

Rotary
PEOPLE OF ACTION



**SERVE TO
CHANGE LIVES**

DISTRICT 6960 SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

MESSAGE FROM DISTRICT GOVERNOR ANDY



First and foremost, I thank you for the prayers and support during the recent health challenges I experienced. I have been recovering well from my cervical surgery. Then, a few weeks ago Giselle and I came down with COVID-19. True to form, women are much stronger than men in many ways and Giselle bounced back quickly while the effects of COVID for me have been much more dramatic. Gladly, I am recovering with only a short trip to the hospital. Again, thank you for the prayers and thoughts of healing for both of us.

There are many in our District currently suffering from COVID as this second wave hits, so it is important to keep the spirit of our Rotary family alive now more than ever. I ask all club leaders and Rotarians to please reach out to your fellow members to ensure your brother and sister Rotarians have what they need. The simple act of checking in is important, and even just a short trip to pick up medicine or groceries for someone will go far in keeping our Family of Rotary together and boost each other's spirits during this time of great stress in our communities.

This month is the first of a four-part series about leadership. Hands down, the reason I stay in Rotary is because Rotary is where my friends are. The first object of Rotary sums this up: "The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service." The friendships and relationships Rotary has given me access to have played a vital role in my personal development, not only as a person, but as a businessman. Leadership development has been another area that has shaped my life significantly through my connection with Rotary. Developing leadership skills is similar to getting your physical body in shape. You can read books about it, go to seminars and watch videos, but until you get a chance to exercise, you will never get in shape. Rotary provides that safe ecosystem to develop your leadership skills. There are four fundamental leadership skills that have helped me guide my strength training in leadership development. The Center for Creative Leadership has also helped inspire me in this area.

Fundamental Leadership Skills

1) Self-Awareness 2) Communication 3) Influence 4) Learning Agility

Self-Awareness is critical to each of us because this is how we as individuals can understand ourselves on a highly personal level. Core personal development occurs through our self-awareness and gives us a self-reflective view of all aspects of our personal life and surroundings. Developing these skills is critical to the development of leaders. Self-awareness is a core-building block skill on which to build all other leadership skills. Each one of us is a unique and separate individual bringing the immensity of diverse emotions and skills to our organization. In that diversity, we find the strength of a group coming together to build strong leaders.

So what does this have to do with Rotary? If we go under the premise that Rotary builds leaders, then identifying the skills leaders utilize is an important step in development. I believe Rotary has developed an environment, especially for young leaders, and it's become an ecosystem in which leaders develop these skills. Matching the wisdom of seasoned professionals to guide the next generation of leaders is essential to the long-term sustainability of our organization. As a leader builds the self-awareness competency, other skills start to show because of strong self-awareness, wisdom, identity, reputation and a leadership brand. These leadership skills forming in our clubs spill over into all aspects of life, not only one's own personal life, family, business or community, but the world, to make this earth we all share a better place.

I have a favorite quote from David Goggins, "The most important conversations you'll ever have are the ones you'll have with yourself." When I heard this comment, it goes to the core of what self-awareness is to me. It all starts and ends with each one of us on a very personal basis. We all write our own story. No one else can write our story for us. No one is too old or too young to build self-awareness skills. Please ponder this core fundamental skill as you exercise your own self-awareness skills, or encourage those around you through mentorship to encourage the development of this skill.

Andy Lyman

literacy

September is Basic Education and Literacy Month, which means it is time to celebrate projects promoting literacy and education across our district. Initiatives such as the Pen Pal Exchange, the Little Free Library, Josh the Otter, and Rotary Books for Kids enrich the minds of children and bring books to those with little access, thus enhancing children's education while expanding their imagination. The District 6960 Literacy Committee is continually doing work across the district and invites everyone to join them in celebrating Basic Education and Literacy this month! Read more about district projects below.



Contact us to learn about volunteer opportunities in your area!

Dee Fabry, District Literacy Committee Chair

Ted Lindenberg, Books for Kids Chair

public image membership

Rotary's Public Image is how Rotary is perceived by the world. A club's public image is how the club is perceived by the community it serves. It's important to tell the community about the impact Rotary clubs are making. Are you inviting media representatives from local newspapers, magazines, radio and television to your events, or submitting a press release and photos? Are you sharing your stories on social media? These are key components to engaging the community so others are aware of Rotary and what we do to help others. How is your club coming along on your Public Image Citation Requirements? Click the tasks below and complete these items by Sept. 30!

[Social Media Audit](#) | [Public Image Plan](#) | [Content Calendar](#)

The Rotarianship program is GROWING! Our district has proven to be innovative in so many ways, and this program is just another win. District 6960 now has eight Roterns gaining real life and business experience through the Rotarianship program. We also have an additional four approved spots available with clubs currently seeking qualified individuals. If your club wants to learn more, or if you know of an individual who would be a good fit for this program, please reach out to Rotarianship Chair Kelsey Mitchell at Kelsey.Mitchell@KW.com. Let's grow Rotary together through building up the younger members of our community.

[Click here to learn more about Rotarianships.](#)

SUPPORT

Hope for Haiti

Just a few short weeks ago, a 7.2 magnitude earthquake devastated hundreds of thousands of lives in southern Haiti. Hope for Haiti, an organization that provides aid to those living in Haiti, is executing relief plans that call for more than \$5 million in support to help Haitian families recover. Initial assessments of the damage to schools, healthcare facilities, and homes have indicated that the costs of rebuilding will be significantly higher than originally planned. First response is tending to the urgent needs of those affected while developing the best long-term strategy for helping Haitians recover and rebuild their livelihoods.

[Click here to donate and learn more about Hope for Haiti.](#)

CHECK OUT

Gift of Life

Imagine if one of your children or grandchildren were born with a congenital heart defect? If you live in North America or Europe, you would find healthcare as soon as you could, accessing the best treatment possible. Now imagine yourself and your family living in one of the many developing countries where a diagnosis for a CHD leaves a child with a death sentence and a family anxious and helpless. Gift of Life provides the opportunity to get necessary treatment to these critical cases, saving lives and providing a future.

[Richard Hall shares his story; click here to read more.](#)



Reading with Rotary

The Literacy Buddy Pen Pal Project is a wonderful program for clubs to consider starting up in September as Rotary celebrates Basic Education and Literacy Month. Rotarian volunteers and students exchange drawings, letters and books. A child will draw a picture or explain a current interest (i.e. dinosaurs, bugs, butterflies, rainbows, football, etc.), and the volunteer responds by sending back a letter and a book to the child. The letter introduces the volunteer, talks about the book they selected and asks the child questions about the book. The volunteer includes a self-addressed, stamped envelope for the child to return the letter. Including a fun photo is a nice addition. The child returns the envelope with drawings and information about why they liked the book. The adult can also ask what the child likes to do, their favorite color, etc., to establish a bond and to get to know the child better. Participating Rotary clubs may purchase books for volunteers in bulk. [Click here for details.](#)



To learn how to get involved in a literacy project, contact District 6960 Literacy Chair Dee Fabry at deefabry@comcast.net.

Let us know what education and literacy projects your club is working on!

Literacy Message Billboards | Little Free Library | Josh the Otter | Mentoring

Delivering Dictionaries | Scholarships | Books for Kids | What else?



WHO WILL BE THE NEXT DISTRICT GOVERNOR?

It's time again to begin the search for the next district governor in the lineup! Here are some dates to mark down for important information and deadlines for those wanting to be considered.

November 4 "Do you want to be Governor?" Webinar

Zoom meeting for informational purposes. Link can be found on [DACdb](#).

November 20 Nomination Application Deadline

December 4 District Governor Nomination Interviews

[Click here to download the nomination document](#)

MEMBERSHIP & PUBLIC IMAGE WORKSHOP

Rotary
District 6960

**September 25 at 8:30 a.m.
Charlotte County Cultural Center**

[CLICK HERE
TO REGISTER](#)

ALL ABOARD DISTRICT CONFERENCE 2022

*3-Night Bahamas Cruise with DG Andy!
[Click here to learn about pricing options.](#)*

[Watch Our Video](#)



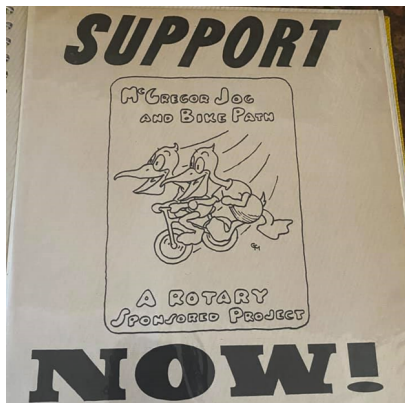
May 20-23, 2022

VOCALISTS NEEDED CALL FOR CHOIR MEMBERS

**Rotary Interfaith Service
Sunday, October 3, at 7 a.m.
Zone 33-34 Summit - Naples, FL**

Past District Governor Cyndi Doragh is seeking Rotarians, family and friends to add voices to the choir performing at the Rotary Zones 33/34 Summit Interfaith Service on October 3 at 7 a.m. Rehearsal will be Saturday, October 2, at 7 a.m. Email Cyndi at cdoragh@ironridgeinsurance.com if you are willing to add your gift of song and voice!

Clubs of Action



100 Years of Action

The Rotary Club of Fort Myers is celebrating 100 years of action. Over 43 years ago, the club recognized a need for a safe way for joggers and bicyclists to enjoy the beauty of McGregor Boulevard. They came together to raise over \$67,000 (\$189,546 today) to bring that vision to life. Today, people can stroll, run or ride on that same pathway, showing how one action can impact generations.

[Find pictures here.](#)



Clean Water & Sanitation

Since 2015, the Rotary Club of Lakewood Ranch Clean Water and Sanitation Committee has partnered with clubs to bring clean water to 291 families and 1,145 residents in Santa Elena, Peru. In 2018, Lakewood Ranch Rotary members toured communities in Peru to evaluate community needs and have initiated a new project to bring clean water to more people in need.

[Click here to read more.](#)



The People of Action campaign brings the Rotary brand to life by highlighting what happens when community leaders within Rotary join together, share their vision, exchange ideas about solutions and then take action to make it a reality.

Do you know any People of Action? Is your club a Club in Action? We know you are, so share your story! Submit articles and photos to susan.r.courter@gmail.com to get published in the District 6960 newsletter and on our social media channels.

#PeopleOfAction

People of Action



Leslie Glass Speaks on Mental Health

Rotarian Leslie Glass, of the Rotary Club of Sarasota Bay, shared her story with Carrie Seidman on the FACEing Mental Illness blog. In 'Mental Illness is a family disease,' Glass speaks about how she discovered the best way to help families recover from addiction. [Read her story here.](#)



Little Free Library: Get Involved Today!

You may have seen one of these book-sharing boxes that provide a 'take-a-book-share-a-book' resource in neighborhoods, parks and other areas. Your club decides where to place their little library; members are stewards for building one and keeping it stocked. Visit littlefreelibrary.org.



Meet Bob Anthony, Adolescent Wellness Inc.

After 20 years in the tech industry, Rotary Club of Naples member Bob Anthony started Adolescent Wellness Inc., working to prevent anxiety and depression through increased training for parents, better resources for teachers and promoting community action. [Click here to learn more.](#)

Introducing the PolioPlus Society

[Click here to join today!](#)

Rotary is dedicated to seeing that Polio is successfully eradicated from our planet. Now, there's one more step you can take to continue these efforts. Join the PolioPlus Society by pledging to donate a minimum of \$100 each year until the world is certified polio-free by the World Health Organization. All donations are matched 2:1 by the Gates Foundation and earn Paul Harris Fellow credit. In return, you receive a special pin, certificate and End Polio Now wristband to be presented at your club meeting.



World Polio Day is October 24. Now is the time to put additional emphasis on promoting awareness of Rotary's polio eradication efforts, raising funds and planning club events. Engage your community in the fight against polio, because as long as polio exists anywhere, it remains a threat everywhere.



Rotary on the Road HELP SUPPORT FLORIDA'S YOUTH

[Click here to order today!](#)

Hey Floridians! Do you want to support Rotary's youth programs? Get your Florida Rotary license plate today! You do not have to be a Rotarian to get this specialty tag with the Rotary symbol. Simply visit www.floridarotarytag.com, pre-order a tag, and help us get to the 3,000 mark so the plates will go into production. Get one for your car, truck, motorcycle, motorcycle trailer, boat trailer, RV, corporate fleet vehicles and more, and support this great cause!



ROTARY EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 10 @5:30PM

Rotary Club of Englewood Sunset Charter Banquet. All are welcome to join and support this new club! [Click here for details.](#)

SEPTEMBER 19 @1:10 PM

Rotary Day with the Rays. Purchase tickets by September 13. [Click here for more info.](#)

SEPTEMBER 25 @8:30 AM

District 6960 Membership & Public Image Workshop @Cultural Center of Charlotte County. Open to anyone! [Click here to register.](#)

SEPTEMBER 28-OCTOBER 3

Zones 33-34 Zone Leadership Summit, Naples. Sponsorship opportunities available! Contact IPDG Darryl Keys.

OCTOBER 16 @8AM

RLI Gulf Coast Division @ Cultural Center of Charlotte County. Register by October 1 on DACdb.

OCTOBER 27 @6PM

RC of Naples Gulf Shore hosts Halloween with contests, costumes and more. [Click for details.](#)

OCTOBER 30 @2PM

District 6960 Foundation Luau at the Englewood Youth Foundation Campground. Register on DACdb.

NOVEMBER 4 @7:00PM

Do you want to be a Governor? Join an informal conversation with a panel of Past District Governors to learn more about the role. Zoom info on DACdb.

NOVEMBER 6 @5:30PM

Gift of Life Party with a Purpose at the Forest Country Club in Fort Myers. Dinner, live band, dancing, great cause! Tickets \$100 on DACdb.

NOVEMBER 13 @1:00PM

RC of Lakewood Ranch Suncoast Food & Wine Fest, Premier Sports Complex. [Click here for tickets.](#)

NOVEMBER 13

Sanibel-Captiva Rotary Golf Charity Event.

NOVEMBER 20

District Governor nomination application deadline.

RC Bonita Springs EZ Cash Fundraiser offers 36 chances to win monthly cash prizes. [Click here to learn more or purchase tickets.](#)

Check out the DACdb calendar for more events and to see when District Governor Andy will be making his official visit to your club!



rotary6960.org