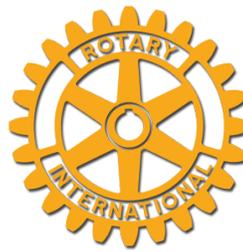


Rotary

Club of Portsmouth



Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Club Meeting

Portsmouth
Meets at Shawnee
State University,
University Center,
Sodexo Ballroom,
2nd Floor
940 Second Street
Portsmouth,
Time: Monday at
11:45 AM

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Speakers

**September 19,
2022**

[Debbie Gambill](#)
Off site at
Greenlawn
Cemetery... Friends
of Greenlawn

**September 26,
2022**

[Jay Daehler and
Keven MacDonald](#)
Project Playground

Club Leaders

Linda

UPCOMING GUEST SPEAKER

MEETING REMINDER
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19
Meet at Greenlawn Cemetery

GUEST SPEAKER:
DEBBIE GAMBILL
Speaking on
History of Greenlawn

Rotary



Portsmouth, Ohio

**LUNCH
PROVIDED --
MUST RSVP!**

**RSVP TO: [Lynsi
Eason](#) or [Jenny
Lavender](#) by
NOON, FRIDAY,
9/16**

ROTARY DONATES TO VRCFA

At Monday's (9/13) meeting, Rotary President Linda Woods-Jones and Foundation Chair Fred Gohmann presented a donation to Chris Moore, Executive Director of the SSU Development Office, to support programming at the Vern Riffe Center for the Arts.



ROTARY ON-THE-GO AT ESCAPE ROOM

Please join "Rotary on the Go" on October 17th at Deadbolt, 309 Jefferson St, Portsmouth at 5:30 pm for a great



Woods-Jones
President
Club Grant
Coordinator



Jamie Mehaffey
President-Elect



Timothy Horner
Secretary
Treasurer



Steven Rader
Membership
Chair
Past
President
Club Peace
Committee
Chair



Daniel Simco
iPast
President



Teresa (Tess) Midkiff
Sergeant-at-Arms



Sondra M. Hash
Club Public
Image
Chair



Fredrick Gohmann
Club TRF
Chair



Thomas Downard
Asst
Governor



escape room adventure, where Rotarians will work together to unlock a mystery. Rotary teams will be divided into groups of nine, an escape room will be assigned to the team and the adventure will begin. Rotarians will have 60 minutes to escape from the room; you will be provided with puzzles to solve which will help you escape.

There will be an hour-long social gathering before the event starts with heavy hors d'oeuvres provided by Scioto Ribber (we would not want anybody to start an adventure on an empty stomach!).

The cost of the event is \$25/person and must be paid by October 1st. Jenny Lavender (740) 935-4306 or Lynsi Eason (740) 464-7607 can take your reservation and money for the event.

If you have any questions, please contact Jenny or Lynsi.

Reminder there is no noon Rotary meeting on Monday, October 17th, because Rotary will be meeting at Deadbolt.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS



September 2
William McKinley



September 4
Chris Moore



September 10
Mary Arnzen



September 18
Robert Dever

September 18
Stan Jennings



September 22
Sonie Hash



September 15

Sean Sturgill



September 25

Bill Gilmore



September 16

Fred Gohmann



September 27

Rhoni Maxwell-Rader

"If You Can Read This, You're Too Close!"

Price Finley, District Governor

We've all seen this bumper sticker intended to tell tailgaters to BACK OFF! While I have never displayed such a sticker on my bumper, I certainly have experienced being irritated by a rude driver. I've even spoken a not-so-nice message aloud (within my Prius), like, "Are you #@*%-ing kidding me?" to the driver who thinks it's so important to get wherever they are going that they need to drive dangerously close behind me (don't they know I get a better eco-score by accelerating slowly when the light turns green!). Now that I'm DG, my reactions have changed, because now, I see everything through "Rotary-colored" glasses (by the way, the color is PURPLE!). So, when I saw that same bumper sticker recently, "If You Can Read This, You're Too Close," I thought, "What about people who have never learned to read?"



Rotary has a theme for each month of the year, and September's theme is "Basic Education and Literacy." It's a month when we should especially confront the fact that over 775 million people worldwide over the age of 15 are illiterate - that's 17% of the world's adult population. In the United States, 21% of adults are illiterate today, and 54% of adults have a literacy level below the 6th grade. There are many reasons why this is not OK. One is that low levels of literacy cost the U.S. up to \$2.2 trillion per year. In our state of Ohio, 63% of 4th grade students are not reading proficiently, and 80% of lower income 4th grade students are not reading proficiently! (This is not just a socio-economic issue, as 48% of higher income 4th grade students are not proficient.) These are staggering statistics! Let's say it together, "Are you #@*%-ing kidding me?"

Rotary clubs throughout District 6690 are taking steps to improve literacy rates in our communities. Each year, several of our clubs give third and fourth grade students their very own dictionary and education-related resources such as backpacks. Rotary members volunteer their time to tutor and read to elementary school children in their communities. Rotary clubs are changing the lives of young people by providing scholarships. We can be proud of the impact we are making in "Supporting Education," one of Rotary's Seven Areas of Focus. In fact, of all the applications for grants from "District Designated Funds" that have been submitted by clubs for the current Rotary year, more than half are directed at basic education and literacy.*

We know that higher literacy rates reduce economic stress, and that opening schools, teaching adults to read, making schools healthy, and enhancing educational systems help to break the cycle of poverty and social imbalance. Literacy is also important to one of Rotary's other Areas of Focus - "Promoting Peace." I found a great overview of the importance of education in promoting peace on the website for the [Central Asia Institute](#), which supports education in remote, impoverished areas of Afghanistan, Pakistan and Tajikistan. The institute lists 10 ways that education promotes peace:

- Boosting confidence and hope
- Promoting independent thinking
- Inspiring problem-solving skills
- Building communication skills
- Opening doors for career advancement

- Reducing poverty
- Increasing political involvement
- Reducing support of terrorism and militancy
- Building empathy and tolerance
- Cultivating respect

Our very own District 6690 Peace Committee is emphasizing the connection between education and peace. This committee, chaired by [Tom Carlisi](#) (Rotary Club of Columbus), is focusing the fall session of its [Peace Symposium Series](#) on "Basic Education and Literacy." I strongly encourage you to join us on Saturday, September 10th starting at 10am (Click [HERE](#) to register).

This Committee has developed a partnership with the Ohio Chapter of "[Dolly Parton's Imagination Library](#)," a program that sends a book every month to any child under five - free of charge - regardless of socio-economic status. This project will be featured in the upcoming peace symposium. Dolly recently visited Columbus to promote this program, and several of our Rotary clubs have already started projects in their communities. Ohio First Lady Fran DeWine has announced a goal of adding 17,000 kids across Ohio to this wonderful program by the end of 2022. IMAGINE how many children might sign up to receive books if our clubs help spread the word!

As your District Governor, I see firsthand all of the amazing dedication of our clubs and Rotary members in making an impact on education. Thank you for being as excited as I am about these programs.

And, remember -

STOP TAILGATING! [If you can read this, thank a Rotarian.]

-Price

** An important side-note is that our District's ability to provide up to \$2,000 from District Designated Funds for club projects is thanks to donations to The Rotary Foundation Annual Fund-SHARE by Rotarians in OUR DISTRICT. More about that in November, for which the monthly theme is The Rotary Foundation!*

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) District Committee

by Michelle Davis, DEI Committee Chair

Rotary supports [DEI](#) (diversity, equity, and inclusion) initiatives around the world. When we share our diverse stories and histories with each other, we open doors that allow all people to join together to make the world a better place for everyone. A place where everyone belongs. You may say I'm a dreamer, but I'm not the only one: [#ImagineRotary](#) [#District6690](#)



This new District 6690 committee is being formed to lead, guide and inform all clubs and their members :

- about the importance of creating a welcoming, accepting and inclusive environment for all
- about the necessity of fostering and promoting an environment of diversity, equity and inclusion to attract, develop, engage and retain exceptional service-minded individuals
- to review district practices to ensure that they promote inclusion and belonging.

The Inaugural DEI Committee meeting will be held via Zoom on Wednesday, August 10th at 5:00 pm. If you are interested in finding out more information about this committee, please contact [Michelle Davis](#).

Imagine: Projects That Inspire

You Joined Rotary To Make A Difference.

RO-Talks Has Been Designed To Help You Do Exactly That.

Join us Sept 24:



Register Today...Make A Difference Tomorrow

Saturday, Sept 24, 2022 9AM to 2PM

Bricker & Eckler, 100 S. Third St., Columbus

www.rotary6690.org/training-events/fall-training-event



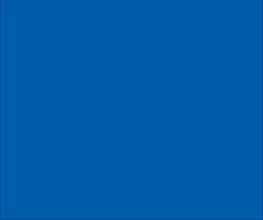
- Learn about projects that are making a big impact in our communities right now.
- Come share your service project idea with experienced Rotarians who have put together hundreds of successful projects.
 - Bring a new service project idea or build on an existing project to make it bigger, broader and more impactful.
 - Your project can be local, national or international.
 - Projects must be executed this Rotary year.
- Get advice and support to take your idea from concept to a well-planned strategy.
- Then (in October) pitch your plan for a chance to earn up to \$5000 to fund your project!

Registration -

\$25 per attendee, includes lunch

REGISTER NOW

Saturday September 24, 2022



9 am to 2 pm

Doors open at 8am
Program starts at 9am
Offices of Bricker & Eckler
100 S. Third St. Downtown Columbus