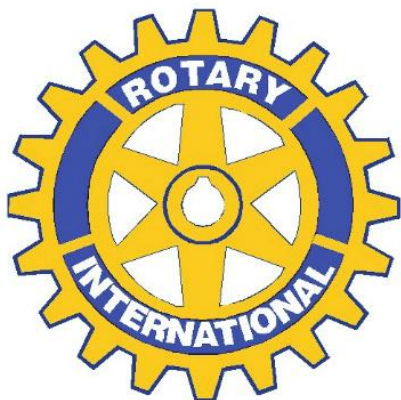
All contributions must be postmarked by February 28, 2019 to be eligible for matching points. Please allow a couple weeks for points to be transferred. Once points are transferred, Rotarians can submit recognition request through your Club Foundation Chair. Only 50,000 points available, so act quickly and don't miss this opportunity.

Click here for  
**Matching Points  
Form**

Click here for  
**More  
Information**

**Questions, contact Bill Shorthill - wshorthill@nls.net**

**Only 50,000 POINTS ARE AVAILABLE. DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY!**



# Attention Rotarians: The Rotary District 6690 Four-Way Test Speech Contest

**WHERE:** The District 6690 Rotary Four-Way Test Speech Contest will be held on 6 April 2019 at Ohio University, Chillicothe, 101 University Dr, Chillicothe, OH 45601 in Stevenson Center (home to Quinn Library.)

**REGISTRATION & TIMING:** The registration deadline is 30 March 2019. Contest check in will begin at 8:30 AM. The contest starting time will be 9:00 AM. A light lunch with beverages will be provided. While not binding, it will be appreciated if you indicate the number of lunches your contingent will need. The entire contest, judging, lunch should end between 12:00 PM and 1:00 PM but is dependent upon the number of contestants.

**PARTICIPANTS:** High School students who are winners of a District 6690 Rotary Club contest are eligible to participate. Prior contest winners of the District 6690 contest may participate but must have a speech different from a prior winning speech.

**RULES:** The complete rules are in a separate attachment.

**ESSAY CONTEST:** An essay contest has been added and the rules and registration are covered in separate attachments.

**PARTICIPATION at the DISTRICT ASSEMBLY and other DISTRICT EVENTS:** The First place winner will be asked to speak again 13 April at the Rotary District Conference which will be held at the Hilton Polaris in Columbus. The First place winner may be requested to speak during other Rotary District events TBA by mutual convenience of the winner and the District.

**STATE FOUR-WAY TEST SPEECH CONTEST:** There is no State of Ohio Four-Way Test Speech Contest at present.

**VIDEO:** A DVD recording or flash drive copy of the event will be available for \$10.00. DVD videos of prior contests are also available. See the *DVD ORDER FORM attachment*.

**INTERNET:** All rules and forms: <http://rotary6690.org/get-involved/four-way-test-speech-contest/>

**PRIZES: FIRST PLACE \$500, SECOND PLACE \$400, THIRD PLACE \$300.**

Nelson Coleman, Chillicothe Rotary, Chairman  
Four-Way Test Speech Contest Committee  
20485 State Route 104  
Chillicothe OH 45601

fourwaytest6690@bright.net  
(740) 701-3254 Cell/Business  
(740) 775-1387 Evening/Home  
(740) 771-3115 Fax

Announcement Revision 28 January 2019



## MID-MARCH DEADLINES!

Attention Clubs! Sponsor a current High School Sophomore or Junior to attend the Rotary District 6690 Conference at Ohio University-Athens from July 18th- 20th. [Click here](https://fs23.form-site.com/ryla6690/2019/index.html) for more information or go to <https://fs23.form-site.com/ryla6690/2019/index.html>.