

# Rotary

## District 6150



### Account Leaders



David F. Menz  
District Governor



Sydney O'Quin Gilbert  
DG-Elect



Brian Rega  
DG-Nominee



Lisa K. Golden  
District Administrator



Sarah Catherine  
Bennings  
Assistant Governor



Michelle Blasengame  
Assistant Governor



King Casbeer  
Assistant Governor



Donna Gail Cole  
Assistant Governor



Sally Sullivan Cooke  
Assistant Governor



James K. Gibbs  
Assistant Governor



Rena Kelley  
Assistant Governor



Kelly Blankenship  
Lewis  
Assistant Governor

T Lucas Minton

### From the Governor

By David F. Menz



Fellow Rotarians,

Spring is approaching (begins March 20), and for us Rotarians in District 6150 that means three wonderful opportunities for fun, fellowship, and education.

First, Mid America PETS. Incoming Rotary officers from clubs in four districts (6150, 6110, 6170 and 5750), representatives from Rotary International, and officials from Zones 30 and 31, will convene in Springdale, Arkansas March 23rd to the 25th to prepare for the 2023-2024 Rotary Year. PETS is the venue at which club officials selected to govern their clubs commencing July 1, 2023 learn about their duties and obligations. Even more important (at least in my mind), is being able to mix and mingle with other Rotarians to exchange ideas about how to make a club's year as successful as possible.

Second, the District Conference. District 6150 is joining District 6800 (Memphis and northern Mississippi) and District 6820 (southern Mississippi, not including the coast) to combine their resources. The dates are April 20th to the 23rd. I am pleased to announce that the nominee for Rotary International President for Rotary Year 2024-2025, Stephanie Urchick will be present at the conference and speak at the Friday dinner and at lunch on Saturday. This is a wonderful event for our three Districts, and I hope each of you takes the opportunity to meet Stephanie. The website for the conference is "[Rotary Rollin' on the River in Memphis](#)". The speakers and sessions are being filled in as they are confirmed. The conference site is the Guest House at Graceland.

Is there anything to do in Memphis? Well, for starters, there's Graceland, right across the street. The Memphis Redbirds will be playing the Indianapolis Indians at Auto Zone Field from the 18th until the 22nd. Other highlights include the Memphis Zoo, the Children's Museum of Memphis, the Civil Rights Museum, Sun Studios, Beale Street, and the Bass Pro Pyramid. Other lesser known attractions are the Crystal Shrine Grotto, the Pink Palace Family of Museums, the Memphis Rock and Soul Museum, the Memphis Botanical Gardens, the Stax Museum of American Soul Music, and the Belz Museum of Asian and Judaic Art.

District 6150's conference chair is our own Judge Shawn Johnson, president of the small but mighty Little Rock Morning Rotary Club. He is responsible for two presentations. The first is by John Fogleman, who will tell us about the new Sultana Disaster Museum in Marion. On April 27, 1865 the steamboat Sultana exploded and sank ten miles north of Memphis on the Mississippi River. Over 1,800 of the Sultana's 2,300 passengers were killed, which is the deadliest maritime disaster in United States history.

A brand new documentary will also be presented. The Vows is a film about the history of the Rendezvous. I have never been to Memphis without eating there. We hope to have a representative of the Rendezvous present at the screening. The film has been reviewed in the New York Times. Appearances include John Daly, Bill Clinton, and Archie Manning, among others. The documentary was produced and directed by Arkansans.

Third, the District 6150 Golf Outing. King Casbeer has promised another wonderful scramble on May 19th at the Ridges at Village Creek. In the past only the East and West courses have been used. Since I have never seen the North nine holes, I have requested that the North be included. The Ridges at Village Creek is on the Arkansas Golf Trail, and it is a beautiful venue. The Wynne Rotary Club, one of the friendliest clubs in the District, will be our hosts.

### THE LIGHTER SIDE

The marquee at my neighborhood Mexican restaurant reads: "Open 24 hours in queso emergency."

The boss to one of his staff: "We've got a vacancy. Your twin brother could fill it." "My twin brother?" "Yes. The one I saw at the football game yesterday while you were at your uncle's funeral."



Assistant Governor



Adam Robert Sartin  
Assistant Governor



Charles C. Harris  
District Visioning  
Chair



Michelle Karin  
Oglesby  
District Training Chair

My mother was getting swamped with calls from strangers. The reason? A medical billing service had launched a telephone number that was identical to hers. When she called to complain, they told her to get a new number. "I've had mine for twenty years," she pleaded. "Couldn't you change yours?" They refused. So Mom said "Fine. From now on I'm going to tell everyone who calls that their bill is paid in full." The company got a new number the next day.

Airport security confiscated my Bengay. They accused me of packing heat.

## March is Water and Sanitation Month

Sunday, March 5, 2023



***The Rotary Foundation is changing the world by providing grants for projects and activities around the globe and in your own backyard:***

### Water Sanitation Hygiene (WASH) Global Grant Projects:

Since 2013, The Rotary Foundation has invested in more than \$130 million in over 2000 projects worldwide. Through this investment, our volunteers of action have improved access to safely managed and basic WASH services to communities, schools and healthcare facilities, while protecting and conserving water resources.



**WATER, SANITATION,  
AND HYGIENE**

Many of our district clubs participate in clean water projects around the globe each year. March is the month to highlight these projects or plan new ones for our local communities or abroad.

## March Admin Notes

By Lisa K. Golden

### **Presidents-Elect - It's not to late to register for Mid-America PETS**

REGISTER NOW for 2023 Mid-America PETS if you haven't already. Your club has already paid for you to attend.

**Mid-America PETS** is scheduled for March 23 - 25, 2023 Springdale, Arkansas [Registration is open](#). Find out more info regarding PETS & lodging info at [midamericapets.org](http://midamericapets.org).

The purpose of the Presidents-Elect Training Seminar (PETS) is to help you to be a club president who has the necessary skills, knowledge, and motivation to lead an effective club. Don't miss this opportunity to meet district, zone and RI leaders. You will meet club president-elects other districts and states and have the opportunity to exchange ideas with other clubs your size.

### **DISTRICT CONFERENCE - Rotary Rollin on the River!**



April 21 - 23, 2023 in Memphis, TN  
Guesthouse at Graceland

Check out the website [Rotary Rollin on the River](#). It is being updated frequently with information on sessions, speakers and activities.

Registration is now open!

[Register Now](#)

### **Important Dates**

**World Rotaract Week** is March 13-19

**District Golf Tournament** May 19, 2023. The Ridges at Village Creek - Wynne, Arkansas

**RI Convention** is May 27-31 in Melbourne, Australia. Preregistration discount ends on **March 31**. For more information, see the [RI Convention Website](#)



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ROTARY**