

# Rotary



## District 6110 Newsletter

### On the Road with Governor Warren Lovinger

As we approach World Polio Day on October 24th, it is important to discuss this once common disease, the effort to eradicate it, and Rotary International's key role in the process.

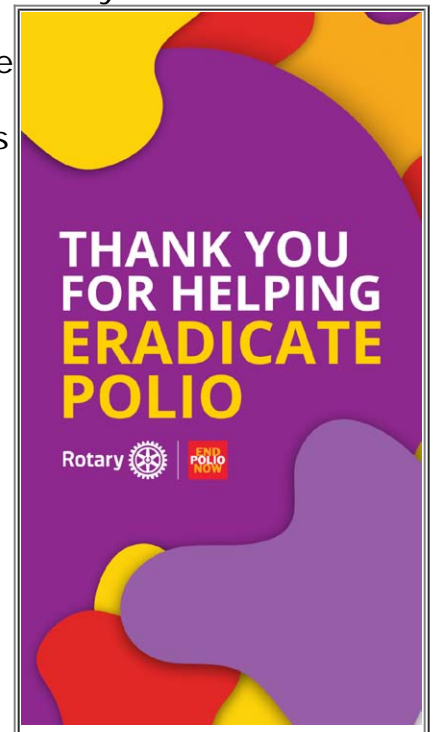
Poliomyelitis is caused by a virus that attacks the nerve cells of the spinal cord. It is spread orally in contaminated water, food, or through direct contact. It usually affects young children, but adults are also susceptible (e.g. President Franklin Roosevelt). Of those who become ill, 10% die, while 65% of survivors are left with varying degrees of paralysis.

By 1955, epidemics of Polio were causing panic in the United States and elsewhere. A vaccine became available at that time, created by Dr Jonas Salk. He became a national hero. Most Americans over the age of 70 remember getting their first "polio shot" then. In 1961, an "oral vaccine" (often given on a sugar cube) was introduced by Dr Albert Sabin. It was easier to give, and thus became the preferred vaccination method internationally. Within a few years, acute Poliomyelitis had been eliminated in the U.S., though there are still many "polio survivors" among us. In 1985, Rotary International courageously proposed a vaccination project for children worldwide, as 385,000 cases were still occurring each year. In 1988, this challenging project began, in partnership with UNICEF, the World Health Organization, and The Gates Foundation.

Through the determined efforts of thousands of vaccination workers, steady progress has occurred over the last 36 years, with polio now 99.99% eradicated worldwide! Only a small border area of Afghanistan and Pakistan still harbors the wild poliovirus (20 cases to date in 2024), and vaccination efforts continue there, under very difficult conditions. This disease could again spread elsewhere if we don't "complete the process" of eliminating it through worldwide vaccination. Of course, this all requires a lot of ongoing financial support.

I am very proud that District 6110's Rotary Clubs and members continue to be generous supporters of the Polio Plus project. A heartfelt thanks to all of you!

Warren Lovinger MD  
District 6110 Governor (2024-2025)





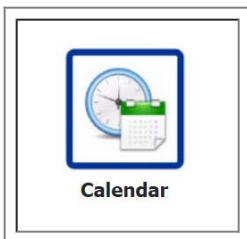
### District 6110 Box Score

As of 10/10/24

3	Average hours sleep per night during <b>RYLA</b> by Matt Hancock
<b>25</b>	Total Member <b>gain</b> 7/1/24 to now
11.2%	Members under 40 years old
11	Clubs with ZERO Foundation giving (down from 12 last month!)
37.2%	Female Rotarians
50%	Clubs in the Dictionary Project EASY PROJECT - LET'S DO MORE
37	Clubs with ZERO Polio Plus giving (down 1 from last month!)
89	Rotary Foundation Bequest Society Members - up 2 from last month
97.6%	Retention rate of members - our highest in last 5 years!
182	<a href="#">Paul Harris Society Members - \$1000/yr (to join, email Michelle Gann)</a>
225	Major Foundation Donors "all time"
425	Rotary Direct members - about 13.1% (Goal: 500)
1918	Total meals planned at RYLA this year
2143	<b>RYLA</b> Campers since it began
3,221	Rotary Club Members now
6000+	Engagement hours annually by <b>RYLA</b> Chaperones, Staff, etc.
8,217	Paul Harris Fellows "all time" - up 15!
\$10,889	Polio Plus Giving so far this year
\$78,628	Foundation Annual Fund Giving so far this year
<b>\$1,374,460</b>	Legacy Dinner Gifts - original goal \$2 MM but maybe a stretch goal?
\$2,806,848	Current value of 14 RI TRF District Endowed Funds

Sources: Rotary Club Central, TRF data, tea leaves etc.

### Rotary Dates



Rotary Presidents/leaders want to get dates on their calendars - as far in advance as possible, but also as a reminder of "what's next". *Criteria: Big-picture events, NO club events/fundraisers\*, but events and/or deadlines that club leaders need to know.*

#### Important and District-wide (and beyond) Rotary Dates

- October 17-20, 2024: **RYLA** near Tahlequah, OK
- March 6-10, 2025: **Wheelchair trip** to Mexico, contact Noel Morris: [CLICK HERE](#)
- March 20-22, 2025; **MAPETS**
- May 2, 2025: **Legacy (Foundation) Dinner**, Rogers, AR

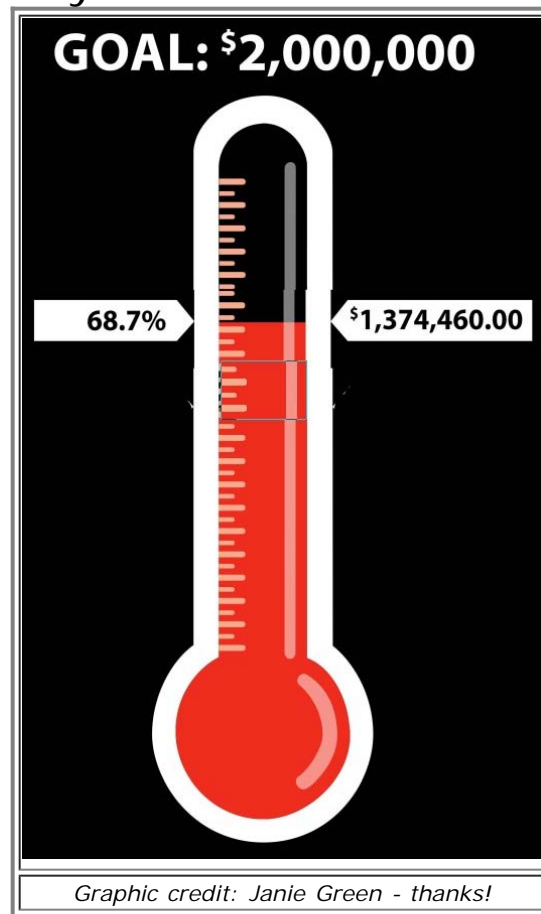
- May 3, 2025; **District Conference**, Rogers, AR
- June 21-25, 2025: Rotary International **Convention** in Calgary, Canada
- March 19-21, 2026; **MAPETS**
- June 13-17, 2026\*: Rotary International **Convention** in Taipei, Taiwan
- June 5-9, 2027\*: Rotary International **Convention** in Honolulu, Hawaii
- 2028\*: Rotary International **Convention** Minneapolis, Minnesota
- 2029\*: Rotary International **Convention** to be determined (Why not Joplin/Tulsa/Bentonville/Pittsburg?...nah I guess not)
- May 25-29, 2030\*: Rotary International **Convention** in Chicago
- \* Tentative Dates and locations for planning

**WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT:** Plug these dates into your calendar - you don't want to be a Rotarian without a date, do you?

**\*Check the DACdb Calendar for Club events!**

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Legacy Dinner Progress at October 2024  
Initial Goal of \$2,000,000  
in new funds to the  
Rotary Foundation Endowment



This total of **\$1,374,460.00** reflects 22 fully finalized **new** Foundation gifts and bequests through October. We will keep adding new donations, pledges and bequests to hit (or surpass!) our goal through March 2025.

More clubs have had informational "Fireside Chats" with RI Senior Major Gifts Officer Carl W. Davis, and more are being scheduled.

If you want to learn more about how to become a major donor, make a bequest to the

Foundation, and be invited to attend the Legacy Dinner in May 2025 at no charge, contact your Assistant Governor or any of these Rotarians:  
(Click to email them)

[Holly Holliman](#), Springdale  
[Dave Matty](#), Mountain Home  
[Michelle Robinson](#), Van Buren  
[Terry Bushay](#), Holiday Island  
[Ron Petersen, Sr.](#), Carthage  
[Charlie Platt](#), Springdale  
[John D. Williams, Jr](#), Northside Fayetteville  
[Marsha Jones](#), Mt Vernon

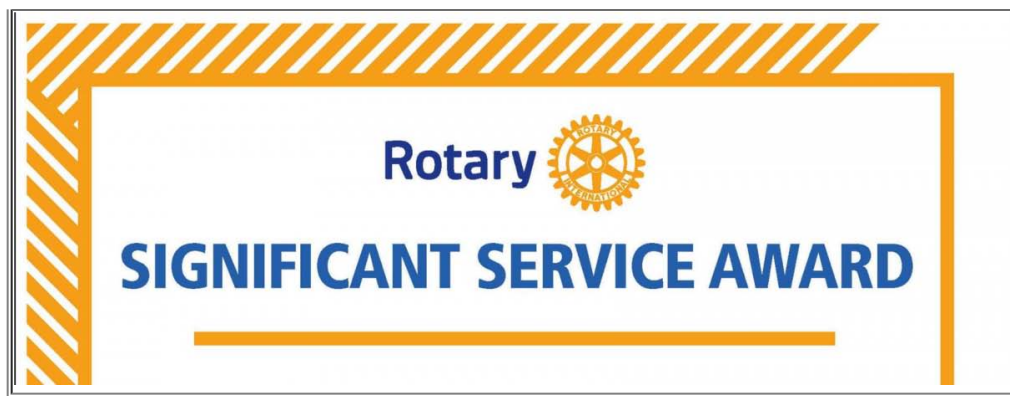
WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT? The Rotary Foundation is our engine for change in the world. Engines need fuel, and we Rotarians provide that!

You are familiar with giving to the Foundation's **Annual Fund**, where about half of the gift comes back to the district in three years. The **Endowment** is a bit different in that your gift stays with the Foundation forever, and the earnings are used to do good around the world. And half of those earnings from what we donate to the Endowment will come back to the District - forever!

Making a gift now or as a bequest - since either one will keep giving forever to the District and RI. That is a great legacy to leave for your support of Rotary







**Significant Service Award:** Recognizes a club whose project has addressed a significant need in their community.

**Who can nominate:** Club president

**Nomination period:** all year

The Significant Service Award is designed to give districts an opportunity to recognize club projects that address a significant problem or need in the local community. (International service projects are not eligible for this award).

As club president, you can nominate your club via [an online form](#) to be recognized for a significant service project that addressed a need in your community. You will be asked to provide details about your club's project, including the need that it addressed, its beneficiaries, how many club members participated and benefitted, whether it can be replicated, and how it enhanced Rotary's public image in your community.

To review and hopefully fill out the form, click [HERE](#)

When completed, you will receive a copy of your nomination form. A copy will also be sent to your governor for evaluation and consideration. Governors will determine whether to recognize the club and project, and if selected, they will present your club with a certificate of achievement.

If you have everything you need, [let's get started...](#)

WAIT! WHY ARE WE "tooting our own horn"? We don't like to pat ourselves on the back! Well, perhaps you have heard the phrase "Don't hide your light under a bushel basket." The idea here is to provide recognition for special efforts in your community. Having a presentation allows other people to know the good works we do and attract people who also like to do good!

## Caught the Magic: John Hilborn

*We are excited to hear from NEW Rotary Club members in the District who have "Caught the Magic." If you are a new Rotary member, please share your experience with DPIC Wally Bloss [wbloss@gmail.com](mailto:wbloss@gmail.com)*

I recently joined the **Bixby Rotary Club** and have enjoyed the meetings, getting to know the other members and learning about the many opportunities to be involved in the community. I assisted with the Pioneer Days festival which was a great introduction for me getting



involved. Since retiring after a 37-year career in education, I'm looking forward to being involved in events as a Bixby Rotarian

**John Hilborn, Bixby Rotary Club**

**WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT? New members help grow the club and provide new ideas - if we let them!**

## New club forming!

This is exciting!

A new Rotary club is forming in Bartlesville, OK. It will be an evening club - to add to the current morning and noon clubs there. It will begin as a satellite of the Bartlesville Daybreak Club. One of the organizers, Past District Governor Pam Crawford noted, "We are seeing a need for a club at a late afternoon time because not everyone wants to get up for a 7am meeting. And noon doesn't always work in some jobs. So, we are trying to reach people who might be interested in Rotary but can't make either of those fit. This may include people with young families and perhaps retirees".

There were about 10 current members of the Daybreak Bartlesville Rotary Club and also about 10 prospective new Rotarians. They initially meet after work two times a month, but as they find their way, when and where they meet may change.



Great turnout for the first meeting



District Membership Chair, Michelle Robinson, came up from Van Buren to lend her support. She noted, "I was very excited to see a great turnout for the first evening meeting in Bartlesville. Part of the Rotary action plan is to Expand Our Reach and one way we can do that is by sharing our values with new audiences, and creating new ways to bring people together to experience the power of Rotary. Flexibility will be crucial to achieving our membership growth for sure."

**WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT? We need new members, and sometimes the "old ways" get in the way of attracting them. Starting a new club can be exciting!**

## THE CLOCK IS TICKING BUT THERE'S TIME TO PARTICIPATE

### 4-Way Test Speech Contest

**By Chairman Ron Petersen, Sr**

Rotary has always helped young people.

*This scholarship contest is open to all young men & women in grades 9 to 12 in public, private and parochial schools and the home schooled.*

If your Club isn't involved in the Four Way Test Speech Contest, there is time to get going. **MAKE YOUR GOAL NOW.** Contact your local people **NOW** and get rolling to have your club contest completed no later than **January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025.** To be included in the competition at the district's semi-final level, you need to provide a thumb drive with a video of your final club winner by the end of February.

MY GOAL: I'm here to ask **more Clubs in our District to participate.**

- For many clubs, the contest has become an annual project that brings the principles of Rotary to the youth and into homes and schools. Decide now to be your club's kingpin in a club project to teach both business and personal ethics and reward them for the cool way they expressed those principles, AND if they are good enough, they could win "serious" money to help them further their education.
- Suppose the project would be a popular club program and the highlight of every year. The cost is minimal. Prize money for your local students normally ranges from \$100 to \$500. After a process of elimination - four finalists in the district will give their speeches live at the District Conference Luncheon May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025 for prize money up to \$1,000.
- The speech contest is an opportunity for educators to provide an ethical learning opportunity to young people. Students in participating classes should be asked to write a short essay on the subject: "What the Rotary Four Way Test Means to Me" that can be read in six minutes to their entire class.
- It is essential that students are not limited in their choice of topics. Encourage innovation and creativity even if it seems off-the-wall or states a position that might be controversial or held only by a minority. It can be serious, humorous, commonplace or unique.
- The only criterion: At the very beginning of the student's presentation, they must specifically relate to Rotary's Four Way Test to set the stage for their talk.
- After a process of elimination ... Club entries enter the final round held at District Conference this coming May where the final four will deliver their speeches "live" for the money! The winner receives \$1,000. Each Runner-up \$350.
- YouTube video links of final rounds going back several years AND a complete manual are available on our district web site [www.rotarydistrict6110.org](http://www.rotarydistrict6110.org) to navigate; point at "Youth Services" then click on Four Way Test Speech Contest. These videos of past winners are great examples to help teachers and students get involved. The manual will help you get going quickly too!

It's time to make this happen for the young people of your community.  
Thank you, and Good Luck!

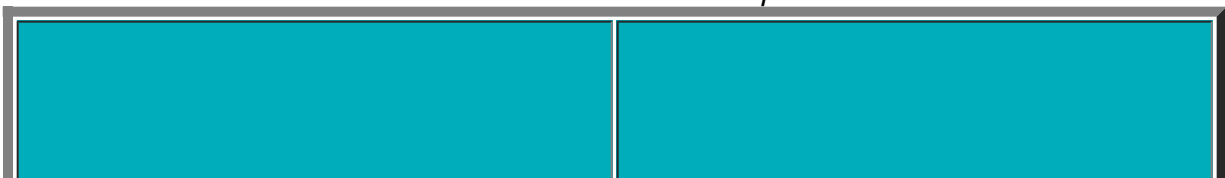
Ron Petersen, District 6110 Chair  
4-Way Test Speech Contest  
417-359-3417, [ronsr@cbciradio.com](mailto:ronsr@cbciradio.com)

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**Club Hub - October 2024**

**"The Club Hub"**

District 6110 Rotarians are *People of Action!*







**The Webb City / Carl Junction Rotary Club** conducted their First Responder Appreciation Day on 9/11. They built and delivered smashburgers to First Responders in the area. Joplin PD officers flank AG Marsha Jones and club member Steve Reed



**The Fort Smith Southside Rotary Club's** President Twana Nixon gets the action selfie as they pack food sacks for the local food clearing house. The backpack sacks provide snacks and food for kids over weekends and breaks that they are not in school.



**The Fort Smith Rotary Club** supported their Alzheimers Walk at the Univ of Arkansas Fort Smith. It was a hot day and their efforts were appreciated!

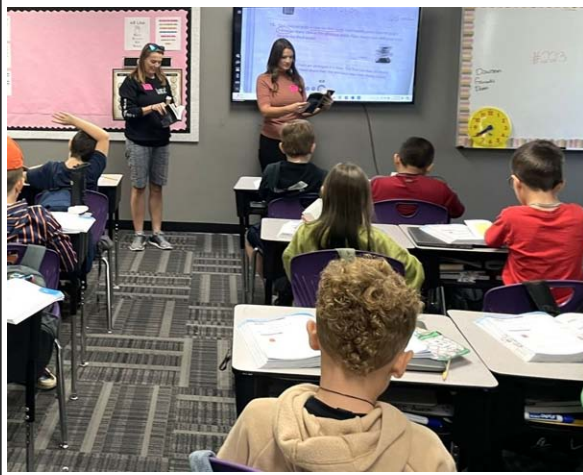


Members of the **Bartlesville Daybreak Rotary Club** spent some time helping out at MSNI recently getting ready for another shipment.





Both **Rotary Clubs in Joplin** work together to blanket the city with 744 dictionaries. In her second year as a Rotarian, Jen Berry (2nd from right) showed the ropes to brand new Rotarian Shawn Patterson. #PutThemToWork

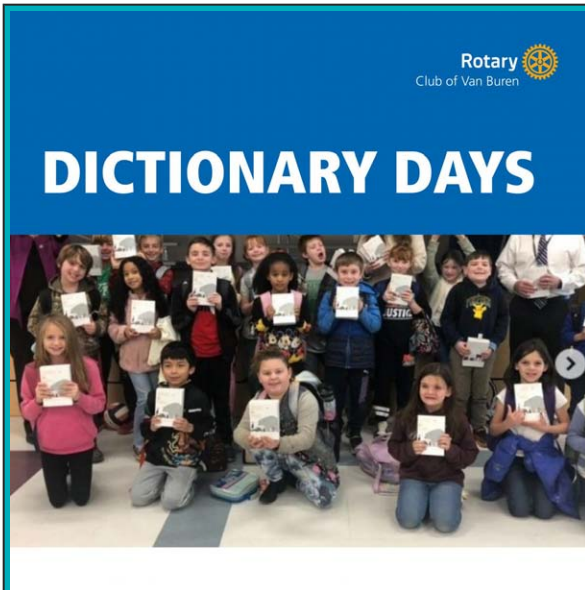


The **Muskogee Rotary Club** delivered dictionaries to 3rd graders. Recent deliveries were made by Ed Choate, Tom Turner, and Kathy Adair to third graders at Creek, Cherokee, and Hilldale Elementaries. More to come soon!



The **Wagoner Rotary Club** made sure that every third grade student in Wagoner, Porter, and Okay schools now has a dictionary of their own. President Jessica Badley joined Rotarians Krissy Jones and Ana Good to deliver 219 books.

The **Siloam Springs Rotary Club** delivered dictionaries to each of over 300 3rd graders! One little girl exclaimed, "I can use this to learn new words relating to animals! I'm so excited! I want to be a Zoologist when I grow up."



Here's the **Van Buren Rotary Club** dictionary story using a new template available at the Brand Center of RI (click [HERE](#)). Looks good! You can make your own at the [Brand Center](#). Try it! (It's FREE!)



The **Rotary Club of Tulsa** sent several members to the Iron Gate Food Pantry to help distribute food supplies, including (L-R) Rotarians Rhonda Hays, Sarah Stokely and student Magdalena Furthner, the Rotary Youth Exchange student from Austria,



The **Eureka Springs Rotary Club** did their Octoberfest recently. It supports their "Back Our Kids" program, ensuring local schoolchildren have meals for the weekend.



The **Reveille Rotary Club of Claremore** was slinging burgers for the Route 66 Cruisers Car Show at Claremore Lake. Money raised helps provide a dictionary to every 3rd grader in Rogers County



The **Berryville Rotary Club** will conduct its 2024 Princess Ball on Oct 26. Help them make it a night to remember!



The **Sapulpa Rotary Club's** Students of the month for September were Max Means and Taryn Fancher. A great commitment to featuring youth.

WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT? Is YOUR club doing service to its community? Is it telling its story? Are you "People of Action?" Let us know with "just the facts" to: Wally Bloss, District Public Image Chair: [Wbloss@Gmail.com](mailto:Wbloss@Gmail.com)

## Join the Wheelchair Project (free trip!)

By Noel Morris

Join us on our Springdale Rotary / District 6110 wheelchair distribution trip to the epicenter of





Mexico's colorful culture and cuisine, Oaxaca. (Wuh-Hah-kuh) **March 6-10, 2025**. We will stay at the Hotel Abu. [www.hotelabu.com](http://www.hotelabu.com). All hotel and ground transportation arrangements are handled by the American Wheelchair Mission, and flight recommendations will be sent to all interested travelers. Hotel rates include breakfast and taxes, ranging from \$120 per night for a single and \$140 per night for a double.

This trip gets to the heart of Rotary service. Many members have brought their children or grandchildren along also. All agree it changes the life of the person receiving the wheelchair....and the one that gave it!

If at all interested, email Springdale Rotarian Noel Morris: [CLICK HERE](#), or the American Wheelchair Rep, Tia Lewis: [CLICK HERE](#)

Can't go? Sponsor a wheelchair for \$150, or have your club sponsor a dozen. Or Both! **If you purchase a chair by Oct 31 you will be entered into a drawing for a FREE TRIP!** ACT NOW. Contact Noel ASAP for details.



**D2D Team Selected**



**D2D  
District to District  
Rotary Exchange**



The members of our "District 2 District" team for 24-25 have been selected. Congratulations to:

		
<b>Lisa Engel;</b> Broken Arrow Rotary; Team Leader	<b>DGE John Rains;</b> Tulsa Rotary	<b>Cathy Rains;</b> Sapulpa Rotary
		
<b>Galen Engel;</b> Broken Arrow Rotary	<b>Sean Crider;</b> Bella Vista Rotary	<b>Les Crider;</b> Mt. Vernon Rotary
		
<b>Patricia Kerkstra;</b> North Tulsa Rotary	<b>District 4355 awaits!</b>	<b>Corbett Campbell;</b> Broken Arrow Rotary

These Rotarians will travel to Rotary District 4355 in southern Chile in December to visit there, and a return team will come to our district in the spring of 2025. What a great opportunity to learn more about Rotary in another country and feel the warmth of their hospitality. Let them know if you want to help host the return-visit Chileans in the spring. Those that did last year had a great time showing them our area. Remember we are a part of Rotary **International!**

## Action Plan Champion: Polio

By Pamela Alaine Crawford

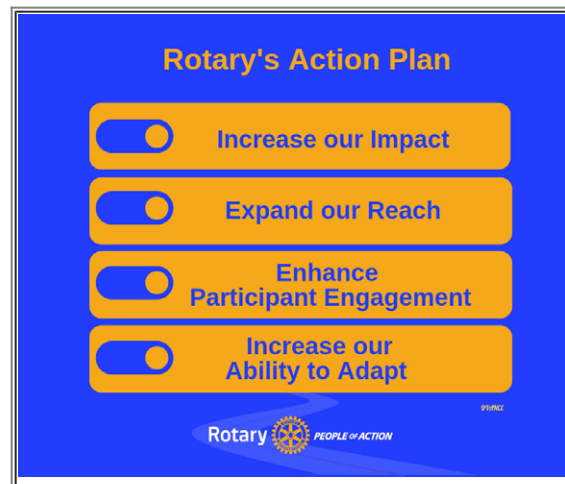
World Polio Day is October 24, 2024. One of the challenges for us in the United States is to help make it real here since eradication happened so long ago. And yet it is Rotary's #1

external goal, and it has gained us an incredible reputation around the world as a strong, reputable partner.

I get questions on my polio shirts. But all I have to do is remind people of the case in NYC a couple of years ago, or even more recently, the 10 month old baby who contracted polio in the Gaza Strip. In September, Rotary announced a \$500,000 contribution to the World Health Organization (WHO) to help with humanitarian aid in Gaza.

It costs only \$3 to deliver a vaccine...vaccination, stipend for workers, equipment. So, I looked at our District gifts to EndPolioNow at The Rotary Foundation. If you make a \$100 gift, you have helped 33 children and who knows how many people around them. When a club and its members collectively give \$1,500 they receive a Polio Certificate and help 500 children. We had 13 clubs achieve that in 2023-24...so 6,500 plus children were helped!

The **Rotary Action Plan** wants us to think about this in terms of **input, output, outcomes, and impact**. The "Polio Pets Project" that we ran in Facebook put about \$1500 more into the fund last year. I thought about that project. It created fun. People learned about Rotary. Money went to the Foundation. Children got vaccines. Parents quit worrying about their kids. Fewer crutches and wheelchairs were distributed. And again, District 6110 exercised the Fifth Test – FUN! I challenge you to think about doing an end polio program. It doesn't have to be on October 24; any day is a good day. And don't forget to register it in My Rotary along with setting a goal for Polio Foundation giving...even a small goal helps. Remember: \$3 vaccinates 1 child!



Mt Vernon Rotary Club member Amber Smith, Polio Pup Day 9 winner George, and PDG Pam Crawford

## There's (a lot) More to Rotary

Do you remember the parable of the [elephant and some blind people](#)? One touched the trunk and declared it a thick snake. Another touched the large ears and thought it was a fan, and the third blind person touched the leg and decided it a tree trunk. What we think of Rotary may be similar. We may know pieces of our own club, but not much beyond that. So what? Like the blind folk, we are missing much of what makes Rotary (and the elephant) unique.



How to fix that?

- Top of the list is the [District Leadership Academy](#), a 7-month comprehensive opportunity - it just started for this Rotary year.
- Need a more "bite-sized option: The [Rotary Learning Center](#) has many courses - 15 minutes and longer on all the aspects of Rotary.

Over the next few months we will take a look at it and how it can help you "see" what



Rotary really is!

Let's start with the basics - great for a new member and even as a refresher for some of us old fogies: [ROTARY BASICS](#) - why not click it and take a look?

Also, what are you providing for your new club members? Here's one great idea: [Rotary New Member Kits](#) and if those are a bit too pricey (do you charge an "initiation fee?") here is a book about the basics: [Rotary Basics Booklet](#). RI used to sell these things in their "shop" but now they are only available through RI vendors.

**WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT?** You belong to your local club, which is connected to a wide array of services and projects that Rotary clubs provide. There's a lot to learn about Rotary - why not expand your horizons?

## Welcome New Rotarians Oct 2024

### Have you welcomed a prospect to your Rotary club?



The **Pittsburg Rotary Club** inducted its newest member, Brenda Pittman of the Salvation Army. (2nd from left). Also pictured (L-R) are President-Nominee Becky McDaniel, President-Elect Diane Cunningham, and President Bryce Anderson.



**Coffeyville Rotary Club's** President Scott Tatman (far left) welcomes two newest members: (left) Amy Taylor-CRMC Director of Foundation and Guest Relations and (right) Lora Stalford- Assistant Superintendent at Coffeyville Public Schools- USD 445.



Dr. Ben O'Connor, Superintendent of Lamar Schools (center) was inducted as the newest **Lamar Rotary Club** member.



These could be your new members...are you looking for them?



## Rotary District 6110 New Membership Listing

New Members From: **September 12, 2024** To: **October 10, 2024**

Member Name	Start Date	Club	Sponsor
Adams, Richmond (MOND )	10/01/2024	Neosho	Holly Mitchell
Albin, Megan	09/13/2024	Van Buren	
Back, Carolyn	10/03/2024	Coweta	
Bell, Michael	10/02/2024	Coweta	
Bentz, William (BILL)	10/01/2024	Neosho	Joseph Sheppard
Davis, Jim	10/01/2024	Neosho	Jim R. Cummins
Earles, Aurelia Patricia (PATRICIA)	09/30/2024	Pittsburg	Kimberly M. Froman
Hammond, Courtney	09/26/2024	Muskogee	
Hass, Joshua	09/13/2024	McAlester	Sayer Brenner
Hevener, Cammi	10/04/2024	Siloam Springs	Patti Eiland
Iverson, Keni M	09/16/2024	Miami	
Jemison, William Artis (ARTIS)	09/30/2024	North Tulsa	Wallace A. Williams
Johansson, Margaret Jane (JANE)	10/02/2024	Neosho	Holly Mitchell
Jordan, Tim	10/09/2024	Cassville	Merlyn Johnson Laura J Holycross
Kestner, Aaron	09/20/2024	Bartlesville Daybreak	Keith Branham LaDonna Chancellor
Klu-Duvor, Kwashie (KOSAS)	09/30/2024	Tulsa Southside	Brett J. Brough
Koester, Matt	09/17/2024	Chanute	Patty Ann Sanborn
Lancaster, Sydney	09/19/2024	Parsons	Nodine Legal
McCorkle, Kellie	10/06/2024	Grove	Robert R Carter
Mulkin, Tree	09/30/2024	Pittsburg	Brian K. Jones
Pape, Kenneth L	10/06/2024	Bull Shoals- Lakeview	Melissa A Baker Roger D Simons
Pittman, Brenda	09/30/2024	Pittsburg	Diane Cunningham
Potter, D. John	10/07/2024	Pryor	Cathy Webster Phyllis Hess
Ramos, Leigh	09/18/2024	Grove	Steve Thomas
Rhodes, Krystal	09/30/2024	Downtown Rogers	
Senteney, Christopher Jacob (CHRISTOPHER)	09/30/2024	Springdale	Jeffrey L. Wood
Wagenseller, Laine	09/16/2024	Bentonville	