Well, the year is almost over. We have had to deal with the pandemic and all its restrictions on meeting and traveling. So, what have we done? I am happy to say that you did not sit around, ringing your hands, bemoaning the circumstances of this past year. I have made a list of some of the things you have done.

With District Designated Funds:

* We contributed $46,400 to The Rotary Foundation for the eradication of polio. After matching gifts, this contribution generated $278,400 for polio eradication.
* Not only that, but this district participated in the Purple Pinky Challenge and raised another $12,000 for polio eradication. After matching gifts, this contribution generated $108,000.
* So, our total contribution for the eradication of polio, after matching grants but before individual and club contributions was $386,400.
* We continued to be a Peacebuilder District, contributing another $25,000 to Rotary’s peace initiatives. This is a total of $150,000 contributed over the last 6 years. You are going to hear a little later about what one of Rotary's Peace Fellows is doing in our district.
* We have funded or committed to participate in 7 Global Grants:
  + The eradication of cervical cancer in Sri Lanka
  + The purchase of ELMO equipment in Brazil
  + The purchase of endoscopy equipment in Brazil
  + The refurbishment of a school in India, plus the purchase of equipment
  + Providing clean water for 23,000 people near Quito, Ecuador.
  + The supporting of a tele-behavioral heath program for at risk children, based in Tampa.
* Provided $123,576 in district grants touching our communities.
  + 525 children in a three-county area receive a book each month through the Imagination Library program.
  + Replace a Dixie Youth Baseball Park scoreboard
  + 26 individuals/families received a Starter Garden and education on how to grow their own fruits and vegetables.
  + Boys and Girls Club children provided with gift cards, a meal, and gifts.
  + Provided RYLA scholarships
  + Provided food items (such as granola bars, beef ravioli, fruit cups, juice boxes and breakfast pastries) to local students in need.
  + ACT prep to increase scores.
  + Purchase a new power pallet jack for the local food bank
  + Build a block building bathroom containing 3 washrooms, 2 bathrooms and a water reservoir in Adina, Ghana, Africa.
  + Over 600 third graders received dictionaries.
  + Repairs to a Children's Advocacy Center.
  + Provide furniture for Helping Hands Center
  + Supplies and travel to Mexico to provide training and assistance in setting up a dental clinic.
  + Provide solar power to the Praxedis Balboa Gojon Elementary School to power a water filtration system for the school.
  + Awarded a full scholarship to a local student attending North West Community College.
  + Purchased food and supplies to support the local food pantry.
  + Created an Entrepreneurial Center (E-Center) which provides resources for start up and existing businesses in the community.
  + Purchased 2 sun covers for bleachers at the local youth baseball/softball complex.
  + Purchased a 3D printer and numerically controlled router for a local Robotics team.
  + Provided funding for 4 local high school students to attend RYLA.
  + Repurposing a small playground to include an exercise circuit.
  + Repaired the Community Theater's roof.
  + Provide the sixth year of dental care to first through fifth graders and to continue the fifth year of vision tests for all ages.
  + Provided a traditional Thanksgiving meal to needy families with children
  + Distribute groceries to the hungry in the community.
  + Provided two $1,000 college scholarships.
  + Project to protect sound equipment from rain and cool our stage area of the open air Main Street Theatre.
  + Assemble and deliver 150 cleaning buckets to the United Methodist Committee on Relief ("UMCOR") for use, as needed, for disasters.
  + Provided full-tuition scholarships for two dual enrollment courses to nine rising high school seniors.
  + A Rotary Clock will be placed on Main Street on a newly revitalized site to be called Rotary Clock Corner.
  + Provided food assistance to service workers with families impacted by COVID 19.
  + Support the Robotics team at the high school.
  + Purchase a Critical Care Transport Flight Suit for a team member
  + Assisted individuals who have Multiple Sclerosis to purchase and install and repair air conditioning units and to make limited home modifications.
  + Provide safety equipment to The Academy of Craft Training.
  + Support We the People project students research and study the Constitution.

**ALL OF THIS IS BECAUSE OF THE GENEROSITY OF THIS DISTRICT IN SUPPORTING THE ROTARY FOUNDATION. Additionally, clubs of this district have:**

* We are supporting two global scholars through two endowment funds,
* We have established one new Interact Cub and one new Rotaract Club.
* We have established two new clubs, the Rotary Club of Smith Lake and the Rotary Club of Birmingham Sunset.
* Boiling n Bragging was virtual this year. We raised over $85,000 for Children’s of Alabama. Even though that was appreciated, what Children’s appreciated most is that we established a virtual model that other supporters could follow and continue fund raising efforts. This coming year we have added a new event, a corn hole tournament. Kent Howard is going to tell you about it in a few minutes.
* One of our own, Dr. Isabel Scarinci was one of 6 people in the world to be recognized as a Rotary People of Action: Champion of Health.
* One of her mentors, Dr. Ed Partridge is the latest district recipient of Rotary’s Service Above Self Award. The Rotary Board limits this award to no more than 150 per year. That is 1 out of every 8000 Rotarians.
* Past Rotary International President Mark Maloney continues his Rotary service and will serve on The Rotary Foundation Board for the next three years.
* Rotarian Ken Schuppert will chair the next Council on Legislation. That is the body that amends Rotary International’s By-Laws.
* Rotarian Wade Drinkard will chair Rotary International’s Election Review Committee This committee resolves election disputes from around the world. **Rotary Election Disputes…only**
* Past District Governor Tom Greene will serve as Vice Chair of Zone 30/31 RLI. Bo Porter is currently serving as Treasurer and both serve on the Executive Committee.
* Past District Governor Pat Cross will be this district's Representative to the Zone Nominating Committee that will choose the next person from this Zone to sit on the Rotary International Board.
* Past District Governor Carol Argo will continue to be our Representative to the Council on Resolutions and Council on Legislation.
* We have produced our first public image short that appeared on TV and social media. Two more are in pre-production status.
* We have formed a committee that is reviewing and updating our district's District Leadership Plan. The completion of this project will occur next year.
* We have increased our social media presence with active facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn accounts to complement our existing webpage. I would like to thank the Rotaract Club of Birmingham for providing our lead in this effort, Abbey Huguley.
* Last month we celebrated with 120 high school students the completion of a peace and conflict resolution program that was supported by District 6860 Rotary Clubs. Plans are to use this past program as a pilot and roll the program out to all Rotary Clubs in the district that want to implement a similar program in their area high schools. Will Ratliff will speak about this in a few minutes.
* Individual Club projects supported by their own funds include
  + Thanksgiving baskets for needy families
  + Christmas decorations for community buildings
  + Gift cards for service workers
  + Monetary gifts to food service workers who serve our meals
  + Clean up days in public areas like The Rotary Trail, Rainbow Mountain, River of Hope Rock Garden
  + Provided funds to the greater New Orleans foundation hurricane relief
  + Provided funds to Point Clear Rotary Club after Hurricane Sally (September 2020)
  + $1,600 in additional monies sent for disaster relief from members
  + 5 Rotarians served on The Birmingham Educational Foundation Career panel
  + 116 Rotarians bought Christmas gifts for 6 Boarding Homes in Birmingham
  + 4 scholarships awarded for $8,000 per student for four years
  + Purchased textbooks for Birmingham Promise Students
  + Contributed over $100,000 for Pre-K and Early Learning programs
  + Provided funds to support the Rotary Club of Birmingham's project to eliminate Cervical Cancer in Sri Lanka
  + Contributed to the NewGen Peacebuilders program in Central Alabama
  + Provided funds to the UAB student Covid 19 Emergency Fund
  + Made and distributed 13,000 COVID masks early in the pandemic
  + Provided repairs to a home purchased by a tornado victim that lost his leg.
  + Purchased and delivered toys for Toys for Tots
  + Made a financial gift to the Boy Scouts of America
  + Lunch and Christmas gifts for children at The Lovelady Center
  + Contributed to COVID 19 relief in India and Brazil
  + Built wheelchair ramps
  + Winterized houses
  + Sponsored a "shred day."
  + Volunteered at the Veterans Home Christmas project
  + Made monetary donations to local charities from individual foundations
  + Volunteered at Alabama Veterans Memorial Park
  + Purchased a Lacus Device for a local hospital
  + Sponsored Christmas parties for underprivileged children
  + RYLA scholarships
  + Supported the Happy Face project in Mexico
  + Provided Breakfast/Lunch for hospital workers during lockdown
  + Provided Breakfast/Lunch for first responders during lockdown
  + Sponsored a community Parent Daughter Activity Day
  + Volunteered at local food banks.
  + Funded the expansion of a health clinic
  + Helped fund the construction of a putting green to provide outdoor activities for seniors during Covid-19 at State Veterans Home
  + Provided funding to renovate a playground at a local elementary school
  + Provided kids ages 8-12 a daily program and 2 meals and a snack 5 days a week
  + Supported the Backpack Buddies Program during Christmas
  + Arranged with a local dentist to provide a homeless veteran with new dentures.
  + Provided food for a hospital staff picnic
  + Sponsored a picnic for city's first responders
  + Purchased $16,000 worth of equipment for city's first responders
  + Spearheaded an effort to create a Monarch Butterfly habitat.
  + Participated in a "River of Hope" addition to a local park.
  + Provided Thanksgiving meals to Safe Harbor, a facility for neglected, abused, and trafficked minors.
  + The clubs in this district, the South Alabama district, and individual Rotarians from as far away as California contributed over $51,000 to the North Jefferson Rotary Club Foundation, allowing the foundation to purchase materials to repair 17 mobile homes and three permanent homes damaged by the tornados that hit North Jefferson County.

In closing, I want to say how very proud I am of the work you have done to contribute to our communities and have an impact on the world and how honored I am to have been your District Governor during this challenging time.