

Michael Step  
DISTRICT GOVERNOR  
Biweekly, May 5, 2021



NEWSLETTER | [www.rotarydistrict6490.org](http://www.rotarydistrict6490.org) | [www.facebook.com/rotarydistrict6490](https://www.facebook.com/rotarydistrict6490)

## APRIL IS MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH MONTH



Youth Service Month is a special time in Rotary. Throughout the month of May, members of Rotary clubs, Rotaract, Interact, and those involved in Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) and Rotary Youth Exchange celebrate the opportunities Rotary provides to connect, grow through service, develop leadership skills, mentor or be mentored, and have fun.

Although COVID may prevent some of us from celebrating Youth Service Month in person, it need not dampen our enthusiasm, excitement, and gratitude for these programs and the volunteers who make them possible. Here are four ways you can safely celebrate:

**1. Serve.** Make the month special by identifying needs in your community, and getting creative with ways to meet them with local guidelines. This could include sewing masks for essential workers, collecting and distributing supplies for shut-ins, or creating a phone chain to offer a message of encouragement to seniors who are isolated and alone. [Check out this list of projects](#) being conducted by Rotary clubs around the world for inspiration.

**2. Stay Connected.** Schedule an online meeting with your sponsor Rotary club, or with program participants and alumni. Recognize past accomplishments and discuss ways to work together in the future to strengthen participation. Visit the [Meeting Online](#) learning topic to find and share resources, join discussions, and ask for expert advice about creating online meeting spaces.

**3. Unite behind a fundraiser.** Empower Rotary's response to the pandemic by donating to the [Disaster Response Fund](#). Grants from this fund are providing hospitals in Belgium, Croatia, and Italy with lifesaving ventilators; and equipping frontline healthcare workers with personal protective equipment in Korea, Nigeria, the Philippines, Spain, and the United States. In India, disaster response grants are providing disinfectant sprayers, beds, and mattresses for healthcare facilities.

**4. Set and achieve goals.** Take this month to focus on initiatives that will help your club earn this year's [Rotary Citation](#). Brainstorm sustainable service projects, ways

## DISTRICT EVENTS

- May 5th  
[In person - Hillsboro Rotary - DG Mike Step visit](#)
- May 6th  
[In Person - BN Daybreak - DG Mike visit](#)
- May 10th  
[District Committee Chair Meeting With DG Mike Step](#)  
**Speaker:** DG Mike Step  
**Subject:** Bi-Monthly meeting of District Leadership to review progress on goals
- May 11th  
[In Person - Fairbury Rotary - DG Mike Step Visit](#)
- May 11th  
[Women of Rotary Speaker Series: Jennifer McCarron](#)
- May 12th  
[In Person - Metamora/Germantown Hills - DG Mike Step Visit](#)
- May 15th  
[District 6490 Award Nominations Open](#)
- May 17th  
[In Person - Paris Club - DG Visit](#)
- May 18th  
[In Person - Newton Rotary - DG Mike Step Visit](#)
- May 19th  
[In Person - Effingham Noon Rotary - DG Mike Step Visit](#)
- May 19th  
[In Person - Blm Pub Club Satellite - DG Mike Step visit](#)
- May 20th  
[Virtual Happy Hour w DG Mike Step for Club Presidents](#)
- May 22nd  
**SOLD OUT:** [Rotary Day at the Ball Park - In Support of Literacy](#)
- May 25th  
[IN PERSON - BN Sunrise - DG Mike Step Visit](#)
- May 26th  
[In Person - Champaign West - DG Visit](#)
- May 26th  
[In Person - Gibson City - DG Mike Step Visit](#)
- June 1st  
[Club Presidents: Review club goals in MyRotary](#)
- June 1st  
[In person - Tuscola Rotary - DG Mike Step Visit](#)
- June 3rd  
[District Global Grants Meeting](#)  
**Speaker:** PDG Kevin Yonce  
**Subject:** District 6490 Global Grants
- June 7th  
[In Person - Paris Club - DG Visit](#)
- June 8th  
[Women of Rotary Speaker Series: Colleen Kannady](#)
- June 8th

to increase giving to The Rotary Foundation, and build awareness of Rotary in your community. Young people are looking for a way to make a difference. Show them how Rotary equips them to do so, especially in this time of crisis. And watch your membership grow.

???????Share how you're celebrating Rotary's Youth Service Month on social media with #RotaryYouthService.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Supporting high-impact service with Programs of Scale grants

The Rotary Foundation's first annual \$2 million Programs of Scale grant supports a Rotarian-led effort to dramatically reduce malaria in Zambia. The Partners for a Malaria-Free Zambia program will add thousands of community health workers to the country's health system to test for, diagnose, and treat malaria in more communities. Read about how members [formed a successful partnership](#) to increase their impact.

### Welcome to Racheal Fearday Incoming District Administrative Assistant



It is with pleasure that District 6490 welcomes Racheal Fearday as our new Administrative Assistant. Racheal will be training with Jane Chamberlain for the next two months and will step into the position on July 1. Racheal graduated from the University of Evansville with an undergraduate degree in History and a Master's degree in Business Administration from Eastern Illinois University. She has 17 years of experience in training and customer service.

Racheal and her husband, Rotarian Joe Fearday, live in Effingham, IL where they are actively involved with their community, church and Rotary. On one of her first dates with Joe, Racheal joined him for a Rotary club service project - a roadside trash pick-up day! They have three children - Rylee, Eva and William. Racheal volunteers for their church, their children's school, and Meals on Wheels. She currently serves on the leadership board for FISH, is Treasurer for Beta Sigma Phi Women's Sorority, is a member of 100 Women Who Care, a member of the Annual Gala Effingham Chamber Committee, and is a past board president of the Effingham County Library. We extend a warm Rotary welcome to Racheal and forward to meeting her and working with her!

## UPCOMING EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

IT'S NOT WHO YOU KNOW,  
IT'S WHO KNOWS YOU!

with Jennifer McCarron, Business Builders Marketing  
Tuesday, May 11, 12:00 PM



**WOMEN  
SPEAKER  
SERIES**

**IT'S NOT WHO  
YOU KNOW,  
IT'S WHO  
KNOWS YOU!**

Women of Rotary District 6490 is excited to announce a virtual series featuring entrepreneurial, technical, professional, and innovative Women speakers every month, and is hosted by Women of Rotary District 6490.

Rotary District 6490



**Free Online Event**  
To register and for more information, visit  
[www.womenrotary.com/speaker-series](http://www.womenrotary.com/speaker-series)



The role of power in the workplace:  
relationships and leadership  
**JENNIFER MCCARRON**  
Business Builders Marketing  
May 11, 2021  
12:00pm CST



**AMBER GRUENLOH**  
Easterseals Central Illinois  
Emcee

[In Person - Pontiac Club - DG Mike Step Visit](#)

June 10th

[In Person - CU Sunrise - DG Mike Step Club Visit](#)

June 12th

[ROTARY INTERNATIONAL \\*Virtual\\* CONVENTION](#)

June 17th

[Virtual Happy Hour w DG Mike Step for Club Presidents](#)

June 23rd

[In Person - Mattoon Rotary - DG Mike Step Visit](#)

June 24th

[2021-2022 Assistant Governor Meeting with DG Stoa](#)

June 27th

[District 6490 Installation Ceremony for 2021-2022](#)

June 29th

[IN PERSON - Dwight Rotary Club Steak Fry - DG Mike Step visit](#)

## DISTRICT LEADERS



[Michael D. Step DG](#)  
District Governor



[Heather Stoa DGE](#)  
District Governor Elect



[Connie D. Walsh DGN](#)  
District Governor Nominee



[Janet Ellis-Nelson DGN](#)  
District Governor Nominee Designate



[Kevin W. Yonce PDG](#)  
Vice District Governor



[Douglas Bock](#)  
Assistant Governor



[Hank Campbell](#)  
Assistant Governor



[Joseph Fearday](#)  
Assistant Governor



[Michael C. Hirschi](#)  
Assistant Governor



[John Hoblit](#)  
Assistant Governor



[Mary Fraser Hodson](#)  
Assistant Governor



[Jeremy LaKosh](#)  
Assistant Governor



[John P. Mahaffey](#)  
Assistant Governor



[Michael W. Martin](#)  
Assistant Governor



[James D. Matthews](#)  
Assistant Governor

[John B. Meek](#)  
Assistant Governor

**Jennifer McCarron**

**Business Builders Marketing**

*The role of power in the workplace: relationships and leadership*

[Register today! Free online event.](#)

Women of Rotary District 6490 is excited to announce a free, virtual series featuring entrepreneurial, technical, professional, and innovative Women speakers every month, and is hosted by Women of Rotary District 6490.

The scheduled presentations cover a variety of topics such as mentoring, power, and influence.

Through this event, we want to encourage and empower women and men to embrace the Service Above Self motto.

Speakers will share stories of how they have effected change in their lives, at work, at home, and within their communities.

### Scaling Impact for Transformative Change Tuesday, May 11

Presented by [Larry Cooley](#), an experienced international development consultant and expert in strategy and scaling.

Tuesday, 11 May, offered in English at two times:

[08:00 Chicago time \(UTC-5\) - register](#)

[17:00 Chicago time \(UTC-5\) - register](#)

### What is a Theory of Change Tuesday, May 18

Presented by [Drew Koleros](#), an expert in program evaluation and learning, as well as in using theories of change - a tool for successful project and program design.

Tuesday, 18 May, offered in English at two times:

[08:00 Chicago time \(UTC-5\) - register](#)

[17:00 Chicago time \(UTC-5\) - register](#)

### How to use a Theory of Change to Strengthen Program Design and Delivery Thursday, May 20

Presented by [Drew Koleros](#) as a follow-up to the 18 May webinar.

Thursday, 20 May, offered in English at two times:

[08:00 Chicago time \(UTC-5\) - register](#)

[17:00 Chicago time \(UTC-5\) - register](#)

### Rotary Day at the Busch Stadium Saturday, May 22

The Chicago Cubs will play the St. Louis Cardinals at Busch Stadium on May 22 in St. Louis with a 6:15 P.M. game time. Tickets are \$55 (for \$90 seats) and **\$20 from each ticket sold will be returned to Rotary clubs for literacy efforts**. Seats are located in the Right Field Loge, Sections 228-233. There are tickets in eleven pods of 3 and the rest are in pods of 4. Tickets can be sold to anyone in your community; attendees do not need to be Rotarians.

[Download Announcement](#) | [Download Ticket Order](#)

### Sips for Shelterbox Saturday, May 22

ShelterBox is partnering with Gloria Ferrer to bring a premier wine tasting event



[Deborah West](#)  
Assistant  
Governor  
Coordinator



[Judith Story](#)  
Assistant  
Governor



[Julie L. Dobski PDG](#)  
Director of  
Public  
Relations



[Beverly A. Soltwedel, DTM](#)  
District Trainer



[Kevin D. Kuebler](#)  
District  
Treasurer



[Thomas P. Redington](#)  
Director of  
Youth Service



[Larry J. Howell PDG](#)  
Director of  
Foundation  
&  
International  
Service



[Julie A. Stump](#)  
Achievement  
Awards



[Elizabeth Palma](#)  
District  
Newsletter  
Editor



[Jane Chamberlain](#)  
District  
Communications  
Officer

## BE SOCIAL



???????Website: [www.rotarydistrict6490.org](http://www.rotarydistrict6490.org)

Email: [rotarydistrict6490@gmail.com](mailto:rotarydistrict6490@gmail.com)

Mailing Address: Rotary District 6490, P.O. Box 265, Downs, IL 61736

straight to the comfort of your own home.

1. Visit: [https://givebutter.com/sips\\_for\\_ShelterBox](https://givebutter.com/sips_for_ShelterBox)
2. Pick a tasting package: Classic or VIP
3. Purchase your tickets/package by clicking "Donate"

Wine shipments are not available in all areas, must be 21 to purchase. Sips for ShelterBox is a volunteer led event supporting ShelterBox USA. Please drink responsibly. ShelterBox is a registered charity independent of Rotary International and the Rotary Foundation. We appreciate your Rotary Club, District, and individual support.



### Join the virtual Rotaract Preconvention

The Rotaract Preconvention, scheduled for 11-12 June 2021, in Taipei, Taiwan, will now be a virtual event in response to the ongoing threat of COVID-19.

Follow the [Rotaract Facebook page](#) to be the first to learn more about the virtual Preconvention, including registration details and breakout sessions.

## FOUNDATION

### Why Rotary Members Should Support Annual Fund-SHARE

Rotary members around the world are doing more good than ever before, and we're proud of their work. If everyone comes together and contributes to our [Foundation's Annual Fund-SHARE](#), we can meet the demand for grants.

When Rotary members give to Annual Fund-SHARE, their donations truly do help people. Did you know that a portion of each Annual Fund-SHARE contribution goes to our World Fund, which significantly supports global grants? With help from our donors, last year the Foundation awarded 1,359 global grants to Rotarians who are taking action to solve complex problems where our help is needed the most. In total, we've funded more than 10,000 global grants since 2013. Annual Fund-SHARE contributions also generate District Designated Funds, which local Rotary leaders can allocate to Foundation projects that address needs right in the community.

Your support of our Foundation's Annual Fund makes Doing Good in the World possible.

## AROUND THE DISTRICT

### YLIA Named Winner of Governor's Cup

YLIA, the first youth group to receive the prestigious Governor's Cup, is an initiative of The Community Foundation of Macon County and *Rotary Club No. 180 of Decatur*. The youth-led group seeks to bring positive change to Macon County through its numerous service projects. YLIA was named one of four finalists for the Governor's Cup in late March and competed in virtual judging finals on April 12. The other Illinois finalists were The Hope Center of Albion and the villages of the Barrington and Flossmoor.

[Read full story here](#)

**Kevin Kuebler, District Treasurer  
Bloomington Rotary**

Kevin Kuebler receives PHF +7. Congratulations, Kevin!

# Rotary



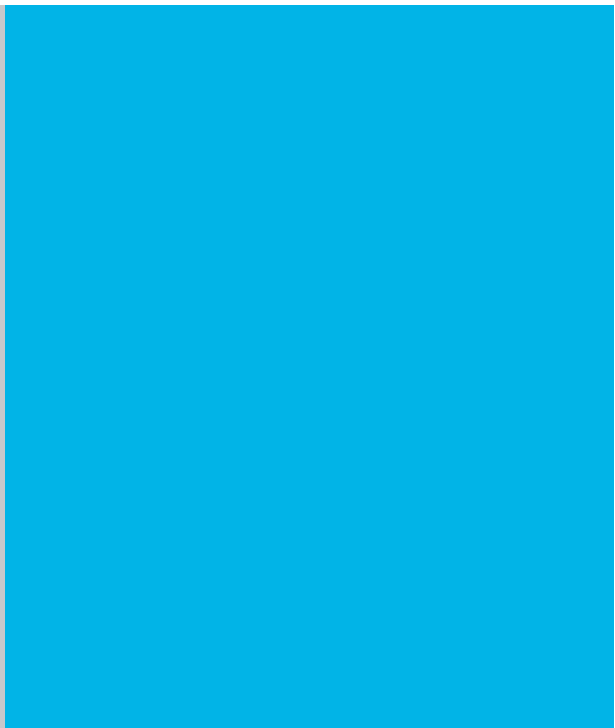
PEOPLE OF ACTION



Create  
Once  
Publish  
Everywhere

### Rotary Opens Opportunities For:





## BE SOCIAL

Be up to date on our District's news and events.



Website: [www.rotarydistrict6490.org](http://www.rotarydistrict6490.org) | Email: [rotarydistrict6490@gmail.com](mailto:rotarydistrict6490@gmail.com) | Mailing Address: Rotary District 6490, P.O. Box 265, Downs, IL 61736