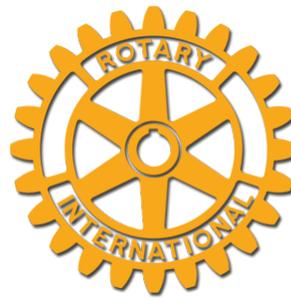


Rotary

District 6150



Account Leaders



James Arbuckle Sr.
District Governor



David F. Menz
DG-Elect



Sydney O'Quin Gilbert
DG-Nominee



Brian Rega
DG - Nominee
Designate



Lisa K. Golden
District Administrator



Michelle Blasengame
Assistant Governor



Mark A. Brasfield
Assistant Governor



Donna Gail Cole
Assistant Governor



Rena Kelley
Assistant Governor



Jai Lambert
Assistant Governor



Kelly Blankenship
Lewis
Assistant Governor

James Sidney
Lowrance
Assistant Governor

From the Governor

By James Arbuckle Sr.



Hello, fellow Rotarians! March was a busy month, and it ended in a bang with the first in-person Mid-America President-Elect Training Seminar (MAPETS) in Springdale. It was a great opportunity for President-Elects (PEs) from four Districts to meet, share ideas, and plan for their upcoming year as Presidents. The highlight of the event was meeting Rotary International President-Elect Jennifer Jones. She delivered an inspiring speech encouraging us to imagine what the world would be like full of Rotarians. The Rotary theme for 2022-2023 will be "Imagine Rotary". I'm excited about the new group of Presidents that will be leading your clubs starting in July. Please encourage and support them as they take on this challenge.

April has arrived, and we're just about on the downhill slide towards the end of the Rotary year. But first, our District Conference, planned for April 29th and 30th, will be held at the Four Points by Sheraton Hotel in Little Rock. More about this event is contained in this newsletter, and I encourage each of you to register.

Water and Sanitation

Last month, I spoke about Maternal and Child Health, not realizing that I spoke on April's topic, so I'll devote this month's newsletter to the topic for March – Water and Sanitation. Access to clean water and sanitation is a human right, but not everyone is afforded that right. On my trips to Haiti, I've experienced this firsthand. Most of you will recall the story of Charlene the orphan in Haiti. She is one of thousands in Haiti known as Restaveks (child slaves). This 9-year-old girl travels a 20 minute walk, three times a day, to fill a 5-gallon bucket of water to carry back to her house mother's home.

I recently ran into North Little Rock Rotarian Phil Shupe at an event celebrating engineering achievements in Arkansas. You'll recall that Phil and I teamed up on the water project where fellow Rotarians in District 6150 raised over \$12,000 for the purchase of water filters to help the people of Haiti impacted by a recent earthquake. He told me about a book that just hit the streets: *The Worth of Water*, co-authored by Gary White, an engineer, and Matt Damon, an actor.



Here's an overview of the book.

On any given morning, you might wake up and shower with water, make your coffee with water, flush your toilet with water--and think nothing of it.

*But around the world, more than three-quarters of a billion people can't do any of that--because they have no clean water source near their homes. And 1.7 billion don't have access to a toilet. This crisis affects a third of the people on the planet. It keeps kids out of school and women out of work. It traps people in extreme poverty. It spreads disease. In *The Worth of Water*, Gary and Matt take us along on the journey--telling stories as they uncover insights, try out new ideas, and travel between the communities they serve and the halls of power where decisions get made. With humor and humility, they illuminate the challenges of launching a brand-new model with extremely high stakes: better health*



Darin McCollum
Assistant Governor



Sonya Schmidt
Murphy
Assistant Governor



Michelle Karin
Oglesby
Assistant Governor



Adam Robert Sartin
Assistant Governor



George Matthew Bue
District Membership
Chair



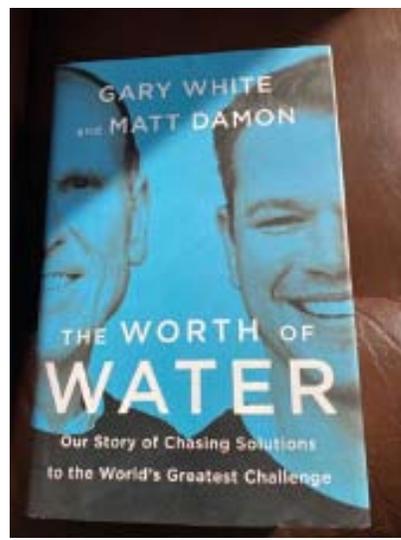
Charles C. Harris
District Visioning
Chair



John F. Carter
District Foundation
Chair



Douglas J.
Shackelford
District Public Image
Chair



and greater prosperity for people all over the world.

The Worth of Water invites us to become a part of this effort--to match hope with resources, to empower families and communities, and to end the global water crisis for good.

Rotary also plays a big role in working to provide communities with sustainable access to safe water, improved sanitation, and hygiene management training. When people, especially children, have access to clean water, improved sanitation facilities, and better hygiene habits, they lead healthier and more successful lives. Here are a couple of examples of the work Rotary has done:

- In Nepal, the Rotary Club of Durbarmarg collaborated with their twin club and the Rotaract Clubs of Phulbari and Eco-Himal Nepal to provide access to safe drinking water for students at a government school. Students were drinking visibly contaminated, untreated water directly from the water source. Rotary members installed 14 low-cost colloidal silver-enhanced ceramic water filters with strong filtration systems. These filters were manufactured locally and are a traditional practice in availing safe drinking water to those lacking access.



- In India, the village of Kolawade was consuming unsafe water delivered by a rusted 40-year-old water pipeline. The Rotary Clubs of Pune Central and Pune Kothrud came together to provide a new pipeline for the village, allowing 1200 villagers to have access to clean and safe water.



In Arkansas, Rotarians in District 6150 participated in a global grant to provide toilets for middle school girls in India. Below are pictures of what this facility will look like.



Registration for the 2022 District Conference, Serve to Change Lives with Gratitude is now open

By Lisa K. Golden

[Register NOW](#) for **District 6150 Conference 2022**

Join us April 29-30, 2022 at the Four Points Sheraton in Little Rock (hotel registration link located in conference registration link) to celebrate all that we accomplished during the 2021-2022 Rotary year. Conference highlights include:

All Club Lunch - Join us as we kickoff the conference and enjoy fellowship with area Rotarians on Friday, 12:00-1:00pm (doors open at 11:30). Keynote speaker will be Lloyd Campbell who will motivate us with "**Courage to Lead**".

Breakout Sessions - Topics include mental health, public image, re-engaging membership and a panel discussion on empowering girls in STEM.

Foundation Dinner and Concert - We are combining our annual Foundation Dinner with the conference this year. Join us poolside as we celebrate Serve to Change Lives with Gratitude fiesta style! Keynote speaker will be Brian Hall who will inspire us with **Foundation Project Stories**. The event will conclude with music by local Little Rock band Rock Candy. Please note: registration price includes a \$50 donation to The Rotary Foundation in your name.

End Polio Walk - Participants will be bussed to the Riverfront Park in downtown Little Rock for a 1 mile End Polio Walk that includes a stop by the Rotary Club 99 Centennial Plaza. Registration includes an End Polio Now t-shirt. Please note: registration also includes a \$25 donation to the End Polio Now Campaign.

Awards Luncheon - We will conclude the conference with the annual awards luncheon celebrating the successes and accomplishments of the Rotary year. Keynote speaker will be Roy Johnson who will encourage us to "**Put Some Gratitude in Your Attitude!**"

[Register NOW](#) for **District 6150 Conference 2022**

- * Registration deadline to guarantee your requested t-shirt size is April 9th.
- * Registration deadline is April 22nd.
- * Hotel registration deadline is April 25th.

Join us in person and celebrate the year we Served to Change Lives.

District Happenings

By James Arbuckle Sr.

District Happenings In the news...



**SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES
WITH GRATITUDE**

**April 29-30, 2022
Little Rock, AR**

Four Points by Sheraton Midtown

Our very own Assistant Governor Rena` Kelley was recently recognized as Miss National United States, by the national organization, Woman of Achievement. The mission of Woman of Achievement is to recognize & develop women leaders in their communities. Rena` is not only a leader in Rotary, but a leader in her community. She received her Master of Science degree in Education from UCA. Rena` has a passion for teaching as is evidenced by her role as an adult education instructor at the ASU-Beebe Heber Springs Campus. Rena` is a strong advocate for single parents, having been a single parent herself. In November, she participated in a weekend event in Arizona where she shared her talents at gymnastics and talked about her passion for teaching and providing opportunities that she was afforded. Congratulations on this honor, Rena'!



Earth Day is Coming

Earth Day is just around the corner on April 22, 2022. Please make plans to participate in an event in your community celebrating this day and Rotary's new area of focus, the Environment. Activities could include picking up trash, spreading mulch, planting trees or flowers. Don't forget to take pictures so that we can publicize the event. Rotarians in the Little Rock area be on the lookout for an announcement about the time and location for our opportunity for service.

District Golf Outing

Our 2022 District 6150 Golf Outing will be held in Wynne, AR. Golfers, please tentatively mark your calendars for May 26, 2022. Confirmation and details to come.

Imagine MAPETS; Imagine Your Club

By Michelle Oglesby



Can you imagine receiving an inspirational message from Jennifer Jones, the first woman to become RI President?

Can you imagine getting not one, not two, but three hugs and a picture from Jennifer?

Can you imagine all the ideas presented to President-Elects and President-Nominees and Satellite Chairs?

Can you imagine all the presentations given and notes taken?

Can you imagine the excitement flowing through the hotel Atrium while visiting vendors?

Can you imagine meeting old and new friends from different districts?

Can you imagine all the fun everyone had that weekend?

Can you imagine our district being small in numbers but representing big excitement about Rotary?

Can you imagine seeing all the excitement in Rotarians ready to be People of Action?

Get ready to not only imagine but see how great your club can be this Rotary Year!! Thanks to all the preparation by MAPETS, your club will be ready.

World Immunization Week, 24-30 April,

Thursday, April 7, 2022

Join with Rotary to promote the power of vaccines to protect children and save lives

During World Immunization Week, 24-30 April, let's advocate for polio eradication and the importance of vaccines to the health and well-being of our communities.

Vaccines are one of the greatest advances of modern

medicine. They're safe, effective, and save millions of lives each year. Our progress in the fight to end polio is proof that vaccines work.

The Global Polio Eradication Initiative estimates that the polio vaccine has saved more than 20 million children around the world from paralysis. **We need to continue vaccinating children against polio, because as long as the poliovirus circulates anywhere, it is a threat everywhere.**

Here's how you can support Rotary's efforts during World Immunization Week: Use the [World Immunization Week Toolkit](#) for graphics and sample posts to share on social media with the hashtags #EndPolio and #VaccinesWork.

- [Donate](#) to PolioPlus to help Rotary and our partners deliver polio vaccines to vulnerable children. Or start an online fundraiser using [Raise for Rotary](#) and share it with your friends, colleagues, and family members. All contributions will be matched 2-to-1 by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Rotary districts can give [District Designated Funds \(DDF\)](#) to PolioPlus to help meet our goal of raising \$50 million each year to eradicate polio.

[Visit endpolio.org](http://endpolio.org)



A Heartwarming Experience at Our House with Little Rock After Hours Rotary

By Mary Gael Hees



Preparing and serving food is a heartwarming activity whether it's for family members, friends, or even complete strangers. A team from Little Rock's Afterhours Rotary club recently had just such an experience cooking for and serving the residents of Our House in downtown Little Rock.

A 4 pm call had the five participants ready and waiting onsite. Randy Hees immediately put two huge pots of water on the stove for the pasta (thank heaven because they took *forever* to boil). Others met club president, Sarah Bennings, at the door who had picked up the ingredients for the dinner. The Heights Kroger donated 20 pounds of ground beef, canned green beans, multiple packages of pasta, jars of sauce, and assorted cookies – plenty of food for the expected 52 diners.

John Parke and Randy scrounged around the well-stocked kitchen and found spices and a couple of onions to add to the sauce. Like seasoned chefs, they added flavoring, tasted and conferred, added more, and tasted again. This wasn't going to be your everyday spaghetti sauce (even the beans got a bit of their seasoning savvy).

Whitney Brooks took on the arduous task of opening 20+ cans of green beans with a hand-held opener, only to later discover an industrial strength opener on a counter in the back. Gael Hees played sous-chef, shepherding the green beans into a pan plus asking questions of the management about serving protocols and the workings of the steam table. Robert S. Coleman kept everyone stocked with utensils, helped cook, and kept counters clean.

Dinner was ready and at 6 pm sharp when approximately 25 women materialized at the serving line. They joked with each other. They thanked the team members for being there. Several had infants and others had toddlers or older children. They came back for seconds with many compliments for the "delicious food." One enthusiastic woman said, "It was the best spaghetti I've ever had." Everyone felt good to be able to provide delicious nutritious food for the residents of this supportive facility.



The men came in at 6:30. The happiest one was the lone vegetarian that asked for



just pasta, no meat sauce. He was surprised and very grateful to discover that some of the sauce had been kept separate for just such an need.

The surprise was that there was no clean up! The Our House staff handled all of that.

Everyone on the team agreed they would absolutely do it again and sent a heartfelt "thank you" to Thomas James Thompson, service projects chair, who scheduled the event.



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES