



District Governor Debbie Meegan



District 6890 News

Monday, December 5, 2022

In This Issue

[DG Debbie's Message for December](#)

[DGND Has been Selected!](#)

[Let's Finish Strong](#)

[The Rotary Foundation](#)

[District Conference 2023-- AHOO!!!](#)

[Imagine What's Next – 27-31 May 2023 – Melbourne, Australia](#)

District Leaders



Deborah G Meegan
District Governor



Steve Overton
DG-Elect



Chevon Thompson Baccus
DG-Nominee



Deborah L Williams
iPDG



Duane Williams
District Membership Chair



Mark Gilbert Scolnick
District Rotary Foundation Chair

DG Debbie's Message for December

By Debbie Meegan

As the end of the year approaches, and before we get too wrapped up in all of the excitement December brings, let's all take a moment for reflection and keep the spirit of **Thanksgiving** in our heart. Part of what brings forth a thanksgiving mindset is remembering that **GIFTS** are not limited to material possessions we give. As **Rotarians**, we offer the precious **GIFT** of our time and talents in our communities everyday throughout the year.

This month, especially, **Rotarians** are filling up the days with **GIFTS** that brighten and lighten the lives and hearts of so many.

The **Rotary Club of New Tampa** is inviting Rotarians from all over our District to gather together to help clean up **Rotary Camp Florida** so that children with special needs can have an inviting and safe place to camp.

The **Tampa Carrollwood Rotary Club** will be spreading Holiday Cheer at **Hugs for Kids** – a weekend Holiday Camp for children with Cancer.

Brandon '86 Rotary Club will be hosting a Holiday Party complete with presents and a visit from Santa for the foster care children living at **Everyday Blessings**.

The Rotary Clubs of Hardee County and Lake Placid will be hard at work ringing the bell for the **Salvation Army** to raise money for the many services they provide for people in need.

And the **Sun City Center Rotary Club** will be donning Holiday Attire and spreading their vocal version of Holiday Cheer by serenading the residents in their local assisted living facility.

Other **Rotarians** in our District will **GIFT** their communities by delivering food to people in need or collecting toys to brighten the lives of children.

So many of the wonderful **GIFTS Rotarians** give are intangible.

We can't "see" love, kindness, empathy, or joy. We have to feel them and to do that we have to believe that they exist. Thank you for believing in their existence.

Rotarians are truly a **GIFT** to the world and my heart is filled with **Thanksgiving** because of each of **YOU**.

*Have a wonderful Holiday Season,
Debbie*

DGND Has been Selected!

The nominating committee of District 6890 convened on Saturday November 19th at the office of PDG Tom Wagner to interview four very deserving candidates for the position of District Governor Nominee Designate for the Rotary year 2025-26. Its always very uplifting to have so many willing members in the leadership process, but it also makes the decision that much harder. The final vote was cast for Rotarian Linda Devine from The Rotary Club of Tampa. Linda has been a member of the Tampa Club since 1995 and served in many capacities, including Club Foundation Chair, Sergeant at Arms, Board of Directors, planning committee and more. She most recently served as club President and then immediately moved to the role of Assistant Governor for Group 3 in our District. Her status as recently retired from her 40+ years with the University of Tampa, the last 27 of that as the Vice President of Operations and Planning, makes the timing of her pursuit



Sue Birge
Assistant
Governor



Michael
Broussard
Assistant
Governor



Linda W.
Devine
Ph.D.
Assistant
Governor



John M.
Eason
Assistant
Governor



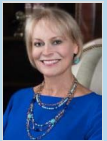
Charles
Harris
Assistant
Governor



Sherrie
McCollough
Assistant
Governor



Jillian T.
Spangler
Assistant
Governor



Carol J.
Wallace
Assistant
Governor



Lesley S.
Zajac
Assistant
Governor



Douglas A.
Roderick
Paul Harris
Society
Coordinator



Linda N
Federspiel
District
Secretary

L. McQueen
Small
District



of District leadership especially advantageous. Linda lives in Tampa with her husband of 35 years, Dave. She has three grown children, Robbie (Heather), Kelly (Ian) and Danny (Kayla) and one fur baby, Pizza Marie. To view Linda's complete resume, Go here; [RESUME](#)

Let's Finish Strong

By Duane Williams

We have come to expect and understand, that when RI issues the Semi-Annuals Dues invoices, our membership will sometimes show a reduction at the same time. Now this is not because members suddenly decide to leave rather than pay, but it is more an annual ritual created by Clubs clearing their rolls in preparation for the invoice, frankly speaking, not wishing to pay for non-members. This could be done marginally, but is often left until the last moment, causing the apparently bigger drop.

As we sadly noticed, our gradual healthy growth over the past few months has been eroded as seen from the latest figures. This is not a time for us to drop our heads, give up and grieve the lost growth, but the loss should inspire us to create even more growth so that we can sustain the next 'purge' in June, and as a result end this year positively and successfully.

With half of the Rotary year in front of us, it is time to redouble our efforts, because there is still plenty of time to push for New Rotary Clubs, Satellites, and Club growth initiatives. This is also an excellent time to have District Membership Meetings, in-person or on Zoom involving District Leadership and Club Membership Chairs to discuss progress, challenges, and exciting new Membership drives. Action now will pay results in a strong finish to this Rotary Year and allow us to fulfill RI's encouragement to us, to Grow Rotary.

Let's look forward towards growing together and having a great year.



Duane Williams
District Membership Chair
Rotary E-Club of Tampa South

The Rotary Foundation

By Mark Gilbert Scolnick



Treasurer



Winnie M. Marvel
Newsletter
Editor



Nathan D
Marvel
DCO-
District
Comm.
Officer



IMAGINE
ROTARY

Polio Update: *World Polio Day* was a huge success here in District 6890. Thank you to all the clubs that participated



with events, fundraisers, and donations. You all did a stellar job in raising awareness and supporting Rotary's #1 Cause....to END POLIO!!!! Plus, word has it that you all had a lot of fun in the process. That is the Rotary way!

Fun aside, we can not stop.... we need 100% of our clubs to join in the **End Polio Now** effort, and while most are doing this, is your club? Why do we need this? Why is it so important?

If each club gives \$1500, we will have the required \$50 Million, which then triggers the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation 2 to 1 match. They will give our Rotary Foundation an additional \$100 Million so we can give grants for the End Polio Now effort. Rotary started this work when nobody else thought it was possible, and yet look at where we are.....we are almost to the FINISH line.

Foundation Giving: Some of our fellow Rotarians are taking advantage of a Rotary Foundation program that enables the Rotarian to **get an income from money you give to the Rotary Foundation.**

Here are the basics of how it works:

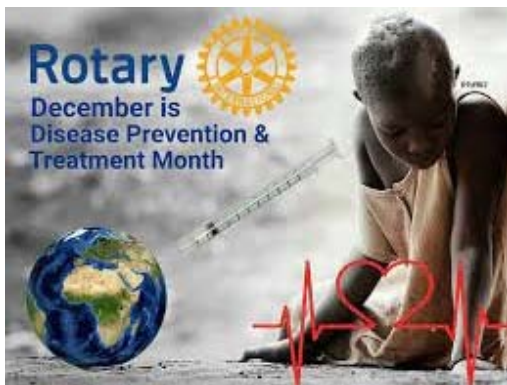
1. Give \$10,000 or more
2. The Foundation gives you interest at an agreed rate starting on an agreed date
3. You get some tax deductions for the transactions.
4. After you and your partner pass, the money goes to The Rotary Foundation.
5. If you want a no obligation and confidential plan tailored to you, please let me know.
markscolnickrotary6890@gmail.com



December is Rotary Disease Prevention & Treatment

Month. Globally, Rotary is recognized for its signature project, the eradication of polio in the world. It has been a long and hard battle but with the support of YOU, many governments, NGOs and volunteers throughout the world, we are close to seeing the end of this dreaded disease.

Despite this progress, there are many other problems facing our planet and populations around the world. One of the greatest causes of death and disability in developing countries today is from waterborne diseases resulting from a lack of adequate water supplies and improper sanitation. Rotary in its Water, Sanitation and Health or WASH program is committed to becoming a leader along with other organizations in finding practical and sustainable solutions to these major problems. In addition, each year malaria, despite awareness and advancement in medicine, continues to be a major killer of hundreds of thousands of people. Rotary can celebrate its successes in the field of health and disease prevention, but we, as Rotarians, cannot rest on our laurels. There is still much to be done. We can set an example for the rest of the world to follow.



Further, disease prevention must include attention to mental health. The stigma of mental illness is finally being lifted and Rotary has a unique opportunity to help our communities recognize and direct people with diseases that impact mental health towards proper treatment. We, as Rotarians, understand the silent turmoil within some communities that are homeless, or those who contend with post-traumatic stress disorder, like some of our military, first responders and others, as well as the difficulties some of our youth face in this age of digital communication and bullying. We can be trained to recognize and respectfully give support and direction before this invisible illness ends in suicide or acts of violence.

On the local front, here in Florida, we are one of the worst states in the US for childhood immunization rates. There are hot spots, some in well-educated and affluent areas of the state, where many schools and day care centers show inadequate immunization of their children, inviting unnecessary illness and even death not only for the unimmunized and the under-immunized, but also for those children who cannot be immunized for medical reasons. Most of this lack of immunization of our children is not for medical or religious reasons but rather because of misinformation

surrounding the dangers of immunization, the lack of information about the benefits of immunization, and also the ease with which parents can opt out of shots for their children. The benefits of early and adequate vaccination of children and caregivers far outweighs any potential risks from this miracle of medicine. As parents, we have a right to care for our children as we see fit, but society also has rights to safe schools and safe environments for our children.

Many of us recently spent a day of gratitude with family and friends. This year let us carry our gratitude into action and do our best to create awareness and change in the world, particularly when it comes to health. In our district, we are blessed with access to immunizations, healthcare, and resources, and despite the limitations of the system, we are incredibly lucky to have this access and thus reap its benefits, from disease prevention and treatment to longer life spans. Now it is our duty as Rotarians to expand these resources to our entire communities and beyond.



District Conference 2023-- AHOY!!!



**IMAGINE ROTARY DISTRICT 6890 CONFERENCE
BRILLIANCE OF THE SEAS
Royal Caribbean Cruise Line
5-NIGHT WESTERN CARIBBEAN CRUISE
SAILING MARCH 27, 2023 FROM TAMPA**

Cruise Itinerary:

**March 27 Depart Tampa, FL
March 28 At Sea
March 29 Cozumel, Mexico
March 30 Grand Cayman
March 31 At Sea
April 1 Arrive Tampa**



Brilliance of the Seas

Find Your Way to Fun

Celebrate your accomplishments for this Rotary year at your 6890 District Conference. Join our Pirate-themed voyage to Caribbean destinations while relaxing in your comfortable stateroom, lounging by the pools and dining on delectable cuisine.



Contact Craig & Linda Sherman Dream Vacations to book your cruise now!
(863) 216-8666

csherman@dreamvacations.com
lsherman@dreamvacations.com
www.myvacationpros.com

Ahoy Mateys!! We are going to set sail on March 27th 2023 and take over the Brilliance of the Seas ship (just kidding!!) We are going to cruise the Caribbean just as the Pirates of the Old did, looking for treasure and fun! We hope you can come along for the adventure as we celebrate our District Conference with our mates aboard the beautiful Royal Caribbean cruise ship, the Brilliance of the Seas. If you hurry and sign up with a paid deposit of 100.00 per person, you will be rewarded with a treasure of 100.00 onboard credit per cabin! The deadline for this opportunity is October 20th. After that you can still register up until December 20th while cabins last! We are planning a Pirate-themed costume contest one night, so don't forget your pirate wear! There will be speakers, fun in the sun, a cocktail party and two stops along the way, one in Cozumel at the next stop. Hurry up so we don't force you to walk the plank! Your Wench in charge, KimTyson, Rotary Club of FishHawk-Riverview.

Imagine What's Next – 27-31 May 2023 – Melbourne, Australia

By Gary Michael Gunter



The Melbourne 4 Way test

1. **Is it the truth? Have you registered?** Register at <https://convention.rotary.org> – Take advantage of the early bird pricing up to 15 December 2022 (\$475 for those 31 and older, \$125 for age 30 and under, \$20 for guests aged 5-18, guests under 5 are free). You can also reserve your hotel room once you have registered, and there is no hotel deposit – just give them your credit card info to hold your room. Tip – If you want easy access to the General Sessions, book a hotel close to the Rod Laver Arena.
2. **Have you booked activities for all concerned?** Go to www.Rotarymelbourne2023.org and click on the Events tab for nightly events you can sign up for (Remember that General Sessions are from 10am to noon each day, followed by Breakout Sessions in the afternoon, along with entertainment at the giant House of Friendship).
3. **Will you build goodwill and better friendships by participating in a tour before or after the convention?** Yes! Once you have looked at the Events on the above site, look at the Tours tab and you will find many options. Also, our friend and former RI Director Brad Howard is offering tours just for Rotarians that are quite good – go to www.HowardTours.net and check them out. You can also find other tours listed in the Rotary magazine.
4. **Will it be beneficial to all concerned?** It most certainly will be beneficial to those who attend! Melbourne's iconic tram network – the largest operational network in the world – is free for you within the central business district. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity! Did we mention the nice cool weather?

Need help? Contact Patrick Eakes, Zone 33 Melbourne Promotion Chair at Patrick.eakes@cpeakes.com, or Gary Gunter, Zone 34 Melbourne Promotion Chair at gary@garygunter.com
