

Rotary



District 6150



From the Governor

By Michael E. Bennage



February was great month for me. We had over a foot of snow at my home, the most since 1987. I remember having a small puppy in 1987 and my dog went outside to play. He had to hop through the snow because it was so deep. He loved it, and I believe, hated it at the same time. But he adapted well to it. That was the only major snowfall he we would see, but he got to experience the snow. What is my point? We have had to make many changes over the last year. Pretty much everything has had to change. Like my dog, we have hated a lot of it, but I think we can be proud and happy with some of the changes we made. We have pushed ourselves to be better Rotarians. I am not thrilled that we have had this experience on my watch, but very happy to see the willingness to change. I think this experience will make us better Rotarians in the end, and hope we don't see anything like this for a long time.

As we look to March, I see things improving. Some are getting their vaccines, and others wait patiently to get theirs. I believe the attitudes of people in general are getting better as well. I know that I am feeling better about things, and hope by this summer we are back to normal, or at least a new normal.

I want to remind everyone that March is Water and Sanitation month for Rotary. If you have projects in this area that you are working on, please send them to Sydney so she can post what you are doing on the district website. If you are not participating in a water and sanitation project, watch for clubs that are and support them in their efforts. Also, as I write this note on March 8, 2021, we recognize the Women of Rotary on this day. I know that I am very grateful for the efforts of Women in Rotary! Keep up the great work!

As we near the last few months of my year, remember to finish working on your club recognition criteria. We have extended the deadline to April 1, 2021 to complete as many items as you can on the checklist. Have you done your visioning session yet? If not, get done as they say.

Lastly, I am working on a district golf tournament and dinner hopefully geared toward the foundation. More details to come, but you won't want to miss it. Thanks for your service to Rotary!
Mike Bennage

Innovative New Clubs

By Adam Robert Sartin



Have you drank the Rotary Kool-Aid or waiting for a cup? This is for you. We have a district wide initiative to be innovative in creating clubs that adapt to its members. From starting an e-club, a cause based club, or a satellite club offering different meeting times, the options are infinite. Rotary has such an opportunity to reach teachers, health professionals, active military, and anyone who may not be able to participate in the traditional meeting format. From a Veterans club, a pet-lovers club, or an after-hours caused based (mental health) club, we can use

Rotary's structure and resources to engage citizens to create better and stronger communities. If you have an idea for a new club that will serve your community, let's chat! [Email me](#) or call at (870) 336-9950.

Get Ready to Grow



District 6150 Get Ready to Grow Membership Drive

Since July 1, our District has lost 128 members, for multiple reasons. In business, when we lose a client/customer, we rush out to look for another. We need that same drive in Rotary. Increasing membership in your club is everyone's job. Whom can you rush out and ask to join Rotary?

February 1 is the kickoff for our District-wide Membership Drive, Get Ready to Grow. If your club is struggling right now, new members can bring in new ideas and opportunities for your club to expand in your community. All clubs are invited to participate.

Campaign Details:

When: February 1 - May 1, 2021

What: New members inducted by April 30, 2021 to qualify

Prizes awarded to clubs adding the highest percentage of new or reinstated members (gains based from January 31 membership numbers):

- Cash Award to be used for a service project to the following:
 - Club with the highest net membership gain - \$2000
 - Club with the 2nd highest net membership gain - \$1000
 - Club with the 3rd highest net membership gain - \$500
- Paul Harris Fellow awarded to the member who brings in the most new members
- No 2021-2022 district dues charged to the club for new members who joined February 2 - June 30, 2021 (a savings to your club of \$42 per new member)
- \$500 award to any new club for startup expenses (regular or satellite) chartered by June 30, 2021

Questions? Contact [DG Mike Bennage](#).

Welcome New Members - February

Welcome New Members! We are so happy you have joined us to make a difference in the community. YOU are the difference maker your club needed.

Nichole Bryant (Batesville)
Randy Jones (Little Rock Afterhours)
Brent Montgomery (Marion)
Jarod Wesson (Marion)
Tamra Cowell (Sherwood)
Tammy Denton (West Little Rock)
Simone Lewis (West Little Rock)
Sandy Smith (West Little Rock)

Mid-America PETS is VIRTUAL

By James Arbuckle

Rotary
Mid-America PETS

MARCH 27, 2021
VIA ZOOM

\$1000 Cash Give Away
Must be in Attendance to Win

SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

Speakers and Organizers:
Shekhar Mehta (RI President-elect)
Dr. C.J. Huff (Leading in Crisis)
Rebecca Sliter (Annual Giving Officer)
Floyd Lancia (RI Zone Director)
John Williams (Convener)
Ed Hardesty (Session Trainer)
DGE Matt Tipton (D5758)
DGE Kevin Merrill (D6110)
DGE James Arbuckle (D6158)
DGE Kathy Carter (D6170)

Mid-America PETS will be Virtual this year! Presidents-Elect's registration fee has already been paid for already by the clubs.

Additional members from the club can also Register for \$25 each.

[Register Now](#)

Dates to Know

Upcoming Events for District & Club Leaders:

Thursday, March 18 at 6pm	District Presidents-Elect Training Session 1 Register on Zoom
Thursday, March 25 at 6pm	District Presidents-Elect Training Session 2 Register on Zoom
Saturday, March 27 at 8	2021 Virtual Mid-America PETS

am	Register Now
Thursday, April 1	All Club Recognition Criteria should be turned in to your Assistant Governor or Sydney Gilbert , District Administrator.

Rotary Club of North Little Rock

The Rotary Clubs of North Little Rock presented their 2021 "I Like Me" program virtually to the NLR School District's kindergarten students.

Since 1999, the North Little Rock Rotary Club has organized the "I Like Me" program. Each kindergartener in the district receives a personalized book that features their name, two friends' names and the names of the teacher, principal and school. The book is aimed to develop the student's self-esteem, to bring about a joy for reading, and to promote community engagement. Rotarians, district and city leaders, high school students and volunteers read the books with the five- and six-year-olds.

Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, reading in person did not take place this year, but it still happened! The schools and the Rotarians participated in virtual readings.

[Watch NLR Mayor Terry Hartwick](#) reading to students.



Rotary Foundation - 4 Stars

Rotary Foundation receives highest rating from Charity Navigator for the 13th consecutive year

For the 13th consecutive year, The Rotary Foundation has received the highest rating — four stars — from Charity Navigator, an independent evaluator of charities in the U.S.

The Foundation earned the recognition for adhering to sector best practices and executing its mission in a financially efficient way, demonstrating both strong financial health and commitment to accountability and transparency. Only one percent of the organizations Charity Navigator evaluates have received 13 consecutive 4-star evaluations.

"Your achievement and 4-star rating will enhance your organization's fundraising and public relations efforts," says Michael Thatcher, president and chief executive officer of Charity Navigator. "This exceptional designation sets the Foundation apart from its peers and demonstrates to the public its trustworthiness."

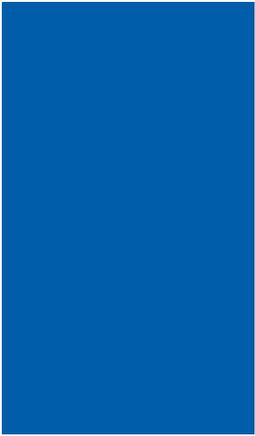
The rating reflects Charity Navigator's assessment of how the Foundation uses donations, sustains its programs and services, and practices good governance and openness.



Clean Water for Peace

The Supurunda Water Supply Project in Papua New Guinea has been a successful example of how Rotary is advancing peace and providing clean water and sanitation.

by *Rotary Down Under*



[Read More](#)